

USMS CONVENTION – San Diego, CA – 2003

Committee Name: Long Distance Session # 2 Cmte. report #: 29

Minutes recorded by: Amy Patz Date/time of this meeting: Sept. 13, 2003 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.. ____

ACTION ITEMS

1. MSA: To give the 2004 postal swims the option of posting the interim results on-line.
2. MSA: To change to the cloisonné medal for the Long Distance Championships.
3. MSA: To accept the Hasty Medals bid for long distance championships medals with appropriate adjustment for the new medals.
4. MSA: To accept the emergency rule change as presented in the convention packet.
5. MSA: To accept Proposal L4 as a single piece of legislation.
6. MSA: To accept Proposal L4

Committee Chair: Peter Crumbine Vice Chair(s): Marcia Cleveland and Randy Nutt

Number of committee members present: 16 Absent: 5 Number of other delegates at this meeting: 30

Committee members present:

Peter Crumbine, Marcia Cleveland, Randy Nutt, Rob Copeland, Bob Bruce, Pam Himstreet, Bruce Hopson, Laura Kessler, Steve Schofield, Dick Sidner, Julie Stewart, Jim Wheeler, Jill Wright, Shannon Sullivan.

Ex-Officio Members: Lynn Hazlewood (EC Liaison), Graham Johnston.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at: 7:59

Comments from the Chair: The year has been most productive with numerous issues discussed by email. For the new committee, recommendations are made by the Chair to Jim Miller, who has the final say. Randy Nutt will be remaining on the committee but has suggested that Marcia Cleveland be the sole Vice Chair.

Interim Results for Postal Swims (carried over from previous session):

Mel Goldstein proposed that event directors be allowed to post interim results on-line as a means of generating excitement in the event. Concerns expressed: It will not prove to be much of an experiment, because the process will not be finished before next year's convention. It might put a burden on the Meet Director, since the bulk of the entries will come in close to the deadline. We should not have "options" for national championships. It might reduce participation, due to fast posted times discouraging slower swimmers.

MSA: To give the 2004 postal swims the option of posting the interim results on-line.

Reports:

Peter Crumbine for Robert Zeitner: Awards: Robert sent out 6 bids for new medals with Hasty coming in lowest. A concern was voiced regarding the weight of current medals and the resulting cost of postage. It was suggested that we switch to the lighter cloisonné medals, which have been used at other Nationals (Hawaii) and have similar prices. In any case, LD medals should be the same for both Postal and Open Water.

MSA: Change to the cloisonné medal for the Long Distance Championships.

MSA: Accept the Hasty Medals bid, with appropriate adjustment for the new medals.

Jim Wheeler: Safety Manual: Jim has compiled the first draft of a safety manual using wording from other manuals. Open water swims are a concern, especially regarding the ability of a safety patroller to recognize a distressed swimmer and competently remove him or her from the water. A sub-committee was formed to work on the manual.

Jill Wright: Records: She is now entering records directly on the web site.

Rob Copeland: LD Policy Manual: Task for the upcoming year.

Bruce Hopson: Liaison 2006 World Games: Will send a report via email after the meeting later in the morning.

Randy Nutt: Website: Lynn Hazlewood has put everything on the web, including: bid forms, LD rules, Championship information, results, clinics, entry forms, etc. Local websites should include a link to this site.

Items already decided via email:

Continue free swim caps for postal events, to be sent out by Meet Directors.

10 individual medals in the OHP

Postal experience required before being awarded the OHP.

ISHOF for OW: Criteria for OW to be blended into the pool criteria by the ISHOF committee.

Postal participation patch and a new championship patch have been adopted, both designed by Bill Volckening.

Emergency rule change: The idea is to tighten controls for OW championships and for OW records. Also, this closes a loophole regarding wetsuits. The policies regarding how to enforce this could be outlined in the policy manual.

MSA: To accept the rule change presented in the convention packet.

Legislation Amendment Proposal L4:

MSA: To accept Proposal L4 as a single piece of legislation.

MSA: To accept Proposal L4.

Other items:

Evaluators for 2004 events:

One Hour Postal: Marcia Cleveland

5K/10K Postal: Jill Wright

3000/6000 Yards Postal: Bruce Hopson

One Mile OW: Julie Stewart

2 Mile Cable OW: Bruce Hopson

1-3 Mile OW: Jim Wheeler

3-6 Mile OW: Jill Wright

6+ Mile OW: Marcia Cleveland

Evaluation Form: The problem with the new form is that virtually every event gets above the 90% breakpoint for a full refund.

MSA: Change the evaluation system so that 2 points are deducted for minor infraction and 5 points for a major infraction.

Peter will advise event directors of the new system, and evaluators will go over the criteria in depth with them.

Team categories for OHP: Natural breaks have been used to select team categories. This is subjective, and the question is whether or not there is a more objective system. However, by publishing team sizes, teams may discourage slower swimmers to avoid bumping the team into a larger category. Mel Goldstein suggested averaging rather than adding the swimmers distances, which could possibly be a separate category/award.

LD Historian: The committee needs to have a LD Historian, which might more appropriately be called the LD Librarian, to keep the historical records of LD championships. Marcia has volunteered, but she already has considerable duties as Vice Chair. A person with a passion for LD records would be especially appropriate.

Postal manual: Kristine Lewis provided the LD committee with an excellent first draft of a Postal Manual.

Other business: Bill Volckening is looking for articles to be archived for use if space becomes available in *Swim*.

The meeting was adjourned at: 9:30 a.m..

TASKS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

1. Design the cloisonné medal. (Julie Stewart, Pam Himstreet, Shannon Sullivan, Bill Volckening)
2. Finalize the Safety Manual. (Jim Wheeler)
3. Finalize the Postal Manual.
4. Appoint a LD Historian.
5. Communicate changes in the evaluation form to the 2004 Event Directors.
6. Initiate work on the LD Policy Manual. (Rob Copeland)
7. Consider changes to the OHP team scores.

Addendum to Minutes from Session #1:

The following bids were not chosen for the Long Distance Championships:

Indy SwimFit: 2 Mile Cable

Colorado Masters: 1-3 Mile, 6+ Mile

Clemson Aquatics: 1-3 Mile, 3-6 Mile, 6+ Mile, OHP, 5K/10K Postal

Central Oregon Masters: 1-3 Mile, 3-6 Mile

Chicago Masters: 3-6 Mile

Potomac Raiders: 3-6 Mile, 6+ Mile

Seacats: 6+ Mile

Rio Grande: OHP

O*H*I*O: OHP

St. Pete: 3/6000 and 5K/10K Postal

Tualatin Hills: 3/6000 Postal