

## Northwest Zone Meeting Minutes

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Northwest Zone	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	Sunday, June 11, 2017
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Sally Dillon		
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Sally Dillon		

**Motions Passed with financial implications:** none

**Motions passed:** none

**Number of committee members present: 16**                      **Absent: n/a**                      **Number of other delegates present: n/a**

**Committee members present:** Ken Winterberger (AK), Matt Bronson, Paige Buehler (IW), Steve Darnell, Ginger Pierson, Sandi Rousseau (OR), Kathy Casey, Sally Dillon, Hugh Moore, Steve Peterson, Sarah Welch (PN), Jim Clemmons, Suzy Cavanaugh, Paula Moores (SR), and Aaron Norton, Karen Oliver (UT).

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by NW Zone Chair Sally Dillon.

Prior to starting the meeting, Kathy brought to our attention an article in the May/June issue of *Swimmer* magazine. On page 40, the “Swim Bag” feature promotes Roka Sim Pro buoyancy shorts. Kathy said that while these shorts may be used at workout, they are illegal for any pool competition and would only be allowed in the wetsuit division for open water competition.

#### A. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Actions taken between meetings: The March 19, 2017 minutes were approved by email and posted on the USMS website.
2. NW Zone Chatter: Sally thanked those who have submitted their reports for the newsletter and asked the others to please submit them quickly so she can get the next issue out before leaving town next week. The reports were due June 9.
3. Zone Chair report: Sally reported that the Huntsman Games in southern Utah will no longer be sanctioned by USMS since they do not allow all age groups. The event will be “recognized” but times will not be considered for World Top Ten Rankings
4. Financial report – Ken reported that all LMSCs are current with the per/swimmer surcharge. The account balance is \$6517.79. Ken suggested that in the future he would like to obtain membership numbers on May 1 from the USMS website and bill each LMSC accordingly. There were no objections so Ken will give this a try next year.
5. Records: Sally noted that Steve Darnell is doing an excellent job in keeping the records up to date. It has worked very well to have just one person maintaining all zone records. She thanked the LMSC Top Ten recorders for doing their part in reporting meet results and records to Steve in a timely manner. Steve noted that he received records from MT recently. A 95-year old swimmer set several records.
6. NW Zone At Large Director report: Sarah reported on changes at the National Office and other news from the Board of Directors.
  - a. Sarah noted that since last summer, the National Office has been working with the BOD to modernize USMS technology and resolve issues due to backlogs and lack of progress on requests for enhancements to benefit members. She pointed out that CEO Dawson Hughes has made several changes at the National Office that the BOD supports.
  - b. Regarding changes at the National Office, Jim and Anna Lea Matysek have decided to seek employment elsewhere, and Tracy Grilli will retire June 30. Sarah reported the board recognizes that losing three long-time employees who have connections with many volunteers and members is difficult, and she encouraged people to reach out to them with our thanks. She also said that three board members will interact with those who are leaving and recommend to the BOD on how to honor their contributions to USMS.
  - c. CEO Dawson Hughes recognizes that some critical positions need to be filled and newer staff are covering some of those duties now, but he will be hiring replacements for those who are leaving. Hugh has spoken to Dawson who said that they must do some backfilling and are hiring new staff; and in the process, they will be maintaining the LSMC standards spreadsheets. Sally expressed concern that the staff currently in charge of membership, coaches, and clubs appear to have no previous experience with swimming at any level.
  - d. Regarding employee evaluations, Sarah confirmed that the board does evaluate the CEO’s job performance. Sandi wants to be sure that the USMS BOD gets feedback from the staff about the CEO’s performance, since it is the BOD’s responsibility to evaluate that position.

7. NW Zone Championship events
  - a. Review of SCY zone championship (Federal Way): Sally reported that the meet went well. There were 290 entries, 30 were from seven other LMSCs including Potomac Valley, Missouri Valley, Southern Pacific, and Pacific. Numerous records were set.
  - b. Update on Open Water zone championship (Lake WA, Fat Salmon): Sally reported that 278 entries have been received; race is 75% filled in first month. The lake has cooled down over the last week but hopefully it will start warming again over the next few weeks.
  - c. Update on LCM zone championship (Gresham): August 25-27; Sally has not seen the entry information.
  - d. Update on SCM zone championship (Hood River): November 11-12; Sandi will get the entry information to Sally for approval.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Zone logo: Should we consider replacing our old logo with the more simplified version that we used for the ribbons? Comments have been made that our original logo is too complicated. Sally has heard from various people who are in favor of adopting the revised logo that was used for the new Zone ribbons. We would want to add the USMS logo or U.S. Masters Swimming. Ginger did not like the placement for NW Zone on the logo that was previously approved but there were no other objections. Sally suggested that we ask Ken to give us a few examples with the additional USMS wording. We can discuss online and vote by email as well. If agreement can't be made, we could vote at convention. There were no objections to this plan.
2. LMSC Standards update: Since many of the standards that have been missed occur either occasionally or once a year, it did not seem reasonable to conduct another survey when not enough time has elapsed to affect change. At a recent LMSC Development Committee meeting, it was decided that the committee will set a target date when it meets in Dallas. It is likely that at least 6 months will pass before the standards survey is done.

In the meantime, each LMSC should be evaluating the areas that were shown to be deficient and make every effort to address them. Sandi asked, "who has them?" and Sally said they have been distributed to the LMSC chairs. She believes Oregon was 100% compliant. Karen brought the survey up to the UT board in May and will meet again in 2 days. She has questions and Sally will consult with her by phone before then.
3. September convention
  - a. LMSC delegates: Sally needs names and contact information so please provide this as soon as possible. Some have included delegate names in the *NW Zone Chatter* reports. A message from Tracy Grilli was sent to LMSC chairs on May 10 with deadlines for requesting AT Large spots and directions for submitting delegates. Let Sally know if you can't find it.
  - b. Election of Zone Chair: Sally would like to serve for another term. The election will take place at the Zone meeting in Dallas. Any others who would like to run for the position may do so by submitting their names by September 1.
  - c. Deadline for Legislation, Rules, and Long Distance proposals: Proposals are due July 10 to the appropriate chairs.
  - d. Executive Committee Elections: Donn Livoni is running for VP-Programs. Sally suggested that he appreciate the support of our Zone delegates when we vote in September.
4. LMSC announcements: include information that won't be in the Zone Chatter.
  - a. Alaska - no report
  - b. Inland NW - no report
  - c. Montana - no report
  - d. Oregon - no report
  - e. Pacific Northwest - PNA has formed an exploratory committee, which will review the requirements for hosting a National Championship SCY meet and recommend to the PNA board whether we should submit a bid for the 2020 SCY National Championships.
  - f. Snake River - Paula reported that the LMSC is very happy to have new board members Jim Clemmons (Chair), Jeff Irvin (VC), and Suzy Cavanaugh (Secretary). Being such a small LMSC, it's been difficult to get new people on the board.
  - g. Utah - Karen is also thankful for having new board members, Aaron Norton and Blair Bagley.

Next meeting - Dallas, TX - Thursday, September 14, 5:30-7:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7pm.

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