

Committee Name:	Long Distance	Session #:	1	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Donn Livoni	Vice Chair:	Ali Hall		
Minutes recorded by:	Bruce Hopson	Date/time of meeting:	2/16/2015		

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. None

Motions Passed:

1. MSA the minutes of 11/23/2014
2. MSA the minutes of 1/04/2015
3. MSA to allow the Donner Lake Swim to move one week earlier the date of its National Championship Event.

Number of committee members present: 14	Absent: 3	Number of other delegates present: 0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Donn Livoni, Ali Hall, James Biles, Denise Brown, Robert Bruce, Robert Copland, Colleen Driscoll, Michael Fanelli, Bruce Hopson, Greta VanMeeteren; Lynn Hazlewood, Elaine Howley, Chris McGiffin, and Bill Roach, all <i>ex officio</i>		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 EST

1. Welcome and roll call
2. **Approval of 11/23/14 Minutes and 1/04/15 MSA** for both
3. **Vice President's report.** —Chris McGiffin reported on what the BOD did at its winter board meeting in Austin, Texas. Specifically, he said the IT projects were under review; that the term “non-sanctioned” will be replaced with “unaffiliated events”; the definition of a sanctioned event will be revised; the legal counsel is reviewing the OWGTO and should be out within 2 weeks; and the Open Water Task Force is reviewing the insurance surcharge as to whether to keep it or replace it.
4. **LDC Goals** — Ali presented her group's 4 goals listed below. MSA goals 1 and 2 with 3 and 4 currently being exploratory, to be firmed up later. With respect to Goal 1 (increase by 10% participation in 2015 OWNC), Greta suggested that the committee enlist the help of coaches to increase participation. The group discussed the rest of the goals, and number 4 (developing a 3-5 year pool of unselected, qualified bidders) in particular.
5. **National Office at OWNC events** — Chris McGiffin reported that he and Elaine will draft a list of expectations (see forum post 2/17). National Office and BOD presence will be mostly ceremonial
6. Promotional items from National Office – Donn reminded the liaisons to get info to Kyle at NO. Rob Copland will also contact Kyle to get more info on the bouy's and finish chute – size, color, shape, logos etc.
7. Possible change in dates for 2016 Donner Lake Swim --- The committee discussed the pros and cons of moving the event from the week after the LCM NC to the week before. M/S/A to allow Donner Lake Swim to move date. Donn will notify the event host.
8. **OWC Report** — Rob Copland reported that he and Patty Miller are reviewing the document and changes and hope to publish within 2 weeks. Bill and Donn reported on the ISM and their assignment to OW NC events in 2015, this is a pilot year.

9. **Working groups – reports**

- a. **Rules/Legislation** – Bob Bruce reported he had little to report because there has been no action. He is awaiting pending action in several arenas before the committee considers legislation changes for 2015. He already has a few potential amendments currently on his my desk.
- b. **PARA** – Greta reported all of the AA and All Star files for 2014 are now completed and the files have been sent to Ali and Rendy for publication. Jill Wright reported that all records were up to date. Robert Zeitner reported that he had successfully transferred all physical stock of medals and awards to James Biles, together with the awards records; that he had sent the Postal patch awards to Tracy Grilli for distribution.; and that all of the 2014 events were completed and completed. The 2015 OHeP is not yet due.
- c. **Club Assistant** – No report submitted.
- d. **Safety** – Bill Roach reported that currently 14 open water events have been sanctioned for 2015. The OWGTO have been updated and the Thermal plan has been added.

The Independent Safety Monitor position is still a work in progress, and more details are to come. The Open Water Safety Plan Application is complete and will be used by new events in 2015 and by all events in 2016.

Donn, Rob, Dave Miner, and Bill will attend the USA Open Water Festival in April where they will attend the USA open water officials' clinic and assist with the USA Open Water National Championships. The objective is for USMS and USA to work closer together to make our open water events even safer.

- e. **Documents** – James reported that he is in the process of reviewing the Championship Package. There will be minor format changes, and he will add some formulas to auto-populate some entries. When he finishes, he will pass to the other members of the OWC for review. Because all Championship Packages have already been sent to event hosts, any changes will be effective for events for 2016 (starting with the 2016 OHeP). Note: With respect to the problem on the Liaison Evaluation worksheet of the Championship Package where there many cells scattered throughout the page are currently formatted for yellow or gray text, liaisons may fix this by selecting the whole page and changing the text color to "Automatic". (This can be done either by left clicking on the top left corner of the page, above the 1 and to the left of A, and then using the text color tool in the top ribbon to change the color to "automatic", or by right clicking on the top left corner of page, selecting "Format Cells" on the pop up menu, selecting the "Font" tab and changing the text color to "automatic").
- f. **2017 NC Selection** – Ali reported that the 2017 Bid Forms and Letter were created by Donn, James, and Ali, with ideas from Phyllis and Colleen. The links to these were posted online by Anna Lea and Jim Matysek posted the links on line, and Elaine publicized them in Streamlines. Additionally, potential bidders have already made inquiries.
- g. **Communications** — Ali reported she and Rendy continue to work with Elaine to bring news of OW and ePostal NCs to the membership.
- h. **NC Oversight** – Chairman Livoni reported that there have been a number of errors in publication regarding our events in USMS media and outside USMS. The group is working with the USMS NO staff to clarify the errors. Upon recommendation of some event hosts, the group is remodeling the LDC results forms to get rid of the green background. They are still missing one contract for the 2015 OWNC host and 2 bond payments. The liaisons are contacting the hosts

Below is a list of the 2015 LD NC events and the liaisons assigned along with their reports, if any.

- Del Valle Open Water Festival (Livermore, CA) 10K (6.2 miles) 6/13
 - o Liaison: None submitted
- Del Valle Open Water Festival (Livermore, CA) 1 mile 6/14
 - o Liaison: None submitted
- Morse Reservoir Open Water Swim (Noblesville, IN) 15K (9.3 miles) 6/20

- o Liaison: Ali reported that all timeline items successfully met to date and reflected on the timeline; that the entries are open and 24 hours after going live, the event was nearly half full; the host has provided information for Kyle/Claudia as well as for NO presence; and that the host has identified the ISM.
- Central Oregon Masters (Foster Lake, OR) 2-mile cable 6/27
 - o Liaison: Jill Wright reported the Event is currently up to date on all requirements. Bob Bruce has applied for his sanction, which has been approved. There will be no paper entries.
- Green Leaf Racing (Lake George, NY) 2,5K (2.55 mile) 8/29
 - Liaison: Colleen reported that she has reviewed the draft of the meet entry and safety plan and has and responded to the meet director. The host has also recommended and provided to the LDC Chair the name of the ISM.
- Big Shoulders Open Water Swim (Chicago, IL) 5K (3.1 miles) 9/12
 - Liaison: Ali reported that the host is working quickly to bring the Event toward timeline targets, and has identified information for Kyle and Claudia as well as for NO presence.
- OHeP: Chicago Smelts
 - o Liaison: James reported that individual entries have closed and that relay entries open 2/13/15. Unofficially, there were 2293 entries with 2289 entrants (4 swam twice in different age groups); 7 new records were set,; and 385 t-shirts, 199 caps, and 128 patches were sold.
- 5,000M/10,000M ePostal: Central Oregon Masters
 - o Liaison: Greta reported the Event host has already done the initial work.
- 3,000/6,000 ePostal: Davis Aquatic Masters
 - o Liaison: James Biles stated he had nothing to report
- **2014 3000/6000 ePostal NC.** This event was hosted by COMA and directed by Bob Bruce. The event was a success with 504 participants. All financials and evaluations have been completed and the event is closed. Thanks to Bob and COMA for performing at a high level.

There being no other business for the good of the order, Livoni adjourned the meeting at 9:18 EST.

Next Call – **SUNDAY, March 29** with times of 8 PM EDT, 7 PM CDT, 6 PM MDT & 5 PM PDT.