

USMS LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes

Thursday, September 25, 1997
8:30-10:30 AM

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Chairman, Sally Dillon. Committee members were introduced: Jill Wright, Maureen Koss, Barney Hungerford, Karen Burton, Peter Crumbine, David Lamott, Lynn Hazlewood, Steve Schofield, Ernie Leskovitz, Pat Risser and Alan Levinson. Members Robert Zeitner and Craig Tribuzi were absent.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Statistics from the 1996 and 1997 (to date) events were shared. Three events received penalties in 1996, one losing their entire bond. Four events have been concluded successfully for 1997 and the others appear to be on track. Ernie and Sally will be evaluating the last two postal events for the year. Committee members signed up to evaluate the 1998 events.

As per the committee survey taken in April, the USMS contract for National Championship event hosts has been amended to require that results be sent to all participants. Some deadlines were also changed so contracts, SWIM information and entry forms are due at the same time for all events except for the One Hour Postal swim.

The Open Water Manual review committee will be Peter, Maureen, Barney and Ernie. The chairman asked that they meet and submit the results of their discussions to her before we leave convention on Sunday. They were asked to differentiate between "housekeeping" changes for future copies and more important changes and additions that will be sent to previous purchasers of the manual.

Possible revision to the Cable Guide was discussed. Because of the "bound" format, it was decided that an addendum would be provided with copies ordered in the future if deemed necessary. Barney volunteered to look at the guide and get input from others.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

ALL AMERICAN: Peter Crumbine has not received AA lists from the 1 mile, 3-6 mile, 5/10K postal and the 3000/6000 postal. He has the current list for inspection.

BIDS AND CALENDAR: Lynn is concerned that we have rejected bids due to size or location and that we have accepted bids from hosts with little experience. Sally asked that the bid forms include the statement that contracts must be completed by established organizations and that the forms also specify the dollar amount of the entry fee so bidders don't use only a "check mark". Considerable discussion centered around our listing of non USMS events on our LD Calendar. Pacific is concerned that they compete unfairly with sanctioned events. Hawaii said no events are sanctioned and insurance is becoming a problem due to the high cost. It was decided that we would asterick known sanctioned events on the calendar in the future.

- **The committee msp to continue listing non-sanctioned events in the LD calendar.**

AWARDS: Sally presented the seven bids gathered by Robert Zeitner. After considerable discussion:

- **the committee msp to accept the bid from Maxwell Marketing of \$3963 for a two year supply of medals.**

RECORDS: Maureen Koss reported that she has received records from only one event, the 2 mile cable swim. The committee discussed at length the merits of determining open water swim records. There was considerable concern that the records from cable swims in salt water were unfairly compared to cable swims in fresh water. It was agreed by all that salt water provided an unfair advantage. Some committee members felt records should not be kept for any cable swims. After further discussion

- **the committee msp to continue honoring records for the cable events.**

A rule will be proposed to have separate records for salt water and fresh water events. Lynn volunteered to write a rule for the committee's approval on Friday.

1997 RULE PROPOSAL

- **The committee msp to recommend LD-1 to the house of delegates.**

ALL STAR COMPETITIONS

The committee felt it was unnecessary to propose a rule about the selection of All Stars. Discussion took place regarding the numerous ties in the 1996 competition. Possible solutions were considered with the agreement that All Stars should participate in more than one event to be eligible.

- the committee msp "to be considered for the Long Distance All Star Team, a swimmer must compete in at least three National Championship Long Distance events, of which one must be an open water event and one must be a postal event."

CLUB SCORING FOR ONE HOUR POSTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The committee rejected the suggestion that we determine a method of including relay teams in the club scoring.

CLUB SCORING FOR OTHER POSTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The committee rejected the suggestion that we determine a method of including relay teams in the club scoring.

OPEN WATER EVENT CONCERNS:

WET SUITS: As temperature concerns are a regional decision, it was decided that LMSC's and event directors can continue to decide if and when they allow wetsuits. Our rule book clearly defines the parameters.

PROSTHESIS AND FLOTATION DEVICES: The committee feels the event director should be able to make decisions regarding the use of flotation devices for competitors with handicaps.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The remaining agenda items will be discussed on Friday.

Lynn and David volunteered to attend the Safety meeting and will report back to the committee.

The workshop presenters will have a luncheon meeting at 12:30 today.

Karen reported that USS is having problems with it's efforts to produce an manual and asked if they could "borrow" from ours. They were given our enthusiastic permission. Their next meeting will be Friday at 1:30 PM.

Committee members were reminded to bring their ideas for our National Championship patch Friday. "Untimely bids" were turned in.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

Friday, September 26, 1997

8:30-10:15 AM

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 AM by Chairman, Sally Dillon. All committee members present at Thursday's meeting were again present.

OPEN WATER CONCERNS (continued from Thursday)

EVENT ROTATION: Alan expressed a concern that the somewhat "regional" 2 mile cable event "stood alone" on our event rotation schedule. He suggested we pair it with the 6+ mile event which is also "regional" most of the time. That would leave the very popular 1-3 mile event to "stand alone" instead. After some discussion:

- the committee msp to change the Site Selection schedule in 304.3.5 (see rule change LD-3).

KEEPING BALANCE OF OPEN WATER EVENTS: Discussion of the change in last May's National Championship 1 mile from an open water swim to a cable swim prompted the committee to emphasize that events should be swum as "bid" unless extenuating circumstances require a change which would require the committee's approval.

CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS IN TEAM EVENTS AT OPEN WATER SWIMS: One of our National Championships had a team event this past summer but did not award championship awards. The

committee decided that entry forms must be explicit as to whether team events are national championships as well.

NUMBER OF COMPETITORS IN NATIONAL EVENTS: Peter expressed concern that our 1-Mile event was so poorly attended. It was pointed out that there was a triathlon conflicting with the event which should have been avoided. The committee expressed its concern that events need to get support from their local organizations and efforts need to be made to promote National Championships to their fullest.

1999 LONG DISTANCE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP BID SELECTION

13 "timely" bids were received by the August deadline and 4 "untimely" bids were submitted on Thursday. The chairman reminded everyone that the deadlines are well publicized and it is still her "mission" to get bids in by the deadline so the information can be shared with the committee in advance. The following bids were accepted or rejected as indicated:

EVENT	ACCEPTED	REJECTED
ONE HOUR POSTAL SWIM	Empire State Masters Swim Club	Pacific Northwest Assn. Greater Indiana Masters St. Louis Masters
5/10 K POSTAL SWIM	Pacific Northwest Assn.	
3000/6000 POSTAL SWIM	Florida Maverick Masters	Pacific Northwest Assn.
ONE MILE OPEN WATER SWIM	Seal Beach Swim Club	Evergreen Multisport Southern California Aquatics
TWO MILE CABLE SWIM	Virginia Masters Swim Team	
>1 & ≤3 MILE OPEN WATER SWIM	Ohio Masters Swim Club	Harbor Springs
>3 & <6 MILE OPEN WATER SWIM	Southern California Aquatic Mas.	Santa Cruz Masters
≥ 6 MILE OPEN WATER SWIM	Southern California Aquatic Mas.	Seal Beach Swim Club

FINANCIAL REPORT

The chairman shared the budget request for the Long Distance Committee which included funds again for the development of a Long Distance National Championship patch.

COMMITTEE COMMITMENTS

The chairman received commitments from committee members to continue with their current projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 AM. The final items on the agenda will be addressed at noon, immediately following the Open Water Workshop.

THE OPEN WATER WORKSHOP WAS ATTENDED BY 35 PEOPLE WITH 8 ADDITIONAL AS PRESENTERS.

The meeting was re-convened at 12:10 PM to conclude the committee's business left over from the morning.

LONG DISTANCE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PATCH

The "new patch" project was discussed. Sally expressed her concern over the submitted patch from the sub-committee which contained dolphins, palm trees and waves since it is expected to represent all long distance events, not just open water competitions. After considerable discussion, the committee:

- msp to add long distance and open water to the currently used patch.

MEDICAL/EVACUATION GUIDELINES

Alan is working on the revision and would appreciate input from other committee members.

OPEN WATER MANUAL ON THE WEB

Sally will send the manual (after revisions are made) to Lynn who will see that it gets on the WEB.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM

**LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE
RULE PROPOSALS**

APPROVED BY THE LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE

LD-1 304.11 ALL-AMERICAN RECOGNITION page 65 submitted by LD Committee

pass ----- The ~~national champion~~ highest ranking USMS registered swimmer in each age group of each individual national long distance/open water championship event shall qualify as a member of the USMS All-American Long Distance Swimming Team for the calendar year in which the event was conducted.

fail -----

Rationale: Prevents foreign swimmers from qualifying as All-Americans.

NEW RULE PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE

LD-2 305.1.1 RECORDS page 65 submitted by LD Committee

pass ----- Individual national records will be maintained in quarter-mile straightaway events (1-mile and 2-mile) and time/distance pool events (1-hour, 3000-yard, 6000-yard, and 5- and 10-kilometer postal). Quarter-mile straightaway events swum in salt water shall be maintained separately from those swum in fresh water. . . . *Records for*

fail -----

Rationale: Swims in salt water have an advantage over swims in fresh water and records should be kept separately.

LD-3 304.3.5 SITE SELECTION page 64 submitted by LD Committee

pass -----
fail -----

	Area 1 West	Area 2 Central	Area 3 East
1998	Open water >1/≤3 mi. Open water ≥6 mi.	2 mi. cable	1 mi. Open water >3/<6 mi.
1999	1 mile Open water >3/<6 mi.	Open water >1/≤3 mi. Open water ≥6 mi.	2 mi. cable
2000	2 mi. cable <u>Open water ≥6 mi.</u>	1 mi. Open water >3/<6 mi.	Open water >1/≤3 mi. Open water ≥6 mi.

Rationale: The committee felt the 2 mile cable should not be the only event in an area as is the current procedure because of its limited exposure. Pairing it with the equally limited 6+ mile event leaves the more popular 1-3 mile event alone instead.