

USMS CONVENTION – Greensboro, NC - 2005

Committee Name: International Session # (if more than one meeting): 1 Cmte. report #: 23

Minutes recorded by: Mary Pohlmann Date/time of this meeting: Friday, September 16, 2005, 10-11:15 REVISED

ACTION ITEMS - PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

None

ACTION: OTHER

MSA. Recommend the USMS webmaster make the FINA logo, XI FINA World Masters Championships logo, a paragraph about the event and a link to the FINA World website highly visible on the USMS webpage and send to all LMSC and Zone webmasters ASAP. It needs to be emphasized that no alterations to this material can be made or deleted on any of these websites.

Committee Chair: Sandi Rousseau Vice Chair(s): Myriam Pero

Number of committee members present: 16 Absent: 7 Number of other delegates at this meeting: 14

Committee members present: Sandi Rousseau, Myriam Pero, Mary Pohlmann, June Krauser, Peggy Buchannan, Shannon Sullivan, Kim Crouch, Nancy Miller, Anthony Thompson, Mark Gill, Michael Moore, Sean Fitzgerald, Karol Welling, Jacki Hirsty, Laura Winslow, Jim Miller (EC Liaison)

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at: 10:00 am

1. Introduction of Committee members and visitors present
2. *2006 FINA World Masters Championship – Michael Moore*
Status Report – Michael thanked the International Committee for help the committee has provided in contacting other Federations and NGBs in other countries.
The FINA World Masters Championship meet booklet is available for distribution and soon to be published. Applications for entry are now available – credit cards are being accepted. Online registration will be available after January 1st.
Non-profit status is being obtained.
Hotels arrangements have been made with 22 hotels and 2600 hotel rooms (2 hotels are completely booked already)
The FINA Masters Committee will be meeting at Stanford Nov 4-6th.
The FINA Congress will be held August 3rd, 2006 (the day before the start of the competition).
Speedo is the primary sponsor for the FINA World Masters Championship.
Jim Miller mentioned that USAS is very supportive of the FINA Worlds at Stanford and realize this will potentially be the largest FINA competition ever.

Assistance Requested for the Future- Anne Cribbs and Michael Moore
Help is needed stapling 200 copies of the meet booklet in the printing room at 1 pm today.
Assistance in continuing to be ambassadors in other countries and US is needed.
After November 1st Speedo will have a line of products to sell (licensed merchandise).
Please notify the LOC if we hear comments relevant to the competition.
Please calm fears of huge meet and long days. The meet will be run very efficiently with two courses running. Relays are on a separate day. Encourage USMS swimmers to sign up early and get hotel rooms early. Enter now; seed times can be changed later. Deadline for entry is June 1st.
3. Legislative Proposal Regarding Committee Status
Legislation Committee voted down L 21, but it may be brought up for reconsideration in the Legislation Cmt. Our position is that this is not the time to eliminate International Committee while we are in the midst of helping with FINA Worlds at Stanford. Michael Moore stated he would like us to continue to help and values our assistance. He particularly pointed out our help in Edmonton (World Masters Games) and Riccione (last FINA Masters Worlds) – helpful to have a committee already in place. Volunteers are needed beyond the LOC.

4. Review/Update on Current Projects

World Contacts – Myriam Pero reported on the status of the International Committee's project of updating world contact information. This is ongoing as we receive more responses. We still have many countries missing. Some countries require letters of invitation and the individuals need to contact Tracy Grilli for these invitations. We need to work with Tracy to get contacts that she receives through this process.

Rule Differences – Anthony Thompson put together a comparison of USMS/FINA rules (101 and 102) and provided all committee members with a printed synopsis. Open Water rules also need to be included. Sean Fitzgerald will help Shannon Sullivan in getting the Open Water – Long Distance rule comparisons together by mid-October. We would like to have a summary of the rule differences to be included in the publication of the next USMS Rule book. We are communicating with Rules Committee regarding this project. Concerns were expressed about FINA requirements regarding club affiliations. The consensus was to not pursue this issue at this time.

Jim Miller announced that by December 3rd members to attend the FINA Congress at Stanford must be identified and proposed rule changes submitted. Such rule changes would not take effect at Stanford. Anthony Thompson will discuss with Rules Committee whether there are any FINA rule change proposals they wish to submit for consideration. Eligibility regarding age might be something we might want to consider proposing (add 18-24).

International Section on USMS Web Site

Sandi reported her communications with Jim Matysek regarding this project. We have not come up on the priority list. International contacts are on the USMS website and can be updated now with our new information. We would like to see the USMS/FINA rule differences posted in the future. International meets are currently posted on the USMS calendar, but we'd like to further disseminate this and other international meet information. The FINA Masters World brochure and/or other information regarding the competition need to be quite visible on the USMS home page.

MSA. Recommend the USMS webmaster make the FINA logo, XI FINA World Masters Championships logo, a paragraph about the event and a link to the FINA World website highly visible on the USMS webpage and send to all LMSC and Zone webmasters ASAP. It needs to be emphasized that no alterations to this material can be made or deleted on any of these websites.

5. ASUA Update – Jim Miller represented USMS at the ASUA Masters Technical meeting in Santo Domingo during the first ASUA Pan American Championships. At the ASUA Masters Technical Meeting many suggestions for improvements for future events were made. South American nations and USMS were poorly represented at the competition. Caribbean nations were well represented. It was a reasonably well-run meet given the country's limitations. There were 175 entries. Water polo cancelled – not enough teams. The plans are to hold this competition every two years; synchronized swimming will be added and perhaps diving. USMS may consider bidding for 2009 or 2011 in order to foster growth in the South American/Caribbean nations.

Jim Miller shared an important communication regarding the LatyCar competition to be held in October 2005 in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The LatyCar championships are not being recognized by Brazil or FINA. This information needs to go to all swimmers in US who have considered going to this competition. A one year suspension may be incurred. Swimmers throughout the world run the risk of being ineligible for FINA Masters Worlds in Stanford. No appeal process will be available.

The following letter was received by Federations affiliated with ASUA

9/13/05

To: Federations Affiliated to ASUA/UANA

Today I received a message from Mr. Coaracy Nunes Filho, President of the Brazilian Swimming Confederation, requesting to advise all Federations Affiliated to ASUA/UANA that the Brazilian Swimming Federation and the Aquatics Federation of Sao Paulo do not have any involvement in a Masters competition to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil in October 2005, an event promoted by a company named Latycar, without the consent of them and FINA.

I encourage all Presidents of the affiliated Federations to alert your Masters swimmers to refrain from having relationship with a non-affiliated body of which Latycar is one. Also you should advise them that if they participate and have a relationship with a non-affiliated body they could be suspended for a minimum period of one (1) year according the FINA Rule GR 4.5.

Thanks for your cooperation and for your interest in this message.

*Orban Mendoza, P.E.
President of ASUA/UANA*

The committee moved to the lobby at 11:30 to further consider this turn of events with the following recommendations:

- USMS needs to immediately contact all USMS swimmers regarding this notification.
- USMS should contact the organizers of LatyCar to obtain the names and contact information for all USMS swimmers entered in the competition in order to notify them of their risk of sanction if they do not withdraw from this competition.

It appears that there are political reasons and ulterior motives for the timing of this pronouncement from ASUA/FINA.

It is our understanding that legal action by the organizing committee for the All Americas LatyCar Championship is currently taking place regarding this action by ASUA/FINA. Concern was expressed about possible action that some Americas national organizations might take, suggesting their swimmers not attend the FINA World competition.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20.

TASKS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

1. Continue to assist the LOC of Worlds as requested.
2. Complete our summary of the FINA/USMS rule differences and try to get that included in the 2006 USMS Rule book.
3. Continue to update our world contacts list.
4. Continue to pursue getting more international information on the USMS website.