

# USMS Convention — Anaheim (Garden Grove), California 2013

<b>Committee Name:</b> Championship	<b>Session #:</b> 2	<b>Report #:</b> 9
<b>Committee Chair:</b> Jeff Roddin	<b>Vice Chair:</b> Erin Shields	
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b> Lisa Watson	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b> September 13, 2013 8 AM	

## Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

### Motions Passed:

1. **MSA TO APPROVE LOGOS FOR BOTH 2014 NATIONAL MEETS (SANTA CLARA AND MARYLAND).**
2. **MSA TO ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT OF SPLIT BOOKS FOR NATIONAL MEETS.**
3. **MSA TO INVESTIGATE ALLOWING COACHES TO ENTER RELAYS ONLINE UP TO 7 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONALS AT THE CURRENT RELAY CHARGE OF \$12, AND CHARGING \$16 FOR RELAYS ENTERED AFTER THAT DEADLINE AND UP TO 3 PM OF THE DAY PRIOR TO THE RELAYS.**
4. **MSA TO POSE THE QUESTION OF THE NECESSITY FOR REQUIRED EMT COVERAGE ON THE WARM-UP DAY FOR NATIONALS TO INSURANCE, LEGAL COUNSEL, AND SPORTS MEDICINE.**
5. **MSA TO CHANGE THE POLICY REGARDING WARM-UP ACCESS ON THE DISTANCE DAY TO THE FOLLOWING: IF COMPETITION IS FINISHED BEFORE 6 PM, THEN THE COMPETITION POOL WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR 1 HOUR AFTER THE END OF THE LAST HEAT, BUT IF IT ENDS AFTER 6 PM, THEN IT WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR 30 MINUTES.**
6. **MSA TO FORM A SUBCOMMITTEE TO FIND AND ANALYZE HISTORICAL DATA ON CURRENT POLICIES BEING IMPLEMENTED TO SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF THE MEET (E.G. DECK SEED OR PRESEED, SEED BY AGE GROUP VS TIME, ETC.).**
7. **MSA TO INVESTIGATE ADDING TO THE RULEBOOK THE ABILITY TO USE AUTOMATIC RELAY EXCHANGE JUDGING EQUIPMENT (TO MATCH WHAT USA SWIMMING MAY HAVE IN THEIR RULEBOOK).**

Number of committee members present: 18

Absent: 5

Number of other delegates present: 34

Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Jeff Roddin (Chair), Erin Shields (Vice Chair), Lisa Watson, Mark Moore, Debbie Cavanaugh, Kim Crouch, Don Gilchrist, Ed Saltzman, Tyler Blessing, Jeff Strahota, Michael Moore, Jillian Wilkins, Jack Groselle, Jim Clemmons, Barry Fasbender, Sandi Rousseau, Michael Heather (ex-officio), Tom Boak.

## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8 AM

1. **INTRODUCTION** The committee members introduced themselves to the audience. **MSA TO APPROVE THE LOGOS FOR BOTH 2014 NATIONAL MEETS (SANTA CLARA AND MARYLAND).**
2. **NATIONALS PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES**
  - A. **SPLIT BOOKS** The committee felt that with current easy access to splits, there was no longer the need to require split books. **MSA TO ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT FOR SPLIT BOOKS AT NATIONAL MEETS.**
  - B. **RELAY ENTRIES** Jeff proposed that the Championship Committee allow coaches to enter online relay entries up to 1 week prior to the meet –he proposed using the current fee structure of \$12 per relay for relays entered early and increasing the fee to \$16 for entries entered after that time, hopefully as an incentive to enter relays early. Ed commented that Atlanta did this for 2010 Nationals and it saved a lot of time for the meet host during the meet. There was discussion on how this would be done and how payment should be handled. Mike Heather pointed out that we should vote on the concept of the proposal and then work out the details afterward. **MSA TO ALLOW COACHES TO ENTER RELAYS ONLINE UP TO 7 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONALS AT THE CURRENT RELAY ENTREE FEE OF \$12, AND CHARGING \$16 FOR RELAYS ENTERED AFTER THAT DEADLINE AND UP TO 3 PM ON THE DAY PRIOR TO THE RELAYS.**
  - C. **EMT SUPPORT/DISTANCE DAY WARM-UP** Jeff posed the question of whether EMT should still be required for the warm-up day before Nationals, citing the upgraded requirements for lifeguards to include CPR and AED skills, and the existence of on-site AEDs at many aquatic facilities. Sandi said we need to investigate the potential liability

that might result if we eliminate this requirement. Ed said we should pose this question to Insurance, Legal Counsel, and Sports Medicine committees before going further. **MSA TO POSE THE QUESTION OF THE NECESSITY FOR EMT COVERAGE ON THE WARM-UP DAY FOR NATIONALS TO INSURANCE, LEGAL COUNSEL, AND SPORTS MEDICINE.**

The Championship policy regarding warm-up access on the Distance Day was discussed. Jeff stated that our current policy requires the competition pool to stay open either 30 minutes after the completion of the last heat or until 7 PM, whichever is later. This policy can put a burden on some SC National meets who might end as early as 3 PM on Distance Day. Jack proposed that we change the policy to require that the competition pool remain open for 1 hour if the meet finishes before 6 PM and for 30 minutes if it should finish after 6 PM, thus eliminating the requirement to be open until at least 7 PM. **MSA TO CHANGE THE POLICY REGARDING WARM-UP ACCESS ON THE DISTANCE DAY TO THE FOLLOWING: IF COMPETITION FINISHES BEFORE 6 PM, THEN THE COMPETITION POOL WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR 1 HOUR FOLLOWING THE END OF THE LAST HEAT, BUT IF COMPETITION ENDS AFTER 6 PM, THEN IT WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR 30 MINUTES.**

- D. **DECK SEEDING/POSITIVE CHECK-IN POLICIES** Since Mission Viejo was such a large meet, the committee discussed data produced by Barry on how much time was saved on the various days by deck seeding events 200 and up and seeding by time only. Kim said we should prioritize the tools that we use to try to reduce the length of the meet, as some are more restrictive to swimmers than others. Ed proposed that we set up a subcommittee to explore and analyze historical data on these policies and their impact on previous meets to help us decide what policies would work best in the future. **MSA TO FORM A SUBCOMMITTEE TO FIND AND ANALYZE HISTORICAL DATA ON CURRENT POLICIES BEING IMPLEMENTED TO SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF THE MEET.**
- E. **USMS BRANDING IDEAS AT NATIONALS** Jeff commented that since Rob Butcher became Executive Director, Nationals has become much more visible and distinctive with the branding ideas marketed through the National Office. Rob said the National Office is continually working on new ideas to make our National Championships much more visible to the public.

### 3. GOALS/TASKS FOR 2014

- A. **2016 BID SOLICITATION** Jeff asked the committee to be looking for targeted areas that might be feasible for a bid for 2016. Jeff also reminded the committee that we should ask bidders if they would be willing to host Nationals in either 2016 or 2017 since we now have the capacity to award bids 3 years out if deemed acceptable. Tom asked for a straw poll of the committee regarding whether we should be awarding bids 3 years out. Jeff polled the committee, and the vast majority was in favor of continuing this policy.
- B. **RE-EVALUATE PERFORMANCE BONUS CRITERIA.** Jeff wants to review the current contract terms to make sure they are still an accurate assessment of meet hosting requirements.
- C. **REVIEW ENTRY FEE STRUCTURE** This could include examining the current profit sharing system with the meet host and the National Office.
- D. **SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY** Jeff stated that rather than having an explicit policy, we should give guidelines to the meet hosts for dealing with this situation. Barry suggested we have a badge for the animal to wear that would identify it as a service animal. We will also pursue whether we should have a 'hold harmless agreement' with the animal owners.
- E. **SIXTH EVENT POLICY** We will continue to explore alternatives.
- F. **SCORING AT NATIONALS** Jeff said we should re-examine the current rule for Regional and Local club scoring, citing Mission Viejo as an example where the first place Regional club would have been 5th place in Local clubs, so it is possible the original intent of this rule is no longer relevant (e.g. to separate out mega clubs from stomping all over smaller clubs).
- G. **AUTOMATIC RELAY EXCHANGE JUDGING EQUIPMENT** Jeff questioned whether we needed to make a rule regarding the use of this. Ed said we should try to follow USA policy, but also to realize that our swimmers were different in that not all swimmers will start from the blocks. **MSA TO INVESTIGATE A POLICY REGARDING THE USE OF AUTOMATIC RELAY EXCHANGE JUDGING EQUIPMENT AT NATIONALS AND TO PROPOSE A RULES CHANGE IF NECESSARY TO MATCH USA SWIMMING CODE.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 AM.