

United States Masters Swimming Board of Directors Meeting March 27, 2012

FINAL

Action Items:

- MSA – Board of Directors approved the consent agenda items.
- MSA - Board of Directors approved the February minutes.
- MSA-to delete the term “Meeting” in the EOG Glossary, replace all terms within the EOG with annual meeting of the house of delegates.
- MSA -to rectify the reference for Remediation Procedure Section 4 to reference the correct rule: 506.8.4.
- MSA – to strike the word “minimum” from all references in the remediation procedure section to read as LMSC Standards.
- MSA – To approve the amended Board of Directors Action Plan.

Nadine Day - President called the meeting to order at 8:32 p.m. EDT. Also present were: Michael Heather -VP of Administration, C.J. Rushman -Secretary, Ralph Davis- Treasurer, Ed Tsuzuki- VP of Local Operations, Dave Diehl-VP of Programs, Patty Miller- Legal Counsel, Jeff Moxie -Immediate Past President, At-Large Directors; Chris McGiffin (Colonies), Phil Dodson (Great Lakes), Anthony Thompson (Breadbasket Zone), Maria E. Williams (Dixie), Hugh Moore (Northwest), Jim Clemmons (Oceana), Don Mehl (South Central), Phil Whitten (Southwest Zone), Executive Director - Rob Butcher; Past-Presidents Ted Haartz, Rob Copeland, Jim Miller, and Nancy Ridout.

Not present: Jody Smith -VP of Community Services, Past Presidents - Dan Gruender, Mike Laux and June Krauser. Past Presidents Tom Boak and Mel Goldstein are recused from the BOD due to their contract positions with USMS.

Agenda Items:

Executive Directors Report

- We have agreements to host 11 confirmed Masters coach certification teaching weekends. There are another 6 to 8 LMSCs that have expressed interest in hosting a certification. Registration for certification is coordinated through the national office. Two significant pieces of information are emerging (1) approximately 35% of the participants indicate they have been coaching Masters for less than a year. They are expressing they have very little if any knowledge about USMS, and (2) a number of the participants are triathlon only coaches. The next teaching is March 31 in Alexandria, VA.
- Registration update:
 - Total membership to date for 2012 is 44,768 compared to 42,752 from 2011. We are ahead of the same date last year by 2,016 members.
 - 77% of our 2012 members are renewals from 2011
 - 7% were registered in 2010 or before
 - 16% are new members
 - 54% of our members are men and 46% are women.
 - Historically, we have seen that from this point forward, we will get a lot more new members than renewals
 - Total clubs to date for 2012 is 745 compared to 737 from 2011
- USMS will be onsite with our exhibit at the East Coast Swim Club Championships March 30-31 weekend at Georgia Tech. A projected 1,000 college club swimmers will be participating in the meet. A number of Georgia LMSC members are volunteering with the meet. We have banner advertising on the myswimclub.org website which is the information website for college club swimming.
- The 2012 SSL grant application is available at usms.org/giving. We are seeking SSL grant requests.
- Grand Strand Masters has agreed to host our inaugural Swimming Saves Lives 1 Mile Challenge September 8th weekend. The 1 Mile Challenge will be hosted the day or morning of an established triathlon.

- USMS will be partnering with the National Swimming Pool Foundation in their goal of having 1,000,000 more people swim within the next 10-years. Since 2004, NSPF has provided \$4,000,000 in research grants that show the benefit of swimming. At the NSPF annual World Aquatic Health Conference, October 10-12, will be invited organizations seeking grants that will encourage more people to swim. USMS will be attending this conference.

Presidents Report

Nadine will be attending: YMCA Masters Nationals in Ft. Lauderdale, USMS Nationals in Greensboro, IAHSFF/ISHOF, Worlds, 5K USMS Nationals, 2012 Olympic Trials, and USMS Nationals in Omaha

VP Administration report

- Rules - had its first regular call of the year on Sunday, March 18. Most of the call centered on two things; the new FINA interpretation of the breaststroke rule (which by now everyone should have been alerted about - thanks, Rob) and the effect it will (or may) have on officials. Nothing that is likely to create a stir at convention.
- Championship - continues to prepare for Greensboro and Omaha with no perceived negative issues. The committee is still sending out dribs and drabs of policy updates on its January report.
- Registration - no report
- Legislation - no meetings yet.

VP of Programs report

- **Officials Committee**
 1. USMS uses the standard USA DQ slips. They can be ordered from the USA website in packs of 500.
 2. USMS had only one official selected, Pat Baker, to work the FINA World Championships in Italy. She will work as a starter. All the applicants from the US have been sent notices.

USMS OFFICIALS BRIEFING MODIFICATION:

FORWARD START 101.1.1/105.5.1

Legal from:
Starting Block
Pool Deck
Push from Wall

1. Backstroke Start may be used in Freestyle Events before the command "Take Your Mark": One foot must be at front of the starting block, Edge of Pool or ON the Wall
- BUTTERFLY 101.3.2/101.33 -Breaststroke Kick/Whip Kick may be used exclusively or interchangeable with Dolphin Kick at any time during the race. When Breaststroke Kick/Whip Kick is used arms must recover over the water with each Breaststroke Kick/Whip Kick except after the last such kick before the turn and finish. If Breaststroke Kick/Whip Kick Is used , only one such kick is allowed prior to the arm pull that brings the swimmer to the surface.
- RELAYS 101.7.3.E - Swimmers who cannot exit the pool may hold on to the lane line until all swimmers finish the race and may exit the pool via the ladders at the conclusion of the race. 102.9.5. Relays must include First and Last Names of eligible swimmers including age and order of the swimmers to the Clerk of Course or the Head Lane timer.

FINA will be holding the "*FINA Swimming Officials School 2012*" in San Juan, Puerto Rico; March 23-24, 2012.

U.S. Masters Board of Directors Conference Call – March 27th, 2012

USAS is allowed to select one Official.

- **Open Water Committee**

National Open Water Service Award

The Open Water committee agreed to explore the idea of creating a National Open Water Service award to be presented at convention. Open water is the only major USMS activity without an award. The committee agreed that this development should include members from both the LDC and the OWC.

National Open Water Swimmer Ranking System

The Open Water Committee is exploring a National Open Water Ranking system that will be based on points earned in competition. Data for the compilation of rank will be drawn from the open water module of the USMS event results database.

National Open Water Challenge System

The National Open Water Challenge System is designed to provide a series of challenges that can be achieved by swimmers ranging from novice to elite. Achievement in this system is based on participation and not success in competitive races. Data used for determining challenges achieved will be drawn from the open water module of the USMS event results database.

- **Long Distance Committee**

Voted to keep the distribution of postal and OW championship as is by the meet host

Working to simplify application for pool and OW records

National ranking for OW swimmers awaiting the inclusion of OW event results on DB

Committee is working on issue of duel sanctioning with other NGB

All working task forces (all-star awards/ Records/ Safety/ Officials, etc.) reported on their specific issues

Committee is working on bid package for 2014 LD & OW Championships

MSA- Board of Directors approved the consent agenda items.

The proposed over-budget request for the IT consultant will be approximately \$16,000 to \$17,000. Ralph asked for a status update on the programmer hire. Nadine noted that no one applied for the UANA Official position from FINA due to the late notice. Nadine asked about the status of the Legislation Committee. Mike will check in with the chair of that committee. Anthony had a question about the February minutes, specifically having committees report directly to the Board. Nadine said there is a task force reviewing this and will be discussed in more detail at the board meeting in July in Sarasota.

CJ makes a motion to approve the February board of directors meeting. Seconded. **MSA - BOD approved the February minutes.**

Election for the candidacy of At-Large Directors. Michael Moore, chair of the ad hoc election committee provided the board language change. Rob C makes the motion to approve the recommendation of the elections committee to approve the language change. Seconded. MSF. A new motion by Mike H to strike the word Meeting. Rob C accepted. Strike the word "Meeting" from the glossary. With the policy, replace "Meeting" with annual meeting of the house of delegates. **MSA-to delete the term "Meeting" in the EOG Glossary, replace all terms within the EOG with annual meeting of the house of delegates.**

LMSC Standards Correction – Nadine sent out the updated Remediation Procedure Section 4. Ed made a point of clarity about updating the correct number to reflect the correct ruling. **MSA -to rectify the reference for Remediation Procedure Section 4 to reference the correct rule: 506.8.4.** Rob C makes a motion to strike the word minimum from the title to read as LMSC Standards. Chris M- seconded. **MSA – to strike the word "minimum" from remediation of LMSC Standards to read as LMSC Standards.** Mike H makes motion to move the Vice Chair person back to suggested and not make them required. Seconded. Ed made the point that the LMSC Development committee should take the lead on these types of matters, and have the Board make recommendations. Mike H withdraws his motions.

Board of Directors Action Plan - Rob C makes motion to approve the Board Action Plan. David D seconded. **MSA – To approve the amended Board of Directors Action Plan.** Phil D asks for a friendly amendment to section number five. Nadine will update the document and send out to the Board.

SSL strategic plan has been posted on the BOD discussion forum area. The BOD felt the strategic direction was headed in the right path. Further comments should be directed on the discussion forum and board will revisit at its next call.

Mike H provided an update from the Membership Product Task Force. The task force will be sending a survey to about 5,000 members.

Chris M gave an updated on the Volunteer Roles Task Force. The templates have been updated due to the feedback from members.

Anthony gave an update on the Governance Committee and they are working on assignments

Maria gave a brief update on the work on the Policy Committee. They are still waiting on policies to be submitted from some of the HOD Committees.

Patty Miller gave an update about the USMS Liability Waiver and how this relates to our insurance. Patty quoted section 2.2.1 of the Rule Book for reference. Patty will be suggesting language to the Board for review and submit to the Legislation Committee to replace the existing language.

Maria gave an update about the up-coming convention. Maria is heading to Greensboro to review the site and have meetings with the hotel and USAS. Jeff encouraged the organization to use the hotel's service to provide alcohol. Maria will provide the alcohol and food options including costs.

Nadine said the 2012 Executive Directors metrics from the Compensation and Benefits committee are still being reviewed. Nadine will send them out to the Board once available.

MSA – to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. EDT.

The next Board of Directors call was decided by email vote after the adjournment. The call will be held on Thursday April 19th at 8:30 am EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

C.J. Rushman
Secretary