

U.S. Masters Swimming Executive Committee Conference Call minutes

January 10th, 2012

FINAL

Action Items: none

President Nadine Day called the meeting to order at 8:30 PM EDT. Also present were, Michael Heather-VP of Administration, Jody Smith-VP of Community Service, David Diehl-VP of Programs, Ed Tsuzuki - VP of Local Operations, Ralph Davis-Treasurer, C.J. Rushman - Secretary, Jeff Moxie -Immediate Past President, Patty Miller – Legal Counsel and Executive Director - Rob Butcher. Absent: None

EC Agenda topics:

1) Executive Director (Rob Butcher):

- 2012 membership registration is 33,322 compared to 31,124 from last year same date
- The Rule Book is printed and Club Welcome kits with marketing resources are in the mail; 703 clubs are registered and will be receiving.
- We have so far scheduled six Masters Coach Certification teaching weekends, and the weekends are posted at usms.org; Masters Coaches who complete the certification will be receiving a certified coach pin.
- IT has completed programming development of the online sanction program. The program is in final beta testing with the End to End Event Management task force. IT is developing programming that allows for Postal results as well as open water/long distance results to be integrated into the event results database.
- We are developing a section of usms.org for tri-athletes.

2) Presidents Report: (Nadine Day) - Recommended that all printed material have the approved mission and vision statement. Nadine discussed issues on article submission and having committees that submit articles work on a procedure for submission of articles-Jody Smith to take that lead. The Executive Committee requested full access to the discussion forums. VPs to remind their committee chairs to review their contact lists, committee policies, committees short term and long term goals.

3) Legal Counsel Report; Received an inquiry from a USMS member offering their legal expertise with trademarks.

4) Past President – nothing to report.

5) VP of Administration; Mike H – Registration and Legislation committee have nothing to report; Rules Committee has submitted the following:

A final report of rule changes adopted by the HOD, including USA Swimming changes that impact Part 1, was prepared, proofread by the Rules Committee, and submitted to the Rule Book Coordinator for the 2012 Rule Book. Rules Committee members were assigned sections of the draft of the 2012 rule book for proofreading. This is very detailed work requiring comparing the language of the draft to that of the final report of adopted changes, looking for grammatical errors and proofreading all the sequential numbers separately from the language, and proofreading all the references to other articles of the rule book. Some of this requires proofreading in other parts of the rule book also. The following rules differences documents were updated for Appendix B by the chair and several committee members: Differences Between USA Swimming and USMS Rules Differences Between NCAA Swimming and USMS Rules Differences Between NFHS Swimming and USMS Rules Information for USMS Participants at FINA Events This requires comparing USMS Part 1 to the corresponding sections in each of those organization's rule books. The tables of major Rules Differences among all the swimming governing bodies in the US and the calendar of events for all those organizations for the OKI (Our Kids Initiative) website were also updated by the chair for USMS changes. The chair submitted language for "Major Changes" for 2012 rules to the Rule Book Coordinator. The Rules Committee met to consider a request from the Championship Committee for a suspension of article 104.5.4B (2) to allow publication of 2012 long course nationals' information in an earlier issue of SWIMMER magazine. The committee gave its advice and consent to the USMS Board of Directors to take immediate action to suspend 104.5.4B (2) for that purpose. Monthly Rules articles have been submitted to Streamlines and many questions about rules have been answered. The committee will next finalize committee operating policies for submission to the Board.

The Championship Committee is in preparations for Spring and Summer Nationals. There have been NQTs posted, an FAQ about NQTs, and a couple of questions posed by the Greensboro host.

Mike Heather task force assignments: Volunteer Task Force has met once again; we have discussed the submitted templates for Committees. The Membership Task Force has established its charter and is scheduling meeting dates.

6) VP of Local Ops – Ed Tsuzuki: **Records and Tabulation** - extensive update to Guide to Operations complete and published. Available here: http://www.usms.org/admin/lmschb/gto_rectab_general.pdf

Summary of revisions for 2012:

- Greater emphasis on uploading meet results to the Event Results Database (ERDB). This reflects the changing nature of the position of Top Ten Recorder as the End-to-End-Event-Management (E2EEM) system approaches complete implementation.
- Greater emphasis on using the ERDB web-based tools for generation of seasonal Top Ten reports.
- Generally less emphasis on process (deferring to online tutorials/instructions) and more on rules, policies and expected duties.
- The following forms were removed: Record Application, Pool Length Certification, Split Notification, and Official Relay Cards. These forms are already provided in the GTO section of the USMS website; the URLs of these forms are provided in the general GTO document.
- For Top Ten reports, only the Walt Reid format is described in detail (and this is moved to the Appendix). A link is provided for the SDIF format, which is also acceptable. No other file formats are mentioned or described. Continuing to meet on regular schedule. Actively using the discussion forum.

History and Archives - continuing work on developing a presence at the "International Aquatic History Symposium" in May (in Ft. Lauderdale). Working on a USMS history timeline.

Recognition and Awards - addressing the following items:

1. USMS Awards – should recipients be required to be USMS members? Awards have been given to non-USMS members in the past and there were 4 people who received awards from 3 different committees in 2011. Sally has asked the other (award-giving) committees to have discussions about this topic as well.
2. Ransom J Arthur Award – should we change the time and venue for where the award is announced?
3. Club of Year Award – does the name imply the award is just for accomplishments in a given year, although that is not the intention for the award?
4. Dot Donnelly Service Award – how can we better publicize this award (and all USMS awards)?
5. Awards at the local level – how can we further encourage award development at the local level?

Continuing to meet on regular schedule. Actively using the discussion forum to facilitate above discussion topics.

LMSC Development Committee -

First meeting of 2012 held last night. Excellent participation and off to a good start with 3 major subcommittees:

- Standards Survey
- Mentoring
- Education

Regarding the workshops (under Education subcommittee), I have informed the committee of spots held on draft agenda, but have asked them to challenge the status quo on the approach and content for our workshops at convention. Committee is looking forward to feedback on (and hopefully approval of) their recommended revisions to the LMSC Standards document. (Posted on the BOD discussion forum for feedback.) Ed has asked the EC to please take a moment to respond or at least familiarize yourselves with the proposals so we can have an efficient discussion in Atlanta.

E2EEM Task Force - As of last night's meeting, putting finishing touches on approval tool and training documentation (Anna Lea providing tremendous assistance here, as usual). Another conf call scheduled for Jan 15 and should be able to launch soon (target is still to have this launched by our BOD meeting).

7) VP of Programs – David D: Since the last BOD meeting none of the three committees (Officials, Long Distance or Open Water) have held meetings. The Long Distance Committee has a meeting scheduled for Sunday (1/15). The Officials Committee has sent out the applications for officiating at SC and LC Nationals and the liaisons for both have been set. Still waiting on approval of names submitted to FINA for the 2012 World Championships. Open Water Committee sub-committees are working on their respective issues for reporting at the next OW Committee meeting.

The Long Distance Committee will be meeting this coming Sunday and the reports of the various working groups on Rules, All-Star Awards/Patches, Records, Safety, Manuals, Officials, etc. will be given and discussed. The following reports regarding the 2012 OW swims and their locations/liaisons will be given and as follows:

- 3-6 Mile Open Water: Team NASTI, Noblesville, IN (5K)
 - Liaison: Tom Spence (talltom13@msn.com) backup, Robert Zeitner, rzeitner@sbcglobal.net
- 2 Mile Cable Swim: COMA, Sweet Home, OR
 - Liaison: Donn Livoni (glenhollyfarm.livoni@gmail.com), backup Jill Wright (jilwrght@gmail.com)
- 6+ Mile Open Water: Rogue Valley Masters, Jacksonville, OR (10K)
 - Liaison: Jill Wright (jilwrght@gmail.com), backup Ali Hall (mi.consult.ahall@gmail.com)
- 1 Mile Open Water: Hickory Nut Gorge, Lake Lure, NC

- Liaison: Heather Hagadorn (heatherlh@msn.com) backup, Phyllis Quinn, PEO1EKCI@aol.com
- 1-3 Mile Open Water: Garden State Masters, Lake Hopatcong, NJ (2 mile)
 - Liaison: Susan Kirk (sjirk@gmail.com), backup Ann Svenson (annsvenson@gmail.com)
- 10 mile Open Water: Genesis Aquatics/Hopkins Masters, Lake Minnetonka, MN
 - Liaison: Ali Hall mi.consult.ahall@gmail.com backup Robert Zeitner, rzeitner@sbcglobal.net
- OHP: Blue Wave Aquatics, Federal Way, WA
 - Liaison: Ann Svenson/Susan Kirk co-lead; Ali Hall, back-up
- 5,000/10,000K Postal: Hammerheads Aquatics, Boca Raton, FL
 - Liaison: Greta van Meeteren, lead
- 3,000/6,000 Postal: Long Beach Grunions, Brea, CA
 - Liaison: Bruce Hopson, Lead; Dick Snider, backup

8) VP of Community – Jody S: All three committees have had their initial calls and have put together subcommittees to accomplish existing goals. They are also working on completing the information requested regarding their committee and tasks. The committees are interested in a project that would go across all three committees and the chairs are considering some ideas. The Coaches Committee named seven online coaches and the selected coaches will be featured in SWIMMER Magazine and Streamlines. They are completing the calendar for the 2012 Masters Coach Certification clinics. A major focus for the year ahead will be improving the certification process and defining future levels. The Fitness Committee is gearing up for the 2012 Nike Go the Distance and a potential new Fitness Activity. The committee is glad to have representation from the Coaches Committee as a liaison back to Coaches. The Sports Medicine committee is working on the "Health Network" and continuing to support health screenings at Nationals. All three committees had questions regarding articles, publications, the website and the review process for submitted stories.

7) Treasurer report-Ralph; Nothing to report.

8) Old Business –CJ sent out 2012 Preliminary schedule for USMS Convention. Please had any feedback by Friday January 13th if possible. 2012 Elections are for at-large directors. Nadine asked for volunteers from the Executive Committee to serve on an Election committee. The Appendix E of the 2012 Rule book needs to be updated to recent changes of committee members.

9) New Business – All mileage reimbursement will be 55 cents per mile. Ralph pointed out that there was no issue (as far as the IRS is concerned) with us reimbursing volunteers at the higher rate. We will add to FOG an information statement as example “: A portion of the IRS standard business mileage rate may be considered to be taxable income under current IRS rules. Please consult with your financial advisor or tax preparer if you have a question.”

Next meeting of the Executive Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday February 7th, 2012 at 8:30 PM EDT.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM EDT.

C.J. Rushman,
Secretary