

Committee Name:	Open Water Committee		
Committee Chair:	Bob Bruce	Vice Chair:	Jim Kennedy
Minutes recorded by:	Joanne Wainwright	Date/time:	5/13/2018 - 8:00 PM EST

Number of committee members present:	14	Absent:	3	Number of other delegates present:
Committee members present: Bob Bruce (Chair), James Kennedy (Vice Chair), Denise Brown, Lynn Hazlewood, Jenny Hodges, Mark Johnston, Bob Kolonkowski, Peter Lee, Karen LeFebre, Sue Nutty, Will Reeves, Ally Sega, Marie Vellucci, Joanne Wainwright. Ex-Officio/Associate Members: Bill Brenner, David Miner				

Motions Passed

1. MSA April 15, 2018 meeting minutes.
2. MSA to recommend 301.3 as written to LDC for approval.
3. MSA to recommend 303 Reorganization as written to LDC for approval.

Action Items

1. Sub-committee members will continue to communicate, working on their various projects.
1. Bob Bruce to communicate with Will Reeves regarding 303.3.2, 303.3.3, 303.7.2E, and 303.7.3D
2. Bob Kolonkowski to generate a list of pros and cons related to event safety.

Opening:

1. Bob called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm EST
2. Attendance was taken and a quorum was determined.
3. The minutes of the April 15, 2018 were approved by the OWC. Motion: Joanne Wainwright 2nd: Sue Nutty

Reports:

1. Report from the Chair—Bob Bruce reported that he has been working on rules and the OWGTO. He will send the subcommittee new OWGTO information. He was asked to fill in and facilitate the Peer-to-Peer OW discussion in May, which featured discussion of open water swimming.
2. Report from USMS Vice President--Donn Livoni - No report.
3. Report from USMS Open Water Compliance Coordinator--David Miner reported that there are 46 sanctioned events to date, three pending sanctions, and 16 certified referees. He asked about the possibility of replacing the referee paper test with a refillable PDF document. David also stressed the importance of sanction or LMSC chairs submitting complete sanction applications along with all supporting documents.

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. 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 reorganized the OWGTO outline after a review of Lynn's document giving an overview of OW swimming. He will send the outline to committee members soon.
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). THIS MEETING: We have only a few proposals to consider, but some of them will be controversial—see the

- rules documents for specific info. Chair: Bob Bruce. Members: Lynn Hazlewood, Will Reeves, Joanne Wainwright. Report and action:
- a. 301.3 Membership, Representation, and Sanctions- Sue Nutty moved to recommend the proposal as written to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Joanne Wainwright. Motion passed.
 - b. Reorganization of 303: Conduct of Competitive Open Water Events- Joanne Wainwright moved to recommend the proposal as written to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Jenny Hodges. Motion passed.
 - c. 303.3.2 and 303.3.3: Escorted Swims - After much discussion, Bob Bruce suggested that he work with Will on these proposals and bring back revisions to the OWC at next meeting.
 - d. 303.7.2D and 303.7.3C Rules for Category I and II Swimwear-transmitting heart rate monitors: Sue Nutty moved to approve 303.7.2D and 303.7.3C as written to the LDC for approval. 2nd: Peter Lee. Motion denied.
 - e. 303.7.2E and 303.7.3D - Rules for Category I and II Swimwear and temporary buoyancy device: After lengthy discussion, Bob proposed that he and Will work on these proposals and bring revisions back to the OWC at next meeting.
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 Compliance Coordinator. Chair: Bob Kolonkowski. Members: Jim Kennedy, Peter Lee. Report: Bob Kolonkowski addressed a concern regarding the manner in which safety is addressed at events. He suggested that a list of pro and cons for events be compiled to make sure events are safety conscientious. Various safety aspects of events should be addressed and from this list, a database of information can be generated. Bob Kolonkowski will put together a sample spreadsheet for next meeting.
 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. Report: Karen reported that she sent out a first draft of a guidance document using the presentation by Lynn Hazelwood and Jim Wheeler from the 2015 convention as a guide. A committee goal is to put together a guidance document and a presentation at convention followed by a course for race directors who want to put on a quality event.
 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 reported that he sent a note to Rob Copeland who has done some work on the topic of OW officials and rules. He will pass information on to committee members after Rob communicates with him.
 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 reported that there are no nominations to date, and a recommendation was made for the OWC to be more proactive on nominations.
 8. Open Water Swim Training Subcommittee. Purpose: To develop guidelines and materials for coaches to prepare swimmers for open water swims. Chair: Mark Johnston. Members: Jim Kennedy, Mia Stevens, Sue Nutty, Will Reeves, Marie Vellucci. Report: Mark reported that he has found various sources of content relative to OW coaching and is working on an outline of information that could be included in the USMS coaching certification courses. In addition, he has discovered content specific to other OW programs during his travels. A committee goal is to provide mentors to share information with a new wave of coaches who are interested in developing OW training in their LMSCs.

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, June 10, 2018 at 8:00pm EDT
2. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm EDT