

Committee Name:	Open Water Committee		
Committee Chair:	Bob Bruce	Vice Chair:	To Be Determined
Minutes recorded by:	Joanne Wainwright	Date/time:	6/12/2016 - 8:00 PM EST

Number of committee members present:	15	Absent:	3	Number of other delegates present:	0
Committee members present: Bob Bruce (Chair), Sherry Brooks, Denise Brown, Charlotte Brynn, Rob Copeland, Suzi Green, Lynn Hazelwood, Bob Kolonkowski, Sue Nutty, Will Reeves, Ally Sega, Joanne Wainwright. Ex-Officio/Associate Members: Donn Livoni, Chris McGiffin, Bill Roach.					

Motions Passed:

1. MSA May 15, 2016 meeting minutes.
2. MSA to recommend to the LDC 303.2.2 as amended.
3. MSA to recommend to the LDC 303.8 and 303.8.2.
4. MSA to recommend to the LDC 303.8.1.
5. MSA to recommend to the LDC 303.12.1.
6. MSA to recommend to the LDC the Glossary Term 'Event Host' as 'The organization that has been granted a sanction to conduct an OW event' as amended.

New Action Items:

1. OW Committee members to read USLA Recommended Minimum Guidelines for Open Water Event Safety prior to July 10, 2016.
2. Sue Nutty to send out OW Service Award nomination forms to LMSC Chairs.
3. Bob Bruce to inform OWTGO subcommittee members of their next meeting.
4. Bob Bruce to send ISM and Safety Director training/test modules to LMSC, Sanction and OW Chairs and to also sent the modules to the OW Committee members.

Opening:

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:05p.m.
2. Attendance was taken and a quorum was determined.
3. Approval of Minutes from OWC Meeting on May 15, 2016. Motion: Rob Copeland 2nd: Ally Sega

Reports:

1. Report from the Chair—Bob Bruce reported during Continuing business and Committee reports.
2. Report from USMS Vice President—Chris McGiffin. - No report from Board.
3. Report from USMS Open Water Compliance Officer—Bill Roach reported 51 sanctioned events in 2016 to date, nine of which are new events. As of this date, there are three events pending sanctions. Last year, there were 55 events, five of which were cancelled. Bill also reported that he is the ISM administrator. He sent out certification paperwork to LMSCs, and we now have four certified ISMs. Bill also reported that the Safety Director module has not yet been completed.

Continuing Business:

1. Status of Previous OWC Action Items:
 - a. Bob Bruce will compose a Safety Director test of 20-25 questions. **Action incomplete.**
 - b. Bob Kolonkowski will research implementation standards for safety and report at the next OWC meeting. **Action Completed.** Bob posted the USLA minimum guidelines for OW Event Safety document on the USMS forum reporting that the focus of the report is with ocean OW events. A key area of concern is on lifeguard staffing and the issue of obtaining professional lifeguards. Bob Bruce urged Committee members to read the document prior to the next meeting at which time he and Bob will lead a discussion of its contents. See Action Item.

2. OWGTO—Rob Copeland reported that he and Lynn Hazelwood will discuss what to do with revised document. Bob Bruce will set up a meeting of sub-committee members and send out an email indicating the date and time. The subcommittee will report back to the OW Committee on July 10, 2016. See Action Item.
3. Safety Education Subcommittee—Bob Bruce reported that he will have the Safety Director course and test module ready in Indianapolis during the USMS 2-Mile Cable National Championships on June 18, 2016. He will send the ISM training/test and Safety Director training/test modules to LMSC, Sanction, & OW Chairs prior to our next meeting. He will also send the modules to OW committee members. See Action Item.
4. Awards Subcommittee—Sue Nutty reported that she sent out the nomination form to OW chairs and will send it out to LMSC Chairs. See Action Item.
5. **OW Swim Training Subcommittee**—Rendy Opdycke - No report.
6. **Rules & Legislation Subcommittee**—Bob Bruce 302.2.2 Water Conditions There was no discussion on this proposal as many committee members voiced their opinions on the USMS Forum prior to the meeting-- It was moved to recommend 302.2.2 as amended to the LC Committee for approval. 303.8 & 303.8.2 Officials and Staff. The new heading includes all personnel at an event as all are not officials who are responsible to the referee. There was a lengthy discussion regarding whether the referee, event director, or safety director should be the person to delay the start or stop a swim in progress if circumstances warrant. The general consensus was to leave the authority to the referee. It was moved to recommend 303.8 and 303.8.2 to the LDC for approval. 303.12.1 Incomplete Race. It was moved to recommend this proposal to LDC for approval. 304. Nonconforming vs. Noncompetitive OW Swims. After a discussion of the differences and similarities between nonconforming and noncompetitive swims, the committee decided to table the proposal to this article. No action taken. 307.2.1 D - Lynn Hazelwood withdrew this proposal. Glossary: Event Host: Rob Copeland posted an alternative definition of the term on the USMS forum prior to the meeting. Bob Bruce moved to amend glossary definition to ‘The organization that has been granted a sanction to conduct an OW event.’ 2nd: Rob Copeland. After a short discussion, it was moved to recommend the amended definition to the LDC for approval.

Next meeting: Sunday, July 10 - 8:00pm EDT, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.