

Committee Name:	Open Water Committee		
Committee Chair:	Bob Bruce	Vice Chair:	Jim Kennedy
Minutes recorded by:	Joanne Wainwright	Date/time:	4/23/2017 - 8:00 PM EDT

Motions Passed

1. MSA meeting minutes of January 22, 2017 and March 19, 2017.
2. MSA to amend wording of the 2017 OW Committee Overall Goals and Measurements Statement.
3. MSA to accept the amended 2017 OW Committee Overall Goals and Measurements Statement.
4. MSA to recommend all items that were not pulled by the OW Committee to LDC for approval.
5. MSA for OW Committee to accept the amended 303.7.
6. MSA to recommend the amended 303.7 to LDC for approval.
7. MSA to recommend 303.8.3 to the LDC for approval.
8. MSA for OW Committee to accept 304. Option #2.
9. MSA to recommend 304. Option #2 to LDC for approval.
10. MSA to recommend 307.12.1 to the LDC for approval.

New Action Items:

1. Bob Bruce to discuss OW Convention workshop ideas with Donn Livoni.
2. Bob Bruce to review budget posted by Susan Colman.
3. Bob Bruce and Bill Roach to complete Follow Up form for OW events.
4. Bob Bruce to contact members of OW Swim Training Subcommittee.
5. Jim Kennedy to draw up proposal to use Go The Distance database for OW Committee statistics.

Opening:

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:03 EDT.
2. Attendance was taken and a quorum was determined.
3. Meeting minutes from January 22, 2017 were approved. Motion: Sue Nutty 2nd: J. Wainwright
4. Meeting minutes from March 19, 2017 were approved. Motion: Jenny Hodges 2nd: Sue Nutty

Status of Action Items:

1. Develop OWC goals & measurements for consideration at next OWC meeting. Now complete.
2. Reorganize OWGTO section on USMS Website as this project progresses. Bob, Bill, & OWGTO Subcommittee. Ongoing, as needed to post new and/or revised material.
3. Review Part 3 Rules changes, pull, and be prepared to discuss. Ongoing, everyone.
4. Sign up for the subcommittees of choice. Incomplete.

Reports:

1. Report from USMS Vice President—Chris McGiffin commented on the passing of Chuck Wielgus, who served USA Swimming as Executive Director for nearly 20 years. He asked about the possibility of an OW workshop at Convention and whether or not tonight’s meeting would include a summary. Chris also reported that Susan Colman posted the budget on May 2, 2017.
2. Report from USMS Open Water Compliance Officer—Bill Roach reported 32 sanctioned events which is up 17 from the last meeting. There are six pending sanctions. We have 35 certified safety directors, seven of which are from the State of Washington. Bill also discussed the status of the follow-up form for OW events. This form will be completed in the near future. See action item.

Building our Committee and Status of Projects:

1. OWC goals & measurements for 2017: The committee discussed Draft #2 amending the statement’s wording. Lynn Hazelwood made a motion to change ‘USMS members’ to ‘adults’ to align with the USMS Mission Statement. 2nd Ally Sega. Ally Sega moved to change ‘outstanding’ to ‘quality.’ 2nd: Sue Nutty. Joanne Wainwright made a motion for the Committee to accept the amended 2017 Goal and

Measurement statement. 2nd: Sue Nutty. Amendment passed. The amended statement reads as follows:

Overall OWC goal & measurement: “The OWC goal is to promote the development of and participation in open water swimming, and to support quality open water swimming experiences for adults with line the Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategy of USMS. The measurement of this goal will be the quantity of events, swims, & splashes, the quality of those experiences, and other metrics that will help us measure our progress to accomplish these goals. Subcommittee goals: . Now ready to proceed.

2. Creation of OW Development Subcommittee Members to include Lynn Hazelwood, James Kennedy, Bob Kolonkowski, Will Reeves, Ally Sega, Bob Bruce. Lynn Hazelwood developed and posted a superb document defining the steps taken by the OWC over the years to build infrastructure for open water development. The document will serve as a comprehensive guide for the subcommittee’s work.
3. Open Water Guide to Operations (OWGTO)—Bob Bruce, Chair; Lynn Hazlewood, Kathy Farrell Guizar, Denise Brown. Bob Bruce reported that he had a recent conversation with Anna Lea Matysek regarding much of the practical work needed to get document ready.
4. Rules & Legislation Subcommittee—Bob Bruce, Chair, Lynn Hazelwood, Donn Livoni, others TBD. Bob Bruce led the discussion by seeking additional pulls from the OW Committee. Ally Sega moved to recommend to the LDC for approval all items that were not pulled. 2nd: Charlotte Brynn. 303.7 Swimwear for Open Water Events. Upon discussion, a point was made that the meaning of the proposal was confusing due to its wording. 303.7 was amended to read ‘Swimwear allowed for open water events is defined below. It is the swimmer’s responsibility to understand the appropriate swimwear allowed at a particular event’ Ally Sega moved for the OW Committee to accept the amended 303.7 2nd: Bob Kolonkowski. Joanne Wainwright moved to recommend the amended 303.7 to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Jenny Hodges. 303.8.3 Officials and Staff. Jim Wheeler made a motion to recommend 303.8.3 to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Sue Nutty. 304.1 Definition of Competitive vs. Noncompetitive Open Water Swims. There was discussion regarding the inclusion of placement and exclusion of time in reporting for such swims. Sue Nutty moved for the OW Committee to accept 304.1 Option 2. 2nd: Will Reeves. Ally Sega moved to recommend 304.1 Option #2 to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Sue Nutty 307.12.1 All Star Team. After a brief discussion and comparison of point systems used in USMS pool championships and open water and long distance national championships, Ally Sega moved to recommend 307.12.1 to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Sue Nutty.
5. Safety Education Subcommittee—Chair? Bob Kononkowski, Will Reeves, Bill Roach. Jim Wheeler off committee. More information to follow within two months. - No report
6. Event Management—Chair? Bob Bruce, Jenny Hodges, Donn Livoni. - No report
7. Officials Subcommittee—Bob Bruce, Chair; Jim Kennedy, Denise Brown. The outline for referee training using FINA and USA swimming materials is complete. The final draft is 50% complete and will be discussed during our May meeting.
8. Awards Subcommittee—Sue Nutty, Chair; Joanne Wainwright, Mia Erickson Stevens, Ally Sega. Sue Nutty reported that the committee worked on the grid for voting on nominees. She is in the process of soliciting award 2017 award nominations using various forms of media. It was decided to leave active applicants on ballot for three consecutive years and request an update of information if needed.
9. OW Swim Training Subcommittee— Ally Sega, Jim Kennedy, Mia Erickson Stevens, Will Reeves, Mark Johnston, Bob Kolonkowski, Charlotte Bryn. Within two weeks, Bob will contact members of committee to identify what materials are available and come up with some type of structure. See Action Item.
10. IT Task Force— Will Reeves, others TBD Jim Kennedy discussed the issue of needing data from IT on the Go the Distance program to be used to encourage and market OW swimming. He will draw up a

proposal to submit to IT specifying how the OW Committee will use the database including why we are seeking this data. This report is to be shared with Bob Bruce, Will Reeves, and Chris McGiffin prior to submitting to IT through Chris McGiffin. See Action Item.

New/Other Business:

Bob asked committee members to share any fun and/or interesting events in their areas. Jim Kennedy reported that they will host an OW Forum talk in conjunction with LC time trials. Bob Kolonkowski announced the Steve Belson Memorial Masters Ocean Mile Swim at Rockaway Beach, NY on August 5, 2017. Information is posted on the USMS calendar. Ally Sega reported that she has been approved to lead OW swim training for para athletes. Bob Bruce reported an upcoming event to include a swim with a non-competitive concept (called "Just for Fun") and an Agility Swim obstacle course.

Close:

1. Next meeting: Sunday, May 21, 2017 - 8:00pm EDT
2. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m. EDT. Motion: Joanne Wainwright 2nd: Sue Nutty