

**Action Items:**

- **MSA – To consider the approval of open water events to both USMS and non-USMS members, with the appropriate controls set forth by the Long Distance Committee with input from the Open Water Committee.**
  - **MSA – Board of Directors approved the consent agenda items.**
  - **MSA - The BOD accepts the recommendation from the Governance Committee which voted to recommend the Board approve the “US Masters Responsibilities and Powers of Board and Directors” Rev 17-Feb-2010.**
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Nadine Day - President called the meeting to order at 8:35 p.m. EDT. Also present were: Michael Heather - VP of Administration, C.J. Rushman -Secretary, Ralph Davis- Treasurer, Dave Diehl-VP of Programs, Jeff Moxie -Immediate Past President, Patty Miller- Legal Counsel, At-Large Directors; Chris McGiffin (Colonies), Phil Dodson (Great Lakes), Anthony Thompson (Breadbasket Zone), Maria E. Williams (Dixie), Hugh Moore (Northwest), Don Mehl (South Central), Jim Clemmons (Oceana) , Phil Whitten (Southwest Zone), Executive Director - Rob Butcher; Past-Presidents Ted Haartz, Rob Copeland, Jim Miller, and Nancy Ridout. Special Guests: Lynn Hazelwood and John Traynor

Not present: Jody Smith-VP of Community Service, Ed Tsuzuki- VP of Local Operations, At-Large Directors; Phil, Past Presidents - Dan Gruender, Mike Laux and June Krauser. Past Presidents Tom Boak and Mel Goldstein are recused from the BOD due to their contract positions with USMS.

**Agenda Items:**

**Open Water/Long Distance-Open Water Chair-Lynn Hazlewood and Long Distance Vice Chair John Traynor** - Lynn believes there should be dedicated staff and allocation of dollars for further development and implementation of open water initiatives. Lynn discussed the safety guidelines document that has been presented and is looking for guidance from the Board of Directors. Patty made the point that the Open Water committee is the experts and should ask the BOD for guidance not content. Ted asked if the committee has reviewed what USA-Swimming created to get the committee started on (for safety). Lynn said that they have reviewed those documents. Nancy believes that the issue is lack of details before the convention so that people have time for input and are more educated on topics. Lynn spoke to the two different levels of sanctioning. Rob C said that for USMS to grow in Open Water, we should partner with other NGBs. Nadine said we should think of ways for us to create opportunities to showcase USMS. Jeff asked if the Board could direct the Open Water committee to conduct a development opportunity. It was discussed that this would be in furtherance of new rule 203.1.1.C. and the consideration of “other sanctions” for open water events. **MSA – To consider approval of open water events to both USMS and non-USMS members, with the appropriate controls set forth by the Long Distance Committee with input from the Open Water Committee.** Ralph requested we consult with our insurance broker to ensure USMS is not creating unacceptable risk.

**Executive Director Report (Rob Butcher)**

- Prior to Spring Nationals, the ED traveled to Colorado Springs for meetings with USA Swimming, USA Swimming Foundation and to attend the National Swimming Pool Foundation conference.
- ED distributed Club & Coach Development reports from Masters coach certification teachings in Virginia, Cleveland, and Phoenix.
- Financials were distributed to the Board and Finance Committee.

### **Presidents Report (Nadine Day)**

- Nadine was honored to award Doug Church as the 2012 Ransom J Arthur recipient. Nadine attended the Greensboro USMS Spring Nationals. She had an opportunity to attend meet with many of the USMS volunteers and members. It gave her an interesting overview on how members view the organization and how some members feel that USMS is doing.
- Nadine attended the International Hall of Fame event. USMS is the only NGB that donates a substantial amount of money. USMS donates approx. \$0.35 per member, which is approx. \$25,000. While at ISHOF, Nadine attended the International Aquatic Symposium and Film Festival. USMS had an opportunity to present on the History of USMS.
- USAS/UANA meeting attended by Nadine and Rob Butcher. Mel Goldstein was re-appointed as UANA Master's Chair.
- Rob B provided an update on the 2013 UANA Pan American Masters Championships.
- USA Swimming Liaison update (Ted Haartz) attended the USA Swimming BOD meeting in April and also attend the USA Swimming "Safe Sport"/Athlete Protection meeting. USA Swimming BOD discussion was interesting on the topic of dues increases should be a long-term decision not a year to year decision that BOD should discuss yearly. This allows BOD and staff to PLAN for programs and the budget more accurately.

### **VP Local Operations Report (Ed Tsuzuki)**

All of the Local Operations committees continue to meet and are continuing work on their active projects. Highlights:

- **History and Archives** –The History and Archives presentation at the First International Aquatics History Symposium and Film Festival on May 10, 2012 at the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Ft Lauderdale was made by two of USMS' founding members, John Spannuth and Judge Robert Beach with the attendance of June Krauser, our "Mother of Masters Swimming." Vice Chair Barbara Dunbar and Chair Meegan Wilson submitted the initial abstract and helped coordinate the process.

Updates, corrections, research, and transfer to digital format continue on archived registration records. Top Ten database corrections are ongoing. The committee has requested the addition of legacy IDs to the Club Assistant database. Anna Lea Matysek has linked duplicate IDs to old legacy IDs on the USMS web site. Chris Stevenson, Chair of the Records and Tabulation Committee, has been correcting errors in the Top Ten data base as they are verified by H&A. Jim Matysek has been searching and eliminating recurring errors in permanent IDs.

The search for Long Distance and Open Water National Championship results (for posting to usms.org) continues. Committee members are writing, adding, and updating stories and checking links. Additional projects include researching the history of convention delegates, locating rules changes from past conventions, scanning and archiving USMS scrap books, and archiving convention documents. Meg Smath has scanned convention material from 1973 - 2007 and produced a CD that was archived at the International Henning Library (May 2012).

The H&A policy document has been completed and published to usms.org.

- **Records and Tabulation** – Records and Tabulation has been focused on international meets for the past two months. The times from the Canadian SCM Nationals were not considered for Top Ten (TT) submission or USMS records because, among other problems, the proper measurements were not obtained to conform to USMS rules. This was an unpopular decision, since 200 times from the 39 USMS members who participated in the meet were considered invalid for USMS TT or national records. However, times from the meet are valid for FINA TT and world records; indeed, one USMS member set two world records at the meet but those times were not deemed valid for USMS

purposes. The committee will be proposing a rule change so that USMS will accept times from international meets for TT and records if the measurements are acceptable for FINA purposes.

The committee also has streamlined the submission process from certain large international meets, to make sure that swims from USMS members in those meets will be uploaded into the on-line Events Results Data Base and submitted for TT consideration.

The R&T policy document has been completed and published to usms.org.

- **Recognition and Awards** – The Recognition & Awards Committee agreed on an approach to announcing the annual Ransom Arthur Award: *if the recipient attends the USMS Spring National Championship meet, an official presentation will take place at that location. If the recipient will not be at the meet, a brief announcement will be made at that venue and arrangements will be made to have an official presentation take place at a location more convenient to the honoree.* Sally Dillon (chair) worked with the Championship Committee Chair and reached an agreement to have the announcement on Friday, immediately after the second warm-up and before the meet resumed.

The selection committee for the Ransom Arthur Award (consisting of the R&A committee and all previous award recipients who are USMS registered) had a challenging task before them due to a record seven (7) nominations. This year's honoree is Doug Church. USMS President Nadine Day was able to surprise Doug with the award at a meeting held shortly before the national meet.

The R&A committee policy document has been completed and published to usms.org.

The committee is currently discussing how more nominations can be encouraged for the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service and the Club of the Year Awards and how the nomination process can be made more "friendly."

- **LMSC Development** – The BOD reviewed and approved additional revisions to the LMSC Standards policy document, which has been posted to usms.org. The next cycle to survey LMSCs' adherence to the updated LMSC Standards will begin soon with the questionnaire in beta test (utilizing Survey Monkey). Data for about half of the required standards will be gathered from information already supplied by the LMSCs to the National Office (Anna Lea Matysek) and to the National Top Ten Coordinator (Mary Beth Windrath), shortening the survey considerably.

Identification and development of convention workshops is in progress. More formal criteria for targeting and evaluating convention grant recipients are also under development. Committee goals aligned with the USMS Strategic Plan have been identified and committee policies surrounding LMSC Standards evaluation and changes to Appendix D of the Rule Book are scheduled to be approved on May 20, 2012.

- **E2EEM Task Force** – Launched on February 8, 2012, the enhanced calendar and on-line sanction form now has processed 223 requests (of which 105 are open water) from 41 LMSCs. Feedback on the process continues to be collected (some modifications have been made already) with the primary opportunity areas being the posting of updated entry forms (with the recognition/sanction number) and ease of use enhancement requests.

## **VP Programs Report (Dave Diehl)**

### **OFFICIALS:**

Set up the Officials Committee forum. Sent out a call for FINA Masters officials and only one official was selected (Pat Baker) to work the 2012 Championship in Italy. Established the Masters officials certification program and began the promotion of the process. Coordinated and briefed the officials at Greensboro (SCN)

and called for additional volunteer officials for Omaha (LCN). Nadine asked Dave about the officials' certification status.

#### OPEN WATER:

Continuing work regarding the national open water awards system. The various open water task forces (Safety, Event Development, Legislation/Rules, E2EEM, Clinics) continue their work to promote and educate the community regarding open water swimming. Discussed the OW sanction guidelines in the rule book.

#### LONG DISTANCE:

Sufficient inventory of LD patches but re-ordered medals. Reviewing the LD rules for the rule book and making recommendations for changes. Committee is working to simplify the application for OW and pool LD records. Put bid package on-line for the 2014 LD events. They ruled that snorkels are not allowed in OW/Postal events. Continuing work on dual sanctioning of OW events with other NGBs. Committee is working with OW regarding a national ranking system for OW swimmers. Continuing work by the various LD working groups (Rules, All-Star Awards & Patches, Records, Club Assistance, Safety, Officials).

#### VP Administration Report (Mike Heather)

- Registration: no response
- Legislation: no report
- Championship Committee: Greensboro was a huge success. Not a single protest at the meet. One hiccup was we did not receive the list of On-Deck coaches from Coaches committee prior to the start of the meet so there were issues with getting hospitality passes to the appropriate coaches. Championship Committee would like to thank Recognition and Awards committee for re-evaluation the Ransom Arthur Award presentation at Nationals and to Nadine who did a fabulous job with the presentation this year. Championship Committee would like to thank Sports Medicine and Science for adding an informative medical display and skin cancer screening in place of the lectures from past Spring Nationals.
- Indianapolis Spring 2013 update: Contract has been signed by all parties.
- Mission Viejo Summer 2013 update: Contract not signed yet.

Other: The committee is actively recruiting potential bidders for 2014 Spring and Summer Nationals. They are aiming for a West coast Spring Nationals and an East coast Summer Nationals. Lastly, they are working on several rules proposals to submit for the 2012 convention (7 potential proposals at the moment).

Rules Committee: A request was made for Rules to have all of its output dealt with in a timely manner by the National Office, sometimes in a rush for rules that have been suspended by FINA or USA swimming.

Mike made the Board aware that there needs to be a spot on the website where the FAQs are housed that Rules committee creates for better communication to the LMSC's.

#### **MSA- Board of Directors approved the consent agenda items.**

Omaha update (Tom Boak) provided an updated on the status on Summer Nationals. The Nebraska LMSC has 103 swimmer registered for the meet. An updated budget forecast has been provided by Susan Kuhlman.

Election Up-date – The At-Large Director candidates have been posted to the website.

Membership Product Task Force: – The task force will be presenting their final report at the July meeting of the Board.

Governance committee: The Board responsibility document was sent to the Board. **MSA - The BOD accepts the recommendation from the Governance Committee which voted to recommend the Board approve the “US Masters Responsibilities and Powers of Board and Directors” Rev 17-Feb-2010** (attached or previously sent to members of the USMS Board). This document was created during 2008-2009, discussed in 2010, but was never formally approved by the USMS Board.

Liability Waiver: Patty noted that this is a year in which any legislation proposals would have to be considered as “emergency” and there is still a lot of confusion about the relationship between who may be a released party in a waiver, versus an additional insured. Therefore, she recommends that any changes to 202.1.1A(1) not be addressed this year.

SSL Discussion deferred to Board of Directors face to face meeting in July.

The next Board of Directors call will be held on Tuesday June 26th at 8:30 am EDT.

**MSA – to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 p.m. EDT.**

Respectfully submitted,

C.J. Rushman  
Secretary