

Committee Name:	Open Water Committee	Vice Chair:	Rob Copeland
Committee Chair:	Lynn Hazlewood	Date/time:	03/08/2015 8:00 PM EDT
Minutes recorded by:	Lynn Hazlewood		

Number of committee members present: 14	Absent: 7	Number of other delegates present: 0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Lynn Hazlewood, Rob Copeland, Charles Bender, Bob Bruce, Glenda Carroll, Suzio Green, David Miner, Sue Nutty, Rendy Laynn Opdycke, Dave Oplinger, Ally Segal, Elaine Howley (ex-o), Donn Livoni (ex-o), Bill Roach (ex-o).		

Action Items

1. The committee agreed to request AV equipment for the workshop, but not for the regular meeting.
2. The committee confirmed our intention to require a Safety Application Form from events not sanctioned in 2014.

Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 PM

1. The Chair took attendance and declared a quorum.
2. Minutes for previous meetings are not yet ready. We will vote at the next meeting.
3. **Report from the Chair**—Lynn Hazlewood
 - a. Kudos—The Chair took note of the good work from Bill Roach who talked to the Bay area swimmers to clear up misunderstandings and Charles Bender for running an excellent OW Activities Subcommittee meeting.
 - b. Convention meetings: The OWC Regular meeting will be 3:30-4:45 pm on Thursday **after** LDC; the OW Workshop will be 8-10 am on Friday. The committee agreed to request AV equipment for the workshop, but not for the regular meeting.
 - c. The committee discussed potential topics of discussion for the workshop. No decision was made. Topics for workshops may include:
 - i. ISM workshop—what's it all about?
 - ii. ISM training
 - iii. Multiple separate topics
 - iv. Sanctions Chairs/event hosts safety application form
 - v. Cold water discussion: helping event directors develop thermal plan
 - vi. Event hosts, sanction chairs, ISMs working together to create a safer event

4. OW Joint Management Group

- a. OWGTO updates Part 1: Sanction Guidelines—Rob Copeland: updated and approved by BOD
- b. OWGTO updates Part 2: Safety Guidelines—Rob Copeland: updated and approved by the BOD. There are some issues brought up by Legal Counsel that will be resolved outside the meeting.
- c. The committee confirmed our intention to require a Safety Application Form from events not sanctioned in 2014. There was no motion or second to reconsider this issue.
- d. The sanction application and checklists remain to be updated and converted to interactive forms before publication.
- e. Discussion with Bay Area Swimmers—Bill reported that he had a lengthy discussion with the Bay Area Swimmers. He concluded that they know what they are doing in cold water swims and they will be a great resource for future consultations. They don't want to be governed by USMS regulations, but applaud our efforts to educate hosts and swimmers.
- f. Independent Safety Monitor implementation—Donn Livoni: We still need to identify which NC and pre-selected OW Sanctioned events do not have ISM coverage ("target" events for 2015). We have not heard from LMSC on suggested person for Lake George); Indiana—we have issues on the independence of the proposed ISM; Livermore, Oregon—still need commitment from Jim Wheeler; Reston—LMSC has received the request to name the ISM; Tropical Splash, Sarasota— Dave M will think about who might be available. We should be ready for a webinar briefing for ISMs in 4-6 weeks.

- g. Officials Training with USA Swimming—Bill Roach—Room will be provided by Big Shoulders for a clinic if USMS is interested. USA Swimming will send people to present (Sandy Drake will not be available). We will need to bear the cost for us to bring in the instructors.
5. **OWGTO**—Rob Copeland
- a. BOD approval of Part 1 & Part 2 changes
 - b. Major Changes for 2015 Document
 - c. Update of Safety Plan Application (Addendum A of Part 2)
 - d. Update of Checklists (Addendums B, C & D of Part 2)
6. **Rules & Legislation Subcommittee**—Bob Bruce reported that he has put together legislative proposals and rules (mostly housekeeping). The joint rules subcommittee needs to have some discussions and then the proposals will be available for the LDC and OWC.
7. **OW Activity Development Subcommittee**—Charles Bender reported on the recently held meeting of the subcommittee, which produced a number of ideas including:
- a. The need for information on event sanctions from the past 3 years (Bill will provide).
 - b. Building USMS brand by reaching out to other events even if they're not sanctioned.
 - c. Cost & equipment appear to be the major issues for events.
 - d. Is there a role we can play beyond sanctioning? Education, marketing support, mentoring, safety—how do we get support for this within USMS?
 - e. Urge the group to think about specific things we could work on.
 - f. The Coaches committee has asked if there is a role they can play to assist the OWC in development. Possible ideas include promotion of attendance at events, provide open water training at convention, and join the OWC in webinars and seminars.

Next meeting: April 12, 2015, 8:00 PM EDT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM EDT

Full Committee—quorum = 8

Present	First Name	Last Name	Email
	Voting Members		
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