

Committee Name:	Open Water Committee		
Committee Chair:	Bob Bruce	Vice Chair:	Jim Kennedy
Minutes recorded by:	Joanne Wainwright	Date/time:	4/15/2018 - 8:00 PM EST
Number of committee members present:	13	Absent:	4
Number of other delegates present:			
Committee members present: Bob Bruce (Chair), James Kennedy (Vice Chair), Denise Brown, Mia Erickson Stevens, Lynn Hazlewood, Jenny Hodges, Peter Lee, Karen LeFebre, Sue Nutty, Will Reeves, Ally Segal, Marie Vellucci, Joanne Wainwright. Ex-Officio/Associate Members: Jay Eckert, Casey Keiber, Donn Livoni.			

#### Motions Passed

1. MSA meeting minutes of March 18, 2018
2. MSA to recommend all items not pulled by the OW Committee to LDC for approval.
3. MSA to table discussion on 303.7.2 d and 303.7.3c.
4. MSA for OW Committee to accept the amended table 307.3.4.

#### Opening:

1. Bob called the meeting to order at 8:03 pm EDT
2. Attendance was taken and a quorum was determined.
3. The minutes of the March 18, 2018 were approved by the OWC. Motion: Sue Nutty, 2nd: Joanne Wainwright

#### Reports

1. Report from the Chair—Bob Bruce reported that he has invested most of his time working on rules and local LMSC business securing sanctions and running pool events.
2. Report from USMS Vice President—Donn Livoni discussed the roll out of the new website and reported that IT is working on fixing bugs. He asked committee members to be patient as it is a work in progress to get things up to speed. The deadline for SCY Nationals in Indianapolis was April 9, 2018 and the deadline for the 2-mile Middle Distance OW Championships at Lake Audubon swim is May 23, 2018.
3. Report from USMS Open Water Compliance Coordinator— In David Miner's absence, Bob reported that David has been unable to sanction events due to website problems, however; there are 31 sanctioned events to date, and nine certified referees. Casey Kieber will send Bob a screen shot of where the USMS referee training and test is located.

#### Action Items:

Sub-committee members will continue to communicate, working on their various projects.

#### Subcommittees:

1. Open Water Development & Promotion Subcommittee. Purpose: To generate real, actionable ways to develop and promote open water swimming. This is the central purpose in the committee definition. Chair: Doug Sayles. Jim Kennedy, Denise Brown, Lynn Hazlewood, Mark Johnston, Karen LeFebre, Will Reeves. Report: No report.
2. Open Water Guide to Operations (OWGTO) Subcommittee. Purpose: To review, revise, format, and communicate the contents of the OWGTO. Chair: Bob Bruce. Members: Denise Brown, Lynn Hazlewood. Report: Bob reported that he has revised the outline and will send it to subcommittee members.
3. Rules & Legislation Subcommittee. Purpose: Working as a joint subcommittee with members from both OWC & LDC, examining & vetting rules proposals and bringing these proposals for consideration to the OWC then the LDC (although proposing rules to the USMS HOD is an LDC function, we have chosen in recent years to have this group work across both committees for thoroughness). You have one assignment for the next meeting...to review (and comment on as necessary) part 3 of the 2018 USMS rulebook, which will be available on the OWC Forum shortly. Chair: Bob Bruce. Members: Lynn Hazlewood, Will Reeves, Joanne Wainwright. Report and action:

- a. Proposals 303.7.2d 303.7.3c, and 307.3.4. were pulled by the committee.
- b. Joanne moved to recommend all items not pulled to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Sue Nutty MSA
- c. There was a lengthy discussion of pacing devices that monitor heart rate and transmit signals to the swimmer during a race under Rules for Category I Swimwear 303.7.2 d and Category II Swimwear 303.7.3c. Jim Kennedy moved to table the discussion and Bob will take it to the LDC for further discussion. 2nd: Will Reeves MSA
- d. Peter Lee made a motion to amend the table in 307.3.4 National Championship Bid Rotation to strike years 2017 and 2018 and add 2021. 2nd: Jim Kennedy MSA
4. Safety Education Subcommittee. Purpose: To review any new or ongoing business to the OWC relating to safety, and to review the documents and process of safety planning with the Open Water Safety Advisor. Chair: Bob Kolonkowski. Members: Jim Kennedy, Peter Lee. Report: No report.
5. Event Management Subcommittee. Purpose: To prepare material for seamless presentation of events and to develop the training a course on event development & management for Event Hosts/Event Directors (first piloted in presentation in 2015). Chair: TBD Members: Jenny Hodges, Karen LeFebre, Bob Bruce. Karen LeFebre reported that she has been modifying Bob's version of the material and is turning it into a guidance document. She will send it off to Jenny and Bob.
6. Officials Subcommittee. Purpose: To evaluate current practices in officiating USMS open water events and to develop materials to improve this. Chair: TBD. Members: Peter Lee, Marie Vellucci. Report: Bob Bruce will send out a copy of officials outline to committee members.
7. Awards Subcommittee. Purpose: To manage the process for selecting our annual Open Water Service Award, and perhaps exploring the honoring of USMS open water "pioneers". Chair: Sue Nutty. Members: Mia Stevens, Ally Sega, Joanne Wainwright. Report: Sue Nutty reported that she has been working to solicit nominees. She has done some advertising on the forum and to past OW service award winners. She will be sending out a mass mailing to LMSC Chairs and OW Chairs via Casey Kieber.
8. Open Water Swim Training Subcommittee. Purpose: To develop guidelines and materials for coaches to prepare swimmers for open water swims. I hear that the Coaches Committee is considering adding such material to the Coaching Certification program, so we may have an opportunity to work jointly with this committee. Chair: Mark Johnston. Members: Jim Kennedy, Mia Stevens, Sue Nutty, Will Reeves, Marie Vellucci. Report: Mark Johnston reported no updates for subcommittee.

Other - Upcoming USMS OW Championship Events:

1. Middle National: May 27, 2018 Lake Audubon, VA
2. Sprint OW Nationals: June 9, 2018 Little Grassy Lake, IL
3. Long: July 7, 2018 Fire Island, NY
4. Ultra Marathon: July 8: Willamette River, OR
5. 2-Mile Cable: July 12 - Foster Lake, OR
6. Marathon: July 14 - Applegate Lake, OR

Around-the-Table: Although you are serving on a national committee, your greatest task and bully pulpit strength lies in developing and promoting USMS open water swimming at the local and LMSC level. What are you doing NOW at the local or LMSC level to spread the word about USMS open water swimming in general and to encourage USMS open water swimming specifically for 2018?

Close:

1. Next meeting: Sunday, May 13, 2018 - 8:00pm EST
2. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm EST Motion: Sue Nutty 2nd: Joanne Wainwright