

Report to be given on: Fri ___ Sat X

Committee Chair: Sally Dillon Recorder: Janet Renner

Action Items

- MSC to recommend that the following be included on OW entry forms: "Foreign swimmers requiring an official letter of invitation for purposes of securing a Visa to enter the U.S. should contact Tracy Grilli, USMS Secretary at (address, phone, fax, email)."
- MSC to approve the budget as presented.
- MSC to accept the bid from Hasty Awards in the amount of \$3257.
- MSC to not consider the emergency proposal submitted by Lake Erie LMSC regarding disqualifications.
- MSC to award 2 patches if a swimmer wins both postal events (i.e.: 3000 & 6000 or 5K & 10K).

Attendance

Number of committee members present: _14_ Number of committee members absent ___3___
 Total number of delegates attending the meeting: ___26___ .

LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, November 16, 2001

3:30-5:20 PM

Introduction of committee members – Chair Sally Dillon had the members introduce themselves:

Graham Johnston, Marcia Cleveland, Shannon Sullivan, Randy Nutt, Peter Crumbine, Steve Schofield, Jill Wright, Doug Brogan, Jim Wheeler, Dan Gray, Robert Zeitner, Barney Hungerford, Janet Renner.

Chair's report – Sally Dillon

Report on 2001 National Championship events: All completed evaluations were excellent. Eagle Creek swims are behind on sending in their financial reports. 5/10K - 42% increase in participation presumably due to publication of the entry form in Swim Magazine.

Foreign swimmers in open water swims: MSC to recommend that the following be included on OW entry forms: "Foreign swimmers requiring an official letter of invitation for purposes of securing a Visa to enter the U.S. should contact Tracy Grilli, USMS Secretary at (address, phone, fax, email)."

Review decisions made by the committee during the past year: The committee voted 14 to 2 against allowing a wet suit division in open water national championships. "Full body" suits were discussed and it was decided if approved for pool approved for LD. The new clinic manual was posted on the web for easy access. The one-mile OW swim date was changed to 8/11/01 (Cottage Grove, OR).

Review unfinished business: The committee discussed whether a sportsmanship subcommittee should be formed and it was decided there was no immediate need. Jim Wheeler, with help from Randy, Jill, Shannon and Marcia will develop a section for the OW manual dealing with safety. Focus will be for people who set up courses and monitor races. Marcia and Dan will pursue obtaining more information with regards to last years OW survey.

2002 Budget review

Approval of proposed budget: Sally noted that this year's committee budget is reduced by \$50 because we are no longer producing the OW manual. MSC to approve the budget as presented. The committee further discussed the funding of equipment to assist teams with open water and cable swims. The cost and availability of buoys was discussed at length, and Jim, Steve and Shannon will obtain information regarding the possible purchase of buoys for renting or lending, and report back to the board.

Subcommittee reports

All-American: Marcia Cleveland distributed copies of the preliminary All-American list, which were very nicely organized.

Awards: Robert Zeitner presented the bids for a 2-year order of awards. He recommended we order 800 1st, 600 2nd, 600 3rd, and 700 4th – 10th. MSC to accept the bid from Hasty Awards in the amount of \$2,885.

Records: Jill Wright has agreed to be records chair next year.

All Stars: Sally mentioned that Marcia Benjamin has volunteered to continue as the All Star tabulator. The committee discussed the method of choosing the All Stars. Steve shared a proposal written by Bob Coale that would make the All-Star selection fairer in Bob's view. This idea would limit the number of events in which a person could earn points for All Stars. The committee discussed whether some participants had an advantage and will have further discussion on this in the coming year.

Calendar and bids: The bid form and calendar solicitation of event information went out separately this year. A number of events were not listed when the calendar was published. We will make an effort to determine which LMSC's are delinquent with the information and work with them individually to obtain event listings. It was decided that we would not hold up the calendar mailing for missing event information. The SPMA delegates said they would work with their OW chair to obtain this information in a more timely manner. While on the subject of SPMA OW, Sally mentioned that the Catalina OW Swim once again had "USMS National Championship" on the back of their T-shirt. She had contacted the director last year after seeing the same thing done on t-shirts in 2000 and was told that it would not happen again. The SPMA representatives are going to speak to the race director.

Open Water Manual review: Barney and Dan have reviewed the manual and will meet with Graham to finalize their recommendations this weekend. Their focus is on safety issues and a cable certification form will be included. Shannon volunteered to maintain the OW manual and the OW Clinic Manual on her computer for the future. She will make the changes and submit the final copy to Tracy Grilli.

Open Water Clinic Manual: Randy Nutt thanked Dan Gray and Michael Collins for all the support with OW clinics. Dan announced that USMS needs more bidders for clinics.

2003 Long Distance National Championship Bid Selection

Review of LDOG: Sally reviewed our long distance operating guidelines with regards to selecting bids. The committee discussed allowing multiple championships during a single weekend. A number of members supported the suggestion for future event bidding.

Select 2003 championships: The following events were awarded the bids:

1-mile swim: YMCA INDY SwimFit June 21st

2 mile cable swim: Texas Gold Masters TBA (1)

>1 & 3 mile open water: Florida Gold Coast + Aqua Moon Adventure April 28th (2)

>3 & <6 mile open water: Central Oregon Masters August 2nd

6 mile open water: Santa Cruz Masters August 3rd (noted conflict will be resolved)

1-hour postal swim: Tualatin Hills Barracudas

5 & 10k postal swims: YMCA Indy SwimFit

3000 & 6000 yd postal swims WSU Masters Swim Team

(1) 2-mile cable swim approved at a \$25 entry fee until an explanation for their requested entry fee of \$30 is given.

(2) If FL does not get the SC National Championship for 2003 then the event can go to Clemson Aquatic Team if FL does not want it. FL originally bid on this to tie it to the SC National Championships.

New Business

Time limits in open water championships: MSC to not consider the emergency proposal submitted by Lake Erie LMSC regarding disqualifications. Discussion centered on the safety issue and the concern of excessive exposure in the longer swims. The committee discussed possible consideration of giving extra weight to future bidders who have a time limit that accommodates the slower swimmers. Further discussion will take place in the coming year.

Policy for championship patches for postal events: MSC to award 2 patches if a swimmer wins both postal events (i.e.: 3000 & 6000 or 5K & 10K). It was also decided to encourage a director to put 3 boxes on the entry form to allow a swimmer to decline their award(s). The boxes would be for patches, medals, and relay award.

Event results: The committee discussed requiring that results should include DNF and DQ. It was decided to leave it up to the race director.

2002 Championship events: Evaluators were selected for the 2002 events. They are encouraged to use the check list and events highlights form again. Sally found it useful. An article will appear with the information this spring in SWIM Magazine.

L32 if L16 passes: We might not have to ratify L32 – if L16 passes because it relates to the 18 year old for membership only, not competition.

Rule proposals for 2002: Carry forward because none are emergency.

Meeting Adjourned 7 p.m.