

Records and Tabulation Minutes

Date/Time of Meeting: 1/15/2012, 7pm EST (Conference call)

Present: Chris Stevenson (Chair), Greg Danner (Vice Chair), Barbara Dunbar, Laszlo Eger, Jeanne Seidler, Ginger Pierson, Anna Lea Matysek, Emmett Hines, Mary Sweat, Ed Tsuzuki, Mary Beth Windrath.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm EST.

Motions Passed

Minutes from previous meeting (10-30-11) approved.

Meeting Minutes

Rule change proposals

Rules to look at in coming weeks and months:

The rule for records states they will be published in the rule book. Committee members offer opinions on record inclusion in the rule book. The rule book is required to be at all meets, so that helps people know when there might be a record when there is no internet access. A non-committee member at the convention mentioned a similar concern during the Records & Tab meeting. One downside is that the records can be outdated, causing swimmers to incorrectly believe they have a record. However, even with internet access, the USMS site is not guaranteed to be up to date either. Ideally, there would always be a current Meet Manager file available for World Records, which could automatically be downloaded through MM by meet hosts. The committee believes this to be unlikely for the near future. On another note, FINA is only issuing certificates for people who break the current record, just as USMS has changed its rule on the matter.

GTO splits and the preparation of meet results – Do splits need to be part of the meet results? The meet director gets split requests, not the TTR. There is also a question about what results are official: those on ERDB vs. those posted on meet host or LMSC page. Split requests should be entered manually as separate events? Members discuss “include splits” check box availability in Meet Manager, but that doesn’t make those as separate event. The current web tool automatically takes the split that was in meet results, but they should be verified.

There is a question as to the interpretation of the word “published” when it comes to the location of meet results. Committee members feel it is probably sufficient to have results online only and not necessarily printed to hard copies at the end of the meet.

The committee generally agrees that it is difficult to streamline many of these processes until all meet directors and/or LMSCs submit results electronically and via Hy-Tek.

IT projects and priorities

Chris indicates that sanctions related items are a high priority and ability to generate MM records file as of a current date, but asks committee members to help decide what other projects are the most important. Can the committee decide on a top 5?

Committee members request time to review the list, which had 22 items suggested recently by email (in addition to those already listed in the projects and priorities spreadsheet). Chris asks if anyone wants items added and there are no responses.

Chris brings up the idea for differently formatted Top Ten preview reports to assist USMS members in reviewing them for the purpose of assisting the TTRs. What's the future of the E2EEM system and how might that come into play? The committee will continue to propose enhancements and E2EEM can decide what is appropriate for the committee to pursue.

A question arose regarding deleting an All-Star from the list and who would have access to that (and does it need to be automated). Only Jim would have ability to delete All-Star from a list and this is not expected to be an issue if it is only a manual process for now.

The next discussion revolved around the relay leadoffs tool. In a meet someone can automatically submit separate events for all relay leadoffs for a meet. Is that something that can be advertised to all TTRs? Several members say no. Chris communicated with Charlie Cockrell (who was Officials chair at the time) to ask if there were concerns from an officiating standpoint. Charlie replied that if there were an Admin Referee (or equivalent) available to check on times, as well as sufficient officials to verify names and that there were no in-water starts, it should be okay. Barbara thinks meet directors would simply send in results without regard for the rules. Chris agrees the program should not be "advertised" right now but we are not making judgment because the tool is available to TTRs as it is. Some committee members think it should be advertised. The same issues that invalidate swims *can* happen at Nationals even. USMS should specify that TTRs have to make sure that standards are followed, even though it will be easier for them if they don't. Charlie had some suggestions for minimum requirements on what officiating should be in place to allow blanket splits.

Pool length measurements: some issues/concerns.

Problems that we're not aware of will become more obvious because there are more electronic submissions. Below are some issues that come up for future consideration:

- FINA World Record requirements are less stringent than USMS Top Ten. Is this appropriate? The rules originated due to pools in the US that were noted to be short and had results submitted from them anyway.
- Prelim/Finals measuring repeatedly between sessions. Is this necessary? One committee member suggests using physical markings so you can quickly tell that nothing has moved

without having to completely re-measure. Some bulkheads have pins in place and other devices that make movement highly unlikely.

- Accuracy and precision of the measuring device vs the measurement procedure: Laser devices may be accurate, but the use of them can be flawed.
- Generally speaking are the rules too strict? Hard to codify all the possible situations involved. USA-S meets are brought up as to why we can't use those times without following USMS measurements. If they are good enough for USA-S, why not USMS?
- Why are exact measurements necessary? As long as the facility meets the minimum, isn't that good enough?
- Committee members question as to how the current measurement rules were put into place. Voted on by the HOD? That is believed to be the case.
- European pools/meet directors get offended when questioned about measurements, leaving USMS swimmers abroad with a difficult situation when it comes to procuring times accepted by our standards.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm EST.