

Committee Name: Championship	Session #:	Report #:
Committee Chair: Jeff Roddin (represented by Barry Fasbender)	Vice Chair:	
Minutes recorded by: Lisa Watson	Date/time of meeting: August 9, 2013 – 1 PM	

Motions Passed:

1.

Number of committee members present: 11	Absent: 12	Number of other delegates present:
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Jim Clemmons, Barry Fasbender (acting Chair), Steve Goldman, Mark Moore, Ed Saltzman, Lisa Watson, Jack Groselle, Michael Moore, Jeff Strahota, Kyle Deery (ex-officio), Michael Heather (EC)		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1 PM, PST in Mission Viejo, CA.

I. INTRODUCTION/ROLL CALL/ GUESTS

In addition to Championship Committee members, the following guests were present at the meeting: Kathy Casey (Rules Chair), Nadine Day (USMS President), Rob Butcher (Executive Director), Jim Matysek (IT Director), and Carrie Tupper & Natalie Ferdinand (Maryland representatives). Barry noted that a quorum was not present at the meeting.

II. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEET UPDATES

A. 2013 LC- Mission Viejo (Liaisons-Barry Fasbender/Erin Shields)

1) Status- Meet Director Mark Moore reported that the meet was going very well. Obviously, it was a tough first day with the death of a swimmer during the 1500. There were some early miscommunications regarding the shuttle, but these were corrected. Several members praised Mark for the idea of giving \$4 concession stand coupons to those swimmers that had their 6th event scratched. Water temperature has been held constantly at 79 degrees. The meet has been running very smoothly, even ahead of the timeline. Kathy commented that this meet was very well staffed with officials. The committee liked the officials' shirts!

2) There were 2 protests, both regarding failure to check in for a 200m event. In both cases, the protests were denied.

B. 2014 SC-Santa Clara (Liaison-Jim Clemmons)

1) Logo- Kyle reported that he logo has been modified to reflect Nationwide as the new sponsor. This design has not been approved as yet by the meet host.

2) Order of Events – Jim reported that Santa Clara has not indicated or requested, at this point in time, a change in the pre-determined order of events that reside currently within the Rule Book. Jim and Sandi Rousseau will follow up with Santa Clara and provide an update during the first Championship Committee meeting at Convention.

C. 2014 LC- Maryland (Liaison- Jack Groselle)

1) Logo- Carrie Tupper and Natalie Ferdinand, representing Maryland, presented the proposed logo to the committee.

2) Order of Events- Jeff Strahota stated that Maryland plans to have a 5 day format, with an order of events patterned after what is being used in Mission Viejo. There was some discussion regarding the swimmers who swam both distance events at Mission Viejo. Jack suggested that we find out how many Mission Viejo swimmers did both events –the results may affect Maryland's situation regarding these events. The pool is an 8 lane pool.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Distance Day Warm-up Policy

1) Current policy is to have the competition pool available for warm-up either 30 minutes after the last heat, or 7 PM, whichever is later.

2) A possible revision would be to have the policy as 30 minutes after the last heat or 7 PM (whichever is earlier).

There was further discussion about the need for medical coverage on the warm-up day. Since lifeguards are now fully trained in CPR and AED use, they should be capable of adequately responding to immediate medical emergencies before the arrival of the paramedics on the scene. It was noted that the rules about medical coverage were made years ago, when lifeguards did not have this advanced degree of training in these areas.

Kathy recommended that we check on the legal aspects of making such a change in policy, as well as insurance considerations. Michael Moore suggested that we confer with Sports Medicine about this.

A subcommittee of Jack Groselle and Michael Moore was formed to look into this issue further.

- 3) It is also proposed that we require the Registration Desk to stay open during this entire period, whatever the timeframe is.

B. Scratches/No Shows

- 1) One proposal to possibly help reduce scratches would be to change the check-in deadline so that it is not so far away from the actual swim. It was noted that this would require more manpower, and would require swimmers to check in for events more often rather than being able to check in for all events at once. Mark asked if there was an online procedure available to handle situations where a swimmer has checked in for an event, and then needs to scratch it- can we get them scratched? Mark had a few situations like this occur for Mission Viejo. Mike Heather said we should keep it easy for swimmers to check in, but find a way to allow them to scratch.
- 2) Committee members were encouraged to continue posting thoughts/ideas on the forum thread on this subject.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Online Relay Entry Proposal

- 1) The proposal would give teams the option to enter relays online from the individual entry deadline until a week prior to the meet. Ed commented that for Atlanta in 2010, he offered the Large Teams the option of creating their own file and submitting that, which saved a lot of time in terms of inputting relays during the meet. Ed said that this should take care of about 70% of the relays. Jim commented that there may be some logistical issues particularly with small teams. It was agreed that it was the large teams that were the biggest time issue concerns.
- 2) Online relay issues would remain at the current relay fee of \$12.
- 3) Deck entered relays onsite would increase to \$16, to hopefully encourage more teams to enter online.
- 4) Biggest benefit would be to reduce the host workload during the meet.

B. Future Contract Updates

- 1) Hospitality, shuttle, and/or parking passes for USMS staff. Kyle stated that as the National Office becomes more and more involved in National meets, there will likely be more USMS staff going to future Nationals. The National Office is requesting that the meet host provide hospitality, shuttle, and/or parking passes for USMS staff. Ed commented that it depends on the meet as to how costly that is. In Atlanta, parking was handled by a separate organization, so the meet host would have to pay out of pocket to provide parking passes. Hospitality and/or shuttle passes should be easier to handle. Mark concurred that this was the same case for Mission Viejo- parking was also handled by separate organization. Lisa stated that rather than take more money away from the meet host, we should retain the current policy of having these items covered as an expense item for the USMS National Office budget.
- 2) Remove requirement for 'split books'. Everyone agreed that these were not really necessary to have at National meets anymore, since they are available online. Kathy said that we should be sure to include Records & Tabulations in the ongoing discussion. She referred to Rule 105.2.2 in the last paragraph on page 40, which states ... "Such split times shall be included separately in the summary of results prepared by the meet director and submitted to LMSC Top Ten recorder" (applies to ALL meets).

C. Other

- 1) USMS Projects- Jim Matysek said that we need to be able to get more info from the online payments for Nationals entries-currently the payment does not reflect what is included in the payment (social ticket, T-shirt, etc...). Another project in the works is for the option for swimmers to add events to their entry up until a certain date.
- 2) 6th event. Jim questioned whether it is actually legal to eliminate the 6th event without a refund. Several members responded that this should be fine, since swimmers knew ahead of time that the 6th event could be eliminated. Barry said we could continue to look at alternative s for having the 6th event dropped to reduce the timeline for big meets. One alternative would be that we set a policy where if a swimmer enters over 3 events, then the swimmer must meet the NQTs in ALL events entered, including the 3 'NQT-free' events. Jack said we should mandate that only database times from the past 2 years can be entered, and it should be the fastest recorded time. If a swimmer has a reason for entering a slower time (such as recent illness or injury) then that swimmer would need to email the meet director to request permission to use that slower time. If a swimmer does not have a time in the database for an event, he/she can still enter that event. Kathy noted that it states in the rulebook "There shall be qualifying times for national championship meets unless otherwise determined by the Championship Committee." So NQTs do not have to be used, and small meets should not be affected by this proposed change of policy. Mike stated that he was against this proposal,

as there could be multiple reasons as to why a swimmer may want to enter a different time than is in the database, and he expressed concern that this might scare away some swimmers from entering, knowing that to swim more than 3 events, they need to make all NQTs. Ed suggested that we table this for now and start a thread on the Discussion Forum for further discussion. It would also be good to have a subcommittee look further into this.

- 3) Omaha 2016 - Rob Butcher said that it is extremely unlikely that we will be able to 'piggyback' the Olympic Trials in Omaha for 2016 (as we did in 2012)-the pool will not be kept open after the Olympic Trials and we would not be able to have access to the pool anytime shortly before the Trials. However, Rob is hoping that the Nebraska LMSC will submit a bid for LC 2016. The warm-up pool for Trials will remain in Omaha, so it will be available for use. Ed commented that Greensboro is also interested in bidding for 2016.
- 4) Service Animals- Jeff Strahota asked if we have a Disabilities Committee to address the Service Animal issue. Kathy stated that swimmers with disabilities are included in Rules in article 108 and that service animals are governed by law. Mark asked if we could actually give the Service Animal it's own pass- that would make it easier for the animal to be identified and allowed in- since with so many volunteers, it's possible a volunteer may not know that the animal is permitted in the venue.
- 5) Heat Sheets for Coaches - A coach had asked if coaches could get heat sheets. Mark said yes, they are available for coaches at the Registration Desk.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.