

USMS Convention — Dallas, Texas 2017

Committee Name: Rules	Session #: 4
Committee Chair: Charles Cockrell	Vice Chair: Kathy Casey
Minutes recorded by: Mollie Grover	Date/time of meeting: Saturday 9/16/2017 12:30 pm CT

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. H-2
2. U-1
3. U-2
4. U-3
5. U-4

Motions Passed:

1. MSA to recommend H-2 to the HOD.
2. MSA to recommend U-1 to the HOD.
3. MSA to recommend U-2 to the HOD.
4. MSA to recommend U-3 to the HOD.
5. MSA to recommend U-4 as amended to the HOD.

Number of committee members present: 15	Absent: 4	Number of other delegates present: 7
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Charles Cockrell, Kathy Casey, Mollie Grover, Christina Fox, Rand Vaillancourt, Laura Groselle, Chris Lysinger, Karen Harris, Carolyn Boak, Matt Hooper, Steve Unruh, Jessica Seaton, Chris Colburn, Barb Protzman, Claire Letendre		
Committee Members Absent: Brian Hoyt, Marilyn Fink, Meg Smath (EO), Brian Albright (EO), Ed Tsuzuki (EO)		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 pm CT.

1. Charles explained the purpose of this meeting, which is to go over the USA Swimming rules changes that affect USMS, along with H-2. Charles went over the content of the four proposals that affect USMS
2. H-2 – Number of officials required to run USMS meets (103.2.1)
 - a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Charles went over the reason USA Swimming made the change proposed. This proposal does not directly affect USMS, but will help clarify the requirements for officiating USMS meets and is not a substantive change to USMS rules. Motion passed to recommend H-2 to the HOD.
3. U-1 – Foot position on relay starts (blocks with back plates) (101.7)
 - a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Charles stated that the wording in the original proposal has been modified slightly to only require only part of the foot on the back plate of the starting block. This is a significant safety issue that USA Swimming is trying to mitigate. Motion passed to recommend U-1 to the HOD.
4. U-2 – Name change for Administrative Official (103.11)
 - a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. This proposal simply aligns language between USMS and USA Swimming for the official now called the Administrative Official in the USMS rule book. This position was added to the USMS rule book previously. Motion passed to recommend U-2 to the HOD.
5. U-3 – Clarification of official time determination with timing system failures (103.17.3)
 - a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Charles explained that this proposal removes the word “valid” from the rule and how to determine an official time in the case of various timing system failures. Motion passed to recommend U-3 to the HOD.

6. U-4 – Handgrips for backstroke starts (106.11.3/106.11.4; 101.1.2B)
 - a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Charles mentioned that this is dealing with facilities, and as such, is not automatically accepted by USMS. This change is intended to clarify that the handgrips on the top of the starting block (sometimes called “rails”) are not permitted for a backstroke start. Discussion was had regarding the wording of this proposal from USA Swimming and if it is confusing. Claire stated that USA Swimming is trying to align their language with FINA, which is part of the reason that this proposal may be confusing.
 - b. In order to make this change less confusing, the committee discussed adding the word “backstroke” before “starting grips” in 101.1.2B. MS (Kathy/Carolyn) to make that change. Motion passed.
 - c. An additional amendment (Carolyn/Kathy) was proposed to move the added sentence to its own article, numbered 106.11.4. This article would read as follows: “Handgrips for the forward start may be installed on the sides of the starting platform. [M*]” Motion passed to recommend U-4 as amended to the HOD.
7. Meeting minutes from Rules meeting #2 on 9/15/2017 were accepted.
8. Meeting minutes from Rules meeting #3 on 9/15/2017 were accepted.
9. Charles thanked the committee for all their hard work this year. Kathy then thanked Charles for his work as the chair of the committee.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. See Rules Committee Meeting #3 minutes for upcoming tasks.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:21 pm CT.
