

Cultivating
Opportunities

And

Resources

For

Excellence

2010 USAS Convention XXXI – September 14th- 19th
Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion

Convention Packet



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

SUPER SHUTTLE

Ride SuperShuttle to and from Dallas Fort Worth International Airport or Dallas Love Field for \$14 each way. The group discount is only available for on-line roundtrip reservations made through this link – <https://www.supershuttle.com/default.aspx?GC=C9TLN>

RENTAL CAR

For those of you planning to rent a car, USAS has a contract with Hertz – CV# 02RH0006

More information can be found <http://www.usaquaticsports.org>

SHIPPING PACKAGES?

If you are organized and can have packages shipped in advance (no charge), please send to:

Frank McIntyre

**6611 Hillcrest LB 578
Dallas, TX 75205**

email - frankmcintyre@fwmcintyre.net
cell - (214) 454-4550, home - (214) 691-1638

All packages must arrive no later than Monday, September 13th. Please contact Frank with “when and what” will be arriving.

THANK YOU FRANK!!!

CERTIFICATION TABLE HOURS

Wednesday 8am to 5pm – Vendor Area

Thursday 7-7:45 am – Vendor Area

Thursday 9:15-9:45 am – House of Delegates Room

Thursday afternoon – Saturday – come find Debbie

LUNCH WITH NEW DELEGATES

Thursday 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Details will be available at the New Delegate Orientation

MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM

Meet the candidates running for

USMS At Large Director Positions

Thursday, September 16th, 11:00 – 11:45 am

Reunion Ballroom F

INSURANCE RECEPTION

Wednesday 7-9 pm

Trinity Crossing

“Hoe Down” is this year’s theme. USAS encourages attendees to wear western style clothing

ORIENTATIONS

Committee Chairs

Wednesday, September 16th, 5:15 – 6:45 pm

Sanger B

New Delegate

Thursday, September 16th, 9:00-9:45 am

Reunion Ballroom F

LMSC SOCIAL

Thursday, 7:30-9:30pm

Take advantage of another networking opportunity to unwind with other people who share your passion for Masters swimming! The North Texas LMSC will be providing hearty hors d’oeuvres at the House of Blues (cash bar). The House of Blues is about a mile away (you can take the light rail there).

Please sign up at the Certification table when you check in so the organizers can plan accordingly.

International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction

Complimentary tickets to USMS HOD Members

5:30-6:30 pm – Reception (cash bar)

The Connection (lower level)

6:30-8:00 pm – Induction Ceremony

Cumberland K & L

LMSC WORKSHOPS

Thursday, September 16th 6-7:15 pm

* LMSC Registrar Training

* Qualities of a Successful Masters Coach

* How to Use the Internet and Social Media to Grow Your USMS Program

Friday, September 17th 12:15 – 1:15 pm

* Open Water Safety

* Understanding USMS Insurance

* Learn Manage Serve Communicate (aka "LMSC")

Saturday, September 18th 9:45-11 am

* How to Operate and Promote a USMS Pool Event:

* How to Develop a USMS Program at a YMCA, University, City/County

Facility or High School

* Recognition of Volunteers at the Local Level

ARE YOU BRINGING A LAP TOP?

There will be external power supply in the HOD but we will not know the amount of “convenient” outlets. Please bring an extension cord to make sure you can “plug in”.

PRESENTATIONS

SPORTS MEDICINE

Saturday, September 18th 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Reunion Ballroom F

Details will be available at the certification table

COACHES

Saturday, September 18th, 8:00-9:30 am

Reunion Ballroom F

Details will be available at the certification table

SWIM WORKOUTS

Details will be available at the certification table



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

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- #1- Rules of the USMS Annual Meeting
- #2-Check In & Certification Procedure

USAS Welcome Reception
Sponsored by Risk Management Services
“Hoe Down”
Wednesday, September 16th
7-9:00 PM
Trinity Crossing





CHECK-IN AND CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE AT USMS CONVENTION

Each delegate must complete the two-step process outlined below. You must have a “certified ID” to vote as a member of the House of Delegates (HOD) and be eligible to attend HOD meetings!

- 1) **CHECK IN AT THE UNITED STATES AQUATIC SPORTS (USAS) STATION** to pick up your ID - a badge with your name & LMSC on it. You will also receive a convention bag, binder, and miscellaneous souvenirs.

AND

- 2) **CHECK IN AT THE USMS TABLE** to obtain “certification” that you are a USMS delegate. This is the process that verifies a delegate’s eligibility to vote in the House of Delegates (HOD). You will also receive your voting cards and other important convention material and information.

The USMS Certification/Information table will be open as follows:

Wednesday, September 15th, from 8:00 am – 5:00pm – vendor area

Thursday, September 16th, from 7:00 am – 7:45 am – vendor area

The USMS Certification/Information table will move to outside the HOD meeting room on Thursday, September 16th (Reunion Ballroom F). All subsequent certification by USMS will take place here during HOD meetings, until they recess. (Refer to the meeting schedule in your pre-convention packet and/or binder for time and location). Late arrivals **must** locate Debbie Cavanaugh (Certification Chair) to receive their certification and voting cards.

Please note: If you did not register for convention in advance, you will need to have USMS Secretary CJ Rushman sign a certification release before you can proceed to Debbie Cavanaugh for the balance of certification material.

New Delegates will receive a special ID identifying them as **NEW DELEGATES** as well as information regarding the New Delegate Orientation.

**2010 U.S. Masters Swimming Convention – Dallas, TX
September 15-19, 2010**

WEDNESDAY, September 15, 2010

8:30am - 2:00pm	Board of Directors	Reverchon
2:15pm - 3:30pm	Convention Staff	USMS Suite
2:30pm - 3:45pm	Compensation and Benefits Committee	McCommas Bluff
	Investment Committee 1	Dallas Belt
	Governance Committee	Aerial Queen
5:15pm - 6:30pm	Committee Chairs Orientation	Sanger B
	Audit Committee 1	McCommas Bluff
7:00pm - 9:00pm	USAS Welcome Reception (hosted by Risk Management)	Trinity Crossing

THURSDAY, September 16, 2010

7:00am - 8:00am	Women in Aquatics Breakfast-see USAS Registration desk	
8:00am - 8:45am	Zone Meetings	
	Breadbasket	Cumberland G
	Colonies	Cumberland F
	Dixie	Cumberland C
	Great Lakes	Cumberland B
	Northwest	Cumberland H
	South Central	Cumberland A
	Oceana	Cumberland D
	Southwest	Cumberland E
9:00am - 9:45am	New Delegate Orientation	Reunion Ballroom F
9:45am - 11:00am	House of Delegates 1	Reunion Ballroom F
11:00am - 11:45am	Meet the Candidates Forum	Reunion Ballroom F
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Investment Committee 2	McCommas Bluff
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch with New Delegates	
1:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Audit Committee 2	McCommas Bluff
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Open Water 1	Cumberland K
	Fitness Education Committee	Cumberland J
	History and Archives	Cumberland D
	Rules 1	Cumberland G
	USMS Endowment 1	Cumberland C
3:15pm - 4:45pm	Long Distance 1	Cumberland K
	Sports Medicine & Science	Cumberland G
	Recognition & Awards	Cumberland J
	Championship 1	Cumberland B
	Finance 1	Cumberland C
4:45pm - 6:00pm	Dinner Break	
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	World Fit – Childhood Obesity Project presented by Olympians Gary Hall, Sr. and Micki King	Reverchon
6:00pm - 7:15pm	Workshops:	
	LMSC Registrar Training	Gaston A
	Qualities of a Successful Masters Coach	Gaston B
	How to Use the Internet & Social Media to Grow Your USMS Program	McMillan
6:30pm - 7:30pm	Long Distance Rules Open Forum	Moreno
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Rules 2	Cumberland G
7:30 pm – 9:30 pm	LMSC Social – House of Blues (cash bar; North Texas LMSC will provide hearty appetizers from 7:30 – 8:30)	

**2010 U.S. Masters Swimming Convention – Dallas, TX
September 15-19, 2010**

FRIDAY, September 17, 2010

8:00am - 9:15am	House of Delegates 2 (Elections)	Reunion Ballroom F
9:30am - 10:15am	House of Delegates 2(cont): Rules Proposal	Reunion Ballroom F
	New Board Member Orientation	Baker
10:30am - 12:00pm	Open Water 2	Cumberland F
	Coaches	Cumberland J
	Records and Tabulations	Cumberland E
	Rules 3	Cumberland G
	Legislation 1	Cumberland B
	Finance 2	Cumberland C
12:15pm - 1:15pm	Workshops:	
	Learn Manage Serve Communicate (aka "LMSC")	Cumberland A
	Open Water Safety	Cumberland H
	Understanding USMS Insurance	Cumberland I
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Officials	Cumberland J
	USMS Endowment 2	Cumberland C
	LMSC Development	Cumberland F
	Championships 2	Cumberland B
	Registration	Cumberland G
3:30pm - 5:30pm	House of Delegates 3	Reunion Ballroom F
5:30 pm – 8:00 PM	International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony	
	Complimentary tickets to USMS House of Delegates members	
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	IMSHOF Reception (cash bar)	The Connection (lower level)
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	IMSHOF Induction Ceremony	Cumberland K and L
7:30pm - 9:30pm	Rules 4	Cumberland G

SATURDAY, September 18, 2010

8:00am - 9:30am	Long Distance 2	Moreno
	Coaches Presentation	Reunion Ballroom F
	Finance 3	Sanger A
	Legislation 2	Gaston
	Rules 5	Reverchon
9:45am - 11:00am	Workshops:	
	How to Operate & Promote a USMS Pool Event	Sanger B
	How to Develop a USMS Program at a YMCA, University, City/County Facility, or High School	Cockrell
	Recognition of Volunteers at the Local Level	Windsor
11:30am - 12:30pm	Sports Medicine Presentation	Reunion Ballroom F
1:00pm - 6:00pm	House of Delegates 4	Reunion Ballroom F
7:00pm - 10:00 pm	Aquatics Awards Banquet	Landmark Ballroom

SUNDAY, September 19, 2010

8:00am - 9:00am	United States Aquatic Sports Board of Trustees (USAS)	Bryan Beeman
9:00am - 10:30am	Convention Wrap-up Session	Reverchon
10:30am - 1:00pm	Board of Directors	Gaston



President
Jeff Moxie

Our theme for last year's convention was "Moving Forward" and that is what USMS has been doing during the year. Several steps were taken over the last months that will help to strengthen our CORE and help lay the foundation for future growth of the Corporation. One of these steps was the approval of a Code of Conduct to be signed by all members of USMS during the registration process. In addition, an Audit Committee and an Investment Committee was created and as a result we have now selected a new auditing firm and created a new investment policy for the Corporation which creates a good foundation for continued high quality financial oversight.

Looking to the future, a task force was selected to create a Mission Statement for the Endowment Fund while at the same time continuing to solicit donations. Through this continuing effort to solicit funds a significant donation was made to the fund (six figures) by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. This is an excellent start towards our much larger goal for the Endowment Fund.

Also looking towards the future, the Board supported a bid to have the 2012 Summer Nationals in Omaha immediately following the Olympic Trials. While this will be a new experience for USMS it is an opportunity to showcase who we are and what we offer in a venue that is like no other. We believe that this event, and others that USMS may choose to support in the future, will help to continue growing our membership.

As you can see from the following reports from the balance of the Executive Committee, the above items are but a small portion of the overall activity for the past year. We continue to have dedicated volunteers at all levels of the organization and to say that I could not do my job without them would be an understatement. I do want to publicly thank all of you for your support and help over the last year and I look forward to continuing to serve you and USMS in the future.

Vice President Administration
Michael Heather

In 2010, I oversaw the activities of four committees and two coordinators. Rules has a full load this year, as most, and your diligent support will help guide USMS in its rule changes. Legislation has an off year, but has kept busy with ongoing and delayed projects. Championship had selected two outstanding venues for Nationals in 2012. Registration continues to improve and innovate the process for members. Convention coordinator has fulfilled all required pre-convention duties and hopes to see you in the hospitality suite at some time during your stay. The Rule Book Coordinator awaits the rule changes and other adjustments to the book for publication as soon as we can get them to her.

I also led a Task Force this year dedicated to examining the membership values that may be added in the registration process, as well as looking at numerous possibilities for future registration types (multi year, lifetime, odd start dates). Some of our proposals have already been implemented, others await more detailed examination, yet others, sadly, were rejected.

This year has had challenges and rewards, but promises to smoothly lay groundwork on which USMS can continue to grow and thrive. Please stop me at any time to ask questions, argue or just say hello. I have had a continuous presence in USMS for longer than I care to admit, and do not want to hoard any information I may have gathered over the years. It is there to be shared and used.

Vice President of Local Operations
Ed Tsuzuki

What an exciting year for the newly elected VP of Local Operations! It has been a most interesting introduction in to the world of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors while I tried to come up to speed on my



responsibilities and relationships with the committee and zone chairs, as well as with the LMSCs. I have learned a great deal, and am grateful for the guidance and mentoring I have received from several experienced veterans. With (almost) a year under my belt, I look forward to being a stronger contributor in the second year of my term.

The Local Operations Division committees have been very productive throughout the year, as you can see in each of their annual reports. Some highlights include the **History and Archives Committee** archiving and posting to the USMS website all pool national championship (since 1970), and all the Top Ten tabulations since 1971! The **Recognition and Awards Committee** continues to oversee all of the USMS awards – special congratulations to this year’s Ransom Arthur award winner, Lynn Hazlewood! The **Records and Tabulation Committee** continues to enhance the tabulation process for meet results and event rankings and publishes and maintains the Top Ten, National Records, and pool length data bases. The **LMSC Development Committee** has been working closely with the National Office on the LMSC roles and responsibilities and compliance with the LMSC guidelines. They also assisted in assembling a very exciting slate of workshops at this year’s convention.

I am also chairing the End-to-End Event Management (E2EEM) Task Force which is focused on integrating the various activities involved in USMS events. USMS and its LMSCs run many “events” (meets and open water swims), each of which follows a specific event cycle. This cycle begins with the event sanction and listing on a calendar and ends with the event results, which are tabulated. The tabulated results create event rankings, records and other recognition opportunities (e.g., Top 10, All-American, etc.). Ideally, the data from each process step from end-to-end should be used in each successive step to ensure accuracy, timeliness and inclusion.

Special considerations must be made for all event types and the non-use of specific technologies; however, the goal remains to provide benefits to 100% of the event-participating USMS membership as well as LMSC sanction chairs and event directors – not just the elite competitor. A tremendous amount of work has already been completed in the meet results and event rankings arena, which many members already are well aware of. The task force, which has representation from several LMSCs, is now focused on the up-front tasks of the event sanctions process.

I’d like to thank all of our many tremendously committed volunteers who do so much to keep the USMS community vibrant, exciting and growing!

Vice President of Programs

David Diehl

It has been a very busy year for the three Committees under the VP of Programs: Long Distance, Open Water and Officials. Since the Long Distance and Open Water Committees were made separate committees this year there was much to do to get them organized and functioning as separate entities. The Chairs of both the newly separated committees worked very closely and well together to coordinate the creation of their separate groups. Conference call meetings were held for both committees every month or so to conduct the necessary business to organize and conduct the work of the committees. As the Executive Committee liaison with these committees, I was in on the majority of these conference calls as well as the Officials Committee conference calls.

The **Long Distance Committee** basically remained the same, working with event hosts to ensure the success of the Open Water and Postal USMS National Championships in addition to keeping their manuals and guidelines up to date with the splitting of the committee, to continue to recognize All Americans and All Stars and to ensure the success of our events.

The **Open Water Committee**, being a brand new committee in 2010, first had to get organized and spent a good portion of time initially to develop ideas to become projects for open water; swimmer, coach and event development. They also worked to develop educational resources and infrastructure in conjunction with long distance swimming and in partnership with National Office Staff. In addition, the Committee worked to develop separate open water rules for the rule book.



The **Officials Committee** revised the guidelines for national championship officials including the national championship contract section dealing with officials. The Committee provide partial reimbursement of officials at Nationals and completed development (and had posted on-line) the operations manual containing resources for LMSC Officials Chairs to use in recruiting, training, and certifying officials.

Vice President of Community Services

Nadine Day

I am honored to serve as the Vice President of Community Service. After getting off the blocks slowly my first few months, I am now streamlined and stroking efficiently onward. As the owner of a private physical therapy practice and the coach of a masters swim club, I have enjoyed working with the Fitness Education, Sports Medicine and Science, and the Coaches committees. I would like to thank everyone on those committees for doing an awesome job this past year. This year all three committees worked together with LMSC's to implement HOD's policy on minimum standard requirements.

Other Major accomplishments:

1. The Fitness Education Committee's Go the Distance (GTD) Fitness Event became a National Sponsored event.
As of July 14, 2010, GTD had 1,913 participants.

Nike supplies the award items and All-American Swim Supply ships the items to participants. USMS is responsible for the printing of the logo on the items.

Goal for 2011 to double the number of participants

2. The Sports Medicine Committee recommended the USMS Endowment fund a study done on USMS swimmers that won a prestigious award at the International Symposium on Biomechanics and Medicine in Swimming. Dr. Joel Stager's student reported the cognitive and cardiovascular benefits for masters swimmers.

Congratulations to Indiana University and master swimmer, Dr. Joel Stager.

3. The Coaches Committee is redesigning the ASCA-Master's Swim Coach's curriculum. Level 1 unveiling is schedule at the World ASCA Clinic in Indianapolis, IN on August 30-31st.

Jim Halstead, who is a coach and club development mentor, was the chair of this task force. Members of the Coaches committee contributed different sections of the curriculum.

Goal for 2011-curriculum to Level 5

You can read more about their activities in their respective annual reports. The committees had significant interaction with the national staff with their contributions to the SWIMMER Magazine and email Streamlines Newsletter to members, volunteers and coaches.

I also chaired the Compensation and Benefits Committee. We provided better insurance benefits at a lower cost our to staff, this year.

I look forward to next year. I will maintain an open communications policy and continue to advocate more benefits and programs for our membership. As we move forward, our focus will be CORE: Cultivating Opportunities and Resources for Excellence.



Treasurer

Ralph Davis

U. S. Masters Swimming continues to be on very solid financial ground. As of July 31, 2010 we had in excess of \$2.3 million in cash and investments. Our investment returns continue to show an overall decline

from prior years due to an overall decline in interest rates and the inability to diversify the portfolio due to an extremely restrictive and conservative investment policy. During 2010 rates were below 1%. The new Investment Policy drafted by the Finance Committee gives the USMS Investment Committee the opportunity to generate a reasonable return for the organization. The new Investment Policy will be presented to the HOD at the convention.

The 2009 Financial Statements are completed and a financial report will be available for delegates at the Convention in Dallas. This past year the Audit Committee selected new auditors for USMS. Our new auditor firm is Kerkering, Barberios & Co. of Sarasota, Florida. The tax return for 2009 is completed and approved by the Board and will be filed by the end of August.

Secretary

CJ Rushman

Most of what I did this year was much the same as previous predecessors did; ordinary secretary stuff. I wrote and distributed minutes for the Executive Committee, Board of Directors during the past year. I wrote and distributed minutes from all EC and BOD meetings held during the year, including the meetings in Dallas and Sarasota. As this 2010 convention has approached, I have been compiling the official list of delegates, and preparing other convention-related materials.

Immediate Past President

Rob Copeland

As immediate past president (the best volunteer position in U.S. Masters Swimming) a majority of my time has been spent assisting the transition to Jeff Moxie's administration and supporting the continued expansion of our professional staff. I have also had the privilege of chairing our Election Committee, our Workout Task Force and our LMSC Grievance Task Force. Reports for these groups can be found elsewhere in this packet.

Legal Counsel

Doug Church

USMS's legal needs since last year's convention have been relatively straightforward, focusing on the business functions that continue to develop as USMS builds infrastructure to serve its members and grow. Routine questions calling for a legal interpretation of our rules and/or other policy matters occur frequently from members and officers of USMS.

We had the usual matters that call for legal input, including agreements with Corporate Partners, requests to interpret existing agreements such as that with our publishing services provider, questions from LMSCs regarding liability releases, provision of legal counsel to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and random issues that arise from time to time. Assistance has been provided to the National Board of Review and there have been routine consultations with our insurance agent.



We have had the benefit of the foresight of my predecessor, Patty Miller, who identified a number of attorneys with special knowledge who have provided able assistance to me and our staff during the course of the year. My thanks to Patty and all of those who have provided competent counsel and guidance over the last 12 months. It has been a pleasure working with Rob Butcher and the professional staff who have always been prompt and thorough in their efforts to assist me when called upon. (Thanks Tracy!) Finally, thanks, to the executive committee and President Jeff Moxie for their patience with The Rookie!

TO: HOUSE OF DELEGATES
FROM: ROB BUTCHER
DATE: AUGUST 27, 2010
RE: U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING 2010 CONVENTION REPORT

In July of this year, we celebrated our one-year anniversary in our USMS headquarters. The establishment of a headquarters has been a significant milestone for USMS. Our headquarters has provided measurable benefits including but not limited to centralization and consolidation of responsibilities, opening up new opportunities for growth and service, building of infrastructure and efficiencies in how we operate to better serve our members, clubs, volunteers and partners, and elevating the USMS brand.

As we look back on the last year, we have achieved many accomplishments that have and will make long lasting difference in how we serve.

People

- USMS is bearing the early stages of fruit with a professional staff. While volunteers do contribute greatly, much of what has been accomplished here is under the direction of a professional staff that wakes up daily and goes to bed each night with accountability.
- We welcomed several new members to our 2010 staff that has allowed us to move forward important priorities for USMS. They new staff additions are:
 - Anna Lea Matysek, Membership Coordinator
 - Anna Lea joined the staff in December of 2009. She bringing 20-years of invaluable experience as a USMS board member, LMSC officer and Finance Committee member. As you will read with IT, the demands from our members and LMSCs for customer support had grown beyond the time capability of Tracy Grilli. While Anna Lea is well versed in all areas of membership support including the online registration platform, it is the LMSCs that might be most benefiting from her service. As an example, several LMSCs had not filed their necessary tax returns and were in jeopardy of losing their non-profit status. Thanks to Anna Lea's diligence, the returns were filed on time with all LMSCs able to maintain their status.
 - Susan Kuhlman, Controller
 - In addition to day-to-day accounting and monthly reporting, Susan played a leadership role in the RFP and selection of our new audit firm; RFP, selection and integration of our new payroll benefits firm; and is intimately involved in the RFP and selection of our investment management firm. Susan additionally brings a wealth of fundraising experience and is participating in the establishment of our Foundation.
 - Ben Christoffel, Project Manager
 - Working with Laura Hamel, Ben has responsibility for gathering content and production of the monthly e-newsletters *STREAMLINES* and *STREAMLINES for Coaches*; video production services including coach/club videos and the daily shows from Nationals; and Ben manages our social media sites such as YouTube, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.
 - Susan Ingraham and Lisa Dahl, Coach and Club Development Coordinators

- In addition to their CCD responsibilities, both Susan and Lisa are contributing writers and were presenters at SwimFest, and the ASCA World Clinic where Masters coaches certification was taught.

Coach and Club Development

- Request for Coach and Club Development (CCD) services far exceeded the capabilities of Mel Goldstein. We added three regional CCD coordinators to help with the demand for CCD service this year. Last fall, the coordinators outreached to every USMS club that had not renewed its club registration. Throughout the year, coordinators – upon request – visited with existing USMS programs. They additionally visited locations to incubate new USMS programs, and responded to thousands of communication requests via e-mail and phone. In 2010, we saw an 8% growth in the number of registered clubs compared to 2009.
- Working with the Coaches Committee, a Level 1 and Level 2 Masters coaches certification was developed. The certification was introduced and taught at the 2010 ASCA World Clinic. More than 20-Masters coaches attended. Additional Levels of Masters certification are being developed, and with the Coaches Committee, locations are being identified to teach in 2011.
- The second annual SwimFest was hosted in the San Diego LMSC. SwimFest is our educational and interactive weekend experience for Masters coaches. In 2009, 35-Masters coaches attended. In 2010, more than 70-Masters coaches attended representing more than 10,000-registered USMS members. The SwimFest 2010 video recap is on the USMS YouTube site. We have received several requests from LMSCs and host clubs that are interested in hosting SwimFest 2011.

Membership Enhancement

- While 2010 membership is up nearly 5% from 2009, we continue to experience a non-renewal membership rate of around 35%. To put in perspective, that is nearly 40,000-memberships in 2009 and in 2010 that are non-renewing. Thirty five percent non-renewals should be a significant concern and lead us to question why is non-renewal so high? To help find the answers, we are partnering with Metropolitan State College of Denver (MSCD). MSCD is developing and will administer three different member surveys. One survey will be targeted to renewing members. A second survey will be targeted to non-renewing members. A third survey will be targeted to Masters coaches. The intent is to uncover what we are doing well and what we need to do to better. We must recognize that membership is a system wide issue, not just a national office challenge. We also should be prepared to seriously look at the survey feedback and where appropriate, implement areas of change.
- In 2010, a Know Your Benefits campaign was implemented with a goal of creating more awareness for the benefits of membership. Know Your Benefits is promoted via usms.org, *SWIMMER* magazine, and the *STREAMLINES* monthly e-newsletter.
- 2010 membership saw an increase in the insurance benefits available to members. New insurance benefits included coverage of teeth including false teeth under the Excess Medical coverage and a disability benefit added.
- In 2009, a member communication survey was conducted. We have made numerous enhancements in the quality presentation of *SWIMMER* as recommended by the survey. Examples of the enhancements include:
 - A revamped Swim Bag dedicated to authentic and original product features. Our product testing is the first of its kind in the swimming industry. It has been hugely popular with readers and has positioned *SWIMMER* as a leading authority in product reviews. Authentic product testing takes a significant commitment of time and is paying dividends in reader satisfaction.

- A Both Sides of the Lane Lines segment was introduced. This reader driven initiative allows two members to argue two opposing sides on an issue. This provocative segment of *SWIMMER* has become one of the most popular reads.
- In the January/February issue of *SWIMMER*, a pullout poster calendar was inserted. Readers very much enjoyed this benefit and a pullout poster will be included for 2011.
- With online automation of the Fitness Logs, administrative support for Go The Distance (GTD) – our fastest growing member program – has been reduced for staff and the Fitness Committee.
- Nike, with support from dealer All American Swim Supply, signed on as title sponsor of GTD. Nike purchased six full pages in *SWIMMER* magazine and dedicated each page to promoting GTD. In addition, Nike and All American made available more than \$10,000 in branded GTD prizes sent for free to participants as they hit various GTD milestones.
- In 2009, GTD participation was at 1,200. In 2010, GTD participation has grown to nearly 2,000-members.

IT

- One of the most significant tasks we undertook was the installation of new servers. A server failure experienced in late 2009 shined a light on some of our IT risks. With our new servers in place, significant capability and safeguards have been put in place.
- As shared, new programming that automated the Fitness Logs and the Go The Distance Program has been added.
- New programming enhancements towards End-to-End Event Management continue to be implemented.
- In the fall of 2010, a new accounting software program is being implemented. As both our revenues and expenses increase, the new accounting software will allow us to better report and present the financials of the organization.
- At the July 2009 board meeting, it was recognized that USMS is still at significant risk related to IT. As it stands, Jim Matysek is our sole IT professional dedicated to both IT customer support and programming requests. The demand for IT has grown considerably over the years and we have maxed the hours in the day for one person to do both support and programming. Additionally, USMS is significantly exposed without a safeguard plan in the event something happened to Jim. The board therefore passed a resolution “that increased investment in Information Technology is a high priority for USMS to effectively support member services and programs.” As such, USMS is asking for the addition of one-full time programmer in 2011.

Events

- With a headquarters and resources of a professional staff, the national office became more active in providing personnel support, product support, and promotional support to national events such as the Spring Nationals in Atlanta and H2Open Water events. Such examples of increased support include the ability to sell event merchandise during event registration, development of event logos and event collateral, product giveaways from sponsors, and production and broadcast of the events.
- The national office took full responsibility for operation of the Summer Nationals in Puerto Rico. With 1,976-participants, the Spring Nationals in Atlanta was the biggest attended Nationals in the past 10-years. Understandably therefore, the Summer Nationals with 635-participants was one of the lowest ever attended Nationals. Nonetheless, the national office was able to financially manage the event to a net positive, and by nearly all accounts the Summer Nationals were a huge hit and established a template of service that USMS may provide to future nationals hosts as well as setting the stage for USMS to operate the 2012 Summer Nationals.

Marketing and Promotion

- Offering of USMS branded swim caps, brochures, bag tags and other collateral have continued to be very popular with USMS clubs and coaches.
- In 2010, our video and social media initiatives expanded. Introduced were broadcast of video via usms.org, a branded USMS Twitter page, a branded USMS YouTube channel, a branded USMS Facebook page, and various websites syndicating our content. The appetite for USMS video and social content has been enormous. Consider since launching in Spring the following results:
 - The USMS YouTube video channel has received more than 50,000-views
 - The USMS Facebook page has more than 5,000-fans
 - The USMS Twitter page has 1,500-followers
 - The USMS LinkedIn page has 1,000-members
 - We have installed Google analytics to usms.org and are seeing an increase in usms.org site traffic
- New sponsor signings include Hammer Nutrition, All American Swim Supply, Fitness Nutrition, Colorado Timing Systems, and TriSwim Shampoo. A priority has been made to visit our sponsors in their headquarters. This type of commitment to our sponsors allows us to learn what is important to them and identify programs, such as the Nike Go The Distance program, that are of value to our sponsors and can be of benefit to our members.

Foundation

- Board President Jeff Moxie has made defining and raising money for our Foundation a signature priority of his administration.
- Nearly 3,000-members each year make a contribution to the USMS Endowment during online registration. In the past, those members would receive an automated acknowledgement receipt. In 2010, the national office mailed a thank you letter and USMS window decal to every contributor. The thank you letter highlighted projects the Endowment Fund has supported and directed members to usms.org/giving for more information.
- The USMS Foundation Task Force is making the recommendation that the “U.S. Masters Swimming Foundation be a nationally recognized charitable organization that focuses its resources on the vital lifesaving and lifetime benefits of swimming. The U.S. Masters Swimming Foundation provides needed funding to reduce drowning rates in the United States and to lead a nation-wide curative fitness and well-being initiative that is swimming central.”
- The USMS Foundation Task Force is recommending an allocation of financial resources towards growing our Foundation.

On behalf of all our staff,

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Butcher
Executive Director



Championship Committee

Jeff Roddin, Chair

Sandi Rousseau, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Tom Boak, Ken Brisbin, Debbie Cavanaugh, Jim Clemmons, Kim Crouch, Barry Fasbender, Jack Groselle, Kris Houchens, Michael Moore, Patty Nardozi, Barbara Protzman, Jody Smith, Robin Segnitz, Wright Stanton, Jeff Strahota, Lisa Watson.

Ex Officio Members: Rob Butcher, Mark Gill, Michael Heather, Jim Matysek, Jane Moore, Ed Saltzman, Paul Smith, Chris Stevenson.

Introduction: Our mission is to serve in an advisory capacity to national championship hosts and make recommendations and decisions that enhance the quality of championship meets for all registered U.S. Masters Swimming members; to actively solicit and receive bid proposals, review bids and select the sites for national championship meets; and support marketing opportunities for U.S. Masters Swimming Corporate Partners.

Championship Committee Meet Liaison assignments:

2010 SCY Nationals in Atlanta, Georgia - Lisa Watson

2010 LCM Nationals in San Juan, Puerto Rico - Debbie Cavanaugh

2011 SCY Nationals in Mesa - Jody Smith

2011 LCM Nationals in Auburn - Jeff Roddin

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

The committee was asked to consider a unique opportunity to piggy-back onto 2012 USA Swimming Olympic Trials in Omaha to host our 2012 Summer Nationals in the same facility (Qwest Center) immediately following Trials. A site visit to Omaha in March was made by committee members Tom Boak, Jeff Roddin and Sandi Rousseau along with Rob Butcher and Mark Gill. The committee evaluated the proposed meet budget and made a unanimous suggestion to the USMS Board of Directors to strongly pursue this opportunity. The USMS National Office subsequently submitted a timely bid for the 2012 Summer Nationals. Timely bids for Spring Nationals were received from Indianapolis, Indiana and Greensboro, North Carolina.

A conference call to introduce the committee and start our work was held in February and another call was held in March to discuss Omaha. Fourteen sub-committees were identified during our first call as major tasks for the year. Tasks included bid packet updates, NQTs, marketing and promoting Nationals, Nationals entry form and meet announcement updates, Meet Liaison Guidelines updates, Meet Director's Guide updates, Nationals order of events, Rules proposals affecting Nationals, partnerships with Open Water events, Nationals facility standards, Coaches hospitality, sports medicine lectures, contract updates for Nationals. We held a face to face meeting during Short Course Nationals in Atlanta (16 committee members were in attendance) and at the time of this writing we are planning a meeting in Puerto Rico for those committee members in attendance.

The Championship Committee worked closely with the National Office to rewrite the Nationals Meet Contract. A long term plan to reduce the amount of effort required by a Host to run our Nationals has been in place since the National Office started processing meet entries several years ago. Many tasks currently required by a Nationals Host are activities that have long learning curves associated with them. If USMS can perform these duties on a regular basis and for two pool Nationals each year, these efforts become more cost effective and streamlined and can offload a substantial amount of work from each Host.



Championship Committee Meeting Agenda
Meeting #1 – Thursday, September 16th 3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Cumberland B

1. Approve Minutes from last meeting
2. Review/discuss 2010 Nationals:
 - A. Atlanta (short course)
 - B. Puerto Rico (long course)
3. Review/discuss proposed Rules changes that affect Championship Committee (except Order of Events)
4. Review awards, logos and plans for the 2011 National Championship meets:
 - A. Mesa (short course)
 - B. Auburn (long course)
5. 2011 NQT's
6. Survey results

Meeting #2 – Friday, September 17th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland B

1. 2012 Championship Bid awards (winning bids will present to the HOD Saturday during the Championship report)
2. Proposed Order of Events for 2012-13
3. Review Coaches hospitality policy
4. Nationals procedures:
 - A. Entry deadline/automatic seed time updating
 - B. Hotel room block management
 - C. Meet program
5. Minimum facility standards requirements for hosting Nationals
6. Partnership possibilities with Open Water Nationals
7. Goals/Tasks for 2011



Coaches Committee

Chris Colburn, Chair

Chuck Burr, Vice Chair

Kerry O'Brien, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Rich Axtell, Dennis Baker, Scott Bay, Lisa Bennett, Bill Brenner, Chris Campbell, Michael Collins, Kristin Gary, Kris Houchens, Heather Howland, Laurie Hug, Nancy Kirkpatrick-Reno, Cokie Lepinski, Katherine Longwell, Don Mehl, Ahelee Sue Osborn, Jennifer Parks, Nicole Pendleton, Andrea Stephens, Dennis Tesch, Lisa Dahl (ex officio), Nadine Day (ex-officio), Mel Goldstein (ex officio), Jim Halstead (ex officio), Susan Ingraham (ex officio)

Introduction: The 2010 Coaches Committee has been extremely busy on a number of projects designed to educate, support, and recognize coaches and swimmers throughout the organization.

Discussions and projects since the last convention: At the time of this report, the largest of our projects, the ASCA Masters Coaches Certification curriculum, is putting the finishing touches on a fine product that will be presented for the first time at the ASCA World Clinic. The committee was instrumental in developing criteria for and selecting an experienced, energetic coaching staff to support swimmers at the 2010 World Championships. A task force has been working diligently on the data gathering behind two pace clock contests at Nationals. On-Deck Coaching continues to be a hit with swimmers both at Nationals and Convention. Online Coaching provides workouts that are available to members, and this project continues to provide a valuable service to the membership. One subcommittee has been working with LMSC Coaches Chairs to ensure improved communication to coaches nationwide. In those LMSCs without a Coaches chair, this same group has worked with other LMSC personnel to attract, select, and retain individuals to fill this vital role. Throughout the year, members of the Coaches Committee provide content for and identify providers of content that is included in *SWIMMER*, *STREAMLINES for Coaches*, and *STREAMLINES*. Topics of discussion at convention will include the future of the Coaching Curriculum project; the role of the committee in the support and funding of Coaches Hospitality at National meets; committee involvement in the High Performance Clinic; and the improvement of identification and registration of coaches in the USMS Membership database.

Coaches Committee Meeting Agenda

Friday, September 17th 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Cumberland J

- Discussion of Rules/Legislation/Convention Topics that affect the committee
- Ongoing Projects
 - Coach of the Year
 - Kerry O'Brien Awards
 - On-Deck Coaching
 - Online Coaching
 - Content Contributions for *SWIMMER*, *STREAMLINES*, and *STREAMLINES for Coaches*
 - Pace Clock Contests and Data Collection from Coaches
 - LMSC Coaches Chair Subcommittee
 - ASCA Masters Coaches Certification Curriculum
- New/Revised Projects
 - Next Steps for Curriculum Project
 - Hospitality at Nationals
 - On-Deck Coaching Volunteers
 - Other Registered Coaches at the meet
 - 2011 High Performance Clinic: committee involvement and responsibilities
 - Coach Representation by club in the USMS Registration Database
- New Business



Finance Committee

Homer Lane, Chair

Sarah Welch, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Margaret Bayless, Thomas Boak, David Burgio, Joanie Campbell, Rob Copeland, Elyce Dilworth, Phil Dodson, Betsy Durrant, Jeanne Ensign, Jill Gellatly, Conrad Johnson, Lucy Johnson, Fred Nelis, Ex O – Susan Kuhlman, EC – Ralph Davis

Introduction: This has been an exceptional busy year that has required seven conference calls since the beginning of the year and hundreds of e-mails. I am very proud of the Committee members' efforts during the year as we transitioned to our new role as a Board Committee. I am saddened that I will be unable to attend the 2010 Annual Convention but duty calls that weekend for me to host my daughter Erin's wedding in New Hampshire.

Discussions and projects since the last convention: We worked on over a half dozen issues and handled a number of over budget requests during the year. Key projects included the following;

First we had to define our role as a new Board Committee. This started with a list of key aspects of the Committee's role in the evolving governance structure of USMS. Clearly it has become an ongoing effort that is still developing.

Second we were involved peripherally in the process of searching for and hiring a new Controller, Susan Kuhlman who started on January 19, 2010. This triggered a number of related issues like a possible new Chart of Accounts, a Corporate Credit Card practices review, and review and acceptance of new monthly management reports for the Finance Committee and the USMS Board.

Second was the development of a USMS Audit Committee as well as the selection of a new CPA firm for the 2009 review and the 2010 & 2011 audits of the financial statements. A Charter for the Audit Committee was developed by a Finance sub-committee and adopted by the USMS Board in January. Members for this new Board Committee were selected by Jeff Moxie and include Jeanne Ensign, Phil Dodson, Elyce Dilworth, Paul Griffin and Jill Gellatly, Chair. They started their efforts in April to select the new CPA firm and settled on Kerkering and Barberio (K&B) to serve as the organizations auditors for 2009-2011. K&B commenced fieldwork and completed the majority of the review procedures by early June. The Audit Committee reviewed the draft report and the final 2009 statements were received in July.

Third were the development of a new Investment Policy and the recent establishment of an Investment Committee. While a draft of an Investment Policy had been hanging around for a couple of years it was decided a new start in the process was needed. Again a Finance sub-committee was established to draft a new Policy and they held their first meeting on April 30th. A Policy was crafted and approved by the USMS Board in July. Three initial members of this new Board Committee were selected by Jeff Moxie that month and include Dave Burgio, Chairman, Elyce Dilworth, and Homer Lane. The new partially constituted Committee held their first meeting on August 3rd and are making progress on identifying two other members for the Committee and developing an RFP for an Investment Advisor to assist in the management of the USMS investments.

One of the key overbudget approvals was for the acquisition of new Blackbaud – Financial Edge accounting software. This was selected after considering three vendor options, is quite familiar to the new Controller, and will allow for producing reports by functional expense & the recording transactions with the proper fund restrictions

Other projects are also underway for an update of the USMS Financial Operating Guidelines (FOG) and the development of a Manual of Accounting Procedures (MAP). Updates to the FOG will be presented to the Finance Committee at the Convention and will be brought forward to the House of Delegates for approval. The final development of the MAP will be a joint effort of the Finance and Audit Committees that we hope to complete by the end of this year.



Action items:

We would like to complete the following activities at the Convention;

- Recommend a final 2011 Budget to the HOD
- Fully staff the Investment Committee
- Complete an update to FOG

Finance Committee Meeting Agenda

**Meeting #1 - Thursday September 16th 3:15 – 4:45 pm
Cumberland C**

**Meeting #2 - Friday September 17th 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Cumberland C**

**Meeting #3 - Saturday September 18th 8:00 – 9:30 am
Sanger A**

- 1) Welcome and call to order
- 2) Treasurer's Report - Ralph Davis
- 3) Controller's Report - Susan Kuhlman
- 4) Audit Committee Report - Jill Gellatly
- 5) Investment Committee update - Dave Burgio
- 6) 2011 Budget
- 7) FOG Updates
- 8) Discussion of process to complete the MAP
- 9) Other topics needing attention

Fitness Education Committee

**Marcia Anziano, Chair
Linda Shoenberger, Vice Chair**

Committee Members: Marcia Anziano, Dave Barberic, Mary Jane Caswell, Randy Crutchfield, Nan Destafney, Suzi Green, Ali Hall, Raena Latina, Alan Levinson, Jon Olsen, Linda Shoenberger, Toni Sinnott Greta VanMeeteren, Jane Moore (laison to Sports Medicine), Nadine Day (V.P.)

Introduction: The committee has focused this year to better support Go The Distance, establish guidelines for the Check Off Challenge, and review our section of the website. However, our major new initiative has been to reach out to LMSCs and focusing on generating more interest in and awareness of fitness. We are trying to generate and cultivate ideas for promoting fitness at both the grass roots and national level, hoping to identify new fitness challenges to encourage participation.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

Check off Challenge: The bid packet and a compliance agreement have been modified and updated for 2011. Raena Latina and Alan Levinson worked to put together a more complete bid packet that provides details on the program to assist the sponsor in organizing their effort. A compliance agreement has also been established to encourage the winning bidder to move forward with the project.



Go the Distance: This year Go the Distance received the support of a National sponsor, Nike Swim. As the sponsor, Nike agreed to provide awards for several milestones along the way. The program became 100% driven by the Fitness Logs (FLOGS) a feature of MyUSMS. This caused a great amount of growth in the project, at the time this report was written there were near 1900 swimmers that were going the distance. Having a sponsor is a mixed blessing to the committee as it is great to have the support but we are still the face of the program to the swimmer and do not always have the answers that they need. Mary Jane Caswell has been the point person for handling the responses to all emails sent to the GTD mail box. Greta VanMeeteren continues to write the monthly stories on random participants in the program. Although many milestone awards are handled by the sponsor, Marcia Anziano handles the awards that the committee still provides for participants. One facet of GTD that has not been addressed is the cumulative aspect of the program. The committee is beginning to look into how we can support that aspect of the program.

Fitness Chair Newsletter: Ali Hall is our Fitness Chair Coordinator. In this position, Ali writes periodic emails to all LMSC Fitness Chairs. She focuses on fitness activities that are supported at the LMSC level in an attempt to get more attention to the Fitness swimmer at the local level. She solicits ideas for new programs and shares the ideas submitted by the various LMSC's.

Monthly Web Articles: Linda Shoenberger continues to coordinate the monthly articles for the web site.

Web Site pages: Suzi Green has been tasked with reviewing the static pages of the web site as they have not been updated in quite some time. The committee would like to see what we can do to make these pages more attractive and of interest to those that browse the web site.

New Fitness Projects: The committee continues to discuss possible new projects.

Fitness Education Committee Meeting Agenda

**Thursday, September 16th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland J**

1. Introductions
2. Check Off Challenge – review all bids, choose a sponsor
3. GTD – review the issues that occurred during 2010.
4. GTD – discuss ideas on possible cumulative efforts.
5. GTD – establish responsibilities for 2011.
6. Topics for Monthly Articles for Web

History and Archives Committee

**Meegan Wilson, Chair
Barbara Dunbar, Vice Chair**

Committee Members: John Bauman, Marcia Cleveland, Trisha Commons, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Richard Hess, Paul Hutinger, Patty Nardozi, Susan Nolte, Jennie (Catherine) Quill, Patrick Quinn, Gail Roper, Diane Rothenberg, and Executive Liaison Ed Tsuzuki (VPLO)

Introduction: (As stated in USMS Rule Book article **507.1.5**) The History and Archives Committee shall record, collect and preserve documents, stories, photos, exhibits, oral histories and other memorabilia in an appropriate repository and in durable formats to ensure that the achievements of USMS and Masters swimmers will be maintained for posterity. The archived information shall be made available.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. All pool National Championships (1970+) have been archived and posted to the USMS website thanks to Barbara Dunbar and USMS Webmaster Jim Matysek. We continue to update the results as better copies



- are found. **This is a huge accomplishment.**
2. USMS Top Ten data on the USMS website only went back to 1993 until 7/12/2010 when Jim Matysek uploaded the Top Ten data from 1971 - 1992 that John Bauman digitized. Chris Stevenson, Records & Tabulation Chair, converted the swim times into the required format. Linking and assigning swimmer IDs to these data is an ongoing task with the help of Esther Lyman, Barbara Dunbar and other H&A members. Some swimmers are missing birthdates, and possible name changes have occurred. Now that these data are posted for member use, more individuals can view them and help with identification. Data checking is on going. **This is a huge accomplishment.**
 3. A National Record database (1971-2007) including relay records, compiled by Ginger Pierson and John Bauman has been completed. **High priority to post this 1971-2007 National Records database on the USMS website for member use.**
 4. USMS Registrations 1990-1993 have been digitized by John Bauman. Permanent ID's must be assigned before posting to the USMS website and Club Assistant Databases, and identifying name changes are crucial. Data checking is on going. John has started digitizing 1986 - 1989.
 5. A list of USMS members who are Olympians has been compiled by Gail Roper. **This needs to be posted for member use.**
 6. A new file cabinet has been purchased and installed at the Henning Library to house USMS archive material.
 7. 6 USMS rule books (2005 - 2009) have been sent to the Henning Library. **H&A needs to make sure this happens automatically each year.**
 8. Uncatalogued material from the Henning library has been sent to Barbara Dunbar for inventory and archiving.
 9. Stories continue to be added and updated to the USMS website.
 10. H&A continues to search for, locate, update, correct, digitize, and archive missing and/or USMS historical documents such as convention meeting minutes, Top Ten errata, National Championship results, Open Water Championship results, early registration files, scrapbooks, award nominations, etc. for eventual posting on the USMS website.
 11. History and Archives committee member Patty Nardozzi, with USMS pioneer Bob Beach, gave a historical presentation at this years 41st SCY Nationals meet in Atlanta and the 40th Anniversary of USMS SCY Nationals and USMS. A list of Olympians competing at the meet compiled by Gail Roper was given to the meet director.

History and Archives Committee Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 16th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cumberland D

1. Call History & Archive Meeting to Order
2. Roll Call - Meegan Wilson, Barbara Dunbar, John Bauman, Marcia Cleveland, Trisha Commons, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Richard Hess, Paul Hutinger, Patty Nardozzi, Susan Nolte, Jennie (Catherine) Quill, Patrick Quinn, Gail Roper, Diane Rothenberg, and Executive Liaison Ed Tsuzuki (VPLO)
3. Introduce and welcome new delegates.
4. Old Business: Discussion of Oct. 2009 – July, 2010 project and task reviews in the Annual Report.
5. Committee Member Reports - New information not included in the Annual Report.
6. Still searching for any other missing or illegible pool National Championship results.
7. Still attempting to locate 28 missing Open Water and Long Distance National Championships from 1974 through 1991 with assistance from Open Water committee members.
8. Continued effort to catalogue archived material in the Henning Library.
9. Discuss status of pre 1993 Top Ten project.
10. Discuss other web projects, timelines, and priorities. Discuss web support.
11. Solicit, write, edit, and add swimmer stories; add photo links; proof and update.
12. Continue to locate pre 1985 LMSC registration files and AAU Masters registration files.
13. Action Items



- a. Empower the National Office to send historical documents (Rule book, Convention packets, Top Ten booklets, All American Lists, Registration files, etc. to the ISHOF Henning library for archiving each year. Some of these items shall also be made available on the USMS website in publication format as were provided in the past.
 - b. Receive ability to add photos to stories and update H&A pages on the USMS website.
 - c. Be given a secure site on the USMS website for H&A storage of historical documents for committee use.
14. General direction of H&A for 2011.
 15. Announcements
 16. Adjournment

LMSC Development Committee

Doug Adamavich, Chair

Lori Payne, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Barbara Protzman, Chris Lundie, Chris McGiffin, Doug Garcia, Ellen Tobler, Herb Cook, Hugh Moore, Jeffrey Strahota, Leianne Crittenden, Paige Buehler, Sally Guthrie

Introduction:

The LMSC Development Committee is new for 2010 and has been busy getting up to speed. Our committee is comprised of both new and experienced leaders from a variety of backgrounds and LMSCs. The breadth of experience and knowledge has enabled our group to begin many important discussions that impact masters swimmers throughout the country.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

Initially, our committee worked on some important matters that warranted immediate attention. This included getting feedback and suggestions on spending suggestions for LMSCs with excess funds. The information our committee provided was instrumental in helping create an article for Streamlines that will help LMSCs fund activities that will benefit their members. We also had extensive discussions clarifying LMSC duties, specifically what LMSCs should and should not do. These will be compiled and codified into policy that will guide LMSC actions and ensure compliance with both US Masters Swimming rules and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) laws.

After those two major areas, the committee discussed various LMSC Roles and the responsibilities associated with each. The objective with this initiative was to define the requirements for each role within an LMSC, which will be published by the National Office. We also received information regarding the financial status of each LMSC and their dues level. This topic will be discussed in greater depth in the coming months as we examine LMSC finances and overall membership dues levels.

Perhaps the more important goal however has been to gather information on the LMSCs in order to formulate recommendations in the future. We have begun conducting surveys to gather information on topics ranging from Sanctions, Registration, and Finances. Our committee will also examine other topics related to LMSC Minimal Standards and compliance with them. Our goal is to identify that pain points and challenges that LMSCs are facing. Ultimately, we want to help these organizations so that they can best serve their members and comply with relevant policies, rules, and laws.

Currently, the committee is working on discussing issues relating to membership retention and convention workshops. US Masters Swimming faces a serious challenge in retaining members as the non-renewal rate for members is over 35% per year! Our committee is discussing how this can be addressed and what has been done at the local level to promote membership renewals. The committee is also working on finalizing workshops for the USAS Convention in September. These will give attendees valuable information that they can take back to their local programs and implement, thereby benefiting swimmers all across the country.



We will continue to work closely with National Office to ensure close coordination on both current and future efforts. Doing so will allow US Masters Swimming to continue to grow by offering additional value and ensuring greater consistency for our members.

Action items:

See agenda.

LMSC Development Committee Meeting Agenda

Friday, September 17th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cumberland F

1. Introductions and call to order
2. Reports
 - a. Sanctions
 - b. Registration
 - c. Finances
3. Recommendations
 - a. LMSC Areas of Responsibility
 - b. Spending Suggestions
4. Questions
5. Adjournment

Long Distance Committee

Heather Hagadorn, Chair

Ann Svenson, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Marcia Benjamin, Bob Bruce, Marcia Cleveland, Ali Hall, Bruce Hopson, Susan Kirk, Raena Latina, Donn Livoni, Terri Maginnis, Jenny Quill, Cody Rasmussen, Karen Reeder, Roberta Saint-Amour, Tom Spence, Jill Wright, Robert Zeitner, Ex O: Susan Ehringer, Ex O: Lynn Hazlewood, EC: David Diehl

Introduction: In 2010, the Long Distance Committee has been working closely with National Championship event hosts, ensuring the success of five Open Water and five Postal USMS National Championships. In addition, we support and enforce Part 3 of the Rule Book, we work to keep our manuals and guidelines as up to date as possible, we continue to recognize All Americans and All Stars, and we develop new programs to help ensure the success of our events.

Many people are confused as to the responsibility differences between the Long Distance and the Open Water committees. Essentially you can think of it this way – nothing major has changed with the Long Distance Committee, other than the name.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. **Rules** – Several adjustments have been proposed this year, including a logical reorganization of Part 3. This reorganization creates a clear separation of the pool and the open water long distance events, and the move of Sanctioning portions of various articles from Part 3 to Part 2. We are also recommending the addition of a Non-Competitive Events article, and the addition of an article for a National Swimmer Ranking and Awards System. We had significant input from the chair of the Open Water Committee, who participated on the Rules subcommittee and contributed several proposals that will help that committee follow through with their growth and development agendas.
2. **Postal National Championships**



- The *One Hour Postal (OHP)* was the largest USMS National Championship ever, with nearly 3,000 participants. Entrants were able to submit their individual entries and relays online, and faxed, scanned and emailed, or snail-mailed their split sheets to the host. The host used Club Assistant's back-end tools to input all paper entries, and because they did that, all USMS numbers and birth dates were verified on the spot and were 100% accurate. This also enabled them to create results much more easily and quickly than in the past, with very few corrections needed.
 - The USMS *5K/10K Postal Championships* are currently underway at the time of this report, and the *3000/6000 Yard Postal Championship* forms and online entries were ready to go three months in advance of the Sept 15th start date.
 - Club Assistant's online entry and reporting processes have really helped the Hosts and the Long Distance Committee more quickly and accurately facilitate the entries, verifications, financials, and results.
 - Future: we are hoping to add automatic conversion calculations for those who swim the OHP in meters; we have standardized all entry forms (both paper and online) and will continue to improve those; we are working with the USMS Headquarters staff to plan and eventually transition the postal events to them.
3. **Open Water National Championships –**
- The committee has come a long way this year, working more closely than ever with all five event hosts and the USMS HQ staff to supply banners, USMS goodies and USMS Sponsor donations.
 - Our old “evaluators” have transitioned into more of a “liaison” role and provide as much pre-event support and post-event consultation as necessary. They help the hosts manage the timelines, edit their entry forms, get up and running on the online entry system, create results, etc. The idea is to bring USMS closer to the event hosts without getting in their way, and to begin to create as much of a consistent look and feel as possible (recognizing, of course, that all open water venues are each very unique and will continue to be that way).
 - Four of the five open water national championships used Club Assistant for online entries. Our committee has noticed that results are far more accurate than ever before, and are rarely, if ever corrected by the swimmers!
 - Future: We plan to continue to get our liaisons even more involved in consulting with the event hosts, as much as necessary. The USMS Sponsors have contributed significantly to the loot that swimmers love to go home with and we are hoping to continue and grow the exposure of our sponsors, the events and the successes. 2011 will see six National Championships, with the addition of the 25K in Noblesville. We are also evaluating the benefits and cost effectiveness of chip timing systems.

Action items:

1. Prepare 2012 Bids for selection at Convention
2. Continue to liaison with the on-going OW and Postal national championships.
3. Track, prepare and submit the 2010 All Americans, All Stars and national records to the website.
4. Order medals, patches and awards as necessary for 2011.
5. Evaluate and update host packets and standardized forms.
6. Prepare contracts for, and assign liaisons to the 2011 OW/LDC National Championship entries.

Long Distance Committee Meeting Agenda
Meeting #1 – Thursday, September 16th 3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Cumberland K

1. Attendance
2. Remarks by the Chair and Vice Chair
3. Assignment of evaluators for 2011 events



4. Reports:
 - All-American
 - All-Star
 - Awards
 - Postal Transition to USMS Staff
 - Review of 2012 championship bids
 - Discussion of Rules Items for Submission to HOD

Long Distance rules Open Forum - Long Distance Rules Proposals Discussion
Thursday, September 16th 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Moreno

Meeting #2 – Saturday, September 18th 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Moreno

1. Attendance
2. Remarks by the Chair and Vice Chair
3. Selection of 2012 championship bids
4. Continued discussion of Rules Items for Submission to HOD
5. Finish up any business held over from the first meeting
6. New business: Other items
7. Motion to adjourn

Legislation Committee
Committee Chair: Sean Fitzgerald
Committee Vice Chair: Jennifer Parks

Committee Members: Joan Alexander, Marcia Anziano, Daniel Cox, Barbara Delanois, Marilyn Fink, Mary Hull, Chris McGiffin, Patty Miller, Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Steve Peterson, Dick Pitman, Meg Smath, Erin Sullivan, Meegan Wilson, Kathrine Casey Ex O, Susan Ehringer Ex O

Opening paragraph:

2010 is an “off-year” for Legislation Amendments. Any 2010 legislation emergency amendment proposals considered by the House of Delegates can be found in another section of this handbook and on the USMS website. We anticipate a few emergency amendments to be proposed by standing committees at the Convention. The primary focus of the Legislation committee is to review and recommend proposed amendments for the “dry rules” of USMS. We are also responsible for ensuring that our members understand our code. Understanding the legislation ensures that the business conducted is compliant with USMS regulations and bylaws.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

Early in the year, we turned our attention to the LMSC Handbook. We verified that the information in the Handbook matches the rulebook. Updates have been made by the National Office and we continue to make sure the wording does not contradict the Rule Book. Our goal is to update the following sections and make sure they match the Rulebook.

A. Registration

B. Sanctions



Action items:

The nature of the Legislation Committee does not lend itself to “Actionable” items outside of the convention. Emergency amendments will be handled at the 2008 Convention while other items will wait for the 2011 Convention.

Legislation Committee Meeting Agenda
Meeting # 1 – Friday, September 17th 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Cumberland B

Meeting #2 – Saturday, September 18th 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Gaston

1. Roll Call and Assignments
2. Introductory Comments
3. Proposed Legislative Amendments
 - a. Review of amendment criteria and voting procedures
 - b. Consideration and recommendation of proposed emergency amendments
4. LMSC Handbook updates
 - a. Registration
 - b. Sanctions

Officials Committee

Charles Cockrell, Chair
Ed Saltzman, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Charles Cockrell, Pat Baker, Lee Carlson, Marilyn Fink, Judy Gillies, Leon Kief, Charlie Kohnken, Clay Kolar, Caroline Lambert, Eric Nordlund, Fred Pigott, Ed Saltzman, and Paula Smith. Ex-Officio Members: Sandi Rousseau (Championship Committee Liaison), Kathy Casey (Rules Committee Chair), and Jim Sheehan (USA-Swimming Officials Chair).

Discussions and projects since the last convention: The committee revised our guidelines for national championship officials that included recommended timelines for various functions, duties of the meet referee, and qualifications of key officials. We revised the national championship contract section dealing with officials. We continued the practice of working closely with National Championship Meet Referees to assist with officials recruiting, staffing, education of officials, and processes for effective operation of championship meets. We provided partial reimbursement for officials at Nationals to fill gaps in staffing with officials outside of the local area. We will continue to evaluate the process and financial resources needed to recruit a sufficient number of qualified officials for each meet.

A new section of the LMSC Operations Manual dealing with officials was completed and posted online. The operations manual contains resources for LMSC Officials Chairs to use in recruiting, training, and certifying officials. We are continuing to evaluate the necessary processes for certification of officials through our LMSCs. The committee is in the process of reviewing officials tests which have specific questions dealing with masters rules and USMS rule references.



Officials Committee Meeting Agenda
Friday, September 17th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland J

1. Issues dealing with National Championship Officials
2. Certification of Officials
3. Issues dealing with LMSC Training and Education
4. “Burning Issues for Officials” from LMSC Officials Chairs in attendance

Open Water Committee

Lynn Hazlewood, Chair
Glenda Carroll, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Marcia Cleveland, Michael Collins, Suzanne Heim-Bowen, Laurie Hug, Frank Marcinkowski, Fred Piggott, Rick Walker, Jim Wheeler. *Ex-Officio:* Heather Hagadorn, Long Distance Chair; Dave Diehl, Executive Committee Liaison; Mark Gill, Executive Director Liaison.

Introduction:

The Open Water committee is a brand new committee in 2010. Our charge is to "promote the development of and participation in open water swimming (2010 Rule Book, pg 85)." Much of this year has been spent brainstorming and developing ideas that will eventually become projects for open water development. Our plate is very full and includes open water swimmer development, coach development, event development, educational resources, infrastructure and a variety of projects in partnership with national office staff.

Action Items:

1. The committee decided to work on re-branding USMS open water by developing an open water logo, treating open water as a unique sport, and developing projects with visibility as well as value.
2. Put in a budget request for seed money to initiate swimmer development programs in 2011.
3. Put in a budget request to fund bright, neon caps for use by sanctioned open water events.
4. **MSA**—To request that USMS provide financial resources to engage a staff member dedicated to open water development.
5. **MSA**—That the OW committee put an open water sanction legislation proposal forward to the Legislation committee.
6. Decided to do an Open Water Safety workshop at convention with Jim Wheeler as presenter.
7. Decided to create new open water safety guidelines for the 2011 open water season.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention:

1. **Swimmer development:** Swimmer development, as a means of creating member benefits, is a critical part of an open water development plan that drives membership. Member benefits can be created through training opportunities that include clinics, training camps and training programs. A budget request was submitted to provide seed money for swimmer development in 2011.
2. **Coach development:** Coach development is being handled by the Coach and Club Services division and the coaches committee. The committee would like to see USMS develop club training programs aimed at providing open water training during regular practices.
3. **Event development:** Event development is aimed at providing a wide variety of opportunities for our swimmers to participate in USMS sanctioned events. The initial projects in process include:
 - a. Providing a complete and up-to-date early listing of sanctioned OW events and clinics, including event and/or clinic series. Glenda Carroll is consulting with LMSCs to encourage them to get their events listed on the USMS calendar.



- b. National Swimmer Ranking and Awards System: A rule has been proposed to set up a national ranking system based on points earned in competition. The committee will be working with the LD committee on the definition of the system. We hope to collect data from 2010 open water events to test various concepts after the open water season is completed. An event results database will be necessary for full implementation.
 - c. OW officiating standards: Fred Piggott is working on a proposal for officiating standards for open water.
 - d. Open water safety: The committee is working on new open water safety guidelines to be ready for the 2011 season. This document will be the focus of the Friday meeting at convention. The committee will also be providing an open water safety workshop with Jim Wheeler as presenter.
4. **Educational resources:** For this year, the current set of open water manuals will be updated by the Long Distance committee members who have maintained these manuals in the past. The one exception is the safety information mentioned above. A complete revision of all educational documents will be pursued after we see the direction taken for information services on usms.org.
5. **Infrastructure:**
- a. Rules: The OW chair, as *ex officio* to the LD committee, worked this year with the LD rules subcommittee on changes to the open water rules. We hope these changes will result in more options and freedom for event hosts to craft events that are attractive for a wider audience of open water swimmers.
 - b. Sanctions: The committee forwarded a proposal to the Legislation that contains a revision of the open water sanctioning processes. The proposal provides a separate sanction section for open water in Part 2 of the rule book and requires national open water sanction requirements that provide consistency and uniformity for all of USMS. The LMSCs would continue to sanction and manage events. The BOD reviewed the proposal and asked the OW committee to create the sanction requirements process. Glenda Carroll is consulting with LMSCs about their sanctioning processes to develop the first draft.
6. **National Office partnership:** Part of the charge for the open water committee includes "working with the Executive Director to identify opportunities to promote USMS through open water swimming (*2010 Rule Book, pg 85*)." Some of the notable activities in this partnership includes:
- a. Recruitment of major independent events: Rob Butcher and Mark Gill engaged in discussions for nearly a year with major independent events to recruit them as sanctioned events. As a result of these discussions we found that some of these events are interested in being sanctioned. We also learned what problems we have to address in order to recruit successfully. The first step was taken with the sanction proposal mentioned above.
 - b. Swim Caps program: As a result of discussions held between members of LD and OW committees, staff and Ed Tsuzuki, a request has been put in the open water budget to fund 7500 caps with a USMS open water logo for use at open water sanctioned events. National office staff will manage the caps program.
 - c. Open water staff: During its July meetings, the Board of Directors discussed dedicating resources to open water growth and development and said they would support a request for contracting dollars to engage a staff member dedicated to open water development, if it was OK with the OW committee. As a result, the committee **MSA**—To request that USMS provide financial resources to engage a staff member dedicated to open water development.
 - d. Editorial support: In 2010 we have experienced an unprecedented increase in marketing and promotion of open water, spearheaded by the National Office staff. Open water is now being fully covered in *SWIMMER*, *Streamlines* and on usms.org.
 - e. Technology support: This past year, the committee discussed the lack of needed technology support for open water and expect to continue to work with staff on resolving these problems.



Open Water Committee Meeting Agenda
Meeting #1 - Thursday, September 16th 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland K

1. Introductions
2. 2010 Review
3. Major projects discussion

Meeting #2 - Friday, September 17th 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Cumberland F

1. Remainder of work from previous meeting.
2. Open Water safety guidelines

Recognition & Awards Committee

Sally Ann Dillon, Chair
Hill Carrow, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Tom Boak, Norman Bower, Andrea Block, Dan and Edie Gruender, Margie Hutinger, Katherine Longwell, Hugh Moore, Son Nguyen, Walt Reid, Nancy Ridout, Gail Roper Kelly Sharitt, Bill Tingley and Robert Zeitner. Ed Tsuzuki is the committee's EC Liaison.

Introduction: The Recognition & Awards Committee (R&A) oversees all of the USMS Awards, even though other committees select some. We review and approve proposals for official USMS awards and maintain a history of award recipients. The 16-member committee includes numerous representatives from other committees.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. Nominations were submitted and selections made for four USMS awards.
 - a. **The 2010 Capt. Ransom Arthur M.D. Award recipient is Lynn Hazlewood** and she received her award at a Reston Masters club meeting in May. The other outstanding nominees were Jerry Clark, Lucy Johnson, and Kerry O'Brien.
 - b. The 2010 recipients of the **USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award**, the **USMS Club of the Year Award**, and the **June Krauser Communications Award** will be announced at the HOD meeting during the R&A Committee report.
2. The committee held a conference call in April and formed committees to work on various projects.
 - a. A new medallion design was selected for the Ransom Arthur Award, as the original medallion is no longer available. A 4-year supply of Ransom Arthur plaques was purchased at a significant savings.
 - b. A subcommittee revised the nomination form for the Club of the Year Award and has been at work determining ways to further acknowledge club excellence throughout U.S. Masters Swimming.
3. The R&A Committee will be presenting a workshop at convention this year titled: "Recognition of Volunteers at the Local Level". Sally has been polling LMSC leaders to gather information for the workshop. The purpose is to share what we know, stimulate discussion, and then prepare a packet of information that can be distributed to all LMSCs at a later date.
4. Another conference call will take place in July.

Action items:

See agenda



Recognition & Awards Committee Meeting Agenda

**Thursday, September 16th 3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Cumberland J**

1. “Pinning” of the 2010 Ransom J. Arthur recipient – Lynn Hazlewood
2. Chair’s report and review of the budget
3. Review of annual projects - awards that we coordinate
4. Reports from subcommittees
5. Report on ISHOF and IMSHOF
6. New Business – discuss changes to committee description for 2012 recommendation
7. Other business
8. Adjourn

Records & Tabulation Committee

**Chris Stevenson, Chair
Emmet Hines, Vice Chair**

Committee Members

Will Amos, Vicki Buccino, Cav Cavanaugh, Barbara Dunbar, Laszlo Eger, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Donna Hooe, Nicole Pendleton, Walt Reid (USMS Records Administrator), Jeanne Siedler, Mary Sweat, Mary Beth Windrath (National Swims Administrator), Ed Tsuzuki (ex-officio).

Introduction

The charge of the Records and Tabulation Committee is to create and maintain “a standardized process of recording and verifying times and shall publish the Top 10 times, All-American rosters and USMS national records annually for each course.” (Article 507.12). In addition to a chair and vice-chair, the committee includes the National Swims Administrator, who collects, verifies and compiles Top 10 submissions from the LMSCs, and the USMS Records Administrator, who collects and verifies record applications and maintains the USMS records.

The committee works closely with the USMS Webmaster & IT Director for the publication of Top 10 lists and USMS Records, and to simplify and automate the compilation and verification of all swim performances.

Discussions and projects since the last convention

1. For the past year, the Records Administrator and Swims Administrator continued their customary roles of verifying, compiling and verifying USMS Records and Top 10 Swims, respectively. The committee chair published the list of Top 10 swims and All-Americans on the USMS website.
2. The committee updated the Guide to Operations for 2010.
3. Committee business was taken up during three conference calls (Mar 14, May 30, June 27) and electronically through email and the restricted Records and Tabulation forum that has been set aside for this purpose. The committee forum is useful as an ongoing record of the business, intentions and reasoning of the committee as it tackles various issues, and its use was encouraged this year. Meeting agendas and minutes are stored in various threads on the R&T Forum. Once approved, committee meeting minutes are also stored at <http://www.usms.org/admin/minutes/>.
4. The Records and Tabulations Committee Resources web page (also known as the “Records and Tabulation Knowledge Center”) was moved to the USMS site by Jim Matysek; the URL is <http://www.usms.org/~rectabs/>. This site is available to the public through a link (under the title “Top 10 Knowledge Center”) in the Guide to Operations (GTO) section of the Administration tab on the USMS home page. Chris Stevenson now maintains the website.
 - Though most of the website is public, some portions are restricted to committee members.
 - There was an extended discussion about the role that this website should play in the future. Jim Matysek feels strongly that all of the information currently on the site should be available in other sections of the USMS site. His recommendation is to put everything that needs to be public in the



- GTO, committee resources/discussions in its private committee forum, and web tool help documents in the tools area. Implementing this plan would require careful planning and organizing/revising of the R&T section of the GTO.
5. Currently, Top 10 times are available on the USMS website at <http://www.usms.org/comp/tt/>. This page allows one to display the Top 10 times. However, it is not attractively formatted for printing and only a single age group can be displayed at one time. For several years, USMS has sold formatted booklets of the Top 10 times for each course.
 - The committee voted to begin offering this booklet as a free download from the USMS website. A link to the Top 10 times (as a PDF file) would be made available to any visitor to USMS. If a person is willing to print the entire file, then there is now no cost to have a formatted hardcopy of the Top 10 times for any course.
 - The committee also voted to continue to offer formatted printed Top 10 booklets for sale if a person wanted to order them from the national office. We approved a price of \$10 per copy, and a subscription rate of \$25 for one copy for each of the three courses.
 - The number of orders for printed/formatted copies of the Top 10 booklet has been low. The committee wondered if that is because it is not widely known that members can order them. We recommended that the ability to order these booklets be advertised both on the USMS website and in *SWIMMER* magazine. Jim Matysek and Laura Hamel agreed to this.
 - The committee voted to continue to provide one free copy to the National Swims Administrator and the USMS Record Administrator, as well as providing one copy to History and Archives for archival purposes.
 6. At the time of the last convention, only Top 10 data from 1993 were published on the USMS website. John Baumann and Barbara Dunbar finished compiling the pre-1993 Top 10 data – a herculean task – and Chris Stevenson helped get the data in a format that Jim Matysek could accept. Jim has uploaded the data to the USMS site and it is now available publicly.
 7. The committee continues to monitor the status of the E2EEM project. Several committee members are on the E2EEM Task Force, and many are on the test pilot group to submit meet results through the web tools. The chair sent out an email to all pilot group members to send their suggestions (and bug reports) to him. The committee maintains a prioritized list of fixes and necessary improvements to the “results” side of E2EEM.
 8. The committee feels that all Top 10 recorders should have access to the latest version of HyTek’s Meet Manager software. Not all LMSCs will purchase the software for their recorders, but in the past HyTek has been willing to provide – for free – a disabled version of the software (it cannot be used to run meets) to Top 10 recorders who request it. But not all recorders are aware that this is possible; the committee has asked Ed to work with the national office to formalize a blanket deal for all recorders in USMS, if needed.
 9. The Record Application form has been modified so that the Meet Referee specifically attests that a “Legal Swim Suit” was used in setting a record (item #16 on the application form). This is for consistency with the FINA form, so that the same form can be used to apply for both USMS and FINA records. The new Record Application form has been uploaded to the USMS website (accessible in the Records and Tabulation section of the Guide to Operations) and will be included in the next Rule Book.
 10. The committee has approved a “Declaration of Intent” form for dual-sanction meets. The purpose is to have a swimmer declare his/her intent to swim as a USMS-member *before* the meet. One copy goes to the meet director and one to the Top 10 Recorder of the host LMSC.

In USA-S meets, it is the responsibility of the swimmer to ensure proper pool length certification, and to make the Top 10 recorder aware of the meet results so that they can be submitted for Top 10 consideration. But in USMS meets, the recorder must verify the length and presumably is aware (through the sanctioning process) of the existence of the meet and will work with the meet director to secure a copy of the results. The committee feels it is important that the recorder be alerted of USMS swimmers in dual sanction meets since there may be a greater likelihood of them “slipping through the cracks” in the submission process. Also, in the event of a world-record-breaking performance, it is important that swimmers who are registered in both USA-S and USMS declare their “allegiance” before the meet.



The Declaration of Intent form is currently available online in the Sanctions section of the Guide to Operations.

11. The committee feels that there needs to be a deadline for applications for USMS records. There are incomplete applications that languish for years. In some cases, a record is verified long after it was accomplished. The committee feels this is unfair to the Records Administrator and to swimmers whose apparent records may be invalidated by swims recorded in seasons that have long been completed. A deadline of 60 days from the time of the swim is in effect for FINA records. The committee thinks this is too strict for USMS records, since many record-breaking swims are not discovered until the Top 10 submission process at the end of the season. The committee proposed a rule change to **Article 105.3.8** to impose a 90-day deadline from the end of each season. This allows 30 days to discover the potential record, and 60 days to submit the supporting documentation.
12. The committee voted to allow swimmers more time to submit certain split requests, and to allow them to be submitted to the Top 10 Recorder instead of the meet referee. The committee proposed changes in **Articles 105.2.2B** and **103.13.1B** to allow this. The committee felt that, while requests for backstroke splits and relay leadoffs must be submitted prior to the swim, there was no major reason we couldn't be a little more flexible for other split requests. Under the proposed rule changes, split requests for non-backstroke individual events can still be made as before, but they can also be made up to 30 days after the meet, or until the end of the season, whichever comes first. Such requests would be submitted to the Top 10 Recorder of the meet-host LMSC; contact information (eg an email address) should probably be provided to competitors in the meet information sheet.
13. The committee proposed a modification to **Article 105.2.2**. The purpose of this amendment is to clarify that split times from non-conforming events will be accepted, as long as the split itself is a conforming event. A "conforming event" is defined as one that is listed in **Article 102.5**. This practice is already allowed under **Article 202.1.1F(3)**, so the proposed amendment is for clarity and consistency.

Records & Tabulation Committee Meeting Agenda

Friday, September 17th 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Cumberland E

1. Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
3. Ongoing business: status reports
 - a. E2EEM
 - b. Record application form: club affiliation
 - c. Other ongoing projects/business
4. New business
 - a. USMS Records.
 - i. Should the "official" USMS Records be updated more often than annually (ie, in the Rule Book)? Once a record-breaking swim has been verified and accepted, should it become the "official" record right there and then? How and how often should the downloadable HyTek record files (the INAT and RNAT files) be updated?
 - ii. Should a person who breaks the last published record get a certificate even if a newer record has been validated before the swim?
 - b. Helping Top 10 Recorders.
 - i. Mentoring program?
 - ii. Communication (email, forum thread, others?)
 - iii. Documents and instructions. Eliminate the Knowledge Center page, as Jim strongly recommends? What information should be available to Top 10 Recorders, and where should it be? FAQs and other documents.
 - c. E2EEM Future
 - i. Adding new people to the pilot group. What are the issues? How to fix any problems?



- ii. What is the best way to manage the data stream? Issues of accuracy, ease and increasing submissions to the Meet Results Database.

Registration Committee

George Simon – Chair

Leo Letendre – Vice Chair

Committee Members – William Bearden, Ken Cooper, Susan Ehringer, Tracy Grilli, Emmett Hines, Arni Litt, Pamela Ogden, Nancy Ridout, Greg Weber, Esther Lyman (Ex O), Anna Lea Matysek (Ex O), Michael Heather (EC)

A subset of the registration committee meets with Club Assistant via teleconference every other week to discuss resolutions of reported problems as well as enhancements to the registration web application. The same subset tests the changes on the test server, and the LMSC coordinator from the National Office notifies registrars of changes and their implementation dates.

In March, the registration committee met via internet email communications to discuss the following three issues:

1) Rule book item 201.3.6 states: /All applications for changes of membership (including transfers) must be accompanied by a reasonable fee to be determined by USMS and the LMSC for which the swimmer will register for change of membership/.

The discussion centered around the fact that with the current software application, changes within an LMSC can be done with or without a fee being charged, and what should be the process for these changes. It was felt that due to the newbie swimmer perhaps being confused by the club and/or workout groups where used, the newbie swimmer can be confused on initial registration, therefore the LMSC should make the determination if the newbie swimmer should be charged for changes within the LMSC (this is currently the process among some LMSCs). Also resulting from this discussion, it was felt that there should be no charge for the swimmer to change from a club to UNAT status, although some LMSCs do charge for this change, even though a swimmer can declare UNAT at any time. Club Assistant has been asked, but not yet implemented, to allow a swimmer who currently can change their registration addresses, to be able to change the club to UNAT, but not vice versa. This, if implemented, would impact those LMSCs that charge a fee to change a swimmer to UNAT. In 2009 in all of USMS there were a total of 400 transfers. By not charging a fee to change from a club to Unattached will not be a big dollar impact to USMS and/or the LMSC. The goodwill and convenience to the swimmer is far more valuable.

For the 2010 registration year, there were 24 registrations where the swimmer was confused and registered online in the incorrect LMSC, and when contacted, an LMSC move is processed to move the swimmer to the new LMSC, usually by direct request from the swimmer or LMSC registrar to the USMS Membership coordinator. The fees paid to the original LMSC are moved to the new LMSC, and if extra or excessive fees between the LMSCs exist, it is the responsibility of the receiving registrar to handle. There are no statistics on errors within LMSCs of club selection or UNAT errors.

2) There are many changes of the registrar within LMSCs, and there is no effective way to adequately train a new registrar unless the retiring registrar takes the time to do an orderly transition, and in many cases, the retiring registrar is also not a seasoned registrar. With less than 20% of the registrations being in a paper form, many of the new as well as seasoned registrar make errors on entering the registrations, even though a tutorial exists on how to correct errors.

Currently the National Office LMSC liaison is updating the tutorial to the current screens, sending helpful tips to all registrars, and Club Assistant has and will implement some minor changes that should reduce errors created by the registrar handling paper registrations (i.e., making it obvious that a registrar is registering a swimmer, not doing an update, requiring an effective date of transfer to be entered, etc). Other members of the committee felt that if a



registrar requested assistance in learning the job, a mentor could be found, and teleconferences could be held to assist that registrar with assuming the new job.

3) Access of others than the LMSC registrar to the member and financial records. At convention, we have alluded and some say promised access to LMSC/club officers and/or meet directors to have access to the member records. The committee strongly recommended that this be a priority item, with a read only access to the member's record and monthly financial summaries. The subcommittee is working with Club Assistant on how to implement and how to give the appropriate LMSC/club officers and/or meet directors the read only access. If completed and tested by convention, the Registration Workshop will demonstrate the new functions.

Registration Committee Meeting Agenda

Friday, September 17th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cumberland G

1. Discussion and demonstrations of item 3 (in above report)
2. Discussion of One Event Registrations at USMS National Meets

Rules Committee

Katherine Casey – Chair

Kris Wingenroth – Vice Chair

Committee Members: Carolyn Boak, Peggy Buchanan, Kathrine Casey, Sally Ann Dillon, Maria Elias-Williams, Barry Fasbender, Judy Gilles, Laura Groselle, Leon Kief, Cathy Kohn, Leo Letendre, Ginny Miller, Jessica Seaton, Kelly Sharitt, Frank (Skip) Thompson, William Tingley, Kris Wingenroth; Charlie Cockrell (Ex-officio), Susan Ehringer (Ex-officio), Sean Fitzgerald (Ex-officio), Mike Heather, (Ex-officio), Bruce Stratton (Ex-officio)

Opening paragraph:

This is a rules year, so proposed changes to the Glossary and Part 1 are being considered by the Committee for recommendation to the House of Delegates at Convention. Proposed changes recommended by the Committee require a majority vote of the House of Delegates to pass. Proposed changes not recommended by the Committee require a two-thirds vote to pass. Proposed changes submitted to the Committee after the July 10 deadline by a standing committee require a nine-tenths vote to pass if the Committee determines that they are emergency amendments that can be considered by the House of Delegates. The Committee will also make recommendations to the delegates on amendments approved by USA Swimming. There are nine USA-S proposed amendments that could impact USMS rules.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. Proofread the 2010 rule book for the correct insertion of:
 - A. adopted USMS amendments
 - B. USA-S approved amendments that were adopted by USMS
 - C. corrections to the rule book that were reported throughout the year
 - D. additions to the index
2. Updated the “Differences” documents for Appendix B in the 2010 rule book (USA-S, NCAA, FINA, and NFHS rules differences) and submitted the USMS/USA-S rules differences to USA Swimming for their rule book.
3. Updated the Convention section of the Guide to Operations.
4. Submitted the USMS recommendation on swimwear to United States Aquatic Sports for approval and submission to the FINA Masters Technical Committee for consideration prior to the FINA decision on Masters swimwear rules.



5. The chair attended the “Our Kids Initiative” (OKI) meeting in Indianapolis in October, shared a comparison of swimwear rules among all the swimming governing bodies, and reviewed the USMS rules included in the OKI comparison of rules for all swimming governing bodies.
6. The Committee issued new USMS swimwear rules in January (see 7C below) following the FINA announcement of new Masters swimwear rules, also in January.
7. Answered all questions about rules including the following:
 - A. There is no 15-meter rule for breaststroke. The head must break the surface before the hands turn inward at the widest part of the second stroke.
 - B. Only one breaststroke kick per arm pull is allowed in butterfly.
 - C. New swimwear rules for pool competition are: for USMS sanctioned and recognized competition, a swimmer must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. For men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.
 - D. A swimmer is not required to remove a medic alert bracelet for competition.
 - E. Time trials cannot be added to a meet that is already in progress.
 - F. Combined events cannot be called “Open” or “Choice” or any other such generic name. They must be named as events that are listed in article 102.5. Events of the same distance 200 yards or longer may be combined, but if the meet is to be seeded with combined events, the meet information must state that and list the event by the distance and list the choices of stroke (e.g., free, back, breast, fly, IM) on the meet entry.
8. Published columns in *Streamlines* for all members, for coaches, and for volunteers that address the most frequently asked questions about rules.
9. Reviewed the Glossary and Part 1 and compared USA Swimming’s articles 101, 102, and 105 with the corresponding USMS articles for potential proposed amendments.
10. Provided a Rules Liaison at National Championship meets to assist with rules questions and rules interpretations on site at those meets.
11. The chair attended the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee meeting in June.
12. Assisted LMSCs and committees with proposed rule changes.
13. Clarified that the new USMS swimwear rules are already in compliance with the recent swimwear bylaw amendment passed by FINA for Masters swimwear rules.

Action items:

- A. Following the announcement of new FINA Masters swimwear rules in January, the committee approved new swimwear rules for USMS sanctioned and recognized pool competition and submitted them to the Executive Committee for final approval. Following is the new swimwear language:

102.14.2 Swimwear shall include only a swimsuit, cap and goggles (a nose clip and ear plugs are allowed). Arm bands or leg bands shall not be regarded as parts of the swimsuit and are not allowed.

102.14.3 In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. Except for open water competitions, for men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.

102.14.4 Only swimsuits complying with FINA swimsuit specifications may be worn in any USMS sanctioned or recognized competition.



102.14.5 Exemptions to the foregoing restrictions may be granted to a swimmer, on a case by case basis, by the Chair of the Rules Committee or designee. Exemptions will be granted only for conflicts due to the swimmer's verified religious beliefs or verified medical conditions.

A Procedures for applying for an exemption will be established by the Rules Committee and posted on the US Masters Swimming website.

B No exemption to these restrictions will be granted for a swimsuit that will give the swimmer a competitive advantage.

C The decision of the Rules Chair may be appealed only to the entire Rules Committee whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

B. The committee considered the butterfly recovery interpretation issued by USA Swimming on June 7. The committee **approved that interpretation for USMS competition with additional explanations.**

C. The committee **approved the submission of two proposed changes to the Legislation Committee and one proposed change to the Long Distance Rules Committee.**

Rules Committee Meeting Agenda

**Meeting #1 - Thursday, September 16th 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland G**

1. Consider proposed amendments to the rules and make recommendations to the House of Delegates.
2. Review the 2011 budget and 2010 expenditures.
3. Review and approve final language of procedures for swimwear exemptions.

**Meeting #2 - Thursday, September 16th 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Cumberland G**

1. Consider proposed amendments to the rules and make recommendations to the House of Delegates.

Rules Forum

**Friday, September 17th 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Reunion Ball Room F**

1: the committee will hear input from delegates about proposed rule changes (meeting is unopposed by other meetings).

**Meeting #3 - Friday, September 17th, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Cumberland G**

1. Consider proposed amendments to the rules and make recommendations to the House of Delegates.

**Meeting #4 - Friday, September 17th 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Cumberland G**

1. Consider proposed amendments to the rules and make recommendations to the House of Delegates.



**Meeting #5 - Saturday, September 18th 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Reverchon**

1. Consider proposed amendments to the rules and make recommendations to the House of Delegates.
2. Review proposed tasks for 2011: Proofread rule book, update Differences documents, review Parts 2 through 6, review FINA rules, develop situations manual or data base of frequently asked rules questions and/or common rules problems, collect a history of proposed rule changes.

Meeting #7 - Saturday, September 18th (TBA during the House of Delegates meeting)

1. Consider USA Swimming amendments as approved by the USA Swimming House of Delegates and make recommendations to the U.S.M.S. House of Delegates.

Sports Medicine and Science Committee

Jane Moore – Chair

Jessica Seaton – Vice Chair

Members: Malcolm Cooper, Nan Destafney, Steven Erickson, Laura Groselle, Sally Guthrie, Kristen Heath, Jane Katz, Jim Miller, Mary Pohlmann, Nadine Day (Ex O)

The committee has had two conference calls since 2009 convention meeting.

Ongoing projects include:

1. schedule presentations on sports medicine/science topics for national championship meets and convention;
2. distribute medical/science related questions to members of the health network for responses;
3. write or review articles for USMS publications as requested by the editor;
4. review research proposals requesting grant funding from the endowment fund as needed.

We have begun to collect information to evaluate the need for education and/or policy development related to epidemic illness at national championship meets, performance enhancing drug use, and use/misuse of prescription medications.

Finally, we plan to develop a series of educational pieces for coaches and swimmers to increase awareness of potentially life-threatening medical conditions and describe prevention, warning signs, and need for evaluation and treatment of those conditions.

Sports Medicine and Science Committee Meeting Agenda

**Thursday, September 16th 3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Cumberland G**

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Approve June conference call minutes
3. Research Review
 - a. Reports on current projects
 - b. New proposals
4. Policy Development – Information Collection
 - a. Epidemic illness at National Championships – Mary Pohlmann
 - b. Performance Enhancing Drug Use/Sharing Medications – Steve Erickson
 - c. Cardiac Event Awareness – education campaign



5. Sports Medicine Lectures
 - a. Long Course Nationals – Laura Kessler Groselle
 - b. Convention – Steve Erickson
 - c. Future Plans
6. Rules Proposals – review any with science/medical aspects
7. Budget Proposal
8. Other
9. Next Call or Meeting
10. Adjourn

Breadbasket Zone **Marcia Anziano, Chair**

Introduction: Breadbasket Zone continues to deal with the issues of the vast geographic area. The zone meet was held in Minnesota and was a great meet for all that participated. An ongoing goal is to get all the existing websites linked together so that it is easier for swimmers to find other activities that occur within the zone. As of this report, Minnesota and Colorado do provide links to other web sites within the zone.

Breadbasket Zone Meeting Agenda **Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** **Cumberland G**

1. Encourage the LMSCs to keep the Places to Swim updated.
2. 2012 Summer Nationals may be held in Omaha in conjunction with Olympic Trials, discuss volunteer opportunities.
3. Awarding of the Zone Meet.
4. Discuss ways of promoting the meet within the zone
5. Ongoing discussion of communication within the zone

Colonies Zone **Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Chair** **Lisa Bennett, Vice Chair**

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

14. 2009 SCM Zone Championship held December 5-6, 2009, hosted by the Metropolitan LMSC
15. 2010 SCY Zone Championship held April 23-25, 2010, hosted by George Mason University Patriot Masters
16. Zone meeting held April 24, 2010
17. Bid solicitation for 2010 SCM and 2011 Zone Championship Meets (all 3 courses); bids due 8/31/10
18. Solicitation for nominations from all LMSCs for Colonies Dot Award (nominations due 8/15/10)

Action items:

1. Nominations for Colonies Dot Award and committee to review
2. Zone Championship bid collection and distribution for review



Colonies Zone Agenda

Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Cumberland F

1. Introductions
2. Approval of April 2010 meeting minutes
3. 2010 BOD Candidate
4. Presentation of 2010 Zone Dot Award
5. 2011 Zone Championship bids
6. Zone Championship Guide
7. New business
8. Adjourn

Dixie Zone

Debbie Cavanaugh, Chair

Introduction:

It has been a busy year within the Dixie Zone. A great big expression of thanks to the Georgia LMSC & Ed Saltzman for making SCY Nationals a big success. Next year will prove to be just as busy with Auburn hosting our summer nationals.

In the pool, our Zone meets are attracting more swimmers. Kudos to all of our hosts. Zone records, National & World Records have been broken this past year. Open water & fitness events are growing. Congratulations to all. As always a big THANK YOU!!!! Without the commitment from all our volunteers none of this would be possible. Barbara Protzman(newsletter), Ed Saltzman(records), Andy Dyer(top ten), & Jerry Clark(DZ At Large Director), year after year you continue to amaze me with the work you do for our zone!

Action items:

1. Awarding of the Dixie Zone Championships for SCY, LCM, & SCM for 2011.
2. Approval of the At Large Dixie Zone Director

Dixie Zone Agenda

Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Cumberland C

1. Introductions
2. Financial Report
3. Approval-At Large DZ Director
4. Newsletter
5. Top Ten Times
6. Records
7. Top Ten Patches
8. Zone Meets
9. 2010 Calendar of Zone Meets
10. Old Business
11. New Business
12. Discussion of “Hot” Convention Topics
13. Adjourn



Great Lakes Zone
Mike Lemke, Chair

GLOWS SERIES

The GLOWS series (Great Lakes Open Water Series), our first attempt at an open water Zone event was proposed and discussed last year and is under way. At least two of the events have been completed, Pittsburgh and Michigan are in and Indiana's comes up this weekend. First reports are very positive, and we will hear the rest by convention.

LMSC REPORTS

The LMSCs have all deferred their report to the meeting.

Great Lakes Zone Agenda
Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Cumberland B

1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes
3. LMSC reports
4. Old Business
5. GLOWS update (Marcia Cleveland)
6. New Business
7. Election of new Zone Chair

Northwest Zone
Wes Edwards, Chair

Committee Members: Wes Edwards, Paige Buehler, Dennis Tesch, Jody Welborn, Donn Livoni, Steve Petersen, Paula Moores, Ron Larson, Sara Welch, Hugh Moore.

Introduction: 2009-2010 was a good year for the Northwest Zone in terms of membership growth. 200 additional USMS members were added to the Zone between June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2010, reflecting a 6% increase in Zone membership, slightly ahead of the national average of 5.5%. Snake River led the way with a whopping 45% increase in membership. While there were many opportunities to compete in LMSC-sponsored meets and open water events during the year, the Zone was unable to secure bids for SCM and SCY championship meets during the year, resulting in just one NW Zone Championship meet – the LCM meet hosted by Pacific Northwest LMSC in Port Orchard, WA.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. Zone Championship Meets
 - a. LCM – Port Orchard, WA July 10-11, 2010: 93 swimmers entered the meet, hosted by Pacific Northwest LMSC. Several Zone, National and World records were set.
 - b. No bids were received to host either a SCY or SCM Zone Meet this year.
2. Northwest Zone Policy: The Northwest Zone Policy was amended to reflect an increase in the Zone Surcharge on each LMSC member from .25 cents to .50 cents per member.
3. The Zone provided funding assistance to three delegates from smaller LMSCs to assist them in attending the USMS Convention in Dallas, TX (one each from Alaska, Inland NW and Snake River LMSCs).

Action items:

1. Select meet host for 2010 Zone SCM Championship Meet.
2. Discuss possible policy changes to encourage and solidify bids for all Zone Championship venues for 2011 and beyond.



3. Discuss possible policy changes related to the selection of candidates for small LMSC convention delegate funding.
4. Discuss and clarify changing role of Zone Chairs (formerly "Zone Reps") within USMS structure as it applies to the NW Zone.

Northwest Zone Agenda

**Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Cumberland H**

1. Introductions
2. Old Business
 - a. Proposed Zone policy changes.
 - b. 2010 Zone SCM Championship Meet update.
 - c. 2011 Zone SCY Championship Meet update.
 - d. Update on Zone Newsletter Editor.
 - e. Update on Zone teleconference calls.
3. New Business
 - a. Financial Report.
 - b. Impact of USMS policy changes on role of Zone Chair.
4. LMSC Reports
 - a. Alaska
 - b. Inland Northwest
 - c. Montana
 - d. Oregon
 - e. Pacific Northwest
 - f. Snake River
 - g. Utah
5. Adjourn

Oceana Zone

Joan Alexander, Chair

Introduction: Oceana Zone is comprised of two LMSCs, Pacific and Hawaii. As of July 14, 2010, Pacific has 9,971 members and 122 clubs, and is running 3% ahead of 2009. Hawaii has approximately 502 members, for a total of 10,432.

Pacific

Highlights of the past year: Pacific has hosted 3 Championship meets, along with SC Nationals, and has scheduled 21 pool events (9 SCY, 2 LCM, and 5 SCM); 2 postal swims; 1 training camp; 19 open water swims along with Open Water 101 for beginners and Open Water 201 for intermediate and advanced swimmers (each will limit the number of participants to 50). Glenda Carroll has been named Vice Chair of the USMS Open Water Committee. Pacific has named Rich Burns and Laura Val 'Swimmer of the Year'. Long time member, Richard Smith turned 90. Way to go Richard! Other important events: Pacific will be sending 22 delegates and 6 automatic delegates to 2010 Convention in Dallas, TX; almost all of the pools have been measured to meet the standards set.

Oceana Zone Agenda

**Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Cumberland D**

1. Introductions
2. Reports from Coaches, LMSCs, Legislation, etc.
3. Rules discussion
4. Adjournment



South Central Zone

Jill Gellatly, Chair

Committee Members: Representatives from each LMSC attending 2009 convention

Discussions and projects since the last convention: During the year, a Short Course Championship was hosted by Gulf LMSC (Woodlands Masters) and the Long Course Championship was hosted by the North Texas LMSC.

South Central Zone Agenda

Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Cumberland A

1. Introductions- Introduce attendees by name, LMSC, Position Held at LMSC
2. LMSC Reports
3. Old Business
 - a. Maintenance of Zone Records/Relay Records
 - b. Discussion of SCM Championship
4. New Business
 - a. Calendar of Events for 2011
 - i. Zone Meet Bid SC
 1. South Texas/Border In-Rotation
 - ii. Zone Meet Bid LC
 1. Gulf/Arkansas In-Rotation
 - b. Questions/Open Discussion/Concerns
 - i. Convention Hot Topics
 - ii. Other
5. Adjourn

Southwest Zone

Mary Hull, Chair

Introduction: The Southwest Zone includes Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego-Imperial, and Southern Pacific. These LMSC's have all hosted meets and there have been some ocean swims as well.

Southwest Zone Agenda

Thursday, September 16th 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Cumberland E

1. Introductions
2. LMSC reports (Arizona, San Diego-Imperial, New Mexico, Southern Pacific)
3. Old Business
 - a. Zone Meets
 - b. Zone Open Water Series
4. New Business
5. Adjourn



Candidate for Board of Directors

Anthony Thompson– Breadbasket Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Anthony Thompson is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate is an incumbent and needed no nomination or letters of recommendation, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

San Diego 2003, Orlando 2004, Greensboro 2005, Dearborn 2006, Anaheim 2007, Atlanta 2008, and Chicago 2009.

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

Insert I am interested in continuing on the USMS BOD to serve its membership. With the election of officers and directors in consecutive years, USMS needs continuity by re-electing some directors since many of our current directors have reached term limits. I reside in a smaller LMSC in the Midwest with a diversity of community sizes spread over a large geography. The USMS BOD needs a diversity of membership from all regions of the country that bring experience from leadership within the LMSC, the Zones, and from USMS Committee, as well as from their professional lives.

In addition, I have served as the chair of the USMS International Committee and have an interested in how USMS interact with FINA and other international organization within the aquatics community. I have represented USMS through my club at four FINA World Championships as well as the recent PanAm UANA Championship in Mexico as well as other international aquatics events.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

- Providing leadership as USMS continued growth from +50,000 toward 100,000 members by acting with transparency, by seeking and being receptive to input from the membership, by leading with the vision of our organization into the future (and not just relying on our history).
- Changes in Governance – continued transformation to an organization with professional staff and national office while continuing to provide meaningful volunteer opportunity.
- Financial growth to support the organization as we transform and build our Endowment Fund.
- Continue initiatives to bring international visitors to USAS/USMS Convention to continue to build our relationships within the international community of masters swimmers.
- Succession Planning – within LMSCs, for USMS Committees, for Zone Chairs, and for the USMS BOD including the Executive Committee. Leadership development within all levels of this volunteer-based organization is key.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Safety & Education (Julie Heather) 2004-5; Rules (Leo Letendre and Kathy Casey) 2004-2007; International (Sandi Rousseau, Mary Pohlmann, Anthony Thompson, Wayne McCauley, and Lazslo Eger) 2004-2009; Zone Committee (Julie Heather) 2005-2008, and USMS BOD 2008-present, and BOD Governance Committee (Patty Miller 2008 and Anthony Thompson 2009-current), 2008-current.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

In my profession life I am an analytical chemist in a pharmaceutical company. My work involves the details in the regulation of the FDA, and requires strong analytical skills as well as project management. I have also been a lead member of committees to develop and implement training programs.

I have served on the board of directors of Kansas City Corporate Challenge (27-sport competition between corporations in KC metro over 7-weeks each summer, which includes a swim meet with 800 participants) with a focus on facilitating the 1200+ volunteers (from the 160+ company that participate) to smoothly operate these competitions.

USMS Convention Workshops – 2 years facilitated LMSC Chair workshop

USMS Convention – served as key contact for international visitors to USAS/USMS Convention.

Within our LMSC, I have served as:

- Missouri Valley LMSC Chair – 2003-2008
- Missouri Valley Fitness Chair – 1999-2003 and 2008-current
- Co-Meet director for local swim meets, including the Mizzou SCM Championship in Dec 2006 & Dec 2007.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

The USMS BOD needs a diversity of membership from all regions of the country that bring experience from leadership within the LMSC, the Zones and from their professional lives. I reside in a smaller LMSC in the Midwest with a diversity of community sizes spread over a large geography. USMS needs continuity by re-electing some directors since many of our current directors have reached term limits. In addition, I have served as the chair of the USMS International Committee and have an interest in how USMS interact with FINA and other international organization within the aquatics community. The key issues facing USMS are: continued transformation of organizational structure with a professional staff and national office, financial and membership growth, and leadership development for all levels of the organization for clubs, LMSC, Zones, USMS Committees and for USMS BOD.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Chris McGiffin – Colonies Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Chris McGiffin is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Ed Tsuzuki and received letters of recommendation from Debbie Morrin-Nordlund and Sue Kirk, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Attended 2005 - 2009 HOD Meetings

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I am interested in participating in the activities of the Board of Directors to help contribute to the fulfillment of the recent goals set by USMS - to continue to provide meaningful volunteer experiences, to grow membership, and to help pursue the targets of increasing the USMS Endowment. I believe that I bring the skills and experience necessary as a candidate to represent the Colonies Zone and actively participate in the strategic planning that will be crucial to achieving the objectives over the next two years.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

In my view, one of the biggest challenges the organization has is recruiting and retaining LMSC volunteers. We are just beginning to work through the changes associated with a transition to a staff-based National Governing Body. Having observed and participated in the governance initiatives that helped to streamline the organization, I feel that we need to be careful with the pace of changes expected to occur, and I would re-emphasize the message and rationale for change will likely require patience, an encouraging tone, and in some cases, direct assistance to help affect the changes expected.

The LMSC Minimum Standards adopted by the HOD last year, seeks to achieve a standard operational structure, and by extension, an ability for LMSC's to provide a common level of service to all members. I think we realize that compliance with the guidelines is a worthy objective, but I feel that USMS will need to help some LMSCs meet the minimum standards. The weakness seems to lie mainly in the realm of recruiting and retaining enthusiastic and energetic volunteers to fill required positions and lead their respective LMSCs toward fulfilling the other policies stipulated. This needs to be done in a manner that promotes positive reinforcement rather than a perception of imposing rules and risks of penalties for lack of immediate compliance. I do not wish to alienate the volunteers we have in place, who serve local members with passion and dedication. Rather, I recognize that each LMSC may progress



toward achieving the minimum standards at a different pace. I do not doubt that the will to meet the standards exists, but I feel that we need to engage the LMSCs who have compliance gaps individually in a way that fosters a strong working relationship with mutual benefits for all involved.

The transition to a professional staff-based organization from a mostly volunteer-run is still underway. I would work on solutions that focus on the objective of full LMSC compliance, but I would do so in a manner that best suits the circumstances of each LMSC, understanding that most face a shortage of volunteers, and that this shortage has a major influence on the ability to meet the minimum standards.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

USMS Legislation Committee member (under Rob Copeland and Sean Fitzgerald): 2005 - present USMS Marketing Committee member (under Tom Boyd): 2006-2007 USMS Marketing Committee Chair: 2008 - 2009
USMS LMSC Development Committee member: 2010

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

USMS Member since 1995: Berkeley Aquatic Masters, Berkeley Heights, NJ
National Top Ten finisher
LMSC Record holder
Planner for Annual Holiday Party
NJ LMSC Chair: 2004 - 2009
NJ LMSC Vice Chair: 2010

Facilitated LMSC bylaw updates
Implemented LMSC Membership Promotion Campaign
Developed an LMSC Membership Recognition Awards Program
Helped to create an Annual LMSC Awards Banquet
Led efforts to sanction the first LMSC Open Water event
Club Development Workshop: Mentor program (Dallas, TX) attendee/graduate

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

Chris McGiffin, candidate for At-Large Colonies Zone Director. USMS member since 1995, held volunteer and leadership positions at the Club, LMSC, and USMS organization levels. Committed to working with the USMS Board of Directors in promoting the organization's missions, objectives and goals to serve the USMS community.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Rowdy Gaines– Dixie Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Rowdy Gaines is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Keith M. Switzer and received letters of recommendation from Scot Weiss and Keith M. Switzer, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?



I like what I am publicly seeing from USMS and it's direction. I would like to contribute strategically and with my relationships in its continued growth.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

The organization is going through a culture change now with a staff in place and a headquarters. Marketing of the organization has become much more visible and I believe with my understanding of swimming and background, I can be of assistance.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

I have been the USA Swimming Representative for a number of years. I have attended 20+ Conventions.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

Chief Fundraising Officer of the USA Swimming Foundation; Executive Director of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, swim coach, three time Olympic gold medalist, NBC Olympic Games TV commentator. ESPN commentator, emcee for the International Swimming Hall of Fame, I participated in the Rowdy Gaines Master's Classic bringing back the once popular SCM meet to the Orlando YMCA Aquatic Center.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Over the last two decades, I have visited and met a number of Masters coaches and conducted clinics with them. I continue to be inspired by each person I meet.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

USMS has a great legacy and a terrific future. I look forward to helping the organization meet its objectives.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Phil Dodson – Great Lakes Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Phil Dodson is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Homer Lane and received letters of recommendation from Ralph Davis and Nadine Day, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Michigan -2006, Charlottesville -2007, Los Angeles -2008, Chicago -2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I am interested in the Board position because of my passion for Masters swimming and my belief that I can make a difference. I have been a self employed CPA, providing financial and management services to small business entrepreneurs since 1991. I will bring an entrepreneurial spirit with a fresh and unique perspective to this Board position. I am also currently engaged with 8 different non profit organizations, providing services ranging from accounting and tax return services to Board advisor and permanent part time CFO management. I am professionally qualified with both, a strong financial management background and a general business operating experience to serve on our policy-making body.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?



USMS continues to transition from an all volunteer managed organization to a professionally managed organization. It is important that the Board provide the support and vision to all levels of our organization and foster communication and interaction among them: Board, Delegates, Committees, Staff, Volunteers, LMSC's and Clubs.

As USMS continues to grow and strive for its membership goal of 100,000, it is important to remember the goal is not membership growth, rather increased value to the membership. We must not seek growth just for the sake of growth. We must ensure that the value to our core membership improves with our growth. This is especially true as the strategic plans calls for continued dues increases.

USMS is very strong financially. There is an opportunity and a goal to establish and grow a significant endowment fund. Such a Fund would be a major asset for the organization, providing financial support for membership programs and further secure its strong financial position.

As a Board member I will bring my professional business experience to manage policies and encourage procedures to:

- Encourage Board focus on policies, global issues and strategic initiatives, discourage micro management.
- Support, but question, monitor but not interfere, and provide guidance to our professional staff and committees.
- Improve financial reporting to the Board and educate the Board on interpreting financial results and acting thereon.
- Instill a need for cost benefit justifications for major USMS programs.
- Seek development of metrics and follow up procedures for evaluating programs' successes.
- Encourage Board focus on membership value. Use an entrepreneurial approach to develop membership initiatives in: member only web content, group disability and life insurance programs, expanded affinity programs, alliances with other fitness / athletic organizations, club and coach development, joint LMSC program initiatives and open water events.
- Support development of initiatives to create a significant endowment fund.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Finance Committee, 2007-current under Jeff Moxie, Ralph Davis and Homer Lane

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

- My first year on the Finance Committee (FC), I developed budget procedures that focused review on 95% of revenue and expense line items, significantly increasing the productivity of the FC at Convention and quality of its budget approval responsibility.
- I have been involved with the FC annual FOG review and revisions since 2007 culminating in the significant revision at 2009 Convention. This revision fully integrated FOG with the Strategic Plan to transition to a paid professional staff.
- I headed the FC task force to draft the Audit Committee Charter, which was presented and adopted by the Board in January 2010.
- I wrote and presented the Clubs and LMSC Accounting workshop at 2007 convention. The Club portion was updated in spring 2009 and used by Mel Goldstein in his Club Handbook.
- In December 09 and January 10, I worked with management to create a functional expense line item accounting format and rationalize our 115 cost center format reducing them to 37. Implementation is on going and expected to be adopted into our accounting system 1/1/2011.

LMSC Experience:

- I have been Finance Chair for five years and expect to be elected Treasurer effective May 1st. During this period I have improved accounting control procedures, prepared financial statements, tax returns and annual budgets.
- I have also guided the fiscal responsibility in ILSMA and reduced ILSMA dues so that total members' dues, including USMS, have only increased \$2 in the last four years!
- In January 2010, I drafted and implemented an investment policy for ILSMA excess reserve funds.

Please list any other information you would like included.

I am 57 years old, married 30 years with three children, 25, 23 and 21. The two oldest are part time LAX coaches and my youngest in college studying to be a teacher. Besides my passion for swimming, as a 4 time cancer survivor I also enjoy living. I have adopted the Swim Across America cancer awareness and fund raising efforts in Chicago as a personal mission to battle this disease. I have organized the largest fund raising team in Chicago, both by participation and dollars raised and personally been the #1 or #2 individual fund raiser in Chicago for the last 5 years.

I have 34 years experience in accounting and financial management. My career experience ranges from working for public accounting, a fortune 500 manufacturing corporation to company start-ups and entrepreneurial businesses. I have been self employed since 1991, with a focus on small businesses. However, my very first client was a non profit, with the same revenue as USMS. Today I still provide them accounting and tax services, meeting with and advising the Board monthly.

I work with several small business owners. While I primarily provide tax and accounting services to them, they value me most as a business advisor. These entrepreneurs have a unique perspective on business and strategic thinking. I have learned a lot from my clients over the years. I look forward to bringing my accounting discipline and entrepreneurial spirit to the Board of USMS.

As a self employed individual, I have the flexibility to commit the time required to involve myself. As an individual driven and motivated to excel, I can make a difference.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am interested in the Board position because of my passion for Masters swimming and my belief that I can make a difference. I have 34 years of business experience working with both small business entrepreneurs and non profit organizations, an interesting and unique combination. There are major, but achievable challenges facing USMS: transitioning to a paid professional staff, managing membership



growth to increase value to core members and strengthening our financial position with an endowment fund initiative. I bring the experience and discipline to serve on our policy-making body to face these challenges.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Hugh Moore– Northwest Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Hugh Moore is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Jeanne Ensigh and received letters of recommendation from Jeanne Ensigh and Kathy Casey, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

All HOD Meetings 1985-2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have been involved with Masters swimming administration for nearly 30 years and am continually looking for ways to serve USMS. I feel that my organizational and communication skills make me an excellent candidate. I also believe that my broad experience at team, LMSC, and national levels enables me to appreciate the diversity of our LMSCs, clubs, and individual members.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

USMS is poised for significant membership and fiscal growth. Future boards must work with our national office staff and ensure that the 11% growth that we enjoyed in 2009 continues. The current board has created a task force to “explore what to do with workout groups.” This is certainly a step in the right direction. Workout groups have been in existence since the beginning of Masters swimming. They provide unique opportunities for camaraderie. However, they also sometimes provide potential unfair advantages for creating relays. I believe that it is time for USMS to create a task force to address fairness issues in competition, including workout groups, but expanded to consider other issues such as recruiting and verifying that meets are properly officiated. If we had such a committee in the past they could have also dealt with tech suits.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

- Member Recognition and Awards Committee 2009-present (Sally Dillon, Chair)
- Member LMSC Development Committee 2009-present (Doug Adamavich, Chair)
- Chair Communications Committee, 2000-2009 (Lynn Hazlewood & Mark Gill EC liaison)
- Member Championship Committee, 2007-2009 (Mark Moore, Chair)
- Member, Editorial Board, 2004-2005 (Lynn Hazlewood, Chair)
- Member ad hoc History and Archives Committee 1999-2001 (Carl House Chair)
- Chair Zone Committee 1997-2000
- Member, USMS Executive Committee 1997-2000 (Nancy Ridout President)
- Chair ad hoc Professional Management Committee 1998-2000 (Nancy Ridout EC liaison)
- Chair Officials Committee 1993 – 1997 (Suzanne Rague EC Liaison)
- Chair Planning Committee 1991 – 1992

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

My involvement at the team level as president of a 100+ member team, LMSC level as board member for over 25 years, Meet Director for four national championship swim meets, and USMS level as delegate for 25 years, has provided me with a thorough understanding of issues that face USMS, LMSCs, clubs, and individual members.



Please list any other information you would like included.

Swimming has been a major part of my life for over 45 years. I have continually served my team, LMSC, and USMS for nearly 30 years. In recognition of my efforts I have received the Pacific Northwest Distinguished Service Award (1998), National Championship Meet Award (2001), and Ransom Arthur Award (2002).

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

USMS is poised for significant membership and fiscal growth. Our Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and National Office Staff must work together to ensure that USMS continues to be a leader among adult fitness organizations.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Jim Clemmons– Oceana Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Jim Clemmons is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Michael Moore and received letters of recommendation from Brian Stack and Nancy Ridout, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Greensboro, NC 2005, Anaheim, CA 2007, Atlanta, GA 2008, Chicago, IL 2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I enjoy interacting with all the different personality types which are drawn to swimming, whether it is with the competitive or totally non-competitive swimmer, the fitness and/or “just there for the social aspect part of it” swimmer, the pool swimmer, the open water swimmer or the triathlete. I am interested in representing the Oceana Zone’s many faceted types, their interests, and as I am very much a goal oriented person, I believe I will be helpful with achieving USMS organizational goals going forward.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

I believe USMS is undergoing some growing pains. Nothing serious, nothing that will lead to organizational collapse, but, as we are continuing to transition from a volunteer based organization to a business with a paid leadership staff, we have some hurdles to overcome with some elements of the general membership. Attention must be paid to the varying levels of participation types, whether or not it fits into personal goals, aiming for the success of the organization as a whole.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Coaches Committee, Bob Bruce, Mo Chambers, Chris Colburn chair, dates: 2006, 2007 and 2008
Finance Committee, Ralph Davis chair, dates: 2008 and 2009
Championship Committee, Jeff Roddin chair, dates: 2010, currently serving

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

- Vice-Chair, Operations, Pacific LMSC
- Board of Directors member on team that I have been swimming with for the past 11 years, Manatee Aquatic Masters, Inc. The MAM team consists of approximately 250 swimmers with a relatively typical breakdown of participation levels with normal swimming related issues and challenges to contend with.
- Operations Manager for a large US defense contractor. Duties include oversight of Facilities, EH&S and Security functions for offices located in California, New Mexico and Colorado.



Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I believe that USMS has many great things to offer all swimmers. I also believe that, sometimes, people tend to focus on areas that are more beneficial to themselves, or a select group, and not the parent organization as a whole. I believe that by being more involved, I will be able to assist in helping grow our membership and lend support to ideas that will continue the current trend towards a healthy future. We are currently experiencing significant changes within the organization and it is imperative we communicate anticipated changes to the membership as far in advance as practical. I look forward to working with others to meet these goals.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Errol Graham – Southwest Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Errol Graham is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Michael Heather and received letters of recommendation from Jessica W. Seaton and Michael Heather, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

I have attended HOD meetings at more than 12 conventions starting in 1996.

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have been elected and have also volunteered for various positions on many boards and committees over the years for my club, my LMSC, and for USMS, and I think my experience and perspective would be an asset to USMS in this position.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

I believe that the major issues are the growth of the organization and the biggest challenge is to provide services to all members of USMS. I think that we should offer surveys to our members to find out if they are satisfied with what they are getting from USMS and also give them an opportunity to let us know what more we can do for them.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

I was a member of the Championship Committee for many years under Barry Fassbender and Mark Moore. I was also a member of the Recognition & Awards Committee under Kelly Crandell in 2006 and 2007.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

I have served my club as President, Vice-President, Swimming Representative, and Treasurer, and I have also served my LMSC as Vice-Chair and Member-at-Large.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

My life changed in so many ways when I joined the Masters swimming world in 1989. Consequently, I have tried to give back by volunteering on the club, local, and national levels in various capacities over the years. I have been elected to numerous positions and served on many committees, and I believe I would be an asset to USMS in the position of at-large director.



Candidate for Board of Directors

Phil Whitten—Southwest Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Phil Whitten is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Paul Smith and received letters of recommendation from Betsy Durrant and Nadine Day, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Almost all from 1993 through 2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have been a member of USMS continuously for 40 years. During that time I have both watched it grow and, primarily through my research and writing, contributed to that growth. Having lived in the Southwest zone for 16 years, I am familiar with local as well as national and international issues and feel I can bring a long term perspective and a significant amount of experience to the Board as USMS moves forward.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

There are a number of major issues, both internal and external, facing our organization. Among them

1. The long-term viability and stability of USMS.
2. We now have over 50,000 members. How do we plan to get to 100,000? Should that be a goal? In general, what kind of growth should we be seeking and what are our strategies to achieve it?
3. The high-tech suits. (I believe we haven't seen the last of them.)
4. Articulating benefits of membership better.
5. Related to #4: improving retention rate of members.
6. Single-event registration.
7. Lifetime membership
8. Becoming a significant partner with Michelle Obama's efforts to reduce obesity

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

International 1996 – 2008 Jim Miller et al
Sports Medicine & Science 1996 – 2006

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

Editor of SWIM Magazine, 1993-2006. Started the New England and National All-Time Top 10 lists for all three courses and kept them for 13 years. Published seminal research on aging and performance and on swimming and sexuality. Put USMS on the "map" with major articles including one in Parade magazine. Member of New England Board for over 12 years. United States Masters Swimming Zone Committee September 2009 Election Operating Guidelines

Please list any other information you would like included.

Leader in fight against doping and in saving threatened college swim teams. Member of USAS International Committee.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am seeking the position of Southwest Zone Director because I have been and remain today an outspoken advocate for our sport in general and USMS in particular. I believe I can bring a long-term perspective to the Board's deliberations that will help us make wise decisions for the future of our organization.



Candidate for Board of Directors

Don Mehl – South Central Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Don Mehl is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate is an incumbent and needed no nomination or letters of recommendation, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

I have attended every USMS National HOD Meeting at the last 24 consecutive USAS Conventions, 1986 to 2009.

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

During my first term as South Central Zone At-Large Director, I learned many of the administrative duties and responsibilities required to manage such a large and diverse organization such as ours. Situations change, almost daily. During my 32 years with U.S. Masters swimming as an administrator, coach, and competitor I have helped develop and administer adult swimming practices, clinics, meets, and dryland training programs. I have also worked at the National level for 24 years, learning from many other USMS members how to utilize our resources to encourage and motivate adults to improve their lives with Masters swimming.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

I believe USMS should continue to vigorously pursue joint participation activities with other aquatic/athletic organizations such as USA swimming, USA Triathlon, Senior Games, Special Olympics, Paralympics, etc. Although USMS has liaisons or contacts with most of these groups, I believe more should be done at the local level. Many communities have benefited from coordination and consolidation in regards to administration, coaching, securing water time, safety, and training officials. USMS and USA Swimming could both greatly benefit from a large number of potential swimming officials from USMS members. However, USMS members are required to register separately (and pay additional registration fees) to USA Swimming to be certified. Why do USMS swimmers need a 2nd registration, just to officiate? USMS and USA Swimming are insured by the same company for the same coverage. I think USMS should help streamline and facilitate training and certification of officials for USMS members without the added cost.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Various years, 1986-2009:
Coaches Committee: Judy Bonning, Steve Schofield, Mike Collins, Scott Rabalais, Ed Nessel, Bob Bruce, Mo Chambers, Chris Colburn
Sports Medicine Committee: Jim Miller, Jane Moore, Jessica Seaton
Club of the Year sub-committee (Recognition and Awards Committee): Sally Dillon
Safety Committee (Ad Hoc)

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

As Masters swimming administrator, coach, and competitive athlete:
•2008 to Present – At-Large Director from the South Central Zone, serving on the Governance Committee.
•1978 – founded and coached the first United States Masters Swimming program for adults in El Paso at the Central YWCA
•1980 to 2000 – served as LMSC Chair for Border Swimming
•1985 to 2005 – founded and coached the Rio Grande Swim Club
•1986 to Present – represented Border USMS and USA Swimming at United States Aquatic Sports (USAS) conferences, as delegate and serving on Sports Medicine, Safety, and Coaches Committees for USMS



- 1991 to 1993 – chaired USMS Coaches Committee
- 1997 to 2004 – developed and taught the Swimming Smarter program for swimmers of all ages at the University of Texas at El Paso
- 2001 – interned and coached Masters swimmers at the USMS/USA High Altitude Training Camp at the United States Olympic Training Center (USOTC) in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- 2004 – attended the Adapted Swimming Training Camp at the USOTC, which trains swimmers with disabilities
- Authored articles for Swim Magazine, Masters Aquatic Coaches Association Newsletter, and the USMS website
- Currently certified as USA Swimming and UIL Swimming Official
- 2000 and 2006 – meet director for the USMS South Central Zone Long Course Championships
- 1978 to Present – competed in numerous local, regional, state, national, and world competitions, achieving All-American status (2006, 2008) and many Top-10 rankings
- Honored to receive the 2005 Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award

Please list any other information you would like included.

There have been many positive changes to our organization in the last two years, and many more to come. I bring a unique perspective to USMS, as I have worked in every capacity for our LMSC, including 20-years as Chair and 24 years as a USAS delegate. I have been directly involved in United States Masters Swimming as a coach, administrator, and competitor since 1978. I have the knowledge, passion, and skills to help develop growth and continuing interest in Masters swimming.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am honored to have served U.S. Masters Swimming as South Central Zone Director since 2008. I look forward to carrying out another term to continue working on the vital issues facing us during this time of growth and transition. I feel it is essential that USMS continues leading the way promoting adult fitness. New benefits for members, such as the Club and Coach Services and SwimFest, provide a remarkable resource for support and education. However, our strength comes from grassroots relationships at the local level with workout groups, clubs, and LMSC's. As our organization grows, we must maintain our pioneering spirit and keep our traditions alive.



Audit Committee
Jill Gellatly, Chair

Committee Members: Phil Dodson, Elyce Dilworth, Paul Griffin, Jeanne Ensign, Ralph Davis (Ex-officio)

Introduction: New committee formed in spring of 2010 reporting directly to Board of Directors;

Discussions and projects since the last convention: Upon formation, the committee with assistance of Susan Kuhlman, USMS Controller, sent out a RFP for new external auditors. After interviews and review of the proposals from 3 local Sarasota firms, Kerkering and Barberio (K&B) was selected as auditors for USMS for 2009-2011. K&B performed a review of the 2009 financial statements and issued an unqualified opinion in July. Prior to completing the review, the audit committee met with the auditors in Florida and discussed a variety of topics facing the organization including planning for the 2010 audit.

Action items:

- Review and make any proposed changes to Charter, if needed
- Review/Discuss final management letter comments received from K&B
- Provide annual report to BOD prior to October 1 (due 60 days after audit opinion issued)
- Prepare calendar and goals for 2011

Audit Committee Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, September 15th 5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
McCommas Bluff

Thursday, September 16th 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
McCommas Bluff

1. Results of Final 2009 report and tax returns
 - a. Management letter comments
 - b. Conflict of Interest Questionnaire
 - c. Other comments?
2. Review Audit Committee Function
 - a. Assess our effectiveness
 - b. Review charter for any proposed changes, and compliance
 - i. Review Internal Control Questionnaire (from AICPA Toolkit)
 - ii. Review Effectiveness of External Auditors Questionnaire (from AICPA Toolkit)
 - c. Review /coordination with Finance committee regarding financial policy/procedures
3. Calendar for 2011
 - a. Audit 2010
 - b. Frequency of meetings/Visit to Sarasota
 - c. Goals



Election Committee
Rob Copeland, Chair

Committee Members: : Ed Tsuzuki, Lori Payne

Introduction: 2010 is an election year for all at-large Board of Director positions. The Election Committee conducted nominations, in accordance with USMS Election Policy. At the conclusion of the initial nomination process (Note floor nominations at the annual meeting of the HOD are pending), the following candidates have been qualified and are slated for election, awaiting zone endorsement.

Breadbasket	Anthony Thompson
Colonies	Chris McGiffin
Dixie	Rowdy Gaines
Great Lakes	Phil Dodson
Northwest	Hugh Moore
Oceana	Jim Clemmons
Southwest	Errol Graham, Phil Whitten
South Central	Don Mehl

Action items:

Conduct election.

1. Assist - Zones meet to endorse Director candidates (09/16/2010)
2. Assist - HOD nominations and floor nominations for all positions. (09/16/2010)
3. Facilitate - Meet the Candidates opportunities (09/16/2010)
4. Conduct - Elections (09/17/2010)

Endowment Fund Board of Governors
Doug Church - Chair

Committee Members: Mark Gill, Ted Haartz, June Krauser, Jim Miller, Rob Copeland, Jody Wellborn, Mel Goldstein, Tom Boak, Michael Heather, Patty Miller, Dan Gruender, Leo Letendre, Meg Smath, Mike Laux

Opening paragraph:

The United States Masters Swimming Endowment Fund was established to provide a philanthropic means of supporting projects that benefit Masters swimmers and to receive gifts and contributions as memorials or honoraria recognizing achievements by Masters swimmers. It is governed by the Board of Governors which receives and approves grant requests and otherwise governs the activities of the Endowment Fund.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. The BOG authorized a grant at last year's convention to the Counsilman Center for the Study of Swimming at Indiana University.
2. The BOG has considered and is voting on approval of an "out of cycle" grant to the University of Michigan to conduct a survey.



3. The Endowment Fund has received several grant applications which have been circulated for discussion and action at convention.
4. The Executive Committee of USMS approved the establishment of a Task Force to consider an update to the Mission of the Endowment Fund. Chris LaBianco, Nancy Ridout, Rob Butcher and Doug Church are serving on the Task Force and expect to have a report for convention.

Action items:

1. At convention, all formal requests for funding will be considered and voted on.

Endowment Fund Meeting Agenda

**Meeting #1 - Thursday, September 16th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland C**

**Meeting #2 – Friday, September 17th 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland C**

1. Call to order.
2. Review of financial report for 2009 and current 2010.
3. Consideration of Grant request(s).
4. Task Force report.
5. Other old business.
6. New business.
7. Adjourn.

**FINA Representative
Nancy Ridout**

The FINA Masters Committee met in Gothenburg, Sweden in September 2009, to view and evaluate the facilities for hosting the World Championships in 2010. The facilities were adequate though quite far apart. Suggestions were made to bring about a better diving environment and one of the competition pools for swimming needed upgrades. The Local Organizing Committee was receptive to the comments and ideas and agreed that some improvements were necessary.

The FINA Masters met again prior to the World Championships and was pleased with the progress that had been made. As chair of the Masters Development Subcommittee, I presented a report that stimulated much discussion that called for another meeting. The majority of the committee attended and good ideas were put into a plan that we hope will be approved so that our sport will get established in areas of no Masters swimming opportunities.

The next meeting of the FINA Masters Committee will take place in Riccione, Italy, in June of 2011. It has been a pleasure and privilege to be a part of this committee and I thank you for this opportunity.



Board of Directors Governance Committee
Anthony Thompson, Chair

Membership: Anthony Thompson (Chair), Michael Moore, Don Mehl, Nancy Ridout, Sean Fitzgerald, and Meg Smath.

To begin the 2009-10 year, the Governance Committee reviewed its charter and accomplishments to identify tasks not yet completed. In addition, several items were assigned to the Governance Committee by the USMS BOD at the meetings at the end of the 2009 USMS annual meeting. The task list was prioritized and work began.

The Governance Committee reviewed the need for a safety/risk management coordinator, collected information from some experts, and drafted a document for the BOD to approve.

Several issues related to conflict of interest were discussed over several meetings, including staff and contractors as delegates to USMS conventions. Policy proposals were drafted for review and approval of the BOD. A policy for BOD members seeking employment with USMS was also drafted. USMS directors holding leadership positions within their LMSC was discussed at the request of the BOD.

The Governance Committee noted that BOD committee charters were not posted on the website or in the BOD minutes and asked that they be included in some location accessible to our membership. It was suggested these full charters be included in the USMS Policy Manual.

A review of the governance structure and roles of the zones was completed, and no changes were recommended. A review of the governance structures in LMSCs began with reviewing the work being done by the newly formed LMSC Development Committee. Governance tabled its work to allow this newly formed to committee to collect information; The Governance Committee would play a supporting role until otherwise instructed.

Governance changes related to the BOD and intended implementation were reviewed. The Governance Committee's role as educator for the BOD was also reviewed. The committee looked at the USMS Policy Manual and Rule Book to see if these documents were consistent with planned changes in roles for BOD. Some inconsistency was found between the Election Operating Guideline and article 506.1.1 and referred to Legislation Committee for action. Other items of concern in part 5 of the rule book were also referred to the Legislation Committee for additional review.

To improve transparency in the workings of in all committees and task forces, a policy to require posting of committee meeting minutes on the USMS website within seven days of a committee's approval of its minutes was drafted for review by BOD.

BOD Governance Committee Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, September 15th 2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Aerial Queen

- a. Review Committee Charter and key work in 2009-2010
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Policy Drafted
 - Transparency
 - Review and Evaluations
- b. Review Task List (Old Business)
- c. New Business



International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA) Liaison

Jessica Seaton

International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA) held its general meeting on July 30, 2010 in Cologne, Germany, where the VIII Gay Games were being held from July 30-August 7, 2010. The aquatics events were sanctioned by the German Swimming Federation (DSV) and ran smoothly. All the swimming rules were followed, and the competition was observed by the chair of the swimming division of the DSV. In October 2009 I visited Cologne and explained to the aquatics director the problem with FINA recognizing the meet. He and the others in the DSV did not believe me, since this policy is not in the FINA rulebook, nor is it posted on their web site, nor is it commonly known. In the beginning of February 2010 I asked the FINA Top Ten Recorder, Walt Reid, if he would be recognizing the times. The FINA President, Cornel Marculescu, replied that FINA would not since he had been informed by the German FINA representative, who was misinformed, that the meet was not sanctioned. It took another 4 months to clear this up. On June 17, 2010 Mr. Marculescu wrote that it is FINA policy not to approve records set at meets "owned" by a separate organization. I asked the DSV to make both Gay Games Cologne and the Federation of Gay Games affiliate members of the DSV. The DSV does not have such a category and was not in a position to create one. There are 29 pending world records (primarily relays), 13 of which were set by USMS members, many of whom are very upset that FINA may not recognize them. The aquatics director for the meet has said that he will submit the results and the records, and when they are turned down, with my help, will appeal to the FINA legal department.

West Hollywood Aquatics is hosting the 2011 IGLA Championships at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu from July 6-10.

IGLA 2012 will be held Mary 29-June 3, 2012 in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Investment Committee

Dave Burgio, Chair

Committee Members: Dave Burgio, Chair, Elyce Dilworth, Homer Lane, Susan Kuhlman, staff, Ralph Davis, ex officio

Introduction: This new Committee is responsible for overseeing USMS's Investment Philosophy of investing the financial assets of USMS, in excess of needed working capital, consistent with a policy of prudent investment planning and protection of assets according to the established USMS Investment Policy.

The USMS Investment Committee had its first meeting on August 3, 2010 by Conference Call to begin organization.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

Three Conference Calls were conducted in August, 2010 to begin formulation of a plan for Investment Management and Administrative Services for the financial portfolio of USMS.

Action items:

The following are the activities in process and/or soon to be initiated:

- Finalize a Request for Proposal (RFP) to obtain bids for Investment Management Services.
- Selection of additional members for the Committee
- Evaluate the Proposals for the best value and service for USMS.
- Effectuate the plan for Investment Management Services, contingent on BOD Authorization.
- Monitor the Investment Portfolio of USMS with the selected Financial Advisor utilizing appropriate strategies, benchmarks and other evaluative tools.



Investment Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, September 15th 2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Dallas Belt

Thursday, September 16th 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

McCommas Bluff

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Discussion/finalization of a Request for Proposal for Investment & Mgt Services
3. Preparation of a Client List of Financial Advisors for RFP mailing
4. Review of timeframe for tasks to be completed
5. Selection of additional members for the Investment Committee
6. Other items requiring attention

LMSC Board of Review Task Force

Rob Copeland, Chair

Committee Members: Doug Church, Laura Groselle, Ed Tsuzuki, Anna Lea Matysek (staff liaison)

Introduction:

In light of recent grievance activities, it was determined the grievance section of the bylaws and the grievance procedures for LMSC's may not be adequate. Jeff Moxie formed an LMSC Board of Review Task Force to look into this.

The mission of the task force is to develop LMSC board of review code, policies and procedures to assist LMSC's in the formation and management of a Board of Review and filed grievances.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

The task force met:

- 1) Agreed upon proposed language for inclusion in the USMS LMSC Model Bylaws. Sections 16 and 17 of the attached model bylaws contain the recommended language. Included at end of report.
- 2) Began to develop LMSC Board of Review Policies, Procedures and Guidelines. A framework draft of the document is attached; please note this document is still under construction.
- 3) Discussed other areas of improvement in the model bylaws. We determined broader changes to the bylaws are out of scope of this task force. It is recommended the Governance and LMSC Development committees look into this. A few items of concerns are listed below.

LMSC Model Bylaws concerns

The attached model bylaws, with the proposed language for Sections 16 and 17, also include highlighted passages that should be reviewed.

- A) To be consistent with USMS LMSC's should have a mission
- B) geographic boundaries are defined in USMS code, defining them here are unnecessary and can lead to conflict
- C) LMSC CLUB OPTION – LMSC's should not "own" clubs, clubs are members of USMS
- D) Article 3 appears to be defining a House of Delegates, but "membership" should deal with individual and club members, not a HOD. In addition the model bylaws do not identify a Board of Directors, which is required in some states for not-for-profits
- E) Annual Formation of the LMSC – The LMSC does not need to re-form.
- F) Meetings – LMSC's should meet before the end of the year to set a budget not after it starts. Any target budgets should be policy not bylaws, some LMSC's are not carrying large balances.
- G) Executive Committee – typically composed of officers, why are 2 chairs added? The authority to create policy resides with the HOD or BOD.



H) Activities – This seems to be related to programs and services not code, why is it included?

Action items:

- Approve the inclusion of Section 16 and 17 in the model bylaws and communicate this to the LMSCs
- Agreement to continue working on LMSC Board of Review Policies, Procedures and Guidelines
- Formation of an LMSC Model Bylaws task force to address the concerns raised below.

Proposed amendments to LMSC model bylaws

ARTICLE XVI Participation and Conduct

The LMSC shall respect and protect the opportunity of every eligible individual to participate in administrative activities and sanctioned or recognized events as defined by USMS. The LMSC shall also respect and protect the opportunity of other entities and/or individuals who interact with USMS pursuant to these rules. It shall be the responsibility of all members, applicants for membership and other individuals and/or entities who interact with the LMSC and/or USMS to comply with the rules and regulations of USMS and the LMSC.

ARTICLE XVII Hearings and Appeals

An Individual Members or applicants for Membership or other individuals or entities who interact with the LMSC or USMS may bring a complaint on any matter for which grievances may be heard under USMS Part 4 to the Board of Review.

BOARD OF REVIEW - The Board of Review of shall be an independent and impartial body of at least 3 Individual Members appointed by the LMSC Board of Directors for a one year term. Members of the Board of Review should not be policy or operational decision makers within the LMSC, therefore officers and directors of the LMSC should not be members of the Board of Review or members of hearing panels. The Board of Review, once formed, shall elect a chair who shall appoint a vice-chair and secretary.

REGULAR MEETINGS - The Board of Review shall meet for administrative purposes at least once annually to elect the Chair, appoint the vice-chair and secretary, to adopt rules and procedures and to conduct other business as may be helpful or necessary to achieve the purposes of the Board of Review and efficiently exercise its duties and powers.

AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW - The Board of Review in hearing grievances has the authority, within their geographic boundaries, to:

1. Impose and enforce penalties for any violation of the rules and regulations, administrative or technical, of USMS.
2. Determine the eligibility and right to participate of any member or individual.
3. Vacate, modify, sustain, reverse or stay any decision or order properly submitted for review, or remand the matter for further action.
4. Investigate any alleged election impropriety.
5. Review any revocation, suspension, reinstatement of membership or challenge to the granting or denial of membership.
6. Issue such interim orders as may be necessary pending a final decision of the Board of Review.
7. Require the production of any available evidence bearing on an alleged violation.
8. Take testimony from witnesses.
9. Transcribe the Board of Review hearings.
10. Assess costs and fees against one or more parties, and refund filing fees.

AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW CHAIR - The Board of Review chair has the authority to:

1. Initiate an investigation into the alleged misconduct, as described in a written grievance
2. Dismiss a grievance to be without merit
3. Mediate or delegate the mediation of a grievance
4. Appoint a hearing panel of at least 3 members to conduct a formal hearing to decide a grievance. If any member of the hearing panel has a conflict of interest, that member shall recuse himself/herself and a substitute member shall be appointed.



APPEAL TO THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW - Any person directly affected by the Board of Review's decision may appeal to the National Board of Review for review of any decision of the Board of Review within 30 days of the postmark date of the mailing of the Board of Review's written decision.

DOCUMENTATION - The Board of Review secretary shall maintain a permanent file of all physical evidence and written decisions pertaining to any matter that was reviewed by the Board of Review. That file shall be retained for at least 10 years after the date of any final decision or withdrawal of any matter brought to the Board of Review.

FILING FEE - The Board of Directors shall establish fees for filing grievances with the Board of Review.

RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT - Final decisions rendered by the Board of Review shall, when applicable, be recognized and fully enforced.

Rule Book Coordinator

Susan Ehringer

Introduction:

I would like to thank the National Office, Walt Reid; Tracy Grilli; Kathy Casey and the Rules Committee; and Marcia Cleveland and the Open Water Long Distance Committee; and Sean Fitzgerald and the Legislation Committee who did a great job in helping to edit and publish the 2010 Rule Book.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

- Published 2010 Rule Book and Mini Rule Book
- Worked with Legislation, Rule Book, Open Water and Long Distance Committees to edit 2010 Rule Book and to correct errors after printing
- Chose Spotlight Graphics as the printing company for the 2010 printing and shipping of the Rule Book and Mini Rule Book

Action items:

- Work with committee chairs to edit various sections 2011 Rule Book
- Estimate the number of 2011 Rule Books and Mini Rule Books for printing
- Edit and publish the 2011 Rule Book and Mini Rule Book
 - October 1 - Receive first edits from committee chairs
 - October 15 - Send first draft to committee chairs
 - October 22 - Receive second edits from committee chairs
 - October 29 –
 - Receive ads from Kyle Deery
 - Receive electronic copy of the cover
 - Send second draft to committees
 - November 5 – Receive records from Walt Reid and Marcia Cleveland
 - November 12 – Send final draft to committee chairs
 - November 19- Receive final edits from committee chairs
 - November 26 – Upload Rule Book to Printer's website
 - December 24 –
 - Rule Books Shipped
 - Upload 2011 Rule Book to website
- Announce at the 2010 Convention the 2011 Rule Book cover winner
- Announce at the 2009 Convention the 2011 Rule Book Dedication
- Recommend the approval of selecting the same printer chosen by U.S. Master Swimming National Office to print the 2011 Rule Book.
- Recommend removing Appendix A (Records) from the printed Rule Book and moved to online only
- Appendix E (USMS Directory) from the printed Rule Book and moved to online only



Workout Groups Task Force

Rob Copeland, Chair

Committee Members: Jerry Clark, Nadine Day, Michael Moore, Anna Lea Matysek (staff liaison)

Introduction:

After last year's annual meeting of House of Delegates, the president formed a Workout Groups Task Force with the mission to "*Investigate the USMS phenomenon known as Workout Groups and make recommendations to the Board based upon our findings.*"

The task force met and came up with the following objectives:

1. Understand and document the nature, scope, purpose and value of workout groups
2. Investigate growth patterns in Workout Groups versus Clubs
3. Define Workout Groups (possibly look at alternative names Chapters, etc.)
4. Define services to be provided to Workout Groups; differentiate these from club/member services
5. Determine cost and level of effort to provide Workout Groups services
6. Determine minimum standards for Workout Groups

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

The task force met throughout the year to gather and share information regarding clubs and workout groups. And while we have not crafted the definitive definition of a workout group, our basic definition from the 2010 rule book is "For administrative or competitive purposes, a club may establish workout groups within the club."

A survey was sent to the LMSC's in order to gather basic information about which LMSC's currently had clubs with recognized workout groups. Based on the survey response and the experiences of the task force members, we made a number of observations:

- The structure and nature of the relationship between LJMSCs, clubs and workout groups varies greatly across the country. Two contributing factors to this variety are 1) the general practice of allowing a high level of autonomy within member clubs and 2) the absence of a national program to provide services and support to workout groups.
 - Some clubs charge a fee to each workout group; some don't
 - Some clubs maintain a list of workout contacts, locations and other key information; some don't
 - Some clubs conduct sanctioned events with scoring by workout group; some don't
 - Some members join a workout group to swim on club relays and for "points"; others don't; most don't really know the difference
 - Some LMSCs encourage the formation of new clubs and discourage or disallow workout groups; some LMSCs encourage the formation of new workout groups and discourage new clubs; many LMSCs fall somewhere in between
- No discernible growth patterns variants have been proven between clubs and workout groups. The investigation into whether clubs or workout groups are more beneficial to growth continues.
- Through the annual club registration process, USMS has a good database of club information. No such information exists for workout groups. These groups are under-served, because we have no official contacts to workout group representatives.

Action items:

The task force recommended to the Board that the national office determine the development and support costs associated with developing the tools and services to support workout groups, based on the following general requirements and assumptions.

- Clubs will not be required to have or register workout groups. However, if a club decides to have "Registered Workout Groups", these Registered Workout Groups will follow an annual registration



- process, similar to annual club registration.
- The task force and the national office will determine the programs, products and services that will be made available to registered workout groups.
 - The task force will recommend, to the board, a proposed fee for registering a workout group.

The task force will look into developing minimum standards for clubs and registered workout groups.

USMS Liaison to USA Swimming

Ted Haartz

2010 has been a year of adverse publicity for USA Swimming primarily beginning with an ABC News broadcast interview with Swimming's CEO, Chuck Wielgus, concerning alleged abuse, past and present, of children in the swimming programs. While USA Swimming has a Code of Conduct, background screening for coaches and other volunteer members, it also had a policy on confidentiality that has now given way to a public listing of those banned from Swimming for child abuse.

In the interim since the TV broadcast, some plaintiff's attorneys, the media and a former vice-president of USA Swimming have filed law suits, published additional articles and sent letters to the officers and board of USA Swimming asking why more is not being done sooner to address the abuse problem.

USA Swimming, its officers, staff, board and legal counsel have been and are working extensively to present to the House of Delegates at this convention in Dallas policy and legislative controls to better recognize and report child abuse, to impose stricter and more detailed background screening and to lower the chances of pedophiles of ever being members of USA Swimming. All of the new protections being developed and implemented at Swimming will be shared with any and all youth organizations from the USOC down wishing to improve their own child abuse prevention protocols.

In the meantime, USA Swimming continues to operate its core day to day business at normal levels and expectations as the NGB of swimming.

Of minor interest was the realization by the USOC board of directors this year that the "one size fits all" board membership of 11 directors for all of the NGBs might not be the epitome of efficiency for all NGBs including themselves!



Proposed Changes to the USMS Rulebook Part 3: Open Water and Long Distance Swimming Rules

The following proposals are submitted, in accordance with section 601.2, by the Long Distance Committee for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2010 Convention.

Note that the huge majority of the proposed changes are from review work done by the Long Distance Committee and are a matter of reorganizing, clarifying, maintaining consistency, and updating rules.

The proposals concerning reorganization of Part 3 are LD 4, 9, 10, 14, 19, 35, 47, 48, 50, 54, 55, 56, and 97.

The proposals of major substance are LD 6, 20, 36, 42, 46, 59, 62, 63, 68, 72, 78, and 102.

Other proposals of some substance are LD1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 12, 15, 17, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 33, 34, 38, 40, 53, 69, 70, 71, 74, 75, 77, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 90, 92, 94, 98, 103.

Housekeeping proposals are LD 5, 11, 13, 16, 18, 21, 25, 28, 30, 31, 32, 37, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45, 49, 51, 52, 57, 58, 60, 61, 64, 65, 66, 67, 73, 76, 79, 80, 83, 87, 88, 89, 91, 93, 95, 96, 99, 100, and 101.

LD 1	Glossary	page xi	Long Distance Committee	Modify
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled				

Cable Swim—a type of straightaway swim ~~alongside~~ a defined by quarter-mile cable, measured within plus or minus six inches, in open water and defined by a cable with floats or a continuous marking system visible to the swimmer.

Rationale: This change brings the glossary into conformance with the rules.

LD 2	Glossary	page xiv	Long Distance Committee	Modify
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled				

Straightaway Swim—any swim of any length ~~that is set on a straight~~ where the course shall be a straight, measured distance within plus or minus 6 inches, in stationary open water and defined by a cable with floats or a continuous marking system visible to the swimmer.

Rationale: This change brings the glossary into conformance with the rules.

LD 3	301.2	page 55	Long Distance Committee	Add & Renumber
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled				

301.2 POLICY MANUAL

301.2.1 Policy Manual—The Long Distance Committee, with input from the Open Water Committee, shall develop and maintain a USMS Open Water Policy Manual. The manner of implementation, governing policies and management of the rules in part 3 shall be contained in this manual.



Rationale: Defines an open water policy manual that will contain policies and process that do not need to be in the rule book and may require updating at intervals other than the current two-year cycle. By setting it up this year, we can begin migrating information to the manual as it is developed.

LD 4 301.2	page 55	Long Distance Committee	Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

301.23 MEMBERSHIP, REPRESENTATION AND SANCTIONS

Membership, representation and sanctions for open water and long distance events shall be governed by all applicable rules under articles 201, ~~202~~ 204 and ~~203~~ 205. In addition, the following administrative rules apply:

Rationale: Open water sanction information is listed in part 2 and part 3. In addition, the legislation about sanctions/recognition in part 2 is largely about pool competitions. This is a confusing situation. The above articles contain sanctioning legislation. The code has been moved to proposed sanction articles for open water in part 2. See the document “part 2 proposed.” If this new legislation cannot be approved in 2010, it should be resubmitted in 2011 and the above articles will not be deleted.

LD 5 301.2.1&2	page 55	Long Distance Committee	Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

301.23.1 LMSCs are responsible for issuing open water and long distance sanctions for ~~meets~~ events involving USMS athletes. If any ~~meets~~ events are to be swum in more than one LMSC, the LMSC where the ~~meet~~ event will originate will have jurisdiction in issuing the sanction. This does not prohibit the other LMSC from also issuing a sanction for the ~~meet~~ event.

301.23.2 Open water and long distance ~~meets~~ events ...

Rationale: Housekeeping. Open water “meets” are called “events”, consistent with rules changes begun in 2008.

LD 6 301.2.3	page 55	Long Distance Committee	Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

301.23.3 One-event registrants shall not be eligible for records, ~~All American status or any other USMS special awards~~ to compete in national championship open water swims.

Rationale: Competitors in USMS championships, and the champions themselves, should be full members of the corporation. To do otherwise debases the value of the full membership.

LD 7 301.3	page 55	Long Distance Committee	Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

301.34 LIABILITY RELEASE

Entry forms shall contain the exact language of the liability release according to article 203.1 The following statement shall be added to the end of the release for all open water meets: “*Finally, I specifically acknowledge that I am aware of all the risks inherent in open water swimming, including*



permanent disability or death, and agree to assume those risks.” The language may only be modified by naming the sanctioning LMSC, sponsoring USMS club(s) and/or additional insured(s) following “UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING INC.” The liability release must be signed by each person prior to participation.

Rationale: Even though “permanent disability and death” are mentioned early in the general liability release statement, it should be included again in the open water addendum for emphasis and so that swimmers are more likely to understand what their signature means. The proposed emphasis on growth in open water swimming will bring at least a proportional liability exposure to the corporation that we must consider.

LD 8 301.4 page 56 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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301.45 AGE DETERMINING DATE

The eligibility age of a participant ~~for a particular age group will~~ shall be determined by the age as of the last day of the swim event, except for 18-year olds who must be 18 on the day that they swim.

Rationale: The current age determining date does not address the needs of multi-day events.

LD 9 301.5&6 page 56 **Long Distance Committee** Move

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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301.5 AGE GROUPS

~~Age groups in individual events for men and women shall be the same as those listed in article 102.3.1.~~

301.6 AWARDS

~~If awards are given, they shall be of equal value for all age groups.~~

Rationale: These two sections have been moved to article 303.1

LD 10 Heading & 302.1&2 page 56 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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**ARTICLE 302:
OPEN WATER EVENTS**

302.1 Events

~~An Open water and long distance events shall consist of individual and/or relay competition as described in articles 302.2 through 302.6~~ is a swimming event comprised of one or more swims of any distance conducted in an open body of water, either natural or man made. The distances shall be the same for both men and women.

302.1.1 Open water events shall be comprised of individual and/or relay swims.

302.1.2 At the discretion of the event director, clinics or other swimming activities may be included as part of open water events.

302.1.3 At the discretion of the event director, open water events may be competitive and/or



non-competitive

302.2 Definitions

~~302.2.1 A long distance pool event is any swimming event that is a distance based event over 1650 yards (1508.8 meters) in length or a time based event equal to or longer than 60 minutes in time.~~

~~302.2.2 A long distance open water event is a swimming event of any distance conducted in an open body of water, either natural or manmade.~~

Rationale: This proposal moves long distance pool definitions from article 302 to article 305, provides an expanded definition of open water events, and allows for non-competitive events in our definitions. In addition, it clarifies the difference between events and their component swims.

LD 11 302.3& 3.1 page 56 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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302.32 OPEN WATER SWIMS

302.32.1 Straightaway Events Swims—The course shall be a straight, measured distance within plus or minus 6 inches, in stationary open water and defined by a cable with floats or a continuous marking system visible to the swimmer. Floats on the course shall be a maximum of 10 meters apart.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 12 302.3.1 page 56 **Long Distance Committee** Delete

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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~~A Course measurement—If permanent fixed and stationary markers are used, a course only needs to be certified once every five years. If course has no permanent stationary markers, it must be certified by a licensed surveyor annually.~~

Rationale: Course measurement pertains more to process than rules, and thus should be moved from the rule book to the proposed USMS Open Water Policy Manual.

LD 13 302.3.2 page 56 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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302.32.2 Other Open Water Swims—The ~~meet event~~ director shall determine...

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 14 302.4 page 56 **Long Distance Committee** Move

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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302.4 POOL

~~A long distance pool event may be based on the time to swim a fixed distance or the distance swum over a fixed time. These events may be conducted in a designated pool or as a postal event.~~



~~302.4.1 Event Director~~—The event director shall have the discretion to decide the time/distance of the event and, in the case of postal events, the size(s) of the pools in which the event is to be swum.

~~302.4.2 Distance-Based Events~~—The object of a distance based event is to determine who can swim a specific distance in the shortest amount of time.

~~302.4.3 Time-Based Events~~—The object of a time based event is to determine who can swim the greatest distance in a given time period.

~~302.4.4 Postal~~—A postal event is a competition in which swimmers swim the event at a place of their choosing and send the time or distance achieved to a central location for tabulation.

Rationale: Moves long distance pool events to article 305.

LD 15 302.4 page 57 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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302.54 CUMULATIVE RELAYS EVENTS

302.54.1 Cumulative Relays are comprised of groups of swimmers entered in the individual event swim, except at the discretion of the ~~E~~vent ~~D~~irector. A cumulative relay event swims may be contested on a total time/distance or point system basis.

Rationale: Adding the word cumulative reduces the confusion between the two types of open water relays, cumulative and sequential.

LD 16 302.4 page 57 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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302.54 RELAYS EVENTS

302.54.1 Relays are comprised of groups of swimmers entered in the individual ~~event~~ swim, except at the discretion of the ~~E~~vent ~~D~~irector. A relay ~~event~~ may be contested on a total time/distance or point system basis.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 17 302.4 page 57 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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302.65 SEQUENTIAL RELAYS EVENTS

Relays shall consist of two or more swimmers as specified on the entry form. The relay members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time or distance each swimmer is required to spend in the water shall be specified on the entry form. The changeover to the new swimmer shall be made ~~as soon as practical~~ within one minute after the completion of the previous swimmer’s leg. In the exchange in open water ~~events~~ relays, physical contact must be made between the two swimmers. ~~In pool events, the exchange is governed by articles 101.7.3C and 101.7.3H.~~ The event director, with the concurrence of the chair of the Long Distance Committee, may allow special events in which members



of an open water relay need not be from the same club.

Rationale: This closes a loophole through which an unscrupulous relay team might take advantage by letting faster swimmers spend more time in the water. The information about sequential relays in pool swims will be moved to 305.6.

LD 18 302.4	page 57	Long Distance Committee	Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.65 SEQUENTIAL RELAYS EVENTS

Relays shall consist of two or more swimmers as specified on the entry form. The relay members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time or distance each swimmer is required to spend in the water shall be specified on the entry form. The changeover to the new swimmer shall be made as soon as practical within one minute after the completion of the previous swimmer’s leg. In the exchange in open water events relays, physical contact must be made between the two swimmers. ~~In pool events, the exchange is governed by articles 101.7.3C and 101.7.3H.~~ The event director, with the concurrence of the chair of the Long Distance Committee, may allow special events in which members of an open water relay need not be from the same club.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 19 303 Heading	page 57	Long Distance Committee	Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

**ARTICLE 303:
CONDUCT OF COMPETITIVE OPEN WATER EVENTS**

Rationale: Since most of the rules in article 303 are related to competition, adding “competitive” to the title makes this evident. A new article 304 has been added describing conduct of non-competitive events.

LD 20 303 Heading	page 57	Long Distance Committee	Add & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Scoring Divisions—With the exception of national championship events, scoring divisions are at the discretion of the event director and may be separated by gender, age group, swimwear, speciality categories or any other method suitable to the swimmers served.

303.1.1 Scoring divisions shall be subject to the following:

A Scoring divisions shall be the same for men and women.

B For competitive swims, different scoring divisions may be contested at the same time with different results tabulated.

C If awards are given for competitive swims, they shall be of equal value for all scoring divisions.

303.1.2 Standard USMS gender scoring divisions consist of:

A Individual—open, female, and male.



B Relay—open, female, male and mixed.

303.1.3 Standard USMS age group scoring divisions consist of:

A Individual—open and 18-24, 25-29, 30-34,... (five-year age groups as high as necessary).

B Relay—open and 18+, 25+... (ten-year age groups as high as necessary), the age of the youngest relay member determining the age group.

303.1.4 Standard USMS swimwear scoring divisions consist of Category I and Category II swimwear as defined in article 303.6.

303.2 Gender—Scoring divisions may be separated by gender at the discretion of the event director and may include open, male, female and/or mixed divisions for relay swims.

303.3 Age Groups

303.3.1 Individual Age Groups—Age groups in individual open water swims for men and women shall be at the discretion of the event director and may include the following. _____

A Standard USMS Age Groups—18-24, 25-29... (five-year age groups as high as necessary).

B Open or no age groups.

C Any other configuration of age groups suitable to the swimmers served.

303.3.2 Relay Age Groups—Age groups in open water swims for men, women, and mixed relays shall be at the discretion of the event director and may include the following.

A Standard USMS Age Groups—18+, 25+... (ten-year age groups as high as necessary), the age of the youngest relay member determining the age group.

B Open or no age groups.

C Any other configuration of age groups suitable to the swimmers served.

Rationale: This defines scoring divisions as liberally as possible while still giving guidance, and requires event directors to treat swimmers in all scoring divisions equally. Articles 301.4, 301.5, and 301.6 have been moved so that the information appears with the rest of the rules for conduct of competitive open water swims. Renumber subsequent articles.

LD 21 303.1 page 57 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.14 SAFETY STANDARDS

As conditions and courses vary, it is the responsibility of each swimmer to know and follow the safety standards necessary for protection from foreseeable dangers. The ~~meet~~ event director can assist this endeavor by:

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 22 303.1 page 57 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.1 SAFETY STANDARDS

As conditions and courses vary, it is the responsibility of each swimmer to know and follow the safety standards necessary for protection from foreseeable dangers. The event director and safety staff shall develop a written safety plan for the event in accordance with the safety requirements contained in the



Open Water Policy Manual. ~~The meet director can assist this endeavor by:~~

~~303.1.1 Obtaining necessary permits/approvals from the U.S. Coast Guard, park authorities, lifeguard associations, etc.~~

~~303.1.2 Providing accurate maps with course descriptions, course markings, and other pertinent information, including but not limited to anticipated water temperature and general water conditions, with entry forms and meet information packets.~~

~~303.1.3 Planning for possible medical evacuations.~~

~~303.1.4 Assigning rescue/aid personnel and craft.~~

~~303.1.5 Planning for escort paddlers or craft. Personal escorts should be considered for open water swims.~~

~~303.1.6 Making provisions for controlling escort craft and access of non-race craft into the race area.~~

~~303.1.7 Briefing all contestants, coaches, managers, trainers and meet officials.~~

~~303.1.8 Planning for possible cancellation, postponement and/or modification of the meet.~~

~~303.1.9 Considering use of fluorescent or brightly colored caps to assist in identification and visibility of swimmers in open water events.~~

~~303.1.10 — Informing swimmers of the anticipated water temperature, specific weather and water conditions, and known hazards.~~

~~**Note: LMSCs are encouraged to use USMS safety guidelines and precautions for the conduct of open water and long distance events, as well as develop their own, provided they are not in conflict with USMS rules, policies or procedures. Visit <http://www.usms.org/longdist/safety.pdf>.**~~

Rationale: For open water events, the Open Water Committee is developing a comprehensive safety guide which will be included in the Open Water Policy Manual. This rule change will require a written safety plan. Current articles 303.1.1 through the note following 303.1.10 are not rules language and should be moved to the safety guide within the Open Water Policy Manual.

LD 23 303.2.1 page 58 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.2.1 In any event for which it has been arranged that an escort craft or paddler will accompany each swimmer throughout the event, all swimmers shall be accompanied by such an escort paddler or craft. If the escort paddler or craft becomes disabled or cannot continue to accompany the swimmer, the swimmer ~~must either~~ may stay in the water ~~next to~~ near the disabled escort craft until a replacement arrives, join another escort craft that is accompanying only one other swimmer until another escort craft arrives, or exit the water.

Rationale: These changes expand the possibilities for a swimmer in the event of escort disability, a circumstance that is out of the swimmer's control.

LD 24 303.2.2B page 58 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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B The two swimmers must stay within 5 3 meters of each other. Failure to stay within 5 3 meters shall result in immediate disqualification of the second swimmer assigned to the escort and the immediate removal of that person from the water.

Rationale: The 3-meter distance is a safety precaution, and may be particularly important in a crowded swim.

LD 25 303.2.3 page 58 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.2.3 Swimmers may receive the following assistance from the escort ~~craft~~:

Rationale: Housekeeping—in reality, the escort (paddler) provides the assistance, not the craft.

LD 26 303.2.3A page 58 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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A Food or drink may be passed from escort to swimmer as long as deliberate contact is not made between the two.

Rationale: This allows officials some leeway in cases of accidental contact, particularly in crowded or choppy conditions.

LD 27 303.3.4 page 58 **Long Distance Committee** Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.3.4 Wave Starts—At the discretion of the event director, races may be started in waves in which each wave is separated at the start from other waves by a set time interval. Swimmers’ times shall be adjusted by the starting time interval and their order of finish shall be determined on the basis of the adjusted time.

Rationale: Although this is a common practice at open water events, it has not been described or authorized previously in our rules. Wave starts may apply to any open water swim, but they have particular bearing on starts in straightaway events (see 303.4.2). Text parallels USA-Swimming rule 701.9.6.

LD 28 303.4.1 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.4.1 When practical, swimmers shall be seeded by their 1500 meters/1650 yards times. The manner of seeding swimmers without times shall be at the discretion of the ~~meet~~ event director, as stated in the ~~meet~~ event entry sheet.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 29 303.4.1 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend



Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.4.2 ~~Separate~~ Wave starts are preferable in straightaway events. The swimmers shall be seeded in order of time, with the fastest swimmers receiving the preferred positions in seeded order.

Rationale: This proposal, coupled with proposed 303.3.4, clarifies the starting method for straightaway swims.

LD 30 303.4.1 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.4.2 If subsequent rows are needed, they ~~will~~ shall be seeded in a similar method.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 31 303.5.1&2 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.5.1 In-the-Water—The swimmer shall have finished the race when any part of the swimmer touches a vertical surface or crosses a specifically designated finish line after completion of the prescribed distance. ~~Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.~~ Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer touches the vertical surface or crosses the finish line. Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.

303.5.2 Out-of-the-Water—Swimmers shall leave the water, as defined by the course, and run up the beach to a specifically designated finish line. ~~Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.~~ Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer’s chest crosses the finish line. Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.

Rationale: Housekeeping—one sentence has been moved within each section for clarity.

LD 32 303.5.2 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.5.2 Out-of-the-Water—Swimmers shall leave the water, as defined by the course, and run ~~up the beach~~ to a specifically designated finish line. (...)

Rationale: Housekeeping—“Up the beach” is unnecessary rules wording.

LD 33 303.5.4 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.5.4 Electronic Timing/Incorporating Chip Timing

A Backup Timing—In open water races in which the event director provides electronic timing/chip timing, a manual operating backup timing system is required.



Rationale: Race performances should not be lost due to electronic system failure or loss of chip. Manual back-up greatly reduces this possibility.

LD 34 303.5.4 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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B Order of Finish—For both in-water and out-of-water finishes, the order of finish shall be determined when the timing chip is registered by the electronic timing system.

Rationale: This defines finishing when electronic chip timing is used.

LD 35 303.6 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.6 SWIMWEAR FOR OPEN WATER EVENTS

Rationale: This clarifies that this rule pertains to open water events only, not long distance pool events.

LD 36 303.6 page 59 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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~~**303.6.1**—Swimwear shall be the same as defined in article 102.14. Goggles, ear plugs, watches, and grease shall be allowed. The suit shall be made of a porous material.~~

~~**303.6.2**—Swim cap(s), including those made of neoprene, may be permitted. Swim caps shall be defined as head gear conforming to a traditional swim cap design and shall not extend to protect the neck or shoulders.~~

~~**303.6.3**—Wetsuits may be allowed at the discretion of the event director when the water temperature does not exceed 78°F. If awards are given to wetsuit competitors, they shall be awarded separately from those for non-wetsuit competitors. Any published results or records must clearly indicate which swimmers wore wetsuits.~~

~~**303.6.4**—Devices used to maintain body heat are illegal, except for those listed in articles 303.6.1, 303.6.2 and 303.6.3.~~

~~**303.6.5**—Flotation or propulsive devices are not permitted, apart from those listed in articles 303.6.2 and 303.6.3, except in designated events where all swimmers are using similar devices.~~

~~**303.6.6**—A wrist watch may be worn in open water competition.~~

Rationale: This section has been completely rewritten below.

303.6.1 Rules for all swimwear for open water events

A Design—Swimsuits shall be nontransparent and conform to the current concept of the appropriate. The referee shall have the authority to bar offenders from competition until they comply with this rule.



B Advertising—Products involving tobacco, alcohol or pharmaceuticals containing drugs banned under IOC or FINA rules may not be advertised, but the advertiser’s name only may be used. Offenders may be barred from competition until they comply with this rule.

Rationale: These rules already apply, having been taken exactly from 102.14.1 and 102.14.7.

303.6.2 Rules for Category One swimwear for open water events

A Swimwear shall include only a swimsuit, cap or caps (which may include those made of neoprene), and goggles. Swim caps shall be defined as head gear conforming to a traditional swim cap design and shall not extend to protect the neck and shoulders. A nose clip, ear plugs, wristwatches and grease are also allowed. Arm bands shall not be regarded as part of the swimsuit and are not allowed.

Rationale: This section combines previous sections 303.6.1 and 303.6.2, adding a section on arm bands which is a recent development in aquatic wear.

B The competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits must be made from textile materials. For men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.

Rationale: This language is taken exactly from 102.14.3, but making it applicable to open water.

C Exemptions to the restrictions in 303.6.2A & B may be granted to a swimmer, on a case by case basis, by the Chair of the Long Distance Committee or designee. Exemptions will be granted only for conflicts due to the swimmer’s verified religious beliefs or verified medical conditions.

1 Procedures for applying for an exemption will be published by the Long Distance Committee and posted on the U.S. Masters website.

2 No exemptions to these restrictions will be granted for swimwear that would give a swimmer a competitive advantage.

3 The decision of the Long Distance Chair may be appealed only to the entire Long Distance Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

Rationale: This language is taken exactly from 102.14.5, except for referring to the Long Distance Committee rather than the Rules Committee.

D Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a race (such as wetsuits, webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, etc.). Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee. Any devices used to maintain body heat are not permitted, except for those listed in 303.6.2A.

Rationale: This language is taken from 102.14, adding wetsuits specifically to the list of devices not permitted in Category One swimwear. References to goggles or oil have been removed, having been covered above in proposed 303.6.2A. References to devices that maintain body heat is taken from 303.6.4.

303.6.3 Rules for Category Two swimwear for open water events



A Swimwear that does not meet the requirements for Category One swimwear shall be considered Category Two swimwear. Swimwear may include a swimsuit or wetsuit, cap or caps, goggles, arm bands, and rash guards. A nose clip, ear plugs, wristwatches and grease are also allowed.

Rationale: This redefines the traditional “wetsuit/non-wetsuit” dichotomy in a simple to understand and simple for meet personnel to enforce.

B Wetsuits may be allowed at the discretion of the event director when the water temperature does not exceed 78 degrees F. Any published results or records must clearly indicate which swimmers wore wetsuits.

Rationale: This retains the current wording of 303.6.3, omitting mention of separate awards which is covered in proposed 303.1.1C and 303.1.4.

C Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any additional device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, etc.), except in designated events where all swimmers may use similar devices or substances. Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

Rationale: This language is taken from 102.14.6, except for the word “additional” that refers specifically to items such as wetsuits, arm bands, and rash guards listed in proposed 303.6.3A. However, it also retains the essence of 303.6.5 which allows event directors the flexibility to hold contests in which swimmers may use such gear (for example, races that allow fins).

LD 37 303.7.1 page 60 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.7.1 There shall be an ~~meet~~ event director, referee, safety coordinator, scorer, announcer, clerk of course, starter and a sufficient number of judges, inspectors, timers and medical personnel to ensure a properly run open water event.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 38 303.8.2 page 60 **Long Distance Committee** Add & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.8.2 Fail to complete the prescribed course.

Rationale: Surprisingly, this obvious point has been a glaring omission in our rules. Text parallels USA-Swimming rule 701.5B.

LD 39 303.8.2 page 60 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.8.2 Fail to complete the prescribed ~~distance or~~ course within the preannounced time.

Rationale: Housekeeping—redundant wording.



LD 40 303.8.4 page 60 **Long Distance Committee** Amend & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.8.4 Receive assistance by pulling on the cables, line markers, or buoys, or buoy lines at the turn or on the course. Incidental contact shall not be a basis for disqualification.

Rationale: This clarifies and expands possible violations. Text parallels USA-Swimming rule 701C.

LD 41 303.8.8 page 60 **Long Distance Committee** Delete & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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~~**303.8.8** Draft off another swimmer in long distance pool events.~~

Rationale: This does not belong in the article 303 (open water), and is already covered in article 304.4.2. The following sections require renumbering.

LD 42 303.9 page 60 **Long Distance Committee** Add & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.9 SWIMMERS WITH DISABILITIES

303.9.1 The event director may modify any rule or race management procedure for a swimmer who has a disability. Any such modification shall affect only the current event and does not set precedent.

303.9.2 Definition—Disability is defined as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

303.9.3 Responsibilities

A Athlete—The athlete (or the athlete’s coach) is responsible for notifying the event director, prior to the competition, of any disability of the athlete and of the requested modification. The swimmer/coach shall provide any assistant(s) or equipment if required.

B Event Director—The event director shall devise such modifications that allow the swimmer to participate as long as they conform to safety requirements and provide fairness to all participants.

303.9.4 Recommendations for allowable modifications are further described in the Open Water Policy Manual.

Rationale: This provides guidelines for event directors to include swimmers with disabilities in open water events.

LD 43 303.9.2 page 61 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.9.2 Governing body sanctioning the meet event.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 44 303.9.3 page 61 **Long Distance Committee** Amend



Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.9.3 Course, ~~to include~~ including the name of the body of water, the starting and finishing points, and the measured distance.

Rationale: Housekeeping—improved language.

LD 45 303.9.3 page 61 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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303.9.4 Verification and documentation that all rules were observed and the swimmer(s) either completed or failed to complete ~~or attain~~ the distance.

Rationale: Housekeeping—redundant.

LD 46 304 page 61 **Long Distance Committee** Add & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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ARTICLE 304:
CONDUCT OF NON-COMPETITIVE OPEN WATER EVENTS

304.1 Non-Competitive Events

Non-competitive events are those that contain swims that are not scored for placement. At the discretion of the event director, the event may also include competitive swims.

304.1.1 Conduct of non-competitive swims shall be at the discretion of the event director, as long as they are conducted in a safe manner.

304.1.2 Competitive swims included in a non-competitive event shall be conducted according to the rules in article 303.

304.1.3 At the discretion of the event director, non-competitive events may provide timing as a courtesy to swimmers who desire to know their finish time.

Rationale: We would like to have the option of including events that are non-competitive. Since most of the rules in article 303 are for competition, we will need to exclude the competitive rules for non-competitive events. We have created a new and separate article to emphasize that we welcome non-competitive events and swims.

LD 47 305 Heading page 61 **Long Distance Committee** Add & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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ARTICLE 305:
LONG DISTANCE EVENTS

Rationale: Long distance pool event definitions are to be removed from articles 301 and 302, and moved to new article 305 to appear adjacent to the postal event information. This and subsequent articles require renumbering. The only changes in the information remove references to open water and perform housekeeping.



LD 48 302.1	page 56	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3025.1 Events

~~Open water and~~ Long distance events shall consist of individual and/or relay competitions as described in articles 302.2 through 302.6. The distances shall be the same for both men and women.

Rationale: References to open water are eliminated.

LD 49 302.1	page 56	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3025.2 Definitions

3025.2.1 A long distance pool event is any swimming event that ~~is a~~ contains distance-based event swim(s) ~~over more than~~ 1650 yards (1508.8 meters) in length or a time-based event swim(s) equal to or longer than 60 minutes in time.

Rationale: Housekeeping—improved language.

LD 50 302.2.2-302.3.3	page 56	Long Distance Committee	Delete & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

~~302.2.2~~ A long distance open water event is a swimming event of any distance conducted in an open body of water, either natural or manmade.

302.3 Open Water

~~302.3.1 Straightaway Events~~ The course shall be a straight, measured distance within plus or minus 6 inches, in stationary open water and defined by a cable with floats or a continuous marking system visible to the swimmer. Floats on the course shall be a maximum of 10 meters apart.

~~A Course measurement~~ If permanent fixed and stationary markers are used, a course only needs to be certified once every five years. If course has no permanent stationary markers, it must be certified by a licensed surveyor annually.

~~302.3.2 Other Open Water~~ The meet director shall determine the course and type of start for open water events, keeping in mind the safety of the swimmer(s). The course shall be measured as accurately as possible. The distances shall be the same for both men and women and may be contested at the same time with separate results tabulated. Age groups and other classifications may also be swum at the same time, but again tabulated separately.

~~302.3.3 Solo Swims~~ Solo open water swims, consisting of one or a select number of swimmers, may be sanctioned and should conform to the rules stated under article 303.9.

Rationale: References to open water are eliminated in this section

LD 51 302.4	page 56	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled



3025.43 Pool

A long-distance pool ~~event~~ swim may be based on the time to swim a fixed distance or the distance swum over a fixed time. These ~~events~~ swims may be conducted in a designated pool or as a postal event.

3025.43.1 Event Director—The event director shall have the discretion to decide the time/distance of the ~~event~~ swim(s) and, in the case of postal ~~events~~ swim(s), the size(s) of the pools in which the event is to be swum.

3025.43.2 Distance-Based Events Swims—The object of a distance-based ~~event~~ swim is to determine who can swim a specific distance in the shortest amount of time.

3025.43.3 Time-Based Events Swims—The object of a time-based ~~event~~ swim is to determine who can swim the greatest distance in a given time period.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 52 302.4.4	page 56	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3025.43.4 Postal—A postal event is a competition in which swimmers ~~swim the event~~ participate at a place of their choosing and send the time or distance achieved to a central location for tabulation.

Rationale: Housekeeping—clearer grammar.

LD 53 302.5.1	page 57	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3025.54 Cumulative Relays Events

Cumulative ~~R~~relays are comprised of groups of swimmers entered in the individual ~~event~~ swim, except at the discretion of the Event Director. A Cumulative relay ~~event~~ swims may be contested on a total time/distance or point system basis.

Rationale: Adding the word cumulative reduces the confusion between the two types of open water relays, cumulative and sequential. Removing “event” is housekeeping.

LD 54 302.6	page 57	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3025.65 Sequential Relays events

Relays shall consist of two or more swimmers as specified on the entry form. The relay members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time or distance each swimmer is required to spend in the water shall be specified on the entry form. The changeover to the new swimmer shall be made as soon as practical after the completion of the previous swimmer’s leg. ~~In the exchange in open water events, physical contact must be made between the two swimmers. In pool events, t~~The exchange is governed by articles 101.7.3C and 101.7.3H. The event director, with the concurrence of the chair of the Long Distance Committee, may allow special events in which members of an open water relay



need not be from the same club.

Rationale: The information about sequential relays in open water events remains in 302.5.

LD 55 301.5 & 6	page 56	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3015.57 Age Groups

Age groups in individual events for men and women shall be the same as those listed in article ~~102.3.1~~ 303.3.1A.

3015.68 Awards

If awards are given, they shall be of equal value for all age groups.

Rationale: These two sections have been moved from article 301, except for corrected reference to other rules.

LD 56 304	page 61	Long Distance Committee	Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

**ARTICLE 304 ~~306~~:
CONDUCT OF POSTAL EVENTS**

3046.1 Rules

Long distance events conducted in pools must comply with all applicable pool event rules in Part 1 of the rule book, except as noted in article ~~304~~ 306.

Rationale: Renumbering and corrected reference to other rules.

LD 57 304.5.2	page 62	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3046.5.2 Cumulative splits times must be recorded to the nearest second.

Rationale: Housekeeping--clearer language.

LD 58 304.6 & 6.1	page 62	Long Distance Committee	Move, Amend & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3046.6 ~~Computing~~ Determining Distances In Time-based Events

3046.6.1 Distances shall be ~~computed~~ determined by multiplying the total lengths swum by the length of the pool and adding the last completed 5-yard/meter increment.

Rationale: Housekeeping—more accurate language.

LD 59 304.7	page 62	Long Distance Committee	Add, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled



306.7 DETERMINING TIMES IN SHORT-COURSE DISTANCE-BASED EVENTS

306.7.1 Swimmers may choose to swim events in 25-meter pools, swimming the same nominal number of meters as yards.

306.7.2 Times done in 25-meter pools shall be reported as if swum in a 25-yard pool, by dividing times by 1.0936 and integrating them with 25-yard times.

Rationale: This authorizes changing events such as the 3000 & 6000-yard postal events into events in which swims in 25-meter pools are allowed in nominal 25-yard events. Also effects 305.2H.

LD 60 304.7	page 62	Long Distance Committee	Add, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3046.7.2 ~~The meet~~ Event directors shall have the discretion to request additional verification of completion from any entrant and may refuse to accept any entry that appears to contain erroneous information.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 61 305	page 62	Long Distance Committee	Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

**ARTICLE ~~305~~ 307:
NATIONAL OPEN WATER AND
LONG DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

3057.1 Rules

Open water and long distance championship events shall be governed by articles 301, 302, 303, 304 and 306. In addition, the following rules apply specifically to championships.

NOTE: REFERENCED ARTICLES WILL REQUIRE CHANGE WHEN OTHER CHANGES HAVE BEEN DETERMINED. ALL NUMBERS IN THIS SECTION WILL REQUIRE RENUMBERING.

Rationale: Housekeeping and renumbering.

LD 62 305.2	page 62	Long Distance Committee	Add, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.2 OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

3057.2.1 At the discretion of the long distance committee, national open water championships may be awarded in a form determined in the best interest of usms open water swimming including:



- A Individual championships distributed across the country.
- B Multi-championship swim festivals.
- C A combination of A and B as deemed appropriate.
- D Any other configuration that enhances the value of USMS open water championships

Rationale: Our current national championships are being operated along principles developed in the early 1990's. With the exception of the One Hour Postal, most of the championships are relatively small. It is necessary and timely to examine our championships and determine if another structure will serve us better. The above options will give the Long Distance Committee freedom to change the current formula.

LD 63 305.2	page 62	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.2.12 At the discretion of the Long Distance Committee, national championship events may be awarded in the following categories:

- A** One mile (quarter-mile straightaway or open water course)
- B** Quarter-mile straightaway (2 miles)
- C** Open water (greater than 1 and less than or equal to 3 miles)
- D** Open water (greater than 3 and less than 6 miles)
- E** Open water (greater than or equal to 6 miles and less than 9 miles)
- F** Open Water (greater than or equal to 9 miles)

Rationale: With the advent of a 25k open water championship, the 6+ mile category covers two championship swims and too wide a range of distances. The addition of the 9+ mile category will allow a variety of distances from 9 miles & 15k (9.3 miles) and greater, and will also increase opportunities for a national swimmer ranking system (proposed article 309).

LD 64 305.2H	page 63	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.2.12

HI Postal 3000 and 6000 yard (each event swum separately in a 25-yard or 25-meter pool)

Rationale: Supports proposed change 306.7 to 3000 & 6000-yard postal.

LD 65 305.2.2	page 63	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.2.23 Rules Pertaining To Cumulative Relays Events

- A** Cumulative Relay competitions shall be contested in postal championships and may be contested in other championships. Recognized relays shall be three-person men and women relays and four-person mixed-gender relays.
- B** Age groups for relay events swims shall be the same as those listed in article ~~402.3.2A~~ 303.3.2A.

Rationale: Housekeeping and corrected reference to other rules.



LD 66 305.2.2 page 63 **Long Distance Committee** Delete

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.2.23

~~E—Relays shall be men, women and mixed gender.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping—redundant with 305.2.2A.

LD 67 305.2.3 page 63 **Long Distance Committee** Delete

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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~~**305.2.3 Relay events** (as defined in article 302.5).~~

~~A—Relay competitions shall be contested in postal championships and may be contested in other championships. Recognized relays shall be three person men and women relays and four person mixed gender relays.~~

~~B—Age groups for relay events shall be the same as those listed in article 102.3.2A.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping—redundant with renumbered 305.2A & B.

LD 68 305.3 page 63 **Long Distance Committee** Add, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.3 Site Selection

The manner of site selection for national championships shall be at the discretion of the Long Distance Committee and shall depend upon the championship structure chosen under article 305.2. Should a bidding system be selected, it shall be accomplished in the following manner.

Rationale: This allows the Long Distance Committee the flexibility to select event hosts as deemed appropriate.

LD 69 305.3.1 page 63 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.3.1 Bids shall be due, in writing, to the Long Distance Committee chair no later than ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the annual meeting.

Rationale: The Long Distance Committee needs more than 30 days to process and evaluate submitted bids, and recruit additional bidders if necessary.

LD 70 305.3.1 page 64 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.3.2 Championships shall be awarded by the Long Distance Committee ~~at the annual meeting held approximately two~~ one to three years prior to the championship being awarded, typically at the annual meeting.



Rationale: This follows renumbered 305.2 in allowing the Long Distance Committee additional flexibility in bidding options. It is also consistent with the bidding options afforded the Championship Committee for pool championship meets.

LD 71 305.3.5 page 64 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

3057.3.5 A three-area award system ~~shall~~ may be followed for the bidding of ~~non-postal~~ Open Water and Long Distance Championships. (See Figure 4 for map and description of areas.)

In this system, suitable bids from a qualifying area shall receive preference over bids from other areas. Postal national championships may be awarded to an organization for two consecutive years and will be awarded without regard to area. (See Appendix D for description of areas and map.)

Rationale: This follows 305.2 in allowing the Long Distance Committee the flexibility to select hosts by an alternate method. The first sentence also contains redundancies.

LD 72 305.3.5 page 64 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

NATIONAL USMS OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIP BID ROTATION			
Year	Area 1 West	Area 2 Central	Area 3 East
2010	Open water >1/1≤3 mile	2 mile cable Open water ≥6 mile	1 mile Open water >3/<6 mile
2011	1 mile Open water >3/<6 mile	Open water >1/<3 mile Open water >9 mile	2 mile cable Open water ≥6/<9 mile
2012	2 mile cable Open water ≥6/<9 mile	1 mile Open water >3/<6 mile	Open water >1/<3 mile Open water >9 mile
2013	Open water >1/<3 mile Open water >9 mile	2 mile cable Open water ≥6/<9 mile	1 mile Open water >3/<6 mile
2014	1 mile Open water >3/<6 mile	Open water >1/<3 mile Open water >9 mile	2 mile cable Open water ≥6/<9 mile

Rationale 1: This brings the bidding process with the proposed changes in 305.2.1E & F.

Rationale 2: This clarifies the title and updates the bid chart. Although bidding will have been completed through 2012 when the next rule book is printed, years 2011 and 2012 remain in the rotational chart for reference.

LD 73 305.5.1 page 64 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

3057.5.1 The sponsoring organization shall agree to underwrite the full ~~meet~~ event expenses,



including but not limited to the following:

- A** Costs associated with the ~~meet event~~ (setting up the course, supplies, equipment, etc.).
- B** Cost of all national championship ~~meet event~~ awards (medals and patches) and/or other appropriate awards.
- C** A fee of \$1 per individual entrant in the ~~meet event~~ and a performance bond of \$200 shall be paid to USMS. All or a portion of the \$200 performance bond shall be returned to the sponsoring organization, based upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the ~~meet event~~ contract.
- D** Any other costs that may be reflected in national championship ~~meet event~~ contracts.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 74 305.5.6	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.6 Entry Fees

The entry fees for Open Water and Long Distance national championships shall ~~not exceed \$30 for individual events and \$5 per team member in team events. Exceptions may be made to the fee limit at the discretion of~~ be determined by the Long Distance Committee.

Rationale: Entry fees are specific to each situation, and in any case a moving target. As such, they should not be listed in the rules but rather as long distance process and policies.

LD 75 305.7.2	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.7.2 Entry Forms—Entry forms, including paper forms and online entry system, shall be reviewed by ~~the a~~ Long Distance Committee ~~chair~~ representative and the LMSC for content and sanctioning prior to distribution in accordance with the USMS contract.

Rationale: This broadens the required review of championship entry materials, and allows a member of the Long Distance Committee other than the chair to perform this review.

LD 76 305.7.3	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.7.3 Officials—In addition to the officials required by article 303.7, the following officials are required for national championship events:

- A** The Long Distance Committee shall appoint an ~~meet event~~ evaluator to aid the ~~meet event~~ director, to ensure that the event is conducted in accordance with the contract and to ensure that all rules are observed.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 77 305.7.3	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Add, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled



3057.7.4 Individual Age Groups—Age groups in individual open water swims for men and women shall be 18-24, 25-29, 30-34,... (five-year age groups as high as necessary).

3057.7.5 Relay Age Groups—Age groups in relay open water swims for men, women, and mixed relays shall be 18+, 25+... (ten-year age groups as high as necessary), the age of the youngest relay member determining the age group.

Rationale: With the proposed flexibility in the age group definitions for open water swims in general in 303.3.1 and 303.3.2, age groups for national championship swims must be defined.

LD 78	305.7.4	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

~~**305.7.46 Swimwear**—Swimwear regulations for national championships shall be the same as those for non national championships, as stated in article 303.6.~~

~~**A.** Only swimmers wearing Category One swimwear as defined in 303.6.1 and 303.6.2 may compete in national championship events.~~

~~**B.** At the discretion of the event director, swimmers wearing Category Two swimwear as defined in 303.6.1 and 303.6.3 may participate in national championships events, but~~

~~**305.7.57 Wetsuits**—Wetsuit competitors shall be excluded for the purposes of articles 305.8 through 306.1. In addition, wetsuit Category Two competitors shall have a separate start time.~~

LD 79	305.7.6	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.7.67

B Paddlers and escort boats may be permitted by the ~~meet~~ event director.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 80	305.7.6	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

~~**3057.7.78** **Protests**—Any protest arising from a competition shall be made to the ~~meet~~ event director....~~

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 81	305.7.6	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.7.78 **Protests**—Any protest arising from a competition shall be made to the meet director within 30 minutes after the release of results for an open water event or 14 days after the release of results for a postal event. If the protest is not resolved, the protester may appeal in writing within 10 days for final adjudication to the Long Distance chair, whose decision shall then be final and binding on all parties.



Rationale: This puts closure on the ‘endless’ protest.

LD 82 305.8	page 65	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.8 RESULTS

Individual and relay results and records (when appropriate) shall be tabulated and distributed to the Long Distance Committee chair and all participants in the meet. ~~USMS registration numbers and~~ Date of birth shall not be included in published results or results distributed to participants.

Rationale: The USMS number is important information for archival purposes and should be included in championship results.

LD 83 305.8.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.8.1 Individual results shall be tabulated electronically by gender and age group in order of finish. Women’s results shall be shown first, followed by Men’s results. For each swimmer, the following information must be reported in this order:

- A** Age group place
- B** Swimmer’s name (last name first, as it appears on the USMS membership card)
- C** Age
- D** Club (official USMS team abbreviation)
- E** USMS number
- ~~**EF**~~ Official time/distance
- ~~**FG**~~ Special information (national records, overall place, place among men, etc.)

Rationale: Housekeeping—this was omitted from the 2009 and 2010 rule books.

LD 84 305.9	page 66	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.9 Club Scoring

Club scores shall be officially tallied for national ~~Open Water and Long Distance~~ championship postal events. At the discretion of the event director, club scoring may be officially tallied for national championship open water events.

Rationale: This clarifies that club scoring in open water championships is optional.

LD 85 305.9.1B	page 66	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.9.1B

B Club point scoring for the 3000/6000 yard and 5K/10K postal national championships ~~may~~ shall be calculated based on a predetermined formula, ...



Rationale: The use of “shall” describes our current method of club scoring.

LD 86 305.9.1B	page 66	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.9.1B

B Club point scoring for the 3000/6000 yard and 5K/10K postal national championships may be calculated based on a predetermined formula, approved by the Long Distance Committee, to fit the age group national record times for each gender. ~~A preformatted spreadsheet containing this formula will be supplied to the meet directors.~~

Rationale: The reference to spreadsheet describes process rather than rules.

LD 87 305.9.1C	page 66	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.9.1C

C Club scoring for the other national championships shall be point value for placing in individual swims. Points shall be determined ~~as if the meet were swum in a 10-lane pool (11-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1).~~

Rationale: Housekeeping—this omits unnecessary mention of ‘pool scoring.’

LD 88 305.9.3	page 66	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.9.3 Divisions—Up to four divisions may be recognized for purposes of club scoring based on the number of swimmers entered from each club in the meet event ~~from each club~~. The number of entrants from a club that shall constitute division I (very large), division II (large), division III (medium) and division IV (small) shall be determined by the Long Distance Committee chair and the meet event director after the meet event entry deadline.

Rationale: Housekeeping—clearer language.

LD 89 305.10.2 & 3	page 67	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.10.2 National championship medals or other appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance Committee chair shall be awarded to the members of at least the first three place winners of ~~team~~ relay championships in each age group.

3057.10.3 A USMS championship patch shall be awarded to each individual champion and each scoring member of a championship ~~team~~ relay. An individual shall receive only one patch per ~~meet~~ event.

Rationale: Housekeeping.



LD 90 305.10.4 page 67 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.10.4 Appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance Committee chair shall be awarded to the first, second and third place club winners in each division if applicable.

Rationale: At this point, only the One Hour Swim has separate club size divisions. The 3000/6000 and 5K/10K are scored currently in the same division regardless of club size.

LD 91 305.11.1 & 2 page 67 **Rules Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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305.11 All-American Recognition

Rationale: the official use of the term “recognized” applies to recognized events as described in 202.2 and defined in the glossary.

LD 92 305.11.1 & 2 page 67 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.11.1 The highest ~~ranking~~ placing USMS member in each age group of each individual national Open Water and Long Distance Championship event shall qualify as a USMS Long Distance All-American for the calendar year in which the event was conducted.

3057.11.2 The members of the highest ~~ranking~~ placing USMS team in each age group of each national Open Water and Long Distance Championship event shall qualify as USMS Long Distance Team All-Americans.

Rationale: USMS Long Distance individual All-Americans are determined by placement in national championships, not by rankings.

LD 93 305.11.2 page 67 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.11.2 The members of the highest ranking USMS ~~team~~ relay in each age group of each national Open Water and Long Distance Championship event shall qualify as USMS Long Distance Team All-Americans.

Rationale: Housekeeping

LD 94 305.11.2 page 67 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3057.11.2 The members of the highest ~~ranking~~ placing USMS team in each age group of each national Open Water and Long Distance Championship event shall qualify as USMS Long Distance Team All-Americans.



Rationale: USMS Long Distance relay All-Americans are determined by placement in national championships, not by rankings.

LD 95 305.11.2	page 67	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.11.2 The members of the highest ranking USMS ~~team~~ relay in each age group of each national Open Water and Long Distance Championship event shall qualify as USMS Long Distance Team All-Americans.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 96 305.11.3	page 67	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3057.11.3 The event director shall submit the name, age, club affiliation, time or distance, and USMS membership number for each competitor achieving All-American status to the Long Distance Committee chair in accordance with the USMS ~~meet~~ event contract.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 97 308 Heading	page 68	Long Distance Committee	Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

**ARTICLE 306 ~~306~~ 308:
RECORDS**

Rationale: New section and renumbering.

LD 98 306.1.1	page 68	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3068.1.1 Individual national records will be maintained in quarter-mile straightaway events (1-mile and 2-mile) and time/distance pool events (one-hour, 3000-yard, 6000-yard, and 5- and 10-kilometer postal). Relay national records shall be maintained in all of these quarter-mile straightaway and long-distance pool events. The records shall be for three-person men and women teams and four-person mixed teams.

Rationale: This adds records for cumulative relays in the quarter-mile straightaway swims, which follows current practice.

LD 99 306.1.2	page 68	Long Distance Committee	Amend, Move & Renumber				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

3068.1.2 Record times shall be swum in a sanctioned ~~meet~~ event and shall be routed through the ~~meet~~ event host to the Long Distance Committee chair.



Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 100 306.1.3 & 4 page 68 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3068.1.3 With the exception of the quarter-mile straightaway events specified in article ~~305.2.1~~ 307.2.1, no national records will be maintained in open water events because of differences in courses, currents and other physical factors.

3068.1.4 Open Water and Long Distance records shall only be permitted from events conducted in compliance with articles ~~305.7.3B~~ 307.7.3 and ~~305.7.5~~ 307.7.5 of the USMS rule book.

Rationale: Corrects references to other proposed sections.

LD 101 306.1.6C page 68 **Long Distance Committee** Amend, Move & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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3068.1.6 Long distance national records may be established by using a swimmer’s split time in an individual event if...

C The intent to record a split time is brought to the attention, in writing, of the event ~~host~~ director at the time of entry in the longer event.

Rationale: Housekeeping.

LD 102 309 page 68 **Long Distance Committee** Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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ARTICLE 309

NATIONAL SWIMMER RANKING AND AWARDS SYSTEM

309.1 Swimmer Ranking System

The Long Distance Committee shall develop and maintain a national swimmer ranking system for USMS registered swimmers. National rank shall be based on points earned for place in all sanctioned open water events. Specifications for the ranking and awards system shall be defined in the Open Water Policy Manual.

Rationale: New section. The current national awards system includes only swimmers who participate in national championships. A national ranking system for sanctioned events will give open water swimmers the same opportunity as pool swimmers to compete for national rank. Awards for national championships will remain in place.

LD 103 Appendix B page 132 **Long Distance Committee** Amend

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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APPENDIX B

Documentation requirements for USMS long distance records:

- Completed “Application for USMS Long Distance Record.”



- Proof of achieved time or distance swum.
- For postal events, a lap-count checkoff sheet listing all split times and bearing the signature, name, address and phone number of the lap counter/timer.
- For cable swims, ~~the technique used to measure the course, and the signature, name, address and phone number of the person who measured the course~~ a copy of the course certification, if it is not already on file according to 302.3.1A.

Rationale: The course measurement information is contained in the application form (bullet point #1), and is therefore redundant. The certification form needs to be required.



Proposed Changes to the USMS Rules of Competition

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH PROPOSAL

(Complete text of all proposals follows page 2)

- R 1 Glossary Lane Line; add “or finish end”
- R 2 Glossary Lane Markers; add “or finish end”
- R 3 Glossary Session (new)
- R 4 Glossary Submitted Time; add “also known as seed time”
- R 5 Glossary Team (delete)
- R 6 Part 1, first paragraph; add reference to 601.5
- R 7 Part 1, second paragraph; add reference to 601.4.7
- R 8 Part 1, third paragraph; add reference to 202.1.1.F(1)
- R 9 101.1.1; front edge of starting platform
- R 10 101.4.3; allow kicking and gliding into backstroke turn
- R 11 102.2; make age determining date for short course yards as of Dec. 31 (same as for meters)
- R 12 102.3.2; make short course yard relays cumulative age (same as for meters)
- R 13 102.3.2; make scy relays cumulative age (same as for meters; no individual age change)
- R 14 102.5; put open water/long distance/nonconforming references at end
- R 15 102.10.4B(2); “remaining pairs of swimmers” (seeding two to a lane)
- R 16 102.13.3; delete reference to this article
- R 17 102.14; “For Pool Competition” (title), delete reference to open water swimwear
- R 18 102.14; no restrictions on material and coverage for short course yard swimwear
- R 19 102.14; shoulder to knee coverage for men & women, textile for short course yard swimwear
- R 20 102.15; add using device or substance to help speed, pace, etc. to list of disqualifications
- R 21 102.15.2; add “inform one or both” (swimmer or coach) of reason for disqualification
- R 22 102.15.11; change “made” to “given” for awards
- R 23 102.16.1; delete “scored”
- R 24 103.2; require referee training for certified starters or stroke/turn judges who serve as referees
- R 25 103.2; require officials certification or training for starters and stroke/turn judges (new)
- R 26 103.5; make the first sentence a complete sentence
- R 27 103.6.3; separate into 103.6.3 into 103.6.3 and 103.6.4
- R 28 103.6.7; replace “does” with “shall”
- R 29 103.10.6; add referee to the exception for raising one hand for a disqualification
- R 30 103.11.4; divide first sentence into two sentences
- R 31 103.12.2B; add “preferred order” and reverse the order of the number of buttons or watches
- R 32 103.13.1; add references to 202.1.1F(1) and 202.2.1E
- R 33 103.13.4; add “officially certified for length” to pools
- R 34 104.3.2; add reference to 107 for facility standards
- R 35 104.3.5; clarify that “annual meeting” is that “of the House of Delegates”
- R 36 104.5.1A; delete House of Delegates and the list of invitees from the general meeting
- R 37 104.5.2A; move relays from the end of the last day to an earlier time slot on the last day
- R 38 104.5.2A; delegates will select 3 new meet schedules for nationals in 2012-2015
- R 39 104.5.2B(4); change “approved” to “approval”
- R 40 104.5.2D; give Championship Committee the authority to make changes in the meet schedule



- R 41** 104.5.4A(3); allow swimmer to only declare unattached prior to the start of nationals
- R 42** 104.5.5A(7); clarify that remaining swimmers may be seeded with an “older age group”
- R 43** 104.5.5A(11); use swimmer’s recorded time “in the past year” for a realistic seed time
- R 44** 104.5.8B; change distribution of results from nationals
- R 45** 105.1.1; change “made” to “achieved”
- R 46** 105.1.2; change “made” to “achieved”
- R 47** 105.1.2; add “or designee” to “Records and Tabulation Committee chair”
- R 48** 105.2.2A; allow split times to be recorded by 2 buttons or 2 watches for official times
- R 49** 105.2.2B; request split times (except backstroke) up to 30 days after meet or by end of season
- R 50** 105.2.2; clarify legal splits from nonconforming events
- R 51** 105.3.8; clarify that proof of age is required for record applications
- R 52** 105.3.8; record applications and supporting data due within 90 days of the end of the season
- R 53** 105.4; delete “Recognition” from “All-American”
- R 54** 105.4.1; award All-American to the top five best times for each individual event
- R 55** 105.4.2; award All-American to the top three best times for each relay event
- R 56** 107.2.3B; change “championship meet committee” to “Championship Committee”
- R 57** 107.4.3; add how to number lanes when starting at the turn end of a 50-meter course
- R 58** 107.8.1; change “should” to “shall” and “They” to “Such portable equipment”
- R 59** 107.11.3; add “adjustable setting back plate” to starting platform description
- R 60** 107.11.5; add reference to 107.4.3 for lane numbering procedures
- R 61** 107.14; add reference to 108.3 for starting system for deaf and hard of hearing swimmers
- R 62** 108.2; change “visually impaired” to “vision loss” (title)

HOUSEKEEPING

- HK 1** 102.13.4A; correct grammar and punctuation
- HK 2** 102.14.6; use the singular throughout
- HK 3** 102.14; change the numbering and organization of the text
- HK 4** 103.6.4; replace semicolon with “and”
- HK 5** 103.6.6; move phrase to the noun it describes
- HK 6** 103.6.8; move the last phrase to the beginning of the sentence
- HK 7** 103.8.1; begin the sentence by stating what the type of equipment is (starting device)
- HK 8** 103.10.3; add comma after “finishing”
- HK 9** 103.12.4F; reorganize the instructions for easier understanding



Proposed Changes to the USMS Rules of Competition

The following proposals have been submitted, in accordance with section 601.2 to the Rules Committee for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2010 Convention.

Please note that many of the proposed changes are from review work done by the Rules Committee and are a matter of clarifying, reorganizing, maintaining consistency, and updating rules.

The substantive proposals are R 3, R 5, R 9, R 10, R 11, R 12, R 13, R 18, R 19, R 24, R 25, R 36, R 37, R 38, R 40, R 41, R 43, R 44, R 48, R 49, R 52, R 54, R 55, and R 59.

R 50 is an indivisible package and must also be considered by the Legislation Committee for recommendation to the House of Delegates in accordance with 601.4.5.

R 1	Glossary	page xii	Rules Committee					Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

Lane Line—continuous floating markers attached to a line stretched from the starting end to the turning end or finish end for the purpose of separating adjacent lanes.

Rationale: There is no turn end for 50s in a 50-meter pool.

R 2	Glossary	page xii	Rules Committee					Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

Lane Markers—the guide lines on the bottom of the pool and in the center of the lanes running from the starting end to the turning end or finish end.

Rationale: There is no turn end for 50s in a 50-meter pool.

R 3	Glossary	page xiii	Rules Committee					Add
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

Session – any portion of a meet distinctly separated from other portions of a meet by locale, time, day, or type of competition, i.e., first day and second day, morning and evening, etc, exclusive of a short break between events such as before the start of distance events or relays.

Rationale: Define session to eliminate confusion about when a bulkhead pool measurement has to be confirmed.

R 4	Glossary	page xiv	Championship Committee					Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	



Submitted Times--those filed with an entry as having been previously achieved or reasonably estimated, also known as seed time.

Rationale: Make it clear that “submitted time” and the common term, “seed time”, are the same.

R 5	Glossary	page xiv	Rules Committee					Delete
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

~~**Team**—a group of swimmers representing the same club in a competition.~~

Rationale: When “team” is used in the rule book, it is defined for that particular use in each instance (e.g., relay team or All-Star Team).

R 6	Part 1	page 1	Rules Committee					Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

Part 1, first paragraph

All provisions under *Part 1: Swimming Rules*, unless otherwise specified, are effective beginning January 1, 2011, (article 601.5) and until changed. Rules in effect on the first day of a meet shall govern throughout the meet.

Rationale: Reference the rule governing the effective date of the rules.

R 7	Part 1	page 1	Rules Committee					Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

Part 1, second paragraph

Part 1: Swimming Rules is based upon articles 101, “Individual Strokes and Relays,” 102, “Conduct and Officiating of All Swimming Competition,” and 105, “Guidelines for Officiating Swimmers with a Disability in USA Swimming Meets,” of the USA Swimming Technical Rules, which, as amended, will govern all Masters swimming competitions (article 601.4.7).

Rationale: Reference the rule that states USMS swimming rules are based on USA Swimming articles 101, 102, and 105.

R 8	Part 1	page 1	Rules Committee					Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

Part 1, third paragraph

All competitive swimming events held under corporate sanction shall be conducted in accordance with the following rules, which are designed to provide fair and equitable conditions of competition (article 202.1.1.F[1]).



Rationale: Reference the rule governing this statement.

R 9	101.1.1	page 1	Officials Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

101.1.1 Forward Start—The forward start may be taken from the starting block, the pool deck, or a push from the wall. At the commencement of each heat, the referee shall signal to the swimmers by a short series of whistles to remove all clothing except for swimwear, followed by a long whistle indicating that they should take their positions with at least one foot at the front edge of the starting platform, the edge of the pool, or on the wall before the command “Take your mark.” Those starting in the water must have at least one hand in contact with the wall or starting block.

Rationale: To be more specific in the foot position required for forward starts from the blocks and to be consistent with “edge of the pool” for deck starts.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

(R 9) 103.8.5A page 17

103.8.5 A At the commencement of each heat, the referee shall signal to the swimmers by a series of short whistles to remove all clothing except for swimwear, followed by a long whistle indicating that they should take their positions with at least one foot at the front edge of the starting platform, the edge of the pool or on the wall and remain there. (Rest of this section is unchanged.)

(R 9) 103.8.5C page 17

103.8.5 C On the starter’s command “Take your mark,” the swimmers shall immediately assume their starting position with at least one foot at the front edge of the starting platform, the edge of the pool or on the wall. (Rest of this section is unchanged.)

R 10	101.4.3	page 3	Arizona				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Backstroke

101.4.3

Turns-Upon completion of each length, some part of the swimmer must touch the wall. During the turn the shoulders may be turned past the vertical toward the breast, after which a continuous simultaneous single arm pull or a continuous double arm pull may be used to initiate the turn. ~~Once the body has left the position on the back, any kick or arm pull must be part of the continuous turning action.~~ After the initiation of the turning action, no additional arm pulls may be started; however, kicking and gliding actions are permitted. The swimmer must have returned to a position on the back upon leaving the wall.

Note: The swimmer who turns past vertical and, ~~in a continuous motion,~~ grabs the wall before pushing off with the feet while on the back is considered to have executed a “~~continuous~~ proper turning action.”



~~A. Short Course (25) yards—18+, 25+, 35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 75+, 85+, 95+.....(10 year increments ... oldest age group for which they are eligible.~~

~~B. Short Course (25) meters and long course (50) meters— 72-99, 100-119, 120-159, 160-199, 200-239, 240-279, 280-319, 320-359, 360-399...(40-year increments as high as is necessary). The aggregate age of the four relay team members shall determine the age group.~~

Rationale: The age groups as defined for all meters competition offer more flexibility for clubs to field relay teams while preserving other advantages of the short course yard age group definition (competition, camaraderie). (**Note** that Pacific did not change the age determining date for short course yards [102.2.1] when submitting this proposed amendment.)

R 14	102.5	page 6	Rules Committee	Modify and add			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

102.5 Events

In planning any meet,...rest breaks and sheltered rest areas.

~~Any of the following events may be conducted.~~ Any event conducted must be offered for all groups and both genders. Any of the following events may be conducted. ~~For open water and long distance events, see article 302.~~

102.5.1 Unchanged (List of events for short course yards)

102.5.2 Unchanged (List of events for short course and long course meters)

102.5.3 For nonconforming events see article 202.1.1F(3). For open water and long distance events, see article 302.

Rationale: Move the first sentence to the end of that paragraph, so the list of events follows that sentence. Move the reference to open water and long distance events to the end of 102.5. Add the reference for nonconforming events at the end of 102.5, so as not to imply that nonconforming events must be offered for all groups and both genders; e.g., a nonconforming event might be a 25 yard freestyle for novice swimmers.

R 15	102.10.4B(2)	page 11	Rules Committee	Modify			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Methods of seeding two-to-a-lane

(2) Swimmers of similar speed in the same lane—Groups of swimmers equal in number to twice the number of lanes of the pool (e.g., groups of 12 swimmers for a six-lane pool) shall be created. Each group of swimmers shall be divided into odd and even heats. The fastest swimmer in each group shall be assigned to a middle lane in the odd heat. The second-fastest swimmer shall be assigned to the same



middle lane in the even heat. The remaining pairs of swimmers shall be assigned to lanes in accordance with article 102.10.2A.

Rationale: Original language of the last sentence was misleading.

R 16	102.13.3	page 13	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

102.13.3 The entry provisions and starting time of any event, meet or portion thereof shall stand as stated in the meet announcement (~~except as permitted in article 102.13.3~~) and may not be changed to an earlier time or date unless written notice of such change is delivered to all affected swimmers or their coaches. If mailed, such notice must be postmarked no later than the entry deadline date stated in the meet announcement, and if lack of time prohibits mail notification, all affected swimmers must voluntarily agree in writing that they have been notified and are in accord with such change. Affected swimmers or coaches may and should file a written protest with the referee prior to the running of the event or the meet if they do not agree to such change in time or date.

Rationale: Not necessary to reference the same article number.

R 17	102.14	page 13 & on line	Long Distance Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

102.14 SWIMWEAR FOR POOL COMPETITION

102.14.3 In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. ~~Except for open water competitions,~~ For men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.

Rationale: Open water swimwear will be defined in Part 3. Adding “For Pool Competition” to this title will make it clear that open water swimwear rules are not in 102.14. The proposed corresponding title for 303.6 is “Swimwear for Open Water Competition”.

R 18	102.14	page 13 & on line	Pacific				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

(See online version of rule book)

102.14.3 Composition and Style

A Short Course (25) Yards

In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. ~~All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. Except for open water competition,~~ for men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend



~~below the knees.~~ There are no restrictions on the material used or the maximum coverage of the swimsuit.

B Short Course (25) Meters and Long Course (50) Meters

In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. ~~Except for open water competition,~~ For men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.

102.14.4 Only swimsuits complying with FINA swimsuit specifications may be worn in any U.S. Masters Swimming sanctioned or recognized short course (25) meters or long course (50) meters competition.

Rationale: Allow USMS members to continue using technical suits for short course yards competition as technical suits are still being used in USMS open water competitions, and also remove any restrictions on material or maximum coverage of swimwear. As FINA does not address short course yards competition, USMS is not bound to follow FINA directives for short course yards competition.

R 19	102.14	page 13 & on line	Pacific				Modify
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled							

(See online version of rule book)

102.14.3 Composition and Style

A Short Course (25) Yards

In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. ~~Except for open water competition, for men,~~ The swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.

B Short Course (25) Meters and Long Course (50) Meters

In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. ~~Except for open water competition,~~ For men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.

102.14.4 Only swimsuits complying with FINA swimsuit specifications may be worn in any USMS sanctioned or recognized short course (25) meters or long course (50) meters competition.

Rationale: Allow USMS members to wear technical suits for short course yards competition only, with restrictions on material and maximum coverage including equal coverage for men and women. Technical suits are still being used in USMS open water competitions. As FINA does not address



short course yards competition, USMS is not bound to follow FINA directives for short course yards competition.

R 20	102.15	page 14	Rules Committee	Add and renumber the rest			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

102.15.9 No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the Referee. Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee.

Rationale: This potential disqualification used to be in 102.15 (it’s currently 102.14.2 in the rule book and 102.14.6 in the on line version). It should be in both 102.14 and 102.15, the list of disqualifications, just as 102.10.4A(6)(b) is also included in 102.15.6.

R 21	102.15.2	page 14	Rules Committee	Modify			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Disqualifications

102.15.2 The referee or designated official making a disqualification shall make every reasonable effort to seek out the swimmer or the swimmer’s coach and inform ~~them~~ one or both as to the reason for the disqualification.

Rationale: Change “them” to “one or both”; otherwise, in the middle of the sentence, the rule changes the requirement from trying to inform one or the other to trying to inform them both.

R 22	102.15.11	page 14	Rules Committee	Modify			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

102.15.11 The time, place and/or initial splits of any swimmer or relay team disqualified either during or following an event shall not be recorded in the results of that event. If awards have been ~~made~~ given prior to the decision to disqualify, they shall be returned and ~~made~~ given to the proper recipient(s), and if points have been scored by those disqualified, the event shall be rescored.

Rationale: Change “made” to “given” so it is the same language as in 102.16.1.

R 23	102.16.1	page 14	Rules Committee	Modify			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

102.16.1 The official results of any protested race shall not be announced, the affected awards shall not be given and points ~~scored~~ shall not be allocated until the protest is resolved or is withdrawn in writing.

Rationale: The word “scored” is unnecessary.



R 24	103.2	page 16	Officials Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.2 CERTIFICATION QUALIFICATION OF OFFICIALS

103.2.1 Referees shall be certified as ~~a stroke and turn judge, starter or referee~~ in this capacity by USA Swimming, USMS, YMCA or any other USMS-approved certifying body (Appendix B). Starters or stroke and turn judges certified by one of these bodies may serve as referees if they receive training on specific duties of the referee. Such training shall include all aspects of Articles 102, 103, 105, 107, and 108 for which the referee has responsibility.

Rationale: Currently, certified starters and stroke and turn judges are permitted to serve as referees at USMS meets. Since their training may not have covered all relevant technical, administrative, and facility aspects under the jurisdiction of the referee, this change ensures that starters and stroke and turn judges who serve as referees receive sufficient training to perform the duties of a referee.

R 25	103.2	page 16	Officials Committee				Add
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.2.2 Starters and stroke and turn judges shall be certified in these capacities by USA-Swimming, USMS, YMCA or any other USMS-approved certifying body (Appendix B). However, uncertified officials may perform the duties of such positions if they receive training in the specified duties of their positions and are under the direct supervision of a certified official. Such training for starters/stroke and turn judges shall include all aspects of Articles 101, 103, 107, and 108 for which starters/stroke and turn judges have responsibility.

Rationale: Add a requirement for certification of starters and stroke and turn judges, but provide a provision for continuing to use uncertified officials under certain circumstances.

R 26	103.5	page 16	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.5 Meet Committee

The meet Committee is ~~a~~Appointed by the meet sponsor. The committee consists of a minimum of the meet director, referee or starter, and a participating athlete, as appointed by the meet director prior to the start of the meet. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: ordering awards; obtaining a sanction; preparing the facility; arranging for personnel, equipment and supplies necessary for meet operation; processing entries; printing programs; arranging appropriate publicity and media coverage; preparing and distributing a summary of results within 14 days after the meet; and filing an LMSC report.

Rationale: Change the fragment to a complete sentence.

R 27	103.6.3	page 16	Rules Committee				Modify, add, and renumber the rest
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Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.6.3 The referee shall signal the starter before each race that all officials are in position, that the course is clear and that the competition can begin; ~~shall assign marshals with specific instructions.~~

103.6.4 The referee shall assign marshals with specific instructions.

Rationale: The start and assigning marshals are two unrelated duties; list them separately.

R 28	103.6.7	page 33	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

103.6.7 The referee may modify any rule for a swimmer who has a disability. Any such modification shall be in accordance with article 108, shall affect only the current meet and ~~does~~ shall not set precedent. It shall be the responsibility of the swimmer or a representative to notify the referee of the disability prior to competition.

Rationale: Replace “does” with “shall”.

R 29	103.10.6	page 19	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

103.10.6 Infraction Signal—Either the referee or the stroke, turn or relay takeoff judge shall immediately raise one hand overhead with open palm upon observing an infraction within that judge’s jurisdiction. If the official does not do so, there shall be no disqualification.

Exception: Relay takeoff judges as outlined in article 103.10.5B and the referee as outlined in article 103.6.2.

Rationale: The referee also has an exception to raising the hand for a disqualification as noted in 103.6.2.

R 30	103.11.4	page 20	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

103.11.4 Timing Equipment Operator—The timing equipment operator shall be responsible for the automatic or semiautomatic timing equipment, including the electronic starting system and scoreboard (if used), ~~and~~ The timing equipment operator shall also advise the referee of any system problems that might affect the accuracy of times or whenever the touchpad is observed to have failed to record the finish when the swimmer completed the race. The timing equipment should be placed so that the operator is able to observe the finish of each race.

Rationale: Divide first sentence into two sentences.

R 31	103.12.2B	page 21	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.12.2B

B Secondary system—If manually operated watches are not the primary system, a secondary system of precedence equal to or lower than the primary system shall be used. The secondary system may be one of the following, listed in their preferred order of use:

- (1) Backup timing cameras recording a minimum of 100 images per second. The cameras must be fully integrated with the timing system.
- (2) Semiautomatic with ~~one, two or three~~, two or one buttons, each operated by a separate timer.
- (3) Manual with ~~one, two or three~~, two or one watches per lane, each operated by a separate timer.

Rationale: Add “listed in their preferred order of use” for consistency with 103.12.2A, and reverse the order of the number of buttons or watches per lane to reflect the preferred order of buttons/watches.

R 32	103.13.1	page 24	Rules Committee	Modify
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Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.13.1 An official time shall be achieved in a USMS-sanctioned competition or a USMS-recognized event in accordance with all applicable rules (articles 202.1.1F[1] and 202.2.1E). It may be achieved in:

A A timed heat.

B An initial distance within a longer event or relay, provided the swimmer:

- (1) Notifies the meet referee in writing of the intent to record an initial split time prior to the conclusion of the meet,
- (2) Makes the written request prior to the swim for relay leadoff splits and for initial backstroke distances in individual backstroke events,
- (3) Completes the initial distance with a legal finish and
- (4) Completes the event without being disqualified.

C A relay leadoff leg provided the swimmers complete the event without being disqualified.

D The swimmer’s relay leadoff split shall not count if the second swimmer starts in the water.

Rationale: Add the reference numbers that require following applicable rules for sanctioned competition and recognized events.

R 33	103.13.4	page 25	Rules Committee	Modify
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Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.13.4 Only those results from events conducted in pools officially certified for length in conformance with article 107.2.1 shall be acceptable for record applications or Top 10 submissions.

Rationale: Clarify that the pool must actually be measured.

R 34	104.3.2	page 26	Rules Committee	Modify
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Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.3.2 Eligible bidders—Any club, LMSC or organization may bid. The facility to be used must be in accordance with the facility standards (article 107). The Championship Committee shall strongly consider LMSC endorsement as a selection criteria.

Rationale: Add the reference number for facility standards.

R 35	104.3.5	page 27	Rules Committee			Modify	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.3.5 Certification of bids—Prior to the annual meeting of the House of Delegates, the Championship Committee shall certify each bid for compliance with its policies and procedures, including facilities standards (article 107).

Rationale: Clarify that the annual meeting is the House of Delegates’ meeting.

R 36	104.5.1A	page 27	Georgia			Modify	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.1 Information for Participants

A General meeting—A general meeting of the House of Delegates, members of the Championship Committee, organizing personnel, interested officials, coaches and swimmers shall be held the evening prior to the first day of the meet.

Rationale: This meeting has never, in recent memory, been conducted as a meeting of the House of Delegates. The list of invitees is deleted because 104.5.1A(1-3) define what is covered in the meeting; defining it as a general meeting and describing the topics covered eliminates the need to list the invitees.

R 37	104.5.2A	page 29	Championship Committee			Modify	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

A Meet schedules (2010–2011)

Schedule 1	Schedule 2	Schedule 3
2010 Long Course	2011 Short Course	2010 Short Course
		2011 Long Course
1st Day**	1st Day**	1st Day**
800/1000 free	800/1000 free	800/1000 free
1500/1650 free	1500/1650 free	1500/1650 free
2nd Day	2nd Day	2nd Day
400 IM	400 IM	400 IM
50 fly	50 fly	200 free
200 free	200 back	50 breast
100 back	100 breast	200 back
200 breast	50 free	100 fly
200 mixed medley relay	200 mixed free relay	200 mixed free relay



200 free relay

3rd Day

400/500 free (women)
200 back
50 free
100 breast
200 IM
100 fly
200 medley relay

4th Day

400/500 free (men)
200 mixed free relay
50 breast
100 IM*
200 fly
100 free
50 back
~~200 mixed free relay~~

3rd Day

400/500 free (women)
100 IM*
200 fly
100 back
50 breast
200 free
200 mixed medley relay
200 free relay

4th Day

400/500 free (men)
200 medley relay
200 breast
100 fly
50 back
200 IM
100 free
~~200 medley relay~~

3rd Day

400/500 free (men)
200 mixed medley relay
100 breast
50 fly
200 IM
100 free
50 back
200 free relay

4th Day

400/500 free (women)
200 medley relay
100 IM*
200 fly
100 back
200 breast
50 free
~~200 medley relay~~

Rationale: Referees have recommended not ending the last day with a relay because there are far more name changes than normal on relays if they are the last event of the meet (swimmers leave early to catch flights). It takes extra time for officials to sort through all the handwritten changes on the relay cards, delaying the announcement of the final scores and the distribution of medals. Moving the relay to the morning of the last day, after the distance event, solves this problem.

R 38	104.5.2A	page 29	Championship Committee	Modify			
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled							

104.5.2A Meet schedules (2012-2015)

(Look for an email to all delegates prior to convention with proposed meet schedules for consideration by the House of Delegates for national championship meets.)

Rationale: See 104.5.2B(4), p. 30. Three meet schedules will be selected by a vote of the House of Delegates and those three schedules will apply to the rotation of meet schedules for national championship meets beginning in 2012.

R 39	104.5.2B(4)	page 30	Rules Committee	Modify			
Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled							

104.5.2 B

(4) The three basic schedules shall be chosen every four years, starting in 1990, by a vote of the House of Delegates, from at least four alternatives presented by the Championship Committee. The selected schedules shall apply to the period starting two years after ~~approved~~ approval by the House of Delegates.



Rationale: Grammatical correction; “two years after approved” should be “two years after approval”.

R 40	104.5.2D	page 30	Championship Committee			Modify and add	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.2

D Alternative meet schedules—Alternative meet schedules may be approved as follows:

- (1) A meet bidder may, with the approval of the Championship Committee, bid for a national championship meet with a different schedule from those defined in article 104.5.2A.
- (2) The Championship Committee has the authority to approve other changes in the meet schedule, as necessary, prior to the publication of the meet entry form in order to improve the efficiency of a particular national championship meet.

Rationale: Currently the Rules Committee has to recommend that a request for a change in the order of events be approved. There are certain situations, such as R 37, when changes would make a particular meet run more efficiently and be an improvement for all participants.

R 41	104.5.4A(3)	page 31	Championship Committee			Modify	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.4 Entry Procedures

A Eligibility/affiliation

(3) Affiliation—A swimmer’s affiliation as stated on the entry form shall apply throughout the meet. If the club on the entry form and the club listed in the USMS membership database do not match, the swimmer shall, prior to the first day of competition, submit a new USMS membership card showing the new affiliation. If there are any questions about club affiliation, the swimmer shall be switched to unattached status for the duration of the meet, regardless of actual affiliation. A swimmer may only declare unattached status prior to the start of the meet ~~at any time~~.

Rationale: The last sentence conflicts with the rest of the paragraph and infers the swimmer may change to unattached during the middle of the meet. The intent is to have a swimmer affiliated with one club or be unattached throughout the whole meet. Finally, most meet management software programs cannot accommodate one swimmer being on a club for part of the meet and unattached for the rest of the meet, and it is not practical to tabulate these separate results and scores manually.

R 42	104.5.5A(7)	page 33	Rules Committee			Modify	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding

(7) After all full heats are seeded within each age group, the remaining swimmers may be seeded with any available, older age group of remaining swimmers.

Rationale: Current practice and intent.



R 43 104.5.5A(11) pages 33-34 **Championship Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding

(11) If a swimmer enters an ~~deck seeded~~ event with a time significantly slower than ~~his/her~~ that recently swimmer's recorded time in the past year, the meet director may, after notifying the swimmer, change the seeded time to a realistic time.

Rationale: Expand the meet director's ability to change a swimmer's seed time to a time that is realistic, from deck seeded events only to all events at nationals to help keep the meet on its predicted timeline.

R 44 104.5.8B page 35 **Championship Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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B Publication of meet results

Meet results...shall be published within 30 days after the last day of the meet; and posted on the USMS website, ~~and distributed, if requested, to the representative of each participating club.~~ Hard copies Electronic files shall be sent to the Executive Championship Committee chair and the USMS Records and Tabulations chair, and ~~a hard copy~~ and electronic files shall be sent to the ~~chair and liaison for the Championship Committee and the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee chair or designee.~~

Rationale: Eliminate unnecessary expenses by the Host. The USMS website provides full results. The only party who needs a hardcopy for their position is the Records and Tabulation Chair. The Championship Chair gets hardcopies for ISHOF and archives use through the meet contract. All other parties may purchase a hardcopy if so desired.

R 45 105.1.1 page 37 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.1.1 Sanction/Recognition—All times must be ~~made~~ achieved in USMS sanctioned meets or recognized events.

Rationale: Change “made” to “achieved” to be consistent with the rest of article 105.

R 46 105.1.2 page 37 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.1.2 Deadlines—Times to be considered for records and Top 10 times must be ~~made~~ achieved on or before May 31 for short course yard times, September 30 for long course meter times and December 31 for short course meter times. These times shall be forwarded to the Records and Tabulation Committee chair by June 30, October 20 and January 26, respectively.

Rationale: Change “made” to “achieved” to be consistent with the rest of article 105.

R 47 105.1.2 page 37 **Records and Tabulation Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.1.2 Deadlines—Times to be considered for records and Top 10 times must be made on or before May 31 for short course yard times, September 30 for long course meter times and December 31 for short course meter times. These times shall be forwarded to the Records and Tabulation Committee chair or designee by June 30, October 20 and January 26, respectively.

Rationale: Current practice; Top 10 submissions are submitted to the National Swim Administrator, the “designee” of the Records and Tabulation Committee chair (as stated in the Guide to Operations). For consistency with other articles; “or designee” is also used in 105.3.8, 105.5, and 104.5.8B.

R 48 105.2.2A pages 38 **Ozark** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.2.2 Split times shall be considered for Top 10 times if:

A Recorded by fully automatic timing equipment or by semi-automatic or manual devices with two buttons or two watches dedicated to taking the split time,

Rationale: Currently, split times are not accepted for USMS purposes at a meet that uses only stop watches or semiautomatic devices. A split time recorded with three stopwatches is acceptable for a FINA World record but is not accepted for USMS Top 10, USMS records, or in the USMS database. The minimum timing quality for USMS Top 10 times is two manual times. Requiring separate stop watches or semiautomatic devices dedicated to the split distance alone would avoid errors in the official time for the final distance.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

(R 47) 103.13.3 page 25

103.13.3 The official time to establish records and Top 10 times can be achieved only in accordance with the following timing methods:

Timing method

Official time level

Automatic timing

- World records, USMS national records and USMS Top 10 times
- Initial splits for all purposes
- Relay leadoff times for all purposes

Semi-automatic with three buttons or three watches

- World records, USMS national records and USMS Top 10 times
- Initial splits and relay leadoff times for ~~world records only~~ all purposes

Semi-automatic with two buttons or two watches

- USMS Top 10 times
- Initial splits and relay leadoff times for USMS Top 10 times

R 49 105.2.2B page 38 **Records and Tabulation Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.2.2 Split times shall be considered for Top 10 times if:



B In an individual event other than backstroke, the request to have a split time recorded is brought in writing to the attention of the meet referee director prior to the conclusion of the meet or brought to the attention of the meet host’s LMSC Top 10 recorder within 30 days of the conclusion of the meet or by the end of the appropriate season as stated in 105.1.2, whichever comes first,

Rationale: To give swimmers more flexibility in requesting that split times be submitted for Top 10 consideration. Swimmers may not realize until they see the results published online that their split times might be competitive. The 30-day limit gives the meet director time to publish the results and the swimmers time to read them without being unduly burdensome on the Top 10 recorder.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

103.13.1B page 24

103.13.1 An official time shall be achieved in a USMS-sanctioned competition or a USMS-recognized event in accordance with all applicable rules. It may be achieved in:

B An initial distance within a longer event or relay, provided ~~the swimmer~~ that:

- (1) For relay leadoff splits and initial backstroke distances in individual backstroke events, the swimmer ~~Notifies~~ the meet referee in writing of the intent to record an initial split time prior to the event ~~the conclusion of the meet,~~
- (2) ~~Makes the written request prior to the swim for relay leadoff splits and for initial backstroke distances in individual backstroke events~~ For other swims, the swimmer notifies the meet director in writing prior to the conclusion of the meet or notifies the Top 10 recorder of the meet host’s LMSC within 30 days of the conclusion of the meet or by the end of the appropriate season as stated in 105.1.2, whichever comes first,
- (3) The swimmer ~~C~~ompletes the initial distance with a legal finish, and
- (4) The swimmer ~~C~~ompletes the event without being disqualified.

Also: The **split notification forms** on page 137 in Appendix B and page 13 of the Records and Tabulation section of the Guide to Operations will need to be updated.

R 50	105.2.2	page 38	Records and Tabulation Committee	Add			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

105.2.2 Split times shall be considered for Top 10 times if:

F Relay leadoff split times and initial distance times from individual events conform to articles 103.13.1 and 105.2.2A for events listed in article 102.5. The relay event itself and the individual event itself need not conform to article 102.5 as long as the distance and stroke are clearly defined.

Rationale: This practice is already allowed under 202.1.1F(3) and the Records and Tabulation Committee approves of it, so the proposed amendment is for clarity and consistency.

Two other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

105.3.6 page 39



105.3.6 Split times shall be considered for USMS national records if they meet the requirements of articles 105.2.2A to 105.2.2E.

Such split times shall be included separately in the summary of results prepared by the meet director and submitted to the LMSC Top 10 recorder.

202.2.1E(4) page 53

202.2.1 Recognition—Recognition shall be issued, withheld or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

E The conduct of a recognized event shall conform to relevant USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations including, but not limited to, the following:

(4) Articles 105.1, 105.2.1, 105.2.2A, 105.2.2F, 105.3.2, 105.3.7A, and 105.3.10.

R 51	105.3.8	page 39	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

105.3.8 When a record is claimed, an official USMS record application form (Appendix B) shall be filled out, signed by the designated officials and transmitted immediately following performance with all supporting data, including official meet results, the timing system printout and/or copy of the entry card with timers’ signatures to the records and tabulation chair for the LMSC in which the event was sanctioned or recognized. Responsibility for this lies with either the LMSC records chair or the official scorer of the meet. The LMSC records and tabulation chair shall send the supporting data to the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee for verification. Upon verification, the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee shall promptly publish the new record on the USMS website. A record application shall not be accepted unless proof of age, copy of a birth certificate or passport, accompanies it or is on file with USMS.

Rationale: Proof-of-age requirement currently appears only on the record application and in the Guide to Operations. It is treated as a rule and should appear in the rules.

R 52	105.3.8	page 39	Records and Tabulation Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

105.3.8 When a record is claimed, an official USMS record application form (Appendix B) shall be filled out, signed by the designated officials and transmitted immediately following performance with all supporting data, including official meet results, the timing system printout and/or copy of the entry card with timers’ signatures to the records and tabulation chair for the LMSC in which the event was sanctioned or recognized. Responsibility for this lies with either the LMSC records chair or the official scorer of the meet. The LMSC records and tabulation chair shall send the supporting data to the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee ~~for verification~~ within 90 days of the end of the season as stated in 105.1.2. Upon verification, the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee shall promptly publish the new record on the USMS website.

Rationale: The USMS records administrator currently must keep incomplete record applications on file indefinitely and swimmers who break published records learn later that a much older swim has finally



been submitted for record verification. The FINA deadline for world record applications is 60 days. The proposed deadline for USMS allows 30 days after the end of the season to discover that a record has been set plus 60 days to collect the necessary supporting documentation to submit an application.

Other documents that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

The **record application form** on page 135 in Appendix B and page 10 of the Records and Tabulation section of the Guide to Operations will need to be updated.

R 53	105.4	page 39	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

105.4 All-American Recognition

105.4.1 Individual Recognition All-American

The USMS member with the fastest listed time for an individual event for that season shall be declared the All-American in that event for the year.

105.4.2 Relay Recognition All-American

The USMS members from each relay team with the fastest listed time for that season shall be declared the Relay All-Americans in that event for the year.

Rationale: Change “All-American Recognition” to “All-American” (delete the word “recognition”) throughout 105.4 because the official use of the term “recognized” applies to recognized events as described in 202.2 and as defined in the Glossary. (The same change has been proposed for 305.11.)

R 54	105.4.1	page 39	Arizona				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

105.4 All-American Recognition

105.4.1 Individual Recognition

The USMS ~~member~~ members with the five (5) fastest listed times for each individual event for that season shall be declared ~~the~~ All-Americans in that event for the year.

Rationale: Allow the top five fastest times in each event to be All Americans in order to encourage more participation in national meets and give recognition to others who are also at a high level. At the college level, the top 20 swimmers in each event are All Americans.

R 55	105.4.2	page 39	Arizona				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

105.4 All-American Recognition

105.4.2 Relay Recognition

The USMS members from each of the three (3) relay teams with the fastest listed times for that season shall be declared the Relay All-Americans in that event for the year.

Rationale: Allow the top three fastest times in each relay event to be All Americans in order to encourage more participation in national meets and give recognition to others who are also at a high level.



R 56	107.2.3B	page 41	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

107.2.3 Water Depth

B Racing course—Minimum water depth shall be 2 meters (6 feet, 7 inches) throughout the course. Based on facility availability, the ~~championship meet committee~~ Championship Committee may waive this requirement for national championship meets. [NC]

Rationale: “Championship Committee” is the correct title for the committee that can waive the depth requirement for national championship meets.

R 57	107.4.3	pages 41-42	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

107.4.3 Lane Numbers—The lanes shall be numbered from right to left as the swimmers stand facing the course from the starting end of the pool. If the event is started at the turning end of the course, no change in the lane numbering shall be made; i.e., the lanes shall be numbered the same on both ends of the course. Lane numbers shall clearly identify the lanes to officials stationed on each side of the course. [M]

Rationale: Add the exception from 102.10.3A for numbering lanes in a 50-meter course when 50s are started at the turn end of the course. When looking in the rule book for how to number the lanes, a person would logically look in “Facilities, Lane Numbers” not in “Seeding”.

R 58	107.8.1	page 42	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

107.8.1 Unobstructed Deck—Use of portable lifeguard chair stands and other deck fixtures is recommended. ~~They~~ Such portable equipment should ~~shall~~ be removed from the competition area to allow free passage and unobstructed view for competitors and officials along all sides of the course. [M*, NC]

Rationale: Change “should” to “shall” since this is required for national championship meets, and it is required for local competition unless strict compliance is waived by the LMSC.

R 59	107.11.3	page 43	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

107.11.3 Size and Slope of Platform—The top surface of the starting platform shall be not less than .50 by .50 meters (1 foot, 8 inches square) and shall slope not more than 10 degrees from the horizontal. It may have an adjustable setting back plate. The entire surface of the platform shall be faced with permanent nonslip material. [M]



Rationale: Both FINA and USA Swimming have changed their rules to allow the setting back plate on the blocks, and the adjustable setting back plates have been used at some USMS meets.

R 60	107.11.5	page 43	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

107.11.5 Lane Numbers—Starting platforms shall be clearly marked with lane numbers visible to competitors and officials (see article 107.4.3 for lane numbering procedures). [M]

Rationale: Add the reference to 107.4.3 for the lane numbering rules.

R 61	107.14	page 44	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

107.14 Loudspeaker Starting System

An electronic sound-generating device shall be provided to give the starting and recall signal. Loudspeakers may be mounted underneath or on the side of each starting platform, between every two platforms, on each side of the racing course or positioned behind the starting platforms in such a manner that equitable dispersion of sound to all lanes is assured. The device shall also activate a strobe light or similar visual signal located on the starter’s side of the course approximately 15 feet forward from the starting end, to indicate the start to manual timers and deaf and hard of hearing swimmers (also see article 108.3). The starting system may include an underwater recall speaker and final-lap signal option. [NC]

Rationale: Add reference to 108.3 since deaf and hard of hearing swimmers are specifically mentioned here, but the position of the strobe light for backstroke for deaf and hard of hearing swimmers is not mentioned here.

R 62	108.2	page 46	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

108.2 BLIND AND ~~VISUALLY IMPAIRED~~ VISION LOSS

Rationale: Article 108 is based on USA Swimming’s article 105. USA Swimming changed the title.

HOUSEKEEPING

HK 1	102.13.4A	page 13	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled



- A. If, prior to the start of a meet or event, if unusual or severe weather or other conditions preclude the possibility of safely and effectively conducting a meet or event, the meet committee (article 103.5) may cancel or postpone it.

Rationale: Correct grammar and punctuation.

HK 2 102.14.2	page 13/14	Rules Committee				Modify	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
References are: 102.14.2 (rule book) 102.14.6 (on line version)							

102.14.26 ~~No S~~swimmers ~~are is not~~ permitted to wear or use any device or substance to ~~help~~ enhance their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the Referee. Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee.

Rationale: Use the singular throughout the first sentence.

HK 3 102.14	pages 13-14	Rules Committee				Modify	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
(See on line version of rule book)							

102.14 Swimwear

102.14.1 **Design**—The swimsuits worn for competition shall be nontransparent and conform to the current concept of the appropriate. The referee shall have authority to bar offenders from competition until they comply with this rule.

102.14.2 **A.** Swimwear shall include only a swimsuit, cap and goggles (a nose clip and ear plugs are allowed). Arm bands or leg bands shall not be regarded as parts of the swimsuit and are not allowed.

102.14.3 **B.** In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. Except for open water competitions, for men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the knees.

102.14.4 **C.** Only swimsuits complying with FINA swimsuit specifications may be worn in any USMS sanctioned or recognized competition.

102.14.5 **D.** Exemptions to the foregoing restrictions may be granted to a swimmer, on a case by case basis, by the Chair of the Rules Committee or designee. Exemptions will be granted only for conflicts due to the swimmer's verified religious beliefs or verified medical conditions.

A(1) Procedures for applying for an exemption will be established by the Rules Committee and posted on the US Masters Swimming website.

B(2) No exemption to these restrictions will be granted for a swimsuit that will give the swimmer a competitive advantage.

C(3) The decision of the Rules Chair may be appealed only to the entire Rules Committee whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.



102.14.26 E. Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the Referee. Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee.

102.14.32 **Advertising**—Products involving tobacco, alcohol or pharmaceuticals containing drugs banned under IOC or FINA rules may not be advertised, but the advertiser’s name only may be used. Offenders may be barred from competition until they comply with this rule.

Rationale: More closely matches USA Swimming’s numbering and organization of the text.

HK 4 103.6.4	page 16	Rules Committee	Modify				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.6.4 The referee shall give a decision on any point where the opinions of the judges differ; and shall have authority to intercede in a competition at any stage to ensure that the racing conditions are observed.

Rationale: Replace the semicolon with “and”.

HK 5 103.6.6	page 16	Rules Committee	Modify				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.6.6 The referee may prohibit the use of any device, such as a laser pointing device or artificial noisemaker, that disrupts or interferes with the meet, ~~such as a laser pointing device or artificial noisemaker~~.

Rationale: Move the phrase to the noun it describes.

HK 6 103.6.8	page 17	Rules Committee	Modify				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.6.8 The referee shall establish the necessary administrative and officiating procedures to conform to article 102.10 ~~When~~ conducting events from alternate ends of a 50-meter course or conducting freestyle events longer than 200 meters two-to-a-lane ~~the referee shall establish the necessary administrative and officiating procedures to conform to article 102.10.~~

Rationale: Move the last phrase to the beginning of the sentence to be consistent with language in article 103.6.

HK 7 103.8.1	page 17	Rules Committee	Modify				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.8 Starter



103.8.1 Equipment—~~The preferred starting device shall be~~ a loudspeaker start system conforming to article 107.14, with or without an underwater recall device, and an electronic strobe signal visible to all manual timers and for forward and backstroke starts ~~shall be the preferred starting device~~.

Rationale: Begin the sentence by stating what the type of equipment is; a “starting device”.

HK 8 103.10.3	page 19	Rules Committee	Modify				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.10.3 Turn Judges—Shall operate on both ends of the pool; shall ensure that when turning or finishing, the swimmer complies with the turning and finishing rules applicable to the stroke used; and shall report any violations to the referee on signed slips detailing the event, the heat number, the lane number and the infraction observed.

Rationale: Add a comma after “finishing” so the swimmer is doing the turning and finishing instead of being turned and finished by the turn judges.

HK 9 103.12.4F	page 24	Rules Committee	Modify				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.12.4F

Table 2—Example (Heat Malfunction)

Systems used:

Primary—Automatic (late manual start confirmed)

Secondary—Semiautomatic, three buttons (button times not valid)

Tertiary—Manual, one watch (valid)

Lane	Lane Primary Pad Time	Watch Time	Watch Time Less Pad Time	Heat Adjustment	Official Time
1	52.12	55.14	3.02	+3.06	55.18
2	51.56	54.61	3.05	+3.06	54.62
3	51.09	54.18	3.09	+3.06	54.15
4	50.12	53.18	3.06	+3.06	53.18
5	49.78	52.90	3.12	+3.06	52.84
6	49.06	52.06	3.00	+3.06	52.12
7	52.21	55.30	3.09	+3.06	55.27
8	52.92	55.99	3.07	+3.06	55.98

Adjustment calculation: ~~Add the differences between the pad and watch times (total = 24.50).~~

~~• Add the differences between the pad and watch times (total = 24.50).~~

~~• Divide the total by the number of lanes to determine an average (24.50 ÷ 8 = 3.0625). The digits~~

~~• Drop the digits after the hundredths are dropped place (leaving a heat adjustment of 3.06). Add the adjustment factor for the~~

~~• Add the adjustment factor for the late start of the primary system to each pad time to obtain the official time for that lane (e.g., lane one, 52.12 + 3.06 = 55.18).~~

Same changes shown in a slightly larger font:

Adjustment calculation: Add the differences between the pad and watch times (total = 24.50).

• Add the differences between the pad and watch times (total = 24.50).

• Divide the total by the number of lanes to determine an average (24.50 ÷ 8 = 3.0625). The digits

• Drop the digits after the hundredths are dropped place (leaving a heat adjustment of 3.06). Add the adjustment factor for the

• Add the adjustment factor for the late start of the primary system to each pad time to obtain the official time for that lane (e.g., lane one, 52.12 + 3.06 = 55.18).

Rationale: Make the adjustment calculation paragraph under the table easier to understand by placing each step on a separate line.



PROPOSED LEGISLATION AMENDMENTS

L1 201.13 Open Water Committee page 49

201.1.3 One-Event Registration

A Open Water One-Event Registration—USMS shall offer a one-event registration, with no age limitations, that allows an athlete to participate in USMS sanctioned open water events and clinics. Membership cards shall not be issued for one-event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by the open water rules and regulations of USMS, except that their swims shall not be eligible for USMS national open water awards and recognition. One-event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

B Pool One-Event Registration—An LMSC may offer a single-event registration that allows an athlete to participate in one event sanctioned by that LMSC. Membership cards shall not be issued for one-event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by the rules and regulations of USMS, except that their times shall not be considered for Top 10 tabulation, national or world records, All-American status or any other USMS special awards. One-event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

Rationale: Creates a widely available open water One-Event Registration without age limitations. This type of one event registration will help with event development and allow USMS OW to be competitive in the marketplace. Leaves the pool OEVT intact.

L2 204 Open Water Committee page 54

ARTICLE 204: **Open Water Sanction**

204.1 Sanctions

Swims achieved at sanctioned events are considered for USMS open water national awards and recognition.

204.1.1 Sanction Requirements—Sanctions shall be issued, withheld or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A USMS each year shall make available to LMSCs an open water sanction application. Each LMSC is required to use this application. LMSCs may not add additional sanction requirements without the approval of USMS.

B Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held, and applications shall be accompanied by a copy of the entry form. If any events are to be swum in more than one LMSC, the LMSC where the meet will originate will



have jurisdiction in issuing the sanction. This does not prohibit the other LMSC from also issuing a sanction for the meet.

(1) The entry forms shall contain the language of the liability release as stated in article 205.1. The language may only be modified by naming the sanctioning LMSC, sponsoring USMS club(s) and/or additional insured(s) following “UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING INC.” All swimmers, before participating, shall have signed the liability release.

(2) Entry forms and programs must bear the statement “Sanctioned by (LMSC name) for USMS Inc. Sanction number: _____.”

(3) The sanction fee shall be established by USMS. LMSCs desiring to add an additional sanction fee must receive approval from USMS.

C All sanctions shall be signed by the LMSC’s authorized representative, and a record thereof shall be retained for two years. The LMSC's authorized representative shall report the sanction to USMS.

D Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another. Any sanctions so transferred shall be void for all purposes, and the LMSC may deny further sanctions to any organization violating this provision.

E No sanction of any event shall be granted with the word “Olympic” or any derivative thereof used in any manner in connection with said event unless consent is obtained from the USOC.

F All sanctioned events are subject to the following conditions:

(1) The conduct of a sanctioned event shall be in compliance with applicable USMS open water swimming rules, or when the sanctioned event is held simultaneously in conjunction with a USA Swimming sanctioned open water event, USA Swimming members shall swim under applicable USA Swimming open water rules and administrative regulations.

(2) When open water events include both USMS and USA Swimming members, with the USMS events sanctioned by USMS and the USA Swimming events sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, under no circumstances shall a USMS athlete and a USA Swimming athlete be considered part of the same event, but they may swim at the same time on the same course. Athletes holding both USMS and USA Swimming memberships must declare their race affiliation, in writing, prior to the start of the event.

(3) All swimmers entered in USMS sanctioned events shall be USMS members, or shall have valid travel permits or their equivalents, and shall have acceptable proof of current USMS membership, or complete a one-event open water registration.

(4) In order to be in compliance with FINA rules, an LMSC may grant exceptions to specific USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations when sanctioning a FINA Masters World Championship open water event.

(5) Sanctioned events may include nonconforming swimming events so long as they are conducted in a safe manner.

(6) All swimmers shall submit with their entries copies of their current USMS membership cards or travel permits, or supply proof of current USMS Masters membership acceptable to the LMSC; however, at the discretion of the meet director and exclusive of national championship meets, a swimmer may enter indicating “number pending,” as long as proof of USMS membership is presented prior to the swimmer’s participation in the event.



(7) For competitive open water events that calculate individual scoring for place and/or club scoring, a swimmer’s valid club affiliation and age must be displayed after the name in the program.

(8) Event directors shall submit official results of the event to USMS for inclusion in an open water event results database.

G A further sanction may be denied to any organization that has failed to conduct such event in accordance with applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations, or as stated on the entry form.

Rationale: The open water sanction information exists in Part 2 and Part 3 of the rule book. In addition, the legislation on Sanctions/Recognition in Part 2 (article 202) is largely about pool competitions. This is a confusing situation. The proposed articles 204 and 205 separate open water sanction and liability release code from the pool code and modify the code to be more relevant to open water. The sanction code in article 301.2 and 301.3 has been incorporated in the new articles.

L3 205

Open Water Committee

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**ARTICLE 205:
Open Water Liability Release**

205.1 Release

All individual membership application forms and sanctioned entry forms shall include a liability release. The liability release shall be signed by the person registering or entering. The language of the membership release shall be:

“I, the undersigned participant, intending to be legally bound, hereby certify that I am physically fit and have not been otherwise informed by a physician. I acknowledge that I am aware of all the risks inherent in Masters swimming (training and competition), including possible permanent disability or death, and agree to assume all of those risks. AS A CONDITION OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THE MASTERS SWIMMING PROGRAM OR ANY ACTIVITIES INCIDENT THERETO, I HEREBY WAIVE ANY AND ALL RIGHTS TO CLAIMS FOR LOSS OR DAMAGES, INCLUDING ALL CLAIMS FOR LOSS OR DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE, ACTIVE OR PASSIVE, OF THE FOLLOWING: UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING INC., THE LOCAL MASTERS SWIMMING COMMITTEES, THE CLUBS, HOST FACILITIES, MEET SPONSORS, MEET COMMITTEES OR ANY INDIVIDUALS OFFICIATING AT THE MEETS OR SUPERVISING SUCH ACTIVITIES. In addition, I agree to abide by and be governed by the rules of USMS. Finally, I specifically acknowledge that I am aware of all the risks inherent in open water swimming and agree to assume those risks.

205.1.1 The language of the entry release may be modified as described in article 204.1.1A(1).

205.1.2 The waiver for one-event registrants under the age of 18 shall be signed by a parent or guardian.



Rationale: Provides a waiver for open water that is complete and does not require event hosts to look in two places to find the OW waiver.

201.1.3 One-Event Registration

A Open Water One-Event Registration—USMS shall offer a one-event registration, with no age limitations, that allows an athlete to participate in USMS sanctioned open water events and clinics. Membership cards shall not be issued for one-event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by the open water rules and regulations of USMS, except that their swims shall not be eligible for USMS national open water awards and recognition. One-event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

B Pool One-Event Registration—An LMSC may offer a single-event registration that allows an athlete to participate in one event sanctioned by that LMSC. Membership cards shall not be issued for one-event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by the rules and regulations of USMS, except that their times shall not be considered for Top 10 tabulation, national or world records, All-American status or any other USMS special awards. One-event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

Rationale: Creates a widely available open water One-Event Registration without age limitations. This type of one event registration will help with event development and allow USMS OW to be competitive in the marketplace. Leaves the pool OEVT intact.

ARTICLE 504

L 4 504.1 Membership page 75

504.1.4 All Zone Chairs

Rationale: The Zone Chairs used to be members of the House of Delegates by virtue of being members of the Zone Committee. After the elimination of the Zone Committee, 504.1.4 was removed, but the Zone Chairs were not added back into the membership of the House of Delegates.



Standing Rules of the United States Masters Swimming Annual Meeting of 2010

Rule 1 The Secretary, directly after the opening ceremonies of the first business meeting, shall report the number of delegates and others registered as present with proper credentials, and shall make a supplementary report after the opening of each session that business continues.

Rule 2 A member of USMS, may, upon proper clearance by the Secretary, be transferred to delegate status, at any time during the continuance of business meetings.

Rule 3 For admission to the floor of the House, to facilitate identification and seating, a member shall be required to wear the badge issued by United States Aquatic Sports and a sticker from the Convention Coordinator.

Rule 4 In the report from a Committee, all Action Items shall be placed on the floor of the House without a motion or second. The House may consider the action items of a committee as one motion, or individual motions.

Rule 5 No member shall speak in debate more than once on the same question, on the same day, or longer than three minutes, without permission of the convention granted by two thirds vote without debate.

Rule 6 Motions shall be made from the microphones only.

Rule 7 If a motion to call for the question is made and accepted by 2/3 of the House, any member in line at a microphone shall be recognized to speak for their allotted time.

Rule 8 All motions, in the House or Committees, shall be recorded, in writing or electronically, with the name of the maker.

Rule 9 Elections shall be run by the written policies of the Election Committee.

Rule 10 Rules contained in the current edition of the Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the House of Delegates and its Committees, in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of U. S. Masters Swimming and these standing rules



CHECK-IN AND CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE AT USMS CONVENTION

Each delegate must complete the two-step process outlined below. You must have a “certified ID” to vote as a member of the House of Delegates (HOD) and be eligible to attend HOD meetings!

- 1) **CHECK IN AT THE UNITED STATES AQUATIC SPORTS (USAS) STATION** to pick up your ID - a badge with your name & LMSC on it. You will also receive a convention bag, binder, and miscellaneous souvenirs.

AND

- 2) **CHECK IN AT THE USMS TABLE** to obtain “certification” that you are a USMS delegate. This is the process that verifies a delegate’s eligibility to vote in the House of Delegates (HOD). You will also receive your voting cards and other important convention material and information.

The USMS Certification/Information table will be open as follows:

Wednesday, September 15th, from 8:00 am – 5:00pm – vendor area

Thursday, September 16th, from 7:00 am – 7:45 am – vendor area

The USMS Certification/Information table will move to outside the HOD meeting room on Thursday, September 16th (Reunion Ballroom F). All subsequent certification by USMS will take place here during HOD meetings, until they recess. (Refer to the meeting schedule in your pre-convention packet and/or binder for time and location). Late arrivals **must** locate Debbie Cavanaugh (Certification Chair) to receive their certification and voting cards.

Please note: If you did not register for convention in advance, you will need to have USMS Secretary CJ Rushman sign a certification release before you can proceed to Debbie Cavanaugh for the balance of certification material.

New Delegates will receive a special ID identifying them as **NEW DELEGATES** as well as information regarding the New Delegate Orientation.