

Committee Name:
CHAMPIONSHIP

Committee Chair:
Jeff Roddin

Vice Chair: Kim Crouch

Minutes recorded by: Lisa Watson

Date/time of meeting: 5/1/14 3 PM Santa Clara

Number of committee members present: 11

Absent: 7

Committee members present: Kim Crouch (Vice Chair), Jim Clemmons, Don Gilchrist, Robert Heath, Michael Moore, Sandi Rousseau, Lisa Watson, Barry Fasbender, Jack Groselle, Mark Moore, Ed Saltzman, Kyle Deery (ex-officio)

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 3 PM.

- I. INTRODUCTION Kim Crouch, Vice Chair, conducted the meeting. The Championship Committee members introduced themselves. Also attending were: Nadine Day (USMS President), Rob Butcher (Executive Director) Kathy Casey (Rules Chair), Jim Matysek (USMS Webmaster), Susan Ingraham, Scott Zolinski, Lisa Dahl, Mike Heather, Terry Vettters, Shannon Singer, Andrew Levasseur.
- II. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEET UPDATES
 - A. Santa Clara (2014 SC)- Liaisons: Sandi Rousseau, Jim Clemmons
Sandi commented that the meet was running efficiently so far. Only problems thus far have been minor. The water has been a little warm, but likely due to the hot weather. The water temperature has been cooler today. Safety marshals need to be more focused. This is our biggest Nationals in many years with 2249 swimmers. Sandi thanked Barry for his work on creating timeline options. To save time on Sunday, the 200free and 200 IM are being deck seeded (in addition to the 500). Jim Clemmons thanked Sandi for all her hard work as head liaison for this meet. Sandi also commented that we had only 17 paper entries for this meet.
 - B. Maryland (2014 LC)- Liaison: Jack Groselle.
Jack has already had a site visit to the Maryland venue and was very impressed. Jeff Roddin and Kyle also were present at this site visit. There has been a \$250,000 facility renovation, including new starting blocks with the backstop. Plans are on track for the meet.
 - C. San Antonio (2015 SC)- Liaison: Kim Crouch
Kim introduced Scott Zolinski (Aquatics Director) Terry Vettters (Meet Director) and Susan Ingraham (Event coordinator) who are part of the San Antonio meet organizing committee. They are excited about the meet, and everything is moving smoothly.
 - D. SPIRE (2015 LC)- Liaison: Jack Groselle
Jack said that the meet hosts for SPIRE would be attending Maryland Nationals this summer.
- III. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Coaches Hospitality policy- It is recommended that the requirement for Coaches receiving hospitality at Nationals be changed from 'member in good standing' to 'USMS Recognized Coach'. Club coaches can now receive hospitality depending on the number of club swimmers present at Nationals: 1 hospitality pass for up to 29 swimmers, 2 passes for 30-50 swimmers, and 3 passes for over 50 swimmers. One suggestion was that coaches could register for Nationals (e.g. like relay-only swimmers) - they would then be in the database and also would receive all of the Nationals updates. Kathy suggested the Nationals update e-mails also be posted on the USMS website since coaches have complained that coaches not swimming in the meet do not receive this information. There was also discussion that the coaches could then sign up for GMS, parking, etc. and their LMSC or club would have a record to reimburse them. An 'entry fee' for coaches was also discussed. There was no vote for the Coaches Hospitality policy requirement change as a quorum was not present during this discussion.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Club Awards Policy- proposed changing the number of Regional awards from 10 to 5, with the rationale that 10 is too large a number, considering that with far fewer Regional clubs than local clubs (e.g. with 2249 swimmers at this meet, there are 18 regional clubs and about 250 local clubs), the majority of regional clubs win a banner. There was also a suggestion to remove 'local' from the local club designation on banners, etc. as it may be viewed as a negative. There was another suggestion that clubs also receive a jpg for their websites with the club placement and official logos, etc. There was no vote for the reduction of Regionals awards from 10 to 5 as a quorum was not present during this particular discussion. However, the members present unanimously supported the proposal.

B. Status of 2013 Convention Items

1. Eliminate EMT Coverage on Distance Day- this has been rejected
2. Remove requirement for split books at Nationals- done
3. Distance Day change- done. This change now allows for the pool to be open for 1 hour following the completion of the last heat of the 1650/1500. This will particularly affect SC Nationals, where the distance day will finish much sooner. One suggestion was to cut an hour off of warm-up on Registration Day and add it on to the distance day.
4. Bonus Criteria in meet contracts re-evaluated-completed, will take place in 2015 contracts
5. Review entry fee structure- the BOD evaluated this and made no suggestions to change. Nadine addressed this and said that the Board wants Championship and Long Distance to make any proposed changes to entry fee structure.
6. Service Animal policy – Erin (via email) cautioned local rules (facility, city, county, state, etc.) may make any USMS policies unenforceable. A better route may be to require the host to clearly publish any said local rules and review them with USMS prior to the event. We could still investigate having a “hold harmless agreement.”
7. Analyze NQT data- the purpose is to find out how and if the NQTs actually are affecting the timeline. Jillian is in the process of doing this.
8. Add automatic relay exchange judging equipment to rulebook (completed, in rulebook under 103.10.SC)
9. Online Relay Entries-still open, no work done yet.

C. National Championship Bids

1. Bid application and bid packet has been updated. Robert Heath is working on budget template. Robert commented that Don's budget for Greensboro is being used as an example to follow, since it was so detailed.
2. Potential Bidders. Currently, Georgia Tech (Spring), University of Tennessee (either course), Greensboro (Spring). Sandi said that she thinks Oregon is interested in bidding for Summer. Omaha 2016 following Olympic Trials is no longer an option, as the arena rental is not possible.
3. Schedule. Bids are due by July 1. Bidder conference calls will take place in late July. Final selections will be made via Championship Committee conference call in early August. Winners notified by August 15.

D. Nationals Entry Deadline - current deadline is 35 days prior to first day of the meet: for a Thursday start, that means the entry deadline would end on a Thursday night. It's being proposed that we move that deadline to the following Monday to capture another weekend. This would be approximately 31 days out. Rationale is that nothing would really be done with the entries over the weekend anyway, and this would give people more time to enter, and perhaps get seed times from another meet. Deadline to produce the Meet Program would remain at 21 days prior to the meet, but we would have to compress earlier work done by the National Office.

E. Potential Rules Proposals

1. 104.1.2 Proposal to change dates for Long Course to July 1 –August 31 (currently August 1 –Sept 15).
Lead - Don Gilchrist
2. 104.3.4 Bid Deadline - proposal to take out the word 'holiday' from the wording since there is no holiday on July 1.
Lead - Barry Fasbender
3. 104.4.5 Meet Report - proposal to strike the words 'final results'. Since final results are now prepared by the National Office, the host should not be required to furnish them.
Lead - Sandi Rousseau
4. 104.5.2 Order of Events - propose to remove Order of Events from the rulebook and instead have these be part of Championship policy.
Lead- Kim Crouch
5. 104.5.4C(3) Postmark deadline - this is changed already on the entry forms, so this needs to be rewritten.
Lead - Sandi Rousseau
6. 104.5.4D(2) Banquet - Should this even be in the rulebook, since it is optional?
Lead – Lisa Watson (Mike Heather offered to help, too)
7. 104.5.10B Personnel (moved to Officials committee – Ed Saltzman will coordinate)
8. 104.5.11E Facilities & Equipment - refers to 'use of a computer'. Now Standard Operating Procedure, so this should be removed.
Lead - Michael Moore

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.