

## **President's Report**

I, Nadine will be at Nationals on Wednesday for the Spring Nationals meeting; and all day Thursday. I leave Thursday night to for USAS meeting; I will be returning on Sunday and should be at the meet by 10:30 am. Ed Tsuzuki will be presenting the Capt Ransom J Arthur Award to the recipient in my absence.

I will be attending the UANA Masters Pan American Championships: arriving for the general meeting on June 4th and leaving after the open water event.

Summer face to face BOD meeting will start at FRIDAY, July 19 at 5:30 pm and end Sunday at NOON. We have the auditors and the investment firms coming on Friday. Claudia will be sending the BOD more information on transportation and hotel.

## **VP of Programs Report**

### **OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (minutes posted on web site):**

- All key officiating positions for both the Spring and Summer National Championships have been filled. Additional officials are being recruited mostly from the local officials.
- The USMS Guide to Operations (limited number of documents) has been posted on the USMS web site. Committee members have expressed concern about the difficulty in searching the site to find the documents they need.
- The Officials Committee liaison to the National Championship meets was discussed (posted on web site minutes) and a motion was made and seconded regarding the duties to be performed by the liaison and the reimbursement of said official.
- The Pan American Masters meet key officials have been identified.
- The proposed FINA rules changes are generally accepted if recommended by the bureau.

### **OPEN WATER COMMITTEE (Sanction information has already been sent to BOD):**

- The Open Water Event Surcharge Rebate meetings have been held on a weekly basis (based on applications received). Five have been approved for the rebate to date with additional information being requested from some of the others.
- All the subcommittees have been active and have submitted reports (see web site for the minutes).

### **LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE:**

- The Long Distance Committee has been asked to respond to questions regarding how to make the LD Championships better and get more participation.
- All the long distance events for 2013 (with the exception of the 9+K) have been established and sanctioned.
- The 2014 events are being identified and solicitations for the 2014 events have been made.

- All the subcommittee reports have been included in the minutes on the web site.

### **VP of Administration Report**

Championship: This is the busiest time for the committee and it shows. Current projects include: Checking for last minute club changes, on deck coaching and hospitality arrangements, Service animal policy clarification and last minute requests for relay entries. This is just for Indy. Mission Viejo is getting plenty of attention and has opened entries online. 2014 spring meet has a logo already, 2014 summer has a contract under review. There is a discussion about wording changes for relay entries going forward. Not a big change, but better clarity will ensue.

Rules: The Rules committee chair has responded to several requests for rule interpretations; this is a common occurrence and seems to spread out over the year. The committee has voted to award a \$250 stipend to a rules liaison at nationals in order to attend officials' briefings each morning. The committee formed an informal group to review and proofread the rule book entries as a result of changes passed at convention. The rules corner, a continuing section on the website, is regularly updated and sent to the committee for disbursal.

Legislation: No meetings have been scheduled; no work of any kind has been done or scheduled until the final date for legislation proposals has passed, according to the chair.

Registration: Regular conference calls with CA keep the committee and NO updated with any changes or problems. The chair and vice chair are awaiting a conference call to discuss what involvement will be expected of them in the construction of the new registration system.

### **VP Local Ops Report to the BOD**

#### **History and Archives**

- Committee members have started the process of converting missing Relay Top Ten Times for years prior to 1998 into the proper electronic format for posting onto the USMS web site which currently lists relay top ten times starting with 1998. The Records and Tabulation committee will be involved as well.
- In collaboration with the Records and Tabulation Committee, USMS Relay records for years prior to 1995 are being located for addition to the USMS web site.
- Digitization of the 1986 and 1987 USMS registration files continues.
- Two articles for the May-June 2013 USMS SWIMMER Magazine (Splashback and an Editorial) were fact checked at the request of Laura Hamel.
- A file of names for swimmers listed in the 1970 – 1992 USMS Top Ten Times but whose permanent IDs, birth dates, and/or full names are missing from the USMS database was sent to Jim Matysek for posting in Streamlines and in the History and Archives section of the website in order to request for help from USMS members.
- Pre 1998 Open Water and Postal Championship results are being located, scanned and prepared for posting on the website.
- Swim-Master publications are being scanned into pdf files.

- Writing and editing of stories continues. Since H&A can no longer post new stories or edit and update existing ones in the H&A section, it is a more difficult process and progress is slower.
- A review of problems with navigation and postings on the H&A section of the new website continues.

## **Records and Tabulation**

• Since the last BOD report (February), the committee has met twice by conference call, on Mar 10 and Apr 21. The following issues were discussed at the meetings and in the online forum:

- Automatic 50 free splits at nationals (and other meets) for the 800/1500 LCM free. The committee accepted Kathy Casey's proposal that officials be told to instruct lap counters not to approach the edge of the pool on the first lap of the race and added the suggestion that S&T judges monitor compliance with the instructions and let the admin referee know when there are instances that the touch pads are possible triggered accidentally.
- Motivational Time Standards. The committee considered whether to recommend that USMS adopt masters motivational standards (similar to USA-S) and a majority rejected the idea. One committee member reported that he felt there would be support within his LMSC and will implement the idea locally as a test case.
- Cases where one or more pool lanes measure short, either during the initial pool length certification or during verification of bulkhead placement. Kathy Casey responded with the following official Rules Committee interpretations:
  - For USMS meets in pools without bulkheads, competition should be restricted to lanes known to be "good" to avoid a situation where only some times from a meet are eligible for TT consideration.
  - For USA-S meets in pools without bulkheads, only swims in "good" lanes will count for USMS purposes.

The committee wanted to know the official Rules interpretation in the situation where bulkhead placement is verified (by measurements in 3 or more lanes) prior to the meet but that one or more lanes is found to be short after a meet session. What should be done with times achieved in the other (possibly unmeasured) lanes? Several committee members know when such a scenario has occurred. We are awaiting a response from Rules on our inquiry.

- Indicating pool measurement status on meet information. The current rules specify that when a sanctioned meet is at a pool known to be short, that the meet information must specify that the times will not be eligible for Top 10 consideration. The committee feels that information for ALL meets should include a statement about the measurement status of the pool. Examples might include:
  - The pool length certification is on file with USMS and no further pool measurements are necessary for times to be eligible for USMS Records or Top 10.
  - The pool length certification is on file with USMS but bulkhead placement must be verified at the meet in order for times to be eligible for USMS Records or Top 10.

The committee will come up with suggestions for wording and possible modifications of the online sanction form at the next meeting.

- The committee continues to work on a policy statement for situations when Top 10 lists can be altered after publication. The committee suggests that a public document be available that lists all revisions to Top 10, All-American and All-Star lists. The chair has communicated with Jim Matysek to get feedback on generating and maintaining a public revisions document.

## **Recognition and Awards**

- The R&A Committee held a conference call on April 9. Important actions from the meeting were:
- The committee voted to eliminate the Club of the Year policy that required a club that has received the award to wait at least five years before being nominated again. There is no longer a limitation.
- The committee unanimously approved a new service award: the USMS Open Water Swimming Service Award.
- A number of committee members contributed to information that was sent to Swimmer Magazine's editor for an article in the May issue. As it turned out, the article was not included due to space but the Splashback page at the end of the issue featured some of the information that had been provided. Efforts will be made to secure space in next year's May/June issue so the USMS awards can be more fully covered.
- Ted Haartz was nominated for the IMSHOF Honor Contributor award. The nomination came from Sally Dillon, representing the R&A Committee.
- Six individuals were nominated for the 2013 Capt. Ransom J. Arthur M.D. Award and a winner has been selected. The award will be presented at Spring Nationals in Indy on Friday, May 10.
- The "call for nominations" for the remaining USMS awards has been published in Streamlines and Swimmer Magazine. Committee members have been encouraged to provide information about the USMS service awards to the LMSCs and clubs within their Zones. Information about each award is on the USMS website.
- A subcommittee has reviewed the application for the Regional Club of the Year award in order to determine if some of the questions are too difficult for regional club nominators to address. Some minor changes are being made to that form.
- The subcommittee tasked with getting bids for the new Ransom Arthur and Service Award pins has been reviewing a change to the Service award. It was determined that the wording should include Dorothy Donnelly's name since the award is named after her. This has slowed down the efforts to select a bidder and get the pins ordered but it is hopeful that the pins will be available in time for convention.

## **LMSC Development**

- The Education Subcommittee has selected a consultant, Betty Stallings, to present the three-hour LMSC Summit workshop on the Saturday of convention. The topic will be "volunteer leadership." There will also be four one-hour workshops:
  - **Working with Your Aquatic Facility – Jim Wheeler**
  - **USMS Marketing Resources – Kyle Deery**
  - **Dual-Sanctioning Events – Leo Letendre**

**o USMS Club Development – Bill Brenner**

- The Education Subcommittee is also working with Dr. Jim Miller on potential dates in May and June to give his “Conflict of Interest” presentation as a webinar. The committee hopes to open this up to all LMSC volunteers.
- The Mentoring Subcommittee has hosted the first two Peer-to-Peer Teleconference Conversations for Treasurers. The total attendance was 10 treasurers of the 52 LMSCs across two meetings. Many thanks to Randy Crutchfield for jumping into his new appointment with both feet to facilitate these first calls. The next Peer-to-Peer teleconferences will be for Sanction Chairs.
- The most recent Streamlines for Volunteers highlighted the committee’s USMS Discussion Forum’s effort to have online conversations which will be focused more by topic than by role. The initial topics will be on the LMSC standards that were the most challenging for the LMSCs to meet last year. The Mentoring subcommittee is also monitoring these conversations.
- Several committee members have volunteered to type up some of the pages from the Brainwriting Workshop at the 2012 Convention. Cheryl Kupan is coordinating that effort so that the ideas generated from that session can be documented for the "Knowledge Repository."