

## **RULES COMMITTEE POLICIES**

### **Decision Making Between Annual Meetings of the House of Delegates (other than as provided in 102.14.4, 102.14.5, 504.2.9, 506.3.9, 601.4.7, and 601.4.8):**

All decisions made by the Rules Committee between the annual meetings of the House of Delegates are made by majority vote or consensus of committee members through meetings by teleconference or electronic meetings. The Rules Committee seeks input and expertise from committees that are impacted by the Rules Committee's work:

Article 103: Officials Committee

Article 104: Championship Committee

Article 105: Records & Tabulation Committee

The Committee may elect to authorize the Chair to interpret the rules and issue such interpretations in between annual meetings. If so, a motion should be approved at the annual meeting to that effect. The Chair shall ensure that official interpretations are provided to the Rules Committee, related committee chairs, the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, National Office, and LMSC Leadership in a timely manner.

The Rules Committee also seeks expertise and input from committees and other subject matter experts that would be experts on a topic of consideration and also alerts those committees to topics that may need to be dealt with in their committee work:

Championship Committee for issues relating to national championship meets  
History and Archives Committee and National Office for establishing history of USMS rules

Legislation Committee for issues relating to Part 1 rules

Long Distance Committee for issues related to Part 1 rules

Officials Committee for officiating issues

Open Water Committee for issues that parallel Part 1 rules

Records and Tabulation for issues relating to Top 10 and  
Records

Sports Medicine & Science Committee for medical and disability issues

Archives of previous annual meeting reports and prior-year rule books

### **General Cycle for Committee Work and Decisions:**

- Winter: Organizational meeting to establish objectives, priorities, and initiatives for the year. A minimum of one conference call will be scheduled.
- Spring: Priorities for proposed amendments from the Rules Committee. A minimum of one conference call will be scheduled.
- Summer: Consider and make recommendations on proposed amendments submitted to the Rules Committee. The Committee shall make a recommendation on all submitted amendments prior to releasing the pre-convention packet for delegates. Conference calls

will be scheduled as needed to consider amendments and other committee business. Submissions after the June 10 deadline will be considered in accordance with USMS regulations.

- Annual Meeting (Convention): Receive comments from delegates on proposed amendments, reconsider any amendments for finalizing a report to the House of Delegates, submit proposed amendments and committee report to the House of Delegates for approval, consider updates to committee policies, the rule book appendices, or other committee business as deemed necessary by committee members. Submissions after the June 10 deadline will be considered in accordance with USMS regulations.
- Fall (post annual meeting): Complete reports, proofreading, and finalizing the rule book for the following year, receive and concur on committee appointments for the following year from the USMS President.

Updated September 13, 2019