

Committee Name:	Long Distance	Session #:	2	Report #:	2
Committee Chair:	Donn Livoni	Vice Chair:	Ali Hall		
Minutes recorded by:	Phyllis Quinn	Date/time of meeting:	01/31/16		

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. None

Motions Passed:

1. Minutes from 12/27 approved
2. 2016 Goals approved

Number of committee members present:	12	Absent:	2	Number of other delegates present:	2
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Donn Livoni, Chair; Ali Hall, Vice Chair; Jim Davidson, Melinda Greig-Walker, Phyllis Quinn, Mike Fanelli, James Biles, Greta van Meeteren, Laurie Hug, Allison Ware, Colleen Driscoll, Jill Wright Ex-officio; Chris McGiffin, Tracy Grilli, , Bill Roach, Bob Bruce., Absent, Elaine Howley. Others present: Patty Miller, Karin Wegner					

Minutes

Long Distance Committee

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 EST

1. Welcome and roll call
2. Approval of 12/27 meeting minutes. M/S/A the minutes from the Dec 27, 2015 meeting.
 - Update on ISM rule interpretation – Chris & Patty Miller --- Patty Miller, USMS President, updated the committee that the interpretation allowing the ISM to swim puts USMS at an unacceptable liability risk. The BOD discussed the topic at length and decided (MSA) to accept legal counsel's opinion, supported by a review with ESIX, that to allow an ISM to swim would create an unacceptable risk. Chris's Report: He recommended that both the LDC and OWC consider direct outreach with LMSC Sanctioning officers so that they can help with successfully implementing the ISM role. I think there are opportunities for LMSCs to help recruit, train, and potentially compensate ISMs that fulfill basic safety training requirements." Bob Bruce reported that the training program for the ISM will be in place at least one month before the first sanctioned open water event.
- 3.
4. Reports from the chair (Donn) and vice chair (Ali) and vice president (Chris). Donn informed the committee that Bob Bruce is now the Chairman of the USMS Open Water committee. As such, he is an ex-officio member of the LDC. He will still be involved, as rule changes are a cooperation between the Open Water and Long Distance Committees.
 - Ali – No report
 - Chris- Please send any Highlights to him for the next BOD.
 - Tracy- The 2016 Rule book to the LDC and others should be arriving soon. There was a problem with the mailing of some copies from the Printers. The Electronic version of the Rule Book was posted on December 31, 2015.
5. Action item Meeting dates – possible change in call dates for March, the 27th is Easter Sunday and May the 29th is in the middle of Memorial Day weekend. The committee discussed dates and decided

to keep the meeting scheduled for March 27, on that date. The meeting scheduled for May 29 will be held on Monday May 30 at 8PM Eastern Time.

6. OHeP – 2016 and beyond – discussion and possible action on date, records, and age changes in 2017 and beyond. Discussion of 2106 event extension. All members of the committee expressed their opinion about extending the time frame for the one hour NC. Most committee members were in favor of the extension of the time frame. The two popular proposals were for the extension to February 14 or the last day of February. Donn asked the committee to consider this change and be available to vote on a proposal at the next meeting. The forum on the USMS web site may also be used to exchange ideas.
James Biles noted that if a change is made, the host for 2017 will have to be informed.
7. Rules and Legislative Proposals – Bob thanked everyone for the comments sent to him. He will collate the comments and send them to the Subcommittee. who will work on making the comments presentable to the Open Water and Long Distance Committees. He will bring these comments to the Open Water Committee first since they meet one week ahead of the Long Distance Committee. The Open Water Committee will provide comments to the LDC, but it is the LDC committee that presents the rule changes to the House of Delegates for approval.
8. Since Bob Bruce has been appointed Chair of the Open Water Committee, there is a vacant position on the LDC. Please let Donn know if you know of someone who could contribute to the LDC.
9. 2016 LDC Goals Workgroup Report: Thank you to Phyllis, Colleen and James for your good work.
M/S/A for the following:
Increase total participation in 2016 ePostal NCs by 10% over 2015, identifying specific strategies that correlate to success
Receive, for 2018, a minimum of 1 qualified, in-area, bid per event, and at least 1 West two-event festival bid.
Explore possibilities for collaborative strategies with other USMS stakeholders for increasing LDNC participation, such as 2-4 LDC members reaching out to 2 different committees such as Coaches', Fitness and/or Governance Committees
Explore continuing development of a 3-5 year pool of unselected, qualified bidders; this would allow a bidder to reconfirm interest, capacity, leadership and commitment while by-passing the detailed bid process for a period of years.
10. Karin Wegner, Club Assistant, was invited to this call. She appreciated the invite. Donn stated she is invited to any of the other meeting calls.

Working groups – reports (please send your report to all)

- a. Rules/Legislation – Bob lead; Donn – see above agenda item.
- b. PARA –Greta, Lead: (Patches & Awards – James & Melinda; All-Americans (AA) - Men – Michael; (AA) Women - Greta; (AA) Relays - Phyllis & Allison; Records - Jill & Michael, All-Stars – Laurie & ???; Postal Series – James & Laurie) Checker, Jim -- I have received and checked almost all reports, and am confident all 2015 work will be completed by Sunday's meeting. A big thanks to all committee members, and a special thanks to those who jumped right in as new LDC members. Onward to 2016!
- c. Club Assistant - Colleen & Phyllis
- d. Safety – Bill Roach, lead; Bob, Jim 8 Open water events have been sanctioned with 1 event pending.
Completion of the ISM program is still a works in progress.
- e. Documents – James, lead; Donn, Phyllis -- Documents: Timelines for LDNC's (OW and eP) finalized and shared with liaisons. All championship packets finalized and sent to liaisons.
If you need access to any of these files, please contact me.
Split sheets for ePostal have been revised and sent to NO for posting. There are now split sheets for each ePostal with highlighted split cells for easy visual of the cells that need to be entered during online entry. Each also contains special instructions for recording splits.

- f. 2018 NC Selection – Ali, lead; Jim, Colleen, Phyllis, & Allison -- **2018 Bid Selection Subcommittee**: Phyllis, Colleen, James and I welcome Allison to the Subcommittee. Thanks, Allison, for your enthusiasm in joining up!
- g. Communications — Ali, Lead, Laurie -- **Publications Workgroup**: Thank you to Laurie for your willingness to jump right in! We are connected with Laura Hamel and her team, for moving ahead with various communication collaborations.
- h. NC Oversight - Donn, lead; James, Ali, Bob (ePostals) -- 2015 3000/6000 ePostal LDNC: Final Results received and sent to Greta and NO for posting. Final number of swimmers:
3000 eP: 584 swimmers
6000 eP: 152 swimmers

Below is a list of the 2016 LD NC events and the liaisons assigned.

I would like each lead liaison to give a brief written report on the status of their event (sent to the full committee prior to the conference call -- THURSDAY). LIAISONS—PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL EARLY AND OFTEN FOR MESSAGES. Please remember to date all the documents you submit with the correct event year and be specific on what the document is.

- Indy Aquatic Masters, Indianapolis, IN 2-mile cable 6/18
 - o Liaison: Bob Bruce backup: Michael Fanelli -- 2016 2-mile cable NC: Preliminaries--contract, NO info, and performance bond--are complete. Event Host Mel Goldstein and I have discussed the requirements and conduct of the event, and I have forwarded to him previous entry forms and technical info. Planning is on schedule.
- Rogue Valley Masters, Applegate Lake, OR 10K (6.2 miles) 7/16
 - o Liaison: Bob Bruce backup: Jim Davidson -- 2016 10-km OWNC: Preliminaries--contract and NO info--are complete. Performance bond is on the way. Event Host Andy Gramley and I are having an ongoing conversation about the event; since Andy and Rogue Valley Masters ran this event in 2013, I have little doubt that they will do it again to a high standard. Our major concern is the water level at Applegate Lake, and we are exploring an alternative local site at Lake of the Woods which does not have water level problems. We plan to make the decision about site by March 1. Planning is on schedule.
- o Kingdom Swim NEKOWSA, Newport, VT 10 miles 7/30
 - o Liaison: Ali Hall backup: Laurie Hug -- **2016 10 mile OWNC (Kingdom Swim, 7/30)**: The event host has signed and returned the contract and paid the bond amount. He is working on the safety plan and sanction with Bill Roach. I provided the host a template for draft entry. 100 swimmers are expected for the event. Laurie is the now the back-up liaison for this event. Thank you, Laurie!
- Lake Lure Olympiad, Lake Lure, NC 1 mile 8/12
 - o Liaison: Donn Livoni backup: Allison Ware
- o Lake Lure Olympiad, Lake Lure, NC 5K (3.1 miles) 8/13
 - o Liaison: Donn Livoni backup: Allison Ware **Lake Lure Festival** -- 1-mile and 5K OW NC on Aug 12 & 13. The Lake Lure 1-mile and 5K OW NC event is progressing according to timeline. They are on target with the timeline. They expect 300+ swimmers for the 1-mile and 150+ swimmers for the 5K.
- Sierra Nevada Masters, Donner Lake, CA 2.7 mile 8/13
 - Liaison: Phyllis Quinn backup: Melinda Greig-Walker The Donner Lake swim is progressing according to timeline. The race director is aware of the Feb. 1 deadline for the draft entry form.
- OHeP: Tamalpais Masters, San Rafeal, CA
- Liaison: James Biles lead; backup: Jill Wright & Jim Davidson -- One Hour ePostal LDNC: The deadline to swim the OHeP was extended until 2/10 due to the effects of Winter Storm Jonas closing a majority of east coast facilities during the last week of the event, when approximately 60-70% register. Extension only applies to the swim; the rest of timeline remains the same, including the online entry dead-

line of 11:59 PM, HAT. Additionally, the swimmer's age will be based on the age as of 1/31 and not the extended date. James will work on a report to compare the entry date with the date the event is swum. Over 70% of participants wait until the last minute to enter.

- 5,000M/10,000M ePostal: Western Hills Athletic Club/South Texas
 - o Liaison: Colleen Driscoll lead; backup: Melinda Grieg-Walker -- The contract was sent to the meet host and they have requested changes to be made. The requested changes are being reviewed. We are now working to get back on track with the timeline while we await a response from legal counsel. The meet director will work on the meet entry.
- 3,000/6,000 ePostal: Sawtooth Masters
 - o Liaison: Greta van Meeteren, lead; backup: Laurie Hug & Allison Ware

Other business for the good of the order

The meeting was adjourned at: 8:07 PM EST

Next Call –Sunday, March 27 with times of 8 PM EST, 7 PM CST, 6 PM MST, 5 PM PST & 4 PM AST.