

Committee Name:	Open Water Committee		
Committee Chair:	Bob Bruce	Vice Chair:	To Be Determined
Minutes recorded by:	Joanne Wainwright	Date/time:	4/17/2016 - 8:00 PM EDT

Number of committee members present:	13	Absent:	8	Number of other delegates present:	1
Committee members present: Bob Bruce (Chair), Sherry Brooks, Denise Brown, Charlotte Brynn, Rob Copeland, Lynn Hazelwood, Jenny Hodges, Sue Nutty, Ally Sega, Joanne Wainwright. Ex-Officio/Associate Members: Patty Miller, Donn Livoni, Chris McGiffin, Bill Roach, Dr. Jim Miller.					

Motions Passed:

1. MSA March 13, 2016 minutes.
2. MSA to recommend to the LDC the deletion of 302.4, the heading in Article 303 containing ‘AND SOLO,’ and 303.11 from the rule book.
3. MSA to recommend to the LDC the deletion of 303.8.3 Independent Safety Monitor from the rule book.

New Action Items:

1. Sue Nutty to send out OW Service Award nominations forms to OW Chairs through LMSC Chairs.
2. Committee members to review 302.2.2 and submit comments or propose changes to Bob Bruce by May 1, 2016.
3. Bill Roach to send thermal plan information to Dr. Jim Miller for review.
4. Committee members to submit recommended changes for wording in 302.3B to Bob Bruce.
5. Lynn Hazelwood to send a revision for the rationale in 303.8.3 to Bob Bruce.

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 p.m.

Attendance was taken and a quorum was determined.

Approval of Minutes from OWC Meeting on March 13, 2016. Motion: Sue Nutty 2nd: Rob Copeland

Reports:

1. Report from the Chair—Bob Bruce - No report
2. Report from USMS Vice President—Chris McGiffin - No report

Continuing Business:

1. Status of Previous OWC Action Items:
 - a. Bob Bruce will send out a link to the ISM quiz questions posted on the OW Forum December 15, 2015. **Action Item**
 - b. Bob Bruce will complete the ISM educational module.—**Partially completed.**
 - c. Jim Wheeler will go through safety webinars and create a Safety Director educational module webinar or power point and 20 questions for discussion.—**Partially completed.**
 - d. Bob Bruce to send communication to Sanction Chairs and Event hosts through National Office regarding the submission of sanction requests using the online sanction application template. **Action Item.**
 - e. Bob Bruce to inform Dr. Jim Miller of the motion made changing “hot” to “warm” (less than 100 degrees F) in the OWGTO thermal plan and invite Doctor Miller to the next meeting to discuss the thermal plan. **Partially Completed.**
 - f. Bob Bruce to set up a meeting date/time for the 301.2.1 subcommittee and communicate information to committee members. **Completed.**
 - g. Donn Livoni will rewrite rationale for 301.5 and send Bob Bruce that rationale and bullet points by March 28, 2016. **Completed.**
2. OWGTO—Rob Copeland. The OWGTO Subcommittee met on Tuesday, April 12. Rob reported that the subcommittee aims to restructure and rewrite the guide in a less absolute and more user friendly manner. Lynn Hazelwood will separate rules and regulations, policies, ‘best practices’, and other educational information and make initial recommendations to the sub-committee.
3. Safety Education Subcommittee—Jim Wheeler - No report

4. Awards Subcommittee—Sue Nutty will begin the nomination process seeking candidates for this year’s OW Service Award. She will contact Anna Lea Matysek to get LMSC Chair email addresses and send the nomination form to them for distribution to the OW Chairs.
5. OW Swim Training Subcommittee—Rendy Opdycke - No report
6. Rules & Legislation Subcommittee
 - a. 302.2.A Water Conditions - USMS President Patty Miller and Dr. Jim Miller reported on the BOD’s proposal to follow the FINA water temperature rule. In their meeting, Dr. Jim Miller summarized results of the Cold Water Research study and the new FINA rule which will go into effect in September after the Olympics. The BOD felt USMS should follow FINA. Bob Bruce reported that 302.2.2A (3) and (4) conflict with 307.7.6A and 303.7.6B governing Category I and II swimwear for national championship events. See Action Item. There was discussion regarding how the implementation of these rulings will impact USMS membership and swims. Though the impact is not known at this time, President Patty Miller stressed that the ability to abide by these new standards outweighs the risk of losing membership. There was a question raised whether the new rulings would change how temperature measurements are taken at OW events and if any changes need to be made to current OWGTO guidelines. Dr. Miller answered questions about indicated and contraindicated ways of warming the body after swimming in cold water, and Bill Roach inquired if changes to the current thermal plan were necessary. See Action Item.
 - b. 302.3B Straightaway Swim Courses - The OWGTO subcommittee added this recommendation to meet the requirement in 302.3A. A housekeeping suggestion was made to substitute the word ‘each’ with ‘every.’ There was also discussion about the markers. See Action Item.
 - c. Solo Swims - Rob Copeland moved that 302.4, the heading in Article 303 containing ‘AND SOLO’, and 303.11 be removed from the rule book. 2nd: Charlotte Brynn. See Action Item.
 - d. 303.7 Swimwear for OW Events - Bob Bruce briefly discussed the usage of a GPS tracking watches being used by athletes and if inclusion of such devices needs to be added to 303.7.2D and 303.7.3C. No action was taken.
 - e. 303.8.3 Independent Safety Monitor - Joanne Wainwright moved to delete 303.8.2. 2nd: Ally Sega. Patty Miller reported that she is not in favor of the ISM position as it adds liability to USMS. Lynn Hazelwood suggested a change of wording to the rationale and will send a revision to Bob Bruce. See Action Item.
 - f. 307.12 All-Star Team - Denise Brown suggested a potential change in the point system allowing for the substitution of placing in a World Championships event for a national championship event. There was discussion and questions raised regarding the logistics of converting placement and points from such an event to the current point system. No action was taken.

New/Other Business:

1. LMSC Peer to Peer OW Conference to be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2016.
2. OW Committee Vice Chair position is open and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Next meeting: Sunday, May 15 - 8:00pm EDT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m. EDT