

Committee Name:	Open Water	Session #:	1	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Lynn Hazlewood	Vice Chair:	Rob Copeland		
Minutes recorded by:	Joanne Wainwright	Date/time of meeting:	Sunday, Dec. 9, 8:00 PM EST		

Action Items:

1. Minutes from Nov. 4 meeting approved. Motion: John Trainer. 2nd: Bill Roach
2. Motion made to approve OWCSS Collaboration Responsibilities document.
3. The committee agreed to schedule meetings on the first Sunday of each month.

Number of committee members present: 15	Absent: 7	Number of other delegates present: 0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Lynn Hazlewood (Chair), Jen Baker, Bob Bruce, Glenda Carroll, Dave Diehl, Dominic Latella, Donn Livoni, Don Mehl, Sue Nutty, Dave Oplinger, Bill Roach, Heather Stevenson, John Traynor, Joanne Wainwright, Karin Wegner.		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m. EST

1. Call to order and attendance
2. **Report from the Chair: Actions taken between meetings**—Lynn Hazlewood—a) Two members resigned from the committee because of lack of time to participate; b) Private discussion forum set up for the OWC, note presence of Nadine Day and Rob Butcher, *Ex-officio* members. Private email list associated with forums set up for the OWC—"ow-committee@usms.org." Can be used separately to email to the whole committee; c) Subcommittees were set up and published to the committee; (d.) Sample designs for the open water logo are available on the forum; many comments were made regarding the proposed logos. Leadership believes that the OW Program is offered through USMS; therefore, USMS should be identified in the logo; (e) Nadine notified us that the EC indicated the OW committee may determine financial support for events, and the committee must decide which events will receive special consideration due to the fact that we have limited funds. The Chair assigned this task to the Event Support & Development Subcommittee. There was a discussion of possibly giving the funding to LMSCs to be used for event support projects such as purchase of equipment; (g) The company has not been set-up for our safety webinars as of this date. USMS is looking for a company where conference calls and multiple webinars may be offered simultaneously. We should be able to test of the system in December; h) Finally, an e-mail was received from Laura Hamel, USMS editor. She said USMS will be doing a series of articles on OW called OW 101 and would like comments from the OW committee regarding topics. An outline is available on the forum for comments. Information should stay in-house and not distributed outside the committee.
3. **Safety Subcommittee report**—Jim Wheeler—though not present said he would be getting in touch with everyone from the subcommittee. John Traynor commented on both documents uploaded to the forum: the OWCSS National Championship Safety Collaboration document and the OWCSS Safety Expertise and Event Host Interface Tasks document. The Collaboration document was developed by the OWCSS and the LD Committee to enhance safety support. Six responsibilities were discussed and approved by the OW Committee. John Traynor went through each item with the committee asking for comments and/or objections. After discussion of the parts of the document, Bill Roach made a motion to approve the document and Joanne Wainwright made a 2nd to the motion. The motion carried. The second document lays the framework for tasks at 2013 USMS-Sanctioned OW NC events. It includes a table with the OW events, locations, event dates, sanction and entry information, where liaisons perform the on-site visits, and other safety personnel. Some dates are left blank. Any further comments should be made to the subcommittee members.
4. **Recognition and Awards Subcommittee report**—Bob Bruce offered to do a first draft of the National Service award criteria and will be getting in touch with others on the subcommittee.
5. **Swimmer Training Subcommittee report**—Dominic Latella requested input on criteria for grants from sub-committee members. Lynn sent him existing committee documents to read so that he can create a document for advertising and collecting requests for grants. Lynn commented that the advertising should be minimal since the grants are not publicly available and open only to Zone/National Championships. The deadline will be extended until mid-January.
6. **Communications Subcommittee report**—Lynn reported that there is not a specific area for OW information on the USMS website. OW information appears to be located in several places. She made a suggestion that we may reach our target audience through blogs if we can find a good blogger.

7. **Event Officials Subcommittee report**—Bill Roach commented that a plan for Safety Director education and an Officials policy manual is being developed and will be sent to the committee within the week. It was also noted that Ed Saltzman Chair of the Officials committee will serve on this sub-committee.
8. **Open Water Guide to Operations (OWGTO) Subcommittee**—No report.
9. **Event Promotion & Development Subcommittee report**—John Traynor reviewed proposed tasks from document: 1) Assisting Zones with OW Championships and OW Series events, 2) Assisting Zones with \$500 clinic grants, 3) Revisit & propose any 2013 OEVT rules legislation, 4) suggestion competitive OEVT Fee structure, and 5) Recommend incentives for “partnering” OW events with alternate National Governing Bodies. A question was raised regarding deadlines for grant requests. It was suggested we need good recordkeeping to make sure we are not under-budgeted in this area. There was a discussion of OVET fees.
10. **Legislation & Rules Subcommittee**—Bob Bruce commented that it is important to have support from both committees: OW/LD. He will put forth a basic plan of legislation and rules. A review was submitted last year. It was recommended that the committee look at Part 2 and Part 6 of the rule book as those sections may be in need of updating. Although it is not a rules year, Bob wants to look at “hot” point rules issues that will affect OW development.
11. **Innovation Subcommittee**—No report.
12. **Next Meeting**—scheduled for January 6, 2013. 8 p.m. EST. In the future, we will schedule meetings for the first Sunday each month.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM EST