

USMS CONVENTION – San Diego, CA – 2003

Committee Name: _____ **Safety Education** _____

Cmte. report #: **23**

Minutes recorded by: Jim Wheeler

Date/time of this meeting: Friday, September 12, 2003, 1:30 pm

ACTION ITEMS

1. Julie Heather will send the current version of the Safety Handbook for Swimmers to Colleen Driscoll (Insurance), Sandi Blumit (Risk Management), and Patty Powis (Legal Counselor) for final approval for dissemination via the website.
2. Jim Wheeler will obtain information on safety requirements by state for Julie Heather.

Committee Chair: Julie Heather

Vice Chair(s): Carol Berendsen (absent)

Number of committee members present: 6

Absent: 8

Number of other delegates at this meeting: 32

Committee members present (list all): Julie Heather, Shannon Sullivan, Eric Shanks, Jim Wheeler, Patty Powis (EC Liaison), Dick Pitman (Sports Medicine Liaison).

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at: 1:30 pm

1. **Status of Safety Handbook for Swimmers.** The Safety Handbook has not changed in the past few years. Julie Heather will send the current version to Colleen Driscoll (Insurance), Sandi Blumit (Risk Management), and Patty Powis (Legal Counselor) for final approval for dissemination via the website.
2. **Safety Education on the USMS website.** A meeting was held with the webmaster and chair of the USMS Communications committee concerning feasibility of getting a Safety section on the USMS website. A procedure for implementing this has been agreed upon, and we will move forward towards implementation in the next couple of months. Shannon Sullivan and Erik Shanks will assist, and Bill Volckening has agreed to consult on the implementation.
3. **Review CPR/AED Training.** An AED Essentials Training (non-certified) was held on Wednesday afternoon and attended by 9 delegates. A show of hands at the committee meeting indicated that approximately half of those in the room had already received some AED training at some time. Low attendance was attributed to travel plans and the need for pre-registration. We discussed the possibility of holding a "Brown Bag" AED Workshop next year. We would like to keep it no cost so that pre-registration is not needed.
4. **Safety Section for LMSC Handbook.** Information for a proposed safety section of the handbook includes: Job description of the LMSC Safety Chair; safe conduction of events; sources for additional safety information; recognizing problems; methods for disseminating safety information to clubs; safety sources for training; "who's watching the water;" and references to safety related sports medicine information. Jim Wheeler will obtain information on safety requirements by state for Julie Heather.
5. **SWIM Magazine articles.** Bill Volckening discussed the needs and processes for articles and information for SWIM Magazine. Safety Education could fill some of the need by providing articles that are not "time-specific" and could be used on a space available basis. The focus needs to be on informative, interesting articles for the general swimmer. Bill suggested that we provide an article with scenarios (oriented to those types of incidents that generate the most insurance claims) with solutions for how the situations should be best handled.
6. **Emergency contact information for swimmers.** MSC to encourage meet directors to include space for emergency contact name and phone number on entry forms.
7. **Site/event specific waiver.** The block meeting on Wednesday evening brought out the fact that open water events and swim meets often have site specific waivers. Some of there are because of facility requirements, and others, particularly open water, are a result of unusual safety-related conditions, such as sharks, fog, low water temperature, etc. Insurance and our Legal Counselor would like to see these waivers before they are used.

The meeting was adjourned at: 2:35 pm

TASKS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

1. Put currently available safety information on the USMS Website.
2. Identify and assign topics for SWIM Magazine articles to committee members