

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Long Distance	<b>Session #:</b>	1	<b>Report #:</b>	1
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Phyllis Quinn	<b>Vice Chair:</b>			Catherine Rust
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Tim Murphy	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>			10/27/2024 at 8pm ET

**Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:**

1. N/A

Motions Passed: 1

<b>Number of committee members present:</b> 6	<b>Absent:</b> 4	<b>Number of other delegates present:</b> 3
<b>Committee members present:</b> Phyllis Quinn, Catherine Rust, Tim Murphy, Stephen Rouch, Bob Bruce, Jim Davidson,		
<b>Absent:</b> , John D, John Fox, Nicki Phillips, Jenny Hodges,		
<b>Ex-Officio members present:</b> Robin Smith, Jay Eckert, David Miner		

**Topic: LDC Meeting – October 27, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm ET:

1. Welcome and roll call.

2. Reports from the chair (Phyllis) and vice chair (Catherine) and vice president (Robin) and USMS National Office (Jay) and (David M)
  - A. Chair: discussions at Relay about the upcoming slate of open-water events.
    0. Portland Bridge Swim is interested in the Ultra Marathon distance. Scheduled for July 13, 2025
    1. Overview of USMS Relay, and that there are 2 individuals interested in joining our committee.
  - B. Vice Chair:
    0. Charlottesville, VA: interested in 2-mile and 1-mile cable swims, May 31 (both on the same day)
    1. Thanks to Nicki and Jim for edits and additions to the Virtual Championship Operational Guide which is now completed. Phyllis, Jim and Catherine are looking at OWNC Operational Guide. And will look at simplifying tasks for OWNC hosts. Any committee members are welcome to join the sub-committee.
  - C. Jay:
    0. 2024 USMS 5K/10K Virtual Championship has concluded. Results posted and awards/caps have been mailed... 148 finishers in 5K and 64 for 10K (up from 138 and 53 last year).
    1. 2024 USMS 3000/6000-yard Virtual Championship underway through Nov. 15. There are 155 registered swimmers so far.
    2. 2025 Open Water Nationals in Sarasota at Benderson Park on April 4-5
      0. 1 mile race on Friday afternoon and 5K race on Saturday starting late morning
      1. USA Swimming and host club Sarasota Sharks are on board with the plan
      2. Working around USA Swimming schedule... their races will be on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday so USMS members can spectate
      3. Possibility of hosting a clinic led by a National Team member to benefit the USA Swimming Foundation
      4. Awaiting confirmation from Benderson Park (they've been in cleanup mode from Hurricane Milton) so we can announce publicly
    3. Sanction fees will be waived for 2025 and beyond, per the new USMS guidelines.
  - D. David Miner:
    0. 2024: Total Sanctioned 50 events
    1. 2025: One sanctioned event so far
  - E. Motion to approve bids for 2025 events:

0. Portland Bridge Swim (Ultra marathon)
1. Charlottesville, VA Cable Swims (1 and 2 mile)
2. Sarasota, FL 1 mile and 5k swims.
3. 6 agree, 0 opposed.

3. Working groups – reports (please send your report to all in advance)

- A. 2024 Rules/Legislation –Jim, Steve, Bob B, John F- Completed
- B. Administration/ Liaison of Virtual and OWNC’s events- Reports on the possible OWNC events for 2025. Jay, Phyllis and Catherine. (I would like to vote to approve these possible events.) Until we have signed contacts, we cannot disclose this information outside of the committee.
- C. PARA – Jim and Nicki; Patches & Awards – National Office; All-Americans (AA) - Men –, Bob B; (AA) Women – Jenny, Tim; (AA) Relays – Phyllis, Records – James, All-Stars – TBD; Postal Series – **TBD**, Virtual Series Recognition: Catherine, Jenny. We need to complete this task for 2024, once the 3/6 virtual event is completed.
- D. Review of Bids for future LD events. –See Section B
- E. LDNC and Open Water Service Awards – Bob B, Catherine, Stephen Completed
- F. Updating Guidelines and Educational Resources for Open Water Events-
- G. Goals for 2024: The Executive Committee has been putting together a list of 2024 priorities/goals for our committees. Here are some draft priorities/goals for the LDC:

1. Develop a plan to increase the number of USMS sanctioned open water events

2. Look for more prominent venues for Open water National championships

- Clarify Open water strategy between LDC and NO
- 1-3mi OWNC weekend festival concept already in discussion
- Clarify NO role regarding the OWNC bid process, at least for shorter events.

3. Remove the operations and procedures from Rule Book and update Guide to Operations documents.
4. Clarify LDC roles and responsibilities and those of National Office.

New Business- Policy Document on Protest timeline and Guidance

### **2024 LDC Championships. Liaisons assignments**

Below is a list of the 2024 LD OWNC events. When assigned, each lead liaison will please give a brief written report on the status of their event (sent to the full committee prior to the conference call – Friday at latest for SUNDAY calls).

LIAISONS—PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL EARLY AND OFTEN FOR MESSAGES.

### **2024 Long Distance National Championships:**

- June 1: USMS Middle-Distance Open Water Nationals: Lake Berryessa, CA. lead liaison- Phyllis. Back up- Nicki
- June 8: USMS Marathon-Distance Nationals: Lake Del Valle, CA. Liaison Tim, backup Phyllis
- July 20: USMS Sprint-Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN. Lead Liaison Jenny, backup Catherine
- July 21: USMS Long-Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN. Lead Liaison Jenny, backup Catherine

USMS is also hosting five virtual championships: the 1-Hour Virtual Championship Jan. 1–31, the 5K/10K Virtual Championships May 15–Sept. 15, and the 3000/6000-Yard Virtual Championships Sept. 15–Nov. 15.

Other business for the good of the order

Next Call: **Sept 3, 2024 LDC Rule Forum**

**Projected List of Dates for 2024 LDC Calls:**

January 28

February 25

March 24 One week early to avoid Easter Sunday

April 28

May 26

June 30

July 28

August 25 – **Cancelled?**

**LDC Approximate High-Level Timeline Items by Month: A work in progress**

**January:**

New OWNC season registrations open

initiate work on new goals

Assignments for working groups

**February:**

send out award nomination requests

begin to consider rules changes

**March through May:**

Review bids and documents for next year

consider rules changes

updates on LD NC events progress

**June:**

Prepare next year's events

finalize rules proposals

finalize award nominations

thick of the competition season

**July:**

award working group meets

finalize OWNC for next year

**August:**

finalize all LDC details to prepare for Annual Meeting

**September:** Annual Meeting

**October-December:**

Relay meeting: Open water workshop

Request for next season's details

Conclude remaining event details.

Open registration for next season's OWNCs

**Wrap-up year's business**