

July 2, 2009 Governance Committee Call Notes

Committee members present: Patty Miller, Julie Heather, Nancy Ridout, Michael Moore, Don Mehl, Sean Fitzgerald, Anthony Thompson

Open Water/Long Distance Committee

Patty informed the committee of her conversations with Marcia Cleveland and Mark Gill regarding Marcia's alternative idea for splitting the Open Water/Long Distance Committee. The group discussed various pros and cons of the alternative idea and noted generally that the split favored by Marcia and Ann Svenson still leaves a large amount of responsibility with one committee – championships, postals, awards, and records – which does not alleviate the concern about too much work for one committee. The group noted that the current OW/LD chair has done an incredible amount of work and expressed concern about anyone else being able to take on the current or a similar structure with broad responsibility for many areas related to OW/LD. The Governance Committee expressed that it was in a bit of a quandary, wanting to respect the wishes of the current committee chair and yet seeing the proposed alternative as not resolving the concern that led the Board to suggest splitting the committee. The group decided, for the time being, to report out the legislation as originally proposed (splitting OW/LD into OW and OW Rules) and to discuss this with the full Board at the July 7 Board meeting.

Communications related to Governance proposals

Mark Gill relayed his conversation with Marketing Committee chair Chris McGiffin and noted Chris asked for a summary of the proposed legislative changes to discuss with his committee. The Governance Committee will provide a copy of the Marketing and LMSC Development changes, with rationales. Julie Heather and Michael Moore will participate in a July 25 Marketing Committee conference call to represent the Governance Committee and answer any questions.

The Communications Committee has an upcoming conference call during which they will discuss, among other things, the disposition of certain responsibilities if the committee is disbanded. Michael Moore, who has already been communicating with Hugh Moore and Jeanne Seidler, will participate on the call for the Governance Committee.

Anthony Thompson will continue his attempts to schedule a call with Wayne McCauley regarding the International Committee.

Additional comments on the governance legislation

Rob Copeland asked in an e-mail message whether the Executive Committee would be listed under the newly proposed section on permanent committees of the board. The Governance Committee discussed this and agreed that the Executive Committee, which

has always had its own section in the rule book and which consists of officers elected to serve on that committee, should not be covered in the section on the permanent committees of the board, which addresses committees whose members are appointed, not elected.

Comments on latest legislative draft

The group discussed any further comments they have on the proposed governance legislation draft. While editing the legislation at the committee's request, Meg Smath questioned the use of the word "edit" in the Rule Book Coordinator description. The group decided to change it to "ensure the accuracy of". Meg also wondered why the word "NOT" was capitalized in 601.1.4. We will edit it to make it lower case.

Next steps

Anthony will talk to Jim Matysek about setting up a discussion forum for House of Delegates members to comment on and ask questions about the governance legislation.

The next conference call will be on Thursday, July 9, at 7:00 p.m., if needed.