

USMS CONVENTION – Greensboro, NC - 2005

Committee Name: Rules Session # (if more than one meeting): 1 Cmte. report #: **25**

Minutes recorded by: Kris Wingenroth Date/time of this meeting: Fri, Sept 16, 2005 8:30 AM

ACTION ITEMS - PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

None

ACTION ITEMS - OTHER

See separate proposed changes to the Rules of Competition

Committee Chair: Leo Letendre Vice Chair(s): Cathy Casey

Number of committee members present: 15 Absent: 3 Number of other delegates at this meeting: 18

Committee members present: Tom Boak, Peggy Buchannan, Cathy Casey, Charlie Cockrell, Leianne Crittenden, Judy Gilles, Jan Kavadas, June Krauser, Leo Letendre, Dennis Mc Mannus, Jessica Seaton, Anthony Thompson, Bill Tingley, Kris Wingenroth, Bob Bruce: Ex-Officio, Sally Dillon: Executive Liaison

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at: 8:35 AM

1. Rules Proposal 1 has been withdrawn. A discussion of whether or not the committee would consider a similar proposal an emergency was held. MSA that it would be considered an emergency. Championship Committee indicated that they would likely return with a modified proposal.
2. Discussion was held concerning the financial ramifications of the change in location and dates of the YMCA National Championship and the World Championships on this year's Short Course National Championship. The committee agreed that it would consider a proposal to increase the surcharge for the Short Course Championship an emergency if such a proposal were introduced.
3. Discussion was held concerning whether the current requirement of using two or three watches along with semi-automatic buttons is outdated.
4. The changes in backstroke and breaststroke rules made by FINA were discussed. No action will be taken until after the USA-S rules committee meets and determines their final wording for the rule changes.
5. Situations that have arisen when officiating adults with age related disabilities were discussed. These disabilities are often different than the disabilities discussed in our current Code and may cause interpretation difficulties for officials.
6. Discussion concerning the options available when holding joint competitions with both USA Swimmers and USMS Swimmers was held. It is allowable to hold joint USA-S and USMS meets when each organization issues a sanction and all swimmers are members of one organization or the other. It would be necessary to segregate the swims by members of each organization so that they are judged by the proper set of rules. It was determined that our rules do not allow us to sanction a competition that uses only USA-S rules, therefore It would be impractical to mix USA-S swimmers and USMS swimmers in the same heats under our current rules. It was the opinion of the committee that we should pursue the possibility of rewording our rules in order to allow co-sanctioning USA-S and USMS meets that use only one set of rules, the USA-S rules. This will be discussed with representatives from USA-S.
7. Concerns about L-13 were presented and discussed.

8. The chair reviewed a case in which a swimmer jumped from the blocks during a relay and then started her relay leg in the water (legal) and a case in which a swimmer competed using "arm covers" (illegal).

The meeting was adjourned at: 9:48 AM

TASKS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

1. Consider changes in our code that might clarify issues involved in officiating swimmers with age related disabilities.
2. Pursue the writing of a rule change proposal to address the issue of the required number of stopwatch times vs. semi-automatic backup times at National Championships.
3. Pursue the feasibility of making a rules change that would facilitate the combining of USA-S and USMS swimmers in competitions.
4. Explore the development of a rules interpretation archive.