

**United States Masters Swimming Board of Directors Conference Call  
April 6th, 2011**

**FINAL**

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- MSA: Workout group task force report proposal for glossary term was approved and will be forwarded to Legislation
  - MSA: Delete Article 504.1.8 (to be forwarded to Legislation from the BOD)
  - MSA: Delete Article 504.2.6(to be forwarded to Legislation from the BOD)
  - MSA: Accept the amended change 504.3.3 (to be forwarded to Legislation from the BOD)
  - MSA – To modify EOG to allow for nomination deadline to be extended 30 days in any position that an officer does not run for re-election.
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Michael Heather -VP of Administration called the meeting to order on April 6 at 8:35 p.m. EDT. Also present were; Ed Tsuzuki- VP of Local Operations, Nadine Day-VP of Community Services, Dave Diehl-VP of Programs, C.J. Rushman- Secretary, Ralph Davis- Treasurer, Rob Copeland -Immediate Past President, Doug Church- Legal Counsel, At-Large Directors;, Maria Elias-Williams (Dixie), Chris McGiffin (Colonies), Phil Dodson (Great Lakes), Anthony Thompson (Breadbasket Zone), Hugh Moore (Northwest), Don Mehl (South Central), Jim Clemmons (Oceana), Executive Director - Rob Butcher; Past-Presidents Ted Haartz and Nancy Ridout.

Not present: Jeff Moxie- President, At-Large Directors: Phil Whitten (Southwest Zone), Jim Miller, Tom Boak, Dan Gruender, Mike Laux and June Krauser – Past Presidents.

Agenda Items:

- 1) President report – none filed.
- 2) ED report – Rob Butcher

Membership:

- We are at 705 clubs registered for 2011 vs. 692 for all of 2010
- We are at 44,044 registered members for 2011 vs. 41,793 for the same date in 2010
- The membership survey has been completed and we have received the preliminary results from Metropolitan State College in Denver. We are reviewing the initial report, which is very lengthy and then will send a summary to the BOD.

LMSC Observations:

- Anna Lea Matysek has systematically been moving through LMSC functions; financial reporting, registrar activities and now sanctioning. She recently went hunting through various LMSC websites and discovered more than 50 meets that were not on the USMS calendar of events. This is problematic because USMS is sanctioning and providing insurance to the meets but they are not on our national calendar. Being on the calendar provides a tracking mechanism for events to be put into the events results database
- Thanks to Ed Tsuzuki who is coming to Sarasota this week to meet with our IT group about advancing the requirements for an online sanctioning database so we can gather information. Just to be clear, the sanctioning approval would still reside at the LMSC level.

USMS-USA Triathlon Meeting:

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- Rob Butcher met with Rob Urbach the new CEO for USA Triathlon. They discussed areas of opportunity between USMS and USAT:
  - educational programs - for coaches and race directors
  - sanctioning of companion open water events with USAT events
  - opportunities where a USMS member could get discounts with USAT and vice versa
  - opportunities for local USMS programs and USAT coaches to better work together
- Rob B plans on maintaining communication with USA triathlon and attend a race director education, which are offered 6 times per year, and will talk with Rob U again during the ACES conference in May
- Rob B mentioned one thing stat from the member survey was that 25% of the members self defined themselves at a triathlete, which represents 13-14,000 members.

#### Swimming Saves Lives:

- Our graphics designer is continuing to work on SSL logo designs given the new direction from the BOD that the word Foundation be included
- We are making calls to prospective Foundation board members. We are scheduling May 20-21 for our Foundation leadership meeting in Sarasota.
- Nadine asked about the status of the Foundation Board and how are the plans to fit with the current BOD. The Swimming Saves Lives foundation will have its own Board of Governors but it shall be under the governance of the USMS Board of Directors. Doug said that a new Board that will have an objective to seek out grants.

#### Additional:

- We should have the 15 workshop videos from the Open Water Safety Conference online by end of next week. Once it is posted, we will provide the link to the board
- We are in our annual Audit phase, both the review and management letter. Once completed, we will work on our updated budget forecast for the second half of 2011.
- The contract with Anthem Media for *SWIMMER* magazine has been approved by Legal, and be provided to the Treasurer and Finance committee chair

3) Strategic planning (Nadine Day) – The task force has been formed and the members are Jeff Moxie, Anthony Thompson, Phil Dodson, Jill Gellatly, Patty Miller, and Rob Butcher.

4) Workout group task force report and proposal (Nadine Day) – Nadine would like to make a motion to accept the recommendation of the task force to define a workout group;

Chapter: A subordinate organization (subgroup) of a club that is a member of USMS registered through an LMSC. Individual members of a chapter are also members of the parent club. Seconded. Hugh stated that we are should be considering this policy not to define it as legislation in the glossary. We should not be using a definition in the glossary that will not be in the rule book. He also requested the Task Force should have a complete packet to include all the steps of the recommendation. Hugh moved to table the discussion. Seconded. A voted was taken and the motion failed 9-4. Hugh stated that we can add this to policy, since this term in not in the rule book. Mike asked did the task force consider this definition as a policy versus what is in the glossary. Nadine said that to her knowledge no they did not. Rob C explained that the intent was to have a formal recognition of these groups. USMS has policy recognizing them in the registration process. Rob C said that the glossary fall under the Rules and Legislation Committee. Chris asked what the vision of using the term Chapter is. Rob C said it is a way to recognize members that register. Chris asked if Chapters are part of a subordinate club within an LMSC. Rob C said yes, that is why the task force is using that definition. He explained that the chapter has to exist with a club, and the individual registers and the individual will pick a club and then can pick a chapter. Nancy wanted to find out about the number of workout groups that were not affiliated with a club. She also asked why we

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can't just ask for a contact person within that group since we are seeking information to communicate. Nadine replied that the task force changed the term to chapter, and workout groups can still be defined as practice groups. In addition, there are many problems with registration and a lot of time is spent. This task force was also a result of individuals that are trying to register with a Club that is not registered with USMS, because they were a chapter instead. Hugh said the biggest item is getting the registration process for clubs and chapters more streamlined. Mike said it appears that the chapters seem more permanent than some of the clubs at the regional level, and if the club is not registered, then the communication does not filter down to the different chapters. Nancy was concerned that this is a path that USMS does not want to take. Ralph said it is up to the LMSC to ensure the workout groups get the information from the clubs. Ralph calls the question. Second by Rob C. **MSA - The Board accepts the recommendation of the Workout Group Task Force to include in the glossary Chapter: A subordinate organization (subgroup) of a club that is a member of USMS registered through an LMSC. Individual members of a chapter are also members of the parent club.**

Phil D asked if he could include two definitions. Motion failed no second

5) Governance committee recommendations (Anthony Thompson) – Governance has been reviewing part 5 of the Rule Book. Summary of Reported Recommendation from the Governance Committee;

A. Voted to recommend updates to Guide to Operations and LMSC Minimum Standards to include the determination if LMSC bylaws need to be filed with state governments.

B. Voted to recommend that article 504.1.8 be deleted

504 – House of Delegates

- **504.1.8 - The president shall be empowered to appoint employees and contractors who are otherwise active in Masters swimming as members of the House of Delegates as needed for the benefit of the corporation.**

Rationale:

At the mid-year meeting of the BOD in 2010, a policy was approved to ask the USMS President to not appoint USMS employees as voting members of the HOD. Governance discussed the issues with employees/contractors appointed to USMS HOD. Consensus was that contractors should be able to be voting members of HOD, but should be there representing an LMSC (and recuse themselves on items of budget, and issues surrounding Club/Coach Development or other topics that involve their contract work with USMS). The committee voted to delete 504.1.8 with justification to cite policy by the BOD Policy (26-28-Feb-2010 minutes, since the USMS Policy Manual has not been updated).

**MSA: Delete Article 504.1.8**

C. Voted to recommend that article 504.2.6 be deleted.

- ~~504.2.6 To impose and enforce penalties for any violation of the code of USMS.~~

Rationale:

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The Committee discussed the provision that gives the HOD the power to impose and enforce penalties for any violations of code, including whether the HOD ever exercised this power. The Governance Committee voted to recommended to delete this provision, since the National Board of Review is permanently delegated power (403.5.1) and so discussions of imposing/enforcement is not be a discussion at each HOD.

**MSA: Delete Article 504.2.6**

D. Voted on amended language for article 504.3.3 (to update language for e-mail verses only mail) Anthony received an amendment from a BOD to state

Communication ~~A written notice~~ of all annual and special meetings of the House of delegates.

**MSA: Accept the amended change**

- 504.3.3

Communication of all annual and special meetings of the House of delegates, stating the time, place and preliminary agenda, shall be given to each member of the house of delegates by mail or electronic mail ~~the same~~ to each member's last known address at least three weeks prior to the meeting date.

Rationale:

The current wording is dated, in that it calls for material to be only sent by mail, so an updated wording to allow electronic mail.

**MSA: Amended language for Article 504.3.3**

E. Recommend to the EC that the VPs ask the HOD committees to look at language in 507.1 for any updates needed.

F. Other articles being discussed by Governance are: 501.1.4/506.1.2, 504.1.1, 506.3.8 related to responsibility for leadership development & leadership planning, and 506.9

6) USMS Policy Manual Updates (Anthony Thompson) – Anthony asked about the status of a volunteer to help the National Office to review the minutes to check for the Policy manual updates. Nancy recommended that since Betsy was the creator of the Policy manual that updating it might not be a problem for her to do it. Anthony said that it was discussed that this might be a way for new BOD members to become more engaged and familiar with the EC and BOD by reviewing the old minutes. Mike said it would be a good idea to ask Betsy Durrant, to lead a group of volunteers to review those minutes. Nadine will contact Betsy about leading the group. Maria volunteered to assist with the task.

7) Communications with HOD on upcoming Fall Elections (Anthony Thompson) – Governance Committee is concerned that about the lack of communication to the House of Delegates about the upcoming Elections. Rob C said in the Election Operating Guidelines, there are steps that the Election committee does solicit nominees once the election cycle is closed. He also mentioned that election information was published in the volunteer's e newsletter. People that intend to run need to fill out the nomination packet, which is available online and due by April 30th. Hugh felt that Jeff has already informed the BOD that he doesn't intent to run for President re election and that there might be other officer position vacancies and feels that people need to be made aware now and the nomination

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period extended so people can decide if they are going to run. Rob C stated that Jeff's vacancy is in the BOD minutes and that is public record. Hugh makes a motion to the Election Committee that communicates to the House of Delegates if a current officer is not going to run for re-election that position be held open for an additional 30 days. Seconded. **MSA – To modify EOG to allow for nomination deadline to be extended 30 days in any position that an officer does not run for re-election.**

8) Concept of share confidential information from the EC or BOD before it has been finalized (Anthony Thompson) – Anthony wanted to remind the Board that what is discussed in private should not be discussed until made public.

9) National championship profit question (Chris McGiffin) – Chris M asked do we have a task force established to review if National Championships profits are being used to better Masters swimming. Chris makes a motion that the question "If the event has a net profit, how will it be used to better Masters swimming in your area?" to be a question included on the bidders packet for all championships. Seconded. Hugh said that this should fall to the respective VP's to go back to their committees. Rob C said that the question should be asked but not at the board level. Maria said if the question is not included, then why the question can't be asked after the event to provide a feel good story. Jim C moves to table the discussion as to clarify the questions being asked. Rob C seconded.

10) Old business

-LMSC identifier project update (Mike, Rob C., Ed) – Update to be provided at the next BOD meeting.

11) New business – Nadine wanted to mention to the BOD that Michael Lohberg passed away this past Monday. His wife, Biggi, is a USMS swimmer, his club has a masters group and runs masters meets. His club hosted our 2006 SCY Nationals. His visitation is this Friday and Funeral is Saturday.

The next Board of Directors meeting is Wednesday June 1st at 8:00 PM EDT.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

C.J. Rushman,  
Secretary