

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Long Distance	<b>Session #:</b>	1	<b>Report #:</b>	1
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Ali Hall	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Phyllis Quinn		
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Lorena Sims	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	1/27/19 @ 5pm EST		

### **Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:**

1. None.

### **Motions Passed:**

1. Motion to approve 12/02/18 meeting minutes: Phyllis Quinn. Second: Dave Brancamp. Motion carried without opposition.
2. Motion to approve goals as discussed: Matt Miller. Second: Alana Aubin. Motion carried without opposition.
3. Motion to approve LDC Award document: Joanne Wainwright. Second: Dave Brancamp. Motion carried without opposition.
4. Motion to approve waiver of 307.7.6B for Portland Bridges Swim: Lorena Sims. Second: Robin Smith. Motion carried without opposition.

**Number of committee members present: 17**

**Absent: 2**

**Number of other delegates present: 0**

**Committee members present: Ali Hall (Chair), Phyllis Quinn (Vice Chair), Donn Livoni (Vice President), David Brancamp, Matt Miller, Lorena Sims, Robin Smith, Sarah King, Laurie Hug, Stephen Rouch, Alana Aubin, Catherine Rust, Jim Davidson, Bob Singer, Sandra Frimerman-Bergquist, Joanne Wainwright. Ex-Officio Members Present: Jay Eckert, Dawson Hughes. Absent: David Miner, Bob Bruce, Jill Wright. Others: None.**

The meeting was called to order at 08:00pm ET:

1. Welcome and roll call.
2. Approval of 12/02/18 meeting minutes – Motion: Phyllis Quinn. Second: Dave Brancamp. Motion carried without opposition.
3. Reports from the chair (Ali) and vice chair (Phyllis) and vice president (Donn)
  - Chair:** Nothing to report.
  - Vice Chair:** Nothing to report.
  - Vice President:** Winter board of directors meeting in a couple weeks, if there is anything that needs to be considered, please pass to Ali for consideration and to be sent to Donn.
4. Presentation from Dawson Hughes and Jay Eckert:
 

Discussion regarding an open water task force, including representatives from NO, the open water committee, the long distance committee, and others. Goals include doubling events and splashes within the next 5 years and make this a more robust priority within USMS. Surveys were sent out and top priorities were all very similar and not unexpected, regarding dual sanctioning, simplifying the processes, creating an open water results database, etc. Next group to survey will be event participants, but as there is no results database, there is no database of participants. We also want to be able to better serve event directors by promoting USMS sanctioned events, looking into providing possible sponsored items for their events, etc. We also want to consider an open-water membership long term. These things will be presented to the board next month and then action items will be decided from that going forward. From the task force:

The Open Water Task force was created by the BOD at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Jacksonville. OWTF consists of BOD (Donn Livoni), OWC (Bob Bruce and Karen LeFebre), LDC (Ali Hall and Phyllis Quinn), and NO (Dawson Hughes and Jay Eckert).

So far, we've had several calls as a group and individually and contacted many stakeholders such as Event Directors to gather feedback.

Here are notes from a recent OWTF call for additional information:

1. Goal: Strategy to grow number of sanctioned open water swims and participation by 2024:
  - a. 100 sanctioned events
  - b. 25k splashes (estimated 13k now)
  - c. Key component of USMS membership growth strategy
2. Surveys and Initial Findings
  - a. Event Directors
    - i. Streamlined sanction (including with USA-S) and financial process, reduced costs or cost savings (registration, caps/buoys, etc.)
    - ii. 75% of event directors that do not currently sanctioned with USMS would sanction again if process simplified
    - iii. 42% not satisfied with NO support
    - iv. Top priorities to provide more flexibility and improve event:
      1. More streamlined dual sanctioning process with USA Swimming
      2. Streamline reporting/financial processes (one-events, sanction fees with LSMCs, etc)
      3. OW events results database
  - b. OW/LDC/BOD
    - i. Promote only sanctioned events via email and calendar of events
    - ii. Streamlined sanctioning and financial process
    - iii. Results database
    - iv. Open Water / Triathlon Membership (not a specific question but mentioned in conversations and recommended by 2014 Task Force)
  - c. LSMCs
    - i. Streamlined sanction (including with USA-S) and financial process, reduced costs or cost savings (registration, caps/buoys, etc.)
    - ii. Results database
    - iii. Anecdotal topics
      1. Mighty Mac Swim
      2. North Texas (Richard Garza)
    - iv. Open Water / Triathlon Membership (not a specific question but mentioned in conversations and recommended by 2014 Task Force)
  - d. Event Participant
    - i. NO doesn't have this information
    - ii. Working with Club Assistant to get survey out to participants

- iii. This is a significant problem for supporting the marketing open water events.
      - 1. OW results database would be one way to gather data on USMS members that are competing in sanctioned events
- 3. USA Swimming and USA Triathlon Collaborations
  - a. Dawson and Jay met with USA-S and USAT last week in Co. Springs. Topics discussed:
    - i. Streamline dual sanction process
    - ii. Partner on events
    - iii. Event Director support from partner NGBs
- 4. Further evaluation of survey results
  - a. Participant Survey Data
  - b. 2019 Goals – Need buy in from committees, not necessarily a topic for HOD
    - i. Improved marketing of events through web articles and targeted digital marketing
    - ii. Build a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) Results Database
    - iii. Work to establish policy of promoting only USMS events through USMS channels
    - iv. Build USMS Sanction value and benefits document comparing our value with competitors
  - c. 2020 Goals – may need HOD discussion - budgets, legislation, rules, etc.
    - i. Streamlined sanction process that aligns (and possibly integrates) with information needed for event registration
    - ii. Rules philosophy discussion for LDC and OWC
      - 1. Needs more detail from data and specific areas for review
    - iii. Added Value for Event Director
      - 1. Possibility of offering reduced cost or free registration software
        - a. Simplified process
        - b. Provide integrated data points with registration, participation and results
        - c. Reduce event director expenses – add value
    - iv. Consideration of OW Membership
      - 1. 2014 recommendation
      - 2. Standardized fee discussion
      - 3. Need more data (CA support)
- 5. Planned meetings:
  - a. OW Committee 1/20
  - b. LDC Committee 1/27
  - c. BOD Update 2/8
  - d. OWTF: 2/26

- 5. Working groups – reports:
  - a. 2019 Rules/Legislation – Bob B./Jim; Donn, Lorena, Bob S., Robin, Matt, Stephen. All will be involved during the spring.

- I'm looking forward to working with all of you on rules and legislation business this year. We've had a busy time with this in the past few years, but having been through those frenetic times I'm hoping that we'll have a quiet year for a change.
  - I'm thrilled that Jim Davidson will be working with me closely this year. Jim brings good experience and an official's keen eye to our rules. In fact, he has already written and sent me the first rules proposals for this year! Thanks, Jim, I think...
  - I have attached a draft of a proposed rules & legislation process for 2019. Those of you who are returning to the LDC and/or OWC will find no substantive changes, as this was our process in the previous few years. Those of you who are new, please get familiar with this process.
  - I have also attached an electronic copy of Part 3 of the USMS Rulebook (particularly helpful now as the printed rulebooks have not yet been delivered). Your homework assignment for the LDC meeting on Sun 24 Feb is to carefully review these rules; if you are not familiar with them, you will not be a very effective member of this committee. When you review rules, please contact me (coachbobbruce at gmail.com) if you have questions and I'll work to help you grapple with this stuff. You will note that there are four rules proposals that we will take up after the Open Water Committee reviews them next month.
  - Finally, I may have difficulty joining you for our meeting on Sun 27 Jan. I'm swimming in a meet that day (sprints, of all things!) and at meeting time I'm likely to be in the Cascades (a big no cell reception corridor) on my three-hour return trip. I'll make the meeting if I can!
- b. PARA – Sarah/Jim: Patches & Awards – Dave; All-Americans (AA) - Men – Lorena, Sandra, Alana; (AA) Women – Joanne, Dave, Sarah; (AA) Relays – Phyllis, Dave; Records – Jill, Dave, All-Stars – Laurie, Alana; Postal Series – Alana & Joanne.  
Results for all 2018 events have been posted and forwarded to Team members for compilation of All Americans, All Stars, Records and ePostal awards.
- c. Club Assistant – Lorena and Stephen  
Some misunderstandings have occurred between a host and Club Assistant in the last month regarding results output and a meeting is being scheduled between myself, Jim Davidson, Ali if available, and Karin to resolve the issue. If anyone has had an issue with CA, particularly as regards results, please contact us to let us know so that we have more information to pass on/assist with resolving the problems.
- d. Safety (as needed) – David M., lead.  
No report.
- e. Documents – Matt, lead; & Bob S. (ePostal Guide – Matt, Bob S., Jill & \_\_\_\_). (OW Champs Guide – Matt, Bob S. & \_\_\_\_).  
Nothing other than what Jill posted on the forum as regards National Championship documents.
- f. 2021 NC Recruitment/Selection – Jill, lead; Robin, Matt, Stephen & Sandra.  
LD 2021 Bid forms for ePostal and LDNCs are now ready. Bids are due 7/1/19. Thanks a million to Matt Miller for his expertise.
- g. Communications – Laurie, lead; Matt & \_\_\_\_\_

Nothing to report.

- h. NC Oversight - Ali, lead; Phyllis, Jim, Matt, David M.
- Thank you, Jay and Daniel, for the excellent LD NC 2019 season coverage in the latest Swimmer magazine!
  - All liaisons have been asked to communicate with their hosts about positive ID at event check in
  - Thank you to liaisons and back up folks for getting this season geared up, and for the good communication with your hosts.
- i. Goals – Phyllis, lead; Lorena, Robin, Bob S., Matt, Catherine, Sandra, and Joanne.  
I am including a draft of our goals for 2019.  
We will hear from the NO about the OW task force  
I am also including a document for liaisons. We can update as needed.  
Motion to approve goals as discussed: Matt Miller. Second: Alana Aubin. No discussion.  
Motion carried without opposition.
- j. LDC Award – Jill, lead; Laurie, Catherine, Joanne, Ali.  
Attached is the award info/form that will be on the USMS website. Nominations are due 7/1/19.  
The info that will be posted on the website is very thorough. Some font changes made (non-substantive.) Motion to Approve Document: Joanne Wainwright. Second: Dave Brancamp.  
Discussion: None. Motion carried without opposition.

#### 2019 LD NC Event Liaison Reports:

- USMS Middle Distance OWNC
- Davis Aquatics Masters, Lake Berryessa CA (2 miles) June 1
  - o Liaison: Dave Backup: Phyllis

Event host has met all the deadlines to date, including adding the "positive check-in" requested at all our National Championships. Draft entry and local sponsorship with USMS NO for final approval. Host has been reminded of the February deadlines.
- USMS Cable OWNC
- Indianapolis, IN (2 miles) June 15/15
  - o Liaison: Donn Back Up: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Meet entry draft completed.
  - Safety Plan application is submitted to Dave Miner.
  - Sanction application will be submitted once Dave reviews/approves safety plan.
  - I just received the logo requirements from Jay today. So event logo/merchandise will be submitted for approval once it's available.
  - Entry tentatively planned to open March 1st.
- USMS Ultra-Marathon Distance OWNC
- Portland Bridges, Portland, OR July 7



Event host mailed bond check to USMS NO in Dec 2018. Copy of final signed contract forwarded to host for their files. Draft entry form and artwork currently in progress - host has been reminded that these are due to LDC Liaison prior to Feb 15th deadline.

- o 3,000/6,000 ePostal: Sawtooth Masters

- o Liaison: Jim                      Back Up: Bob S.

- The contract has been signed. I am working on an updated timeline that captures events stipulated in the contract.

UPDATE:

- o 2018 3,000/6,000 ePostal: MEMO (Oakland, CA)

- o Liaison: Lorena                      Back Up: Stephen

- Host has been substantially delayed in responding to emails and sending financials as well as final results. There have been significant issues with performance as regards staying on timeline. Still pending completion of championship packet, but final results have been received for posting and submitted to PARA.

Other business for the good of the order: **Nothing to report.**

Next meeting on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 6:01pm.