

USMS Long Distance Committee Conference Call
January 15, 2012 7:30PM EST
Minutes

Attendance:

Present (13): Ali Hall, Bob Bruce, Bruce Hopson, David Diehl, Donn Livoni, Greta Van Meeteren, Heather Hagadorn, John Traynor, Lynn Hazlewood, Phyllis Quinn, Robert Zeitner, Susan Kirk, Tom Spence

Absent(6): Susan Ehringer, Ann Svenson, Dick Sidner, Jennie Quill, Jill Wright, Karen Reeder

Agenda:

1. Donn recognized the many contributions to masters swimming of Ann Svenson which were described in the January-February 2012 issue of *Swimmer Magazine*. Way to go, Ann!
2. Discussion of whether the cost of shipping championship medals should be charged to the host team on an applied flat-rate cost basis or on an actual true cost basis.

MSA –“To change the policy for determining the shipping cost of championship medals to the host team to be the lowest actual shipping cost available from the various shipping vendors.” 11-yes 1-abstention

3. Discussion of the USMS National Office taking over the distribution of postal medals. Advantage might be to lower the cost of shipping medals from vendors. It was felt that medals for open water championship events and championship patches should be included in the discussion. Questions arose regarding post-event return of medals, multiple orders per event, and multiple year vendor bids. There are enough medals to get through the 2012 OHP and enough patches to last 3 to 4 years.

Action: Robert will write-up a brief on the current open water & postal awards handling work scope for National Office understanding. Donn, John and Robert will have further discussion with Kyle and will report back at the March 11th LDC conference call.

4. Discussion of exemptions to the swim wear rule. In 2011 Bob developed two procedures: one to give swimmers a way to apply for exemption from the swimwear rule for either religious or health reasons

and the other to give the LDC an expeditious way to consider exemption requests. Today, Bob raised two issues. First, the Rule Book requires that procedures for swimmers be placed on the USMS website. Second, Bob asks if he should continue as the exemption decision-maker as designated by the LDC chair.

Action: Bob will send the procedures to the LDC and give it one week to review and provide comments. Appropriate procedures will then be placed on the USMS website. Second, the LDC is grateful for Bob's role as designated exemption decision-maker and agrees that he should continue in this role. However, it was agreed that all swimmer swimwear exemption requests and evaluation responses shall be addressed to and from the LDC Chair, respectively.

5. Discussion of how increased usage of Club Assistant enables preliminary postal results to be available quicker than the current 30-day timeline.

Action: The timeline for 2013 postal events for posting preliminary results will be changed to 2 weeks. Liaisons for 2012 postal events will work closely with their respective event hosts to make this happen in 2012.

6. Working groups:

- a. Rules – Bob is asking everyone on the LDC to review Rulebook sections 2 and 3 for comments, questions and changes and report same to Bob within 4 weeks.

Action: Donn will request a word version of section 2 & 3 from Susan Ehringer and will send same to the LDC to facilitate comments, etc.

- b. All-Americans/All-Stars/Awards/Patches – Results from all 2011 events are in with the exception of the 3000/6000 postals.
- c. Records – Should be current.
- d. Club Assistant—Susan reports that programming is complete to default empty fields for tenths and hundredths to .99 and .x to .x9 for all postal event reported splits and final results. Liaisons are asked to make their respective event directors aware of this change.
- e. Safety – Ali is working with Phil who is event director of the 2013 9+ to make sure he is aware of LDC safety requirements.
- f. Manuals – Nothing new to report.
- g. NC Selection – Nothing new to report.
- h. Officials – Nothing new to report.
- i. General Oversight – Nothing new to report.

7. **2012 Event Liaison Reports**
 - 3-6 Open Water:** Team NASTI, Noblesville, IN (5K)
Event Date: 6/23/12. On Schedule to the timeline. Final sanctioned entry has been received.
 - 2-Mile Cable Swim:** COMA, Sweet Home, OR.
Event Date: 6/30/12. On schedule to the timeline.
 - 6-9 Mile Open Water:** Rogue Valley Masters, Jacksonville, OR (10K)
Event Date: 7/14/12. Working on the entry form.
 - 1-Mile Open Water:** Hickory Nut Gorge, Lake Lure, NC
Event Date: 8/25/12 . Working on the entry form. Need to exclude the word "Olympiad."
 - 1-3 Mile Open Water:** Garden State Masters, Lake Hopatcong, NJ.
Event Date: 9/9/12. Draft entry is complete.
 - 9+ Mile Open Water:** Genesis Aquatics/Hopkins Masters, Lake Minnetonka, MN
Event Date: 7/28/12 . Delay in receipt of signed contract. Will try to get it in by the 20th.
 - OHP:** Blue Wave Aquatics, Federal Way, WA. Event is under way. 172 entries so far. Running very smoothly.
 - 5,000/10,000K Postal:** Hammerheads Aquatics, Boca Raton, FL.
On-time to the timeline.
 - 3,000/6,000 Postal:**
2011 results are almost done.
2012 Long Beach Grunions, Brea, CA. No report.
8. Other business:
Robert reports that 2012 liaison forms will be sent out this month.
9. Next Call -- Sunday, March 11 at the same times.
10. Meeting Adjourned 8:53 PM EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Spence