

USMS CONVENTION – DALLAS, TEXAS - 2002

Committee Name: Legislation Committee
Revised

Session #: 1 of 1

Agenda item #: 10

ACTION ITEMS

- 1) **Recommend to the Executive Committee that it consider including Financial Operating Guidelines as an Appendix in the Rule Book.**
- 2) **Request that the Legal Counselors Committee look into the possibility of developing model LMSC by-laws.**
- 3) **Involve the Executive Committee and Board of Directors in the BOD/Governance Task Force.**
- 4) **Approve the recommendation of the Legislation Committee with respect to proposed amendments.**

Committee Chair: Rob Copeland

Vice Chair(s): Laura Kessler

Number of committee members present: 11 Absent: 6 Total delegates attending this meeting: 8

Committee Members present: Rob Copeland (chair), Laura Kessler (vice-chair), Jon Steiner, Paul Fortoul, Marcia Marcantonio, Jerry Clark, Jennifer Parks, Steve Peterson, Sean Fitzgerald, Mary Hull, Richard Smith and Jack Buchanan

MINUTES

Time Meeting Called to Order: 5:17PM

1. Introductory comments: Committee introduced themselves. Rob mentioned the passing of committee member Bill Early earlier this year in an open water swim.
2. Legislation amendment review: Rob reviewed the committee and HOD processes for these amendments for review in a non-Legislation year.
 - L-1 MSA as Housekeeping
 - L-2 MSA as Housekeeping – will emphasize that it is a “clarification” L2 was further amended in the House of Delegates and also reclassified as “Emergency Legislation” instead of housekeeping.
 - L-3 MSA as Housekeeping
 - L-4 Rob and Jim Miller spoke to our need to codify our relationships with other organizations. Discussion as to how and why an “Affiliate” or “Allied” member would be granted a seat on the BOD and the HOD. Discussed the effects on tax status – answer is that USA-S has the same status as USMS and has approved this code. Following was a discussion as to whether to take away voting status of all affiliate and allied members of the BOD and HOD. Committee amended and approved L-4 to not include voting rights for Allied and Affiliate members. Other References to voting status will be corrected, as a matter of housekeeping.
 - L-5 MSA as Housekeeping
 - L-6 MSA as Housekeeping
 - L-7 MSA as Housekeeping
 - L-8 Rob explained the history of the mission statement that was initiated in 1993. He explained how Part 6 does not explicitly include the Mission Statement in the parenthetical list of the Code of Regulations. The Committee considered it to be “housekeeping” to correct an omission from 1993, however, we chose to recommend it as emergency in order to bring it before the entire HOD. Recommended as emergency Legislation before the house. MSA.
3. The committee responded to the Executive Committee Block questions.

Time Meeting Was Recessed at 6:15PM to reconvene at 9:00PM.

9:10 Reconvened

4. Rob gave a committee report on the Review of the USMS Board of Directors and Governance. Rob wants to get the Legislation Committee and the Board of Directors to review and comment on the document by November 15th. The EC will be directed to review the document at its mid-year meeting and respond by February 1st. A draft will be completed by April 30th. A final proposal will be drafted before the July deadline for 2003 amendments.
5. Athletes Right And Hearings – Laura passed out a timeline and notes regarding the Part 4 review. Discussion

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followed regarding the USA-S sections that are related to Part 4. The goal is to have legislation written for the 2003 Legislation year.

6. Finance Task Force – Suzanne reported that the study of FOG and a study of when FOG is not followed was not completed this year. It was recommended that FOG be included in the Rule Book so our financial guidelines are more widely available. No internal audit was presented.
7. LMSC Handbook task force – The committee is in the process of reconciling Sanction information in code to the LMSC handbook.

TASKS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

1. USMS Board of Directors and Governors review – see above.
2. Part 4 review/revisions – see above.
3. LMSC Handbook – to be completed in time for the 2003 LMSC handbook.
4. Model LMSC By-Laws, LMSC/Zone support – want to implement model by-laws similar to USA-S. Legal counselors will be asked to participate.
5. Work with Zone Committee to define role – within the context of Governance we will work with the Zone Committee to define additional roles for its members and the committee in support of our mission.
6. LMSC Mergers – Committee will provide guidance as requested to LMSCs that are considering a merger. The Committee recommends that the Legal Counselors Committee be involved with these mergers.

Time Meeting Was Adjourned 10:40PM