

LONG DISTANCE SWIMMING COMMITTEE

The Long Distance Swimming Committee met on October 21, 1988. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Rob Copeland.

The following sites were selected for the 1990 USMS-LDS championships:

Event	Bidder	Date
1 hr. postal	DC Masters	January
10 K postal	St. Louis Masters	May-September
1 mi open water	Seal Beach	Mid-July
3.5-5 mi open water	San Pedro	Mid-August
1.5-3 mi open water	Richardson Masters	Mid-September
6+ mi open water	Seal Beach	Mid-July
2 mile cable swim	Virginia Masters	Mid-July

The recommendations for the proposed Long distance changes are attached. I would like to thank the Long Distance Swimming Committee for their efforts.

Now that we are no longer part of USS, we have decided to revive the Long Distance Policy manual. Copies of the 1986 draft have been distributed to members of the LDS Committee. Dave Gray and Rob Copeland will coordinate the creation of the new manual.

Since we have approved a rule change that will require a meet evaluation for National Championships, our ad-hoc committee is to develop a national Championship packet. Bobbie Turcotte will develop a bid packet, Dave Gray will develop a meet manager guide and evaluations from and George McVay will develop a contract. These documents will be available for the 1989 championships.

Steve Schofield will put together a guideline for sanction from and a supplemental information form to be included in the LMSC handbook for 1989.

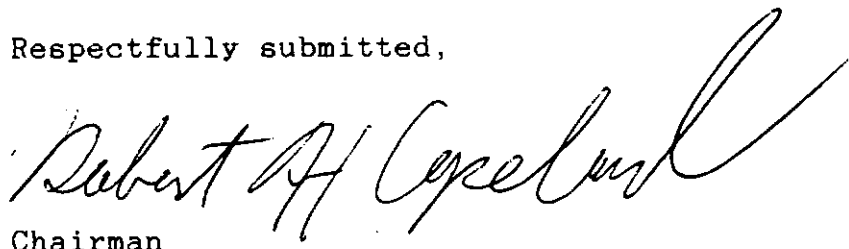
Dave Gary and Gary McDowell will once again produce a calendar of long distance events. Anyone who has information about an open water swim should forward that information to Dave Gray.

General Issues discussed as new business included:
How to allow wet suits in non-championship competitions, yet discourage their usage by allowing competitors to wear wet suits, but not allow them to receive awards or score points.

How can we verify postal swim entries to prevent errors and fraud. It was decided that since all swimmers must keep lap times will new national records and any protected results will need to be followed up by the supporting split documents.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman

1988 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO USMS LONG DISTANCE SWIMMING RULES

10/21/88

Items Withdrawn by Proposer:

LDR 19 304.2.2 [first line] by LDS committee RC
The fastest swimmers in quarter-mile straightaway course
an events shall be....

Rationale: Remove reference to straightaway event

Items Recommended for DISAPPROVAL:

LDR 5 302.2.1 [last sentence] by LDS committee SR
The last recorded 1/2 mile time or place for each....

Rationale: Housekeeping

LDR 20 304.2.3 [first sentence] by LDS committee SR
Events for Different age groups may be combined...

Rationale: Housekeeping

Items Recommended for APPROVAL:

LDR 1 301.2.1 [replace all] by LDS committee RC
All swimmers competing in long distance swimming events
sanctioned by USMS must be registered with USMS, foreign
swimmers may compete if they are registered with their
FINA approved governing body.

Rationale: To conform to the wording used in other sections of the rule book.

LDR 2 301.2.2 [to all references to sanction] by LDS committee
Sanctions or Approvals will be required for all....

Rationale: Allow long distance swims to be approved.

LDR 3 302.2. by LDS committee JM
~~The~~ Long distance swimming event...

Rationale: Housekeeping

LDR 4 302.2.1 [replace existing rule] by LDS committee RC
Quarter-mile Straightaway - The course shall be set in stationary open water and shall be a quarter of a mile (440 yards) straightaway using a cable with floats stretched between two fixed and stationary markers in the water. The distance between the anchoring points of the cable shall be maintained within plus or minus

six inches, measured to the outer edge of the turning marker. A stationary water start and an in the water finish shall be used.

Swims along cables of other lengths are allowed.

Rationale: This allows flexibility in the length of the race, and removes the references to conduct of a straightaway swim from the definition. Also, the reference to the administration of the finish has been moved to 304.3 finishes.

LDR 6 302.2.2 by LDS committee SR
OPEN WATER EVENTS - As surf, beach, tide and temperature

Rationale: Housekeeping

LDR 7 302.2.2 [last sentence] by LDS committee SR
Age groups and other classifications may also be swum at the same time, but again tabulated separately.

Rationale: Housekeeping

LDR 8 302.2.4 by LDS committee JM
Individual Long Distance Swims - Swims must be sanctioned by the LMSC in which the swim originates, and conducted by the appropriate governing body or its designee in accordance with all pertinent rules and regulations....All times achieved in long distance individual attempts should be duly certified and made a matter of record by the sanctioning LMSC appropriate governing body or its representatives...

Rationale: Remove ambiguous reference to governing bodies.

LDR 9 302.2.5.C [new section] by LDS committee SR
Postal events conducted in pools must comply with all rules of USMS and section 302.2.3. The meet director shall have the discretion to designate the size(s) of the pools in which the event is to be swum.

Rationale: Currently no section covers the rules under which postal swims are to be conducted.

LDR 10 302.2.6.D by LDS committee JM
Mixed sex teams may be entered contested,....

Rationale: Housekeeping

LDR 11 302.2.7 [first sentence] by LDS committee RC
Relays - Relay teams shall normally consist of....

Rationale: Housekeeping

- LDR 12 302.2.8 [renumber to 304.6] by LDS committee RC
Rationale: Housekeeping
- LDR 13 303.1 by LDS committee JM
Change references "A" through "I" to "1" through "9".
Rationale: Housekeeping
- LDR 14 303.1.E by LDS committee JM
Making providing provisions for....
Rationale: Housekeeping
- LDR 15 303.1 [last paragraph] by LDS committee JM
LMSC's are encouraged to develop their own safety guidelines and precautions rules for the conduct of long distance events, ...
Rationale: Differentiate between USMS rules and local guidelines
- LDR 16 303.2 [last sentence] by LDS committee SR
In addition, The wording "In this extremely hazardous event, water safety cannot be guaranteed," "In addition, I specifically acknowledge that I am aware of all of the risks inherent in open water swimming and agree to assume those risks." shall be included in all open water event acknowledgment and release forms.
Rationale: The current wording says that all long distance events are extremely hazardous, which is untrue and may increase our liability.
- LDR 17 304.1.1.B by LDS committee JM
Running - Contestants Swimmers will line up on the beach a short distance from the water ~~line~~ behind a marked line. At the starting signal, the swimmers ~~will~~ run into the water and swim the prescribed course.
Rational: Bring wording in line with 304.1.1.A
- LDR 18 304.2.1 [last sentence] by LDS committee SR
The manner of seeding "No Times" will be seeded at the discretion of the meet director, as stated in the meet entry sheet.
Rationale: Housekeeping
- LDR 21 304.3.2 by LDS committee RC
Out of the water - Swimmers shall leave the water, as

defined by the course, and run up the beach to a marked finish.

Rationale: Remove reference to a beach, in case the event is conducted in a location without a beach.

LDR 22 304.5.1 [first sentence] by LDS committee RC
Or their personal escort, willfully or intentionally delay the progress of another swimmer...

Rationale: Currently a swimmer's escort could disrupt other swimmers, without penalizing his own swimmer.

LDR 23 304.5.1 [last sentence] by LDS committee SR
However the flagrant disregard of another swimmer's rights ~~could~~ shall result in disqualification).

Rationale: It seems appropriate to require disqualification for behavior meeting the "flagrant disregard" standard.

LDR 24 304.5.8 by LDS committee SR
Draft off another swimmer in time/distance and pool events.

Rationale: This makes drafting illegal in all pool events, not just time/distance events.

LDR 25 305.1.2 by LDS committee JM
USMS National Long Distance Swimming championship meets are open...

Rationale: Housekeeping, reworded to conform to 305.1.1

LDR 26 305.4.5.A by LDS committee JM
Feeding is permissible but use of alcohol or illegal drugs is ~~are~~ forbidden.

LDR 27 Rationale: Housekeeping
305.5.3 by Pacific Masters
\$1.00 per individual entrant shall be paid by the event sponsor to USMS for each entry in National Championship Long Distance events no later than sixty (60) days after the conclusion of the event. Successful bidders of USMS Long Distance National Championships will pay to United States Masters Swimming Inc., within seven days of the last day of acceptance of entries, a fee of \$3.00 per individual entrant in the meet. Upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the Meet Contract, the sum of \$2.00 per entrant shall be returned as stipulated in the Contract. Noncompliance with said conditions, as determined by the meet evaluation committee within 30 days of the receipt of the final meet report, shall result in forfeiture of part or all of this amount.

Rationale: This institutes accountability for open water swims in accordance with accountability already in place

- for pool meets.
- LDR 28 305.7 [second sentence] by LDS committee JM
Records will not be submitted for open water swims.
Rationale: This is outlined in RECORDS 306.2.3
- LDR 29 305.7 [third sentence] by LDS committee JM
...verified USMS registration numbers, LMSCs of registry
and club affiliations.
Rationale: Housekeeping
- LDR 30 305.9.3 [second sentence] by LDS committee JM
No club points or awards shall be made for USMS LDS
Championship events.
Rationale: This is already laid out previously.
- LDR 31 303.1.I
Considering use of day-glo florescent orange and other
brightly colored caps....
Rationale: "Day-Glo" is a registered trademark.
- LDR 32 304.3.3 by LDS RC
If a race is stopped and swimmers are removed from the
water for their safety, the referee shall determine if
the race is to be restarted, canceled, or considered of-
ficial.
Rationale : This allows events which are stopped for
safety reasons to be considered official.