

Committee Name:	Rules Committee	Session #:	Summer Meeting #2
Committee Chair:	Charles Cockrell		
Minutes recorded by:	Julie Dussliere	Date/time of meeting:	9 July 2020 / 8:00 PM EDT

Actions Taken:

1. Approved minutes from Rules Committee meeting on 18-May-2020.
2. Approved minutes from Rules Committee meeting on 25-June-2020.
3. MSA to recommend R-1 as amended to the HOD.
4. MSA to recommend R-8 as amended to the HOD.
5. MSA to table R-7 for tonight.
6. MSA to recommend R-6 as amended to the HOD.
7. MSA to table R-5 for tonight.

Number of committee members present: 13	Absent: 1	Guests: 3
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Charles Cockrell (Chair), Mollie Grover (Vice Chair), Claire Letendre (Vice Chair), Carolyn Boak, Kathrine Casey, Julie Dussliere, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox, Judy Gillies, Mark Marshfield, Barbara Protzman, Jessica Seaton, Jason Weis		
Not present: Ian King		
Ex-officio: Bill Brenner (USMS National Office), Chris Colburn (VP Administration), Terri White (USMS Officials Committee Chair)		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 pm ET.

Approval of Minutes

1. M/S (Claire/Mollie) to approve the minutes of the May 18 meeting. Minutes approved: 13 yes, 0 no.
2. M/S (Mollie/Claire) to approve the minutes of the June 25 meeting. Minutes approved: 13 yes, 0 no.

2020 Proposals

1. R-1 Glossary Definition of Gender
 - a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to reconsider R-1 which was recommended at the June 25 meeting.
 - b) Charles reminded the committee that the definition of gender was approved at the June 25 meeting. He shared that the Legislation committee took action at their most recent meeting to include an approved definition of gender identity in the glossary. Updated language is inclusive of both gender identity and competition categories.
 - c) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to amend R-1 with updated language in the definitions. Marilyn queried as to how the new definition informs better than the prior one and reviewed rulebook to find where gender is referenced. Claire mentioned impact on a gender-neutral meet format. Both the terms gender, in the context of competition category, and gender identity will be proposed to be added to the glossary. Amendment passed unanimously.
 - d) Motion to recommend R-1 to the HOD as amended passed unanimously.
2. R-8 Automatic Splits
 - a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to remove R-8 from the table. Motion to move from the table passed unanimously.
 - b) Brief committee discussion regarding the language in the proposal. Christina mentioned that meet results is used more frequently throughout the rulebook than summary of results. Carolyn agreed that use of results would be the better terminology.
 - c) M/S (Kathy/Claire) to amend the language in R-8 from summary to meet results. Passed unanimously.

- d) Committee discussion around the language referring to non-national championship meets ensued. Terri recommended removing section E in order to simplify. Carolyn questioned the language regarding backstroke leadoff splits and whether there is a need to clarify in section C. Charles reminded the committee that 103.18.2 covers automatic splits and that backstroke split requests (observed) are covered within 103.18.1. There was a brief discussion around the backstroke language and clarifying initial splits that require pre-approval versus a relay lead-off which falls under automatic approval. Kathy clarified that section E mandates that all splits shall be recorded at Nationals, and at other meets it is optional.
- e) M/S (Kathy/Mark) to amend the language in section D and delete “at non-national championship meets”. Passed unanimously.
- f) References within section E will be cleaned up as housekeeping.
- g) Motion to recommend R-8 as amended to the HOD passed unanimously.

3. R-10 Distance Events at Nationals

- a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to remove R-10 from the table. Motion to move from the table passed unanimously.
- b) M/S (Mollie Claire) to remove all proof of entry time language, based upon committee discussion at the prior meeting. Passed unanimously.
- c) Carolyn commented that this proposal mandates that Championship Committee must allow entry into both events and she is not in favor of placing this mandate on them, preferring they retain the flexibility they currently have for national championship meets. Terry shared that it is common sense to allow Championship to have flexibility to control meet size as entries dictate. Claire mentioned that without proof of time there may be circumvention of the qualification standards. Charles shared that the Championship Committee requested the removal of the proof of time language. Championship is concerned that based upon the COVID situation that attendance at national championship meets in the next year or two might be down and are looking at being less restrictive within the current environment. Kathy reminded the committee that there is already a provision within the rulebook regarding honesty of entry times allowing the LOC to make changes based upon what is in the database.
- d) Motion to recommend R-10 as amended to the HOD failed. 1 yes, 12 no.

4. R-7 Meet Committee/Meet Operations Language

- a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to recommend R-7 to the HOD. Charles explained that the language is being changed due to the deletion of meet committee from the rulebook. He has reviewed for all references that will require updating. Marilyn recommended keeping 103.1 as meet director and pulling language from 103.5 into 103.1, deleting 103.5 and renumbering thereafter. Kathy and Marilyn volunteered to update, renumber and review rulebook for all references to 103 that will require updating.
- b) M/S (Kathy/Claire) to table R-7 until the next meeting. Passed by a majority.

5. R-6 Cub Affiliation Requirements

- a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to recommend R-6 to the HOD. Charles shared that this proposal came from the Legislation Committee due to moving the section regarding affiliation and declaration of unattached. Currently this is only referenced in the national championship section and this proposal moves to 102 and becomes applicable to all meets. Marilyn noted that the term affiliation is also used within membership categories. Kathy mentioned that the term representation is used in 201.3.2 in reference to clubs while affiliate membership is used within 501.1.3. Kathy felt strongly that the term used should be club representation. Both terms are used interchangeably throughout the rulebook.
- b) M/S (Carolyn/Marilyn) to amend the language throughout and add the word “club” prior to affiliation. Passed unanimously.
- c) M (Kathy) to further amend to change affiliation to representation in all references throughout. No second.
- d) Marilyn stated that it would be a significant undertaking to review the entire rulebook for all terms to align for consistency and recommended the committee do this next year. Carolyn will add to the to-do list for 2021.
- e) Motion to recommend R-6 as amended to the HOD passed unanimously.

6. R-5 Deadline for Publishing Order of Events in the Meet Announcement

- a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to recommend R-5 to the HOD. Charles provided background on this proposal based on prior issues with meet sanctions, most often has occurred in dual sanction meet situations to cover one

swimmer. Marilyn mentioned that she is not in favor of shortening the timeframe to less than a week. Charles noted that meet hosts need to make a good faith effort to comply with the sanction/publish/entry deadline order regardless of the timeline that is established. A brief discussion about the rubric for being made available to all swimmers was had and mediums referenced included the USMS Calendar of Events, LMSC websites, and email blasts. Judy commented that she didn't feel the one week was needed. Charles reminded committee members to keep the COVID situation in mind as due to pool closures more discussion has arisen about running non-traditional meets in the future. He encouraged the committee to think about the flexibility needed currently as clubs/swimmers are getting back into the pool. Mark thought the first sentence was awkward. Mark and Carolyn will rework the language.

b) M/S (Mark/Carolyn) to table R-5 until the next meeting. Passed unanimously.

Wrap-up Discussion and Planning

1. Charles thinks two more meetings will be needed to finish the committee business this year.
2. Charles asked the committee to be prepared to look at R-3, R-5, R-7 and U-1 at the next meeting.
3. Charles mentioned that there may be a new item for the agenda at an upcoming meeting regarding Top 10. Chris Colburn provided background information for the committee based upon Board of Directors and Records & Tabulation discussions. Charles noted that the committee will wait to hear from the Board as to whether any action will be required.

Next meeting Thursday, July 16, 2020.

M/S (Mollie/Claire) to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm ET.