

2003 USMS CONVENTION – San Diego, CA – 2003

Committee Name: **Championship Committee**

Session # 2 Cmte. report #:

25

Minutes recorded by: Lisa Watson Date/time of this meeting: 9/12/03 10:15 AM

ACTION ITEMS PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

1.

ACTION ITEMS

1. The Championship Committee voted to seed men and women together in the 800/1000 & 1500/1650 distance events at National Championship meets. MSA
2. The Championship Committee voted not to host a LC National meet in 2006, contingent upon FINA awarding the bid to USMS for the 2006 World Championships. MSA
3. The Championship Committee voted to eliminate the requirement for meet hosts to provide free shuttle service at National Championship meets. MSA

Committee Chair: Barry Fasbender

Vice Chair: Jerry Clark

Number of committee members present: 15 Absent: 6 Number of other delegates at this meeting: HOD
Committee members present: Carolyn Boak, Debbie Cavanaugh, Jerry Clark, Barry Fasbender, Mark Gill, Gorden Gillin, Mel Goldstein, Errol Graham, Jim Matysek (Ex-officio), Jane Moore (Ex officio), Michael Moore, Barbara Protzman, Jeff Roddin, Sandi Rousseau, Tom Spence, Diane Stowell, Lisa Watson

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at: 10:15 AM on Thursday, September 11, 2003.

1. Chairman Barry Fasbender informed the House of Delegates that 1 bid for 2005 SC Nationals and 2 bids for 2005 LC Nationals had been received by the deadline. There were also 4 requests for bids that were made after the deadline, and thus not timely. The SC bid is from Orlando and the LC bids are from Orlando and Mission Viejo. Mark Moore presented the Mission Viejo bid to the House of Delegates and answered questions about the meet. Orlando did not have a representative present at the convention. Aaron Swartzman, the Orlando representative, was scheduled to answer questions about the bid by cell phone during this scheduled session. However, due to an apparent miscommunication regarding timeframe, he was unavailable at this time. Therefore, the committee will reschedule the recommendations for Championship bids to take place at Saturday's Championship meeting.
2. Carolyn Boak, meet liaison for 2003 SC Nationals in Arizona, conducted a survey after the meet to solicit feedback on Arizona's decision to seed men and women together in the 800/1000 and 1500/1650 distance events. This decision saved an hour of time on the distance day which was helpful to swimmers and certainly volunteers. This also eliminated the need for swimming 2 per lane. The survey asked respondents to choose one of the following statements: 1) swimmer liked having men and women swimming together and prefers this as a standard practice ; 2) swimmer would prefer this to be the option of the meet director if the meet is predicted to run over 11 hours on the distance day; 3) swimmer would only want this as an option in LC at the discretion of the meet director; 4) swimmer does not want to swim men and women together, and wants the option of swimming 2 per lane. Out of 100 respondents, the overwhelming majority (83) preferred to swim men and women together. These results have been discussed among the Championship committee members. Another benefit to seeding men and women together is that it will also make it easier for the meet host to print the meet information since they would no longer have to list this along with other options. Comments from survey respondents indicated that they preferred to swim against swimmers similar to their seed times, regardless of gender. One suggestion was made to swim the 8 fastest men and 8 fastest women in separate heats, but it was pointed out that this would be unfair to those seeded 9th and slower. **The**

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3. Jerry Clark, meet liaison at 2003 LC Nationals in Rutgers, reported on a survey that he conducted after the meet. Swimmers were asked to rate the following aspects of the meet from 1-5, 5 being the best. Highest marks were for having heat sheets provided each day (4.62 overall rating). Other items and ratings included: check-in process at meet-4.09 overall rating; locker room facilities-3.78 overall rating; warmup pools available-3.23 overall rating; shuttle service-2.63 overall rating; relays-3.9 overall rating; awards-4.13 overall rating; concessions-2.93 overall rating; announcers- 3.56 overall rating; officials- 4.18 overall rating. Jerry commented that problems with the shuttle service most likely stemmed from the fact that it was run by a commercial representative of the hotels instead of the meet host-Jerry stressed the need for the meet host to be in charge of this service, should it be provided. Concessions were not geared to the healthy food desires of swimmers. Jerry also suggested that it would be helpful for the announcers to be provided with bios of some of the more prominent swimmers involved in the meet. He praised the officials for the wonderful job they did at the meet.
4. There is a subcommittee on the Championship Committee discussing possible ways to modify NQTs for LC Nationals. This will be reported at Saturday's session.
5. Hy-Tek is continuing to improve the services that it can provide for the swimmers at Championship meets, including listing additional important information for the swimmers on the cards they pick up at registration that list their events, providing automatic split times with the results, and automatic printing of the World/USMS records forms.
6. Michael Moore addressed the meeting about the intent of Stanford to host the 2006 World Championships. In order to promote as much interest as possible, USMS was being asked not to have a LC Nationals that year. **The Championship Committee voted not to host a LC Nationals meet during 2006, contingent upon FINA awarding the bid to USMS for the 2006 World Championships. MSA**
7. In Thursday's Championship Committee meeting, the committee approved meet director Mel Goldstein's request not to have a shuttle service provided at 2003 SC Nationals in Indianapolis. This fueled discussion among the committee about the shuttle service requirement. Drawbacks include the enormous expense to the meet host and constant problems that always seem to arise with the service. The big advantage is that it is a nice service to have provided, and really helpful to those that cannot drive or may have other problems securing transportation. One suggestion was made to charge swimmers for that service. It was also suggested that this could be an option encouraged but not required for meet hosts, and may make a bid more appealing to the meet host who did offer this service. **The Championship Committee voted to eliminate the requirement for meet hosts to provide free shuttle service at National Championship meets. MSA**
8. Mark Gill reported on results from a Championship Committee poll that was conducted for the Rutgers meet. Committee members were asked to guess how many swimmers would attend the meet and what percentage of entries would be on-line entries. Debbie Cavanaugh won the on-line entry category, and Mark Gill himself won the total swimmers category, which seemed very suspicious. The winners received lovely awards which amazingly resembled the medals from the 2003 SC Nationals in Arizona.