

Committee Name: Long Distance	Session #: 1	Report #: 1
Committee Chair: Donn Livoni	Vice Chair: Ali Hall	
Minutes recorded by: Bruce Hopson	Date/time of meeting: 11/23/2014 8 PM EDT	

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. None

Motions Passed:

1. MSA minutes as amended from 6/29/14.

Number of committee members present: 16	Absent: 4	Number of other delegates present:
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Donn Livoni, James Biles, Denise Brown, Robert Bruce, Robert Copland, Colleen Driscoll, Michael Fanelli, Bruce Hopson, Rendy Opdycke, Phyllis Quinn, and Greta VanMeeteren; Lynn Hazlewood, Elaine Howley, Chris McGiffin, Jim Miller MD, and Bill Roach, all <i>ex officio</i>		

Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 p.m. EST

1. Welcome and roll call
2. **LDC Goals**— Ali reported that the group is reviewing the 2014 goals and progress, is deciding which to recommend carrying forward into 2015, and is forming some recommendations for new goals for 2015. She reported that the group anticipates being able to offer recommendations in advance of the following conference call.
3. **2014 NC goals/events** - wrap up
4. **2015 NC events** — Chair Livoni distributed the liaison assignments, timelines, and Championship Packets and reminded the liaisons to make sure to send their respective meet hosts.
5. **Conference Call Attendance & Schedule**—a discussion was had on the frequency of the conference calls. Specifically, Donn asked whether the calls should remain monthly or switch to a longer interval such as every 6 weeks or bi-monthly. The Committee by way of vote decided the calls could switch to once every six weeks, as this was not a rules year, and therefore, the Committee would not have as much work. With the exception of the February call, the call would remain on Sundays at the usual time. The third Sunday in February falls is part of President's day weekend, and therefore, the call will be on Monday instead.
6. **Communication preference**— Donn asked the Committee whether it preferred the use of email or the LDC Forum to communicate. The Committee by way of vote decided to use the Forums. Chris McGiffin agreed to give at the next conference call an online demonstration on how to use forum as some members said they didn't know how.
7. **IT Projects**—Donn asked the committee if it had any need for any. The group concluded it did not.
8. **Working groups** – reports (please send your report to all)
 - a. **Rules/Legislation**—Bob reported (1) He prepared and submitted the final rulebook text for part 3 of the 2015 rulebook to the National Office, and he expects to review soon the proof before it goes to press. (2) He prepared and submitted a short summary of the major rules changes for publication in a future issue of "Streamlines". The four major changes he selected were:
 - a) Water temperature & quality (new 302.2.2)
 - b) Drafting when motorized escorts are used (303.3.5-6)
 - c) Swimwear (303.7)
 - d) Independent Safety Monitors (303.8)
 - (3) He started a working list of legislation considerations for 2015. He predicted there could be an interesting year because there would be three groups working on the many sides of open water business: the LDC, the Open Water Committee, and an Open Water Task Force commissioned by

the USMS Board of Directors. (4) He has started a working list of rule considerations for 2016. Although seemingly premature, he stated that from his experience, he has learned that is the best way to remember details for consideration as the Committee moves forward. He welcomed any questions and comments committee members may have at any time.

- b. **PARA**— All-Americans (AA) - Men - Rob & Greta/Denise; (AA) Women - Greta & Rob/Denise; (AA) Relays - Phyllis & Jill/Denise; Records - Jill & Bruce/Michael, All-Stars - Rob & Rendy/Michael); Postal Series - Robert & James/Bruce)—Greta reported that the subcommittee is currently in transition with a few new members on the committee. Most of the 2014 work is done as far as the LDAs and the LDA relays are concerned. They are still awaiting the results of the 3000/6000 ePostal championships. Finally, she reported that Rob Copland had started work on the LD All Stars.
(**Patches & Awards**)—Robert Zeitner reported that all of the 2014 OW events were completed, the 5K/10K ePostal returns and payment were received; and the award order for the 3000y/6000y ePostal was not yet due. Finally, he reported that bid requests have been sent out for medals and patches for 2015-2016-2017, and that he is awaiting bid information.
 - c. **Club Assistant**—Colleen & Phyllis—None submitted
 - d. **Safety**—Bill Roach reported that his group has been discussing changes to The GTO concerning cold water swims and the Independent Safety Monitor; more information will follow after continued discussions. He also reported that at the conclusion of the 2014 open water season, he emailed to the event directors of all 58 events, asking for the number of swims in their respective event. He was not sure why only 22 responded. Finally, he reported that he had also followed up on several events that did not reapply for a sanction in 2014. Bill said the reasons were: they found cheaper insurance, were not aware they could use boats without prop guards if they had a swimmer monitor on board, or they didn't host an event in 2014.
 - e. **Documents**—Ann reported that the subcommittee had gone through the Guidelines attached to the OWNC and ePostal Timelines and made some adjustments to reflect changes brought about by policy changes (due dates for performance bond, final entry, OWNC safety plans, etc.). She noted that changes need to be incorporated into the ePostal and OW GTOs and Liaisons Guides.
 - e. **2017 NC Selection**—Ali reported the group looks forward to beginning its work, soliciting high quality (and qualified) bids, and bringing members excellent NC offerings.
 - f. **Communications**—Ali reported that the group will meet virtually with Laura and Elaine in December at a to-be-determined date to begin work.
 - g. **NC Oversight**—Ann reported that the contracts have gone out and timelines shared with liaisons. Postal contracts & performance bonds were due November 15, 2014. When Tracy Grilli returns from Florida on November 24, she will let Ann know what she received in her absence; Ann will forward Tracy's message to the liaisons. Ann also noted that the Open Water NC contracts are due December 1, and requested liaisons to check with their host to make sure he or she received it as the host for the Lake George Event to which she liaisons, did not. She also reminded the liaisons to share only the timeline for your event with the host and that back-up liaisons should fill in the delivery dates on the timeline of all events James shared with them. Also, she requested liaisons to remind their hosts that the OW safety plan must be submitted with the sanction request. Any changes made to the plan after sanction is approved should be submitted to Bill Roach for approval. Finally, she reminded OWNC liaisons that if the event is offering paper entries, to please make sure the entry contains the new full-page waiver and that it is important for event directors to carefully read the requirements for the new waiver at http://www.usms.org/admin/lmschb/waiver_requirements.pdf. Lastly, with respect to Championship Packets, OHP and other ePostals are to be sent by December 1, 2014, to liaisons, and by January 15, 2015, to liaisons for OWNCs.
9. **2015 LD NC Event Liaisons assignments and reports**—Donn listed the below names as the liaisons to the 2015 LD NC Events.
- Del Valle Open Water Festival (Livermore, CA) 10K (6.2 miles) 6/13
 - o Liaison: Bob Bruce—no report submitted
 - Del Valle Open Water Festival (Livermore, CA) 1 mile 6/14
 - o Liaison: Bob Bruce—no report submitted

- Morse Reservoir Open Water Swim (Noblesville, IN) 15K (9.3 miles) 6/20
 - Liaison: Ali reported that the host received the contract from Donn. Ali anticipates the host will meet the December 1 deadline and all will go as scheduled. She does know the host intends a 3-person relay option (5k per swimmer swimming simultaneously rather than sequentially, at this time teams would be all male or all female, no mixed).
- Central Oregon Masters (Foster Lake, OR) 2-mile cable 6/27
 - Liaison: Jill Wright— no report submitted
- Green Leaf Racing (Lake George, NY) 2,5K (2.55 mile) 8/29
 - Liaison: Ann Svenson—Ann reported that the Contract was forwarded to host as the host did not receive the original email from Donn. The timeline has been sent.
- Big Shoulders Open Water Swim (Chicago, IL) 5K (3.1 miles) 9/12
 - Liaison: Bruce Hopson reported he received the packet from Ann but has not yet sent it out.
- OHeP: Chicago Smelts
 - Liaison: Ann reported the she had approved the draft entry and that the meet was sanctioned. She also reported the Contract had been signed & mailed; the performance bond had been received; and the timeline sent. She reported that the hosts are awaiting instructions from Kyle regarding the use of the Speedo logo so they can incorporate it into their event logo, previously approved by the NO. The Club Assistant tutorial has not been scheduled.
- 5,000M/10,000M ePostal: Central Oregon Masters
- Liaison: Greta van Meeteren reported that the [event has been run very well. They are still waiting for the financial statement.](#)
- 2014 3000/6000 ePostal: Donn Livoni reported that the swim will be concluding on Tuesday, Nov. 25, and this includes both completion and entries. He encourage committee members to remind their teammates as well. Donn pointed out that because of a publication error in STREAMLINES, USMS had to extend the completion date from Nov. 15 to avoid any confusion. The Event host made the recommendation, which the liaisons and he as LDC Chair approved. Finally, he noted that all event timelines had been met.
- 3,000/6,000 ePostal: Davis Aquatic Masters
 - a. Liaison: James Biles—no report submitted.
 - g. Other business for the good of the order—None
There being no other business for the good of the order, Livoni adjourned the meeting at 9:00 EST.

Next Call – [Sunday, Jan. 4 ????? with times of 8 PM EST, 7 PM CST, 6 PM MST & 5 PM PST.](#)