

Committee Name: Open Water	Session #: 1	Report #: 1
Committee Chair: Lynn Hazlewood	Vice Chair: Rob Copeland	
Minutes recorded by: Joanne Wainwright	Date/time of meeting: April 6, 2014 8:00 PM EDT	

Number of committee members present: 10	Absent: 6	Number of other delegates present: 0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Lynn Hazelwood, Chair; Rob Copeland, Vice Chair; Glenda Carroll, Sue Nutty, Rendy Lynn Opdycke, Joanne Wainwright, Jim Wheeler. Ex-Officio: Donn Livoni, Bill Roach, Chris McGiffin.		

Action Items:

1. **MSA** the minutes from March 2, 2014 meeting.
2. Jim Wheeler agreed to subdivide the April webinar topics into four subgroups for future webinars.
3. **MSA** the OW committee is in favor of the Open Swimming Championships amendments as mentioned in 301.3.1 201.1.3a, 307.2.1.
4. **MSA** the OW committee to put forth amendment 303.7.2b (2nd b) to the LD committee regarding swimwear.
5. The committee agreed to purchase the same design type used in 2013 for the 2014 winner of the OW Service Award.

Agenda:

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM EDT

1. Attendance was taken and a quorum declared by the Chair.
2. Approve minutes from March 2, 2014 meeting (Motion: Sue Nutty, 2nd: Rob Copeland)
3. **Report from Chair—Lynn Hazlewood**
 - **Safety Education** announced in the April Streamlines for Volunteers (SLV)—April 13, 2014 webinar, in-depth safety webinars from May through August, OW Workshop at convention. Thirty one people have signed up for the webinar in April. Jim Wheeler was asked what target he would like for May. Lynn would like to publish the schedule in Streamlines for Members (SL). Rob Copeland suggested Safety Training for 1st Responders. Jim Wheeler listed the seven critical areas in the OW seminar: Venue, Event Director, Swimmer Safety, Staffing for Safety, Swimmer Supervision, Communication, Emergency Action Plans. These areas could be broken up and combined into small groups:. Jim volunteered to look at the large webinar and break them up into smaller groups and post them on the forum. The smaller webinars would take place in May, June, July and August. They could be 30 minutes in length and more interactive in nature, such as using an interactive chat box.
 - **Publication Deadlines:** SL (monthly) content mm/25, publish mm/1; SLV (bi-monthly) content mm/15, publish mm/20. Subcommittees that need publicity need to keep these dates in mind when preparing for announcements.
 - **Open Water Task Force**—"During the Winter BOD meeting, the BOD recommended that an OW Task Force of the BOD be established to determine an OW strategy for USMS. " (March 25, 2014 email from USMS President Nadine Day). That TF has now been established and is proceeding with their work. The OWTF will report to the BOD at their July meeting. Recommendation:

The Open Water Committee will support projects that are in place and important to the good functioning of the current USMS open water product including updating Part 1 and Part 2 of the OWGTO, selecting the Open Water Service Award winner, presenting safety webinars and workshops and developing rules and legislation proposals. Furthermore, the Committee will cease any extensive development work until the Open Water Task Force sets the direction for USMS open water swimming.
4. **Report from BOD**—Chris McGiffin reported that Nadine Day recently formed the OW Task Force from the BOD. This group will look at what we are doing today, if we are on the right path, and make recommendations for any action to take. They will be looking at how we can improve OW swimming from a business model.
5. **Report from Insurance Rebate Panel**—Rob Copeland - There have been a total of five partial or complete requests. The panel has granted one rebate for \$400. Two other requests have been declined as they felt that the LMSC and/or event had sufficient funds to pay the fees without assistance.
6. **Report from Safety Education**—Jim Wheeler, Bill Roach - Jim Wheeler reported that he will do the webinar plan for May through August. Bill Roach reported that he has been asked to hold off on Safety Director training planning pending results from the BOD Task Force.
7. **Report from Swimmer Training**—Rendy Lynn Opdycke, Sue Nutty. Sue Nutty suggested that the OW Workshop at Convention be divided into a two-part presentation with a classroom lecture and an in- water session. The classroom

workshop will be held on Friday at 1 p.m. The water session could take place on Saturday during the morning workout time if lanes are available. Sue Nutty will communicate with the Coaches Committee to try to get some pool time during the Saturday morning workout and continue to work with Coaches on organization of the Friday presentation.

Rendy Lynn Opdycke reported that a letter has been sent to people who sanction OW events this year urging them to have clinics in conjunction with their events. Rendy Lynn Opdycke, Glenda Carroll, and Lynn Hazelwood have been serving as resources to help answer questions.

8. **Report from OWGTO**—Rob Copeland reported that he has the FINA Open Water manual and the USA Swimming manuals. He will look at these sources in comparison to our guide and make recommendations to complete our guidelines.
9. **Report from OWCC**—Bill Roach reported that many safety plans submitted during the OW sanctioning process have had to be updated following review. He clarified that if an event is seeking a USMS sanction and has other swimmers participating in the event (USA swimmers, etc.), reference to these other swimmers must be taken out of the safety plan. The safety plan should pertain to USMS participants only.
10. **Report from Rules & Legislation**—Bob Bruce
In the absence of Bob Bruce, Lynn Hazelwood led the rules discussion. The committee unanimously approved the wording of two proposals and made suggestions for modification for three other proposals. These recommendations will be sent to Bob Bruce for the next LDC rules discussions.
- 11.
12. **Report from Awards**—Lynn Hazlewood reported that one nomination has been received. Joanne Wainwright discussed the possibility of using the same award design as last year. It was decided by the committee keep the same design for 2014.
13. Next meeting: May 18, 2014 8:00 PM EDT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m. EDT