

Committee Name:	Board of Directors	Session #:	2	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Nadine Day	Vice Chair:			
Minutes recorded by:	Chris Colburn	Date/time of meeting:	July 19, 2015 8:00am EDT		

Motions Passed:

1. MSA to approve the recommendations of the Open Water Task Force.

Number of committee members present: 22

Absent: 5

Number of other delegates present: 0

Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Nadine Day - President called the meeting to order at 7:56am EDT. Also present were: Ed Tsuzuki - VP of Administration; Chris Stevenson - VP of Local Operations; Chris McGiffin - VP of Programs; Jody Smith -VP of Community Services; Chris Colburn – Secretary; Phil Dodson – Treasurer; Patty Miller - Legal Counsel; At-Large Directors: Bruce Hopson (Breadbasket), Dave Diehl (Colonies), Sean Fitzgerald (Dixie), Dan Cox (Great Lakes), Sarah Welch (Northwest), Leianne Crittenden (Oceana) and Laura Winslow (Southwest); Rob Butcher – Executive Director; Past Presidents: Rob Copeland, Jim Miller, Nancy Ridout, Tom Boak and Ted Haartz; Dave Coddington – USA Swimming Liaison to USMS.

Not present: Jill Gellatly (South Central); Dan Gruender, Mike Laux, and Jeff Moxie – Past Presidents; Mel Goldstein is recused from the Board due to his contractor position with USMS.

Guests: Susan Kuhlman, Bill Brenner, Marianne Groenings, Kyle Deery, Jim Matysek, Anna Lea Matysek, and Tracy Grilli.

Minutes

The meeting was recalled to order at 7:56am EDT.

1. Open Water Task Force Update and Proposals (Jim Miller): Jim gave a presentation related to the mission and work of the Open Water Task Force. The Task Force made recommendations on sanction fees for open water and pool events **MSA (with 1 opposed) to approve the recommendations of the Open Water Task Force**. Discussion continued on the most clear way to present the issues and board recommendation to the House of Delegates. Nadine indicated that we would spend time at the pre-Convention Board meeting discussing this.
2. VP Programs (Chris McGiffin):
 - a. Chris solicited questions about the summary document presented to the Board. The updated Open Water contract is currently under review by legal counsel. Officials felt, based on the survey responses, that there is a need for an Officials certification. It will be targeted at new officials for LMSCs having trouble developing and procuring officials for their events. One example is for Long Course Nationals, which occurs in an LMSC with a small officials base, in which case officials need to be flown in. The Officials Committee has asked for an extra \$10,000 to support travel costs to bring officials in for Nationals. Jody opined that in the case of Nationals, the issue is for the Championship Committee, potentially to pass the costs through to the meet hosts. Rob Copeland explained that we now have a section in the Open Water Guide to Operations that deal with disabled athletes.
 - b. The Open Water Committee is on board with the event fees proposed by the Open Water Task Force, but there is a desire to have a increased product value associated with that fee increase.
 - c. Independent Safety Monitors (ISMs): Chris provided a summary of the chronology behind ISMs, the legislation that has been passed, and the ISM pilot effort that has taken place this year. Discussion followed on the logistics of how the ISM is appointed, and the level of complexity in the ISM plan requirements. There was some desire to simplify the ISM process and clarify the reporting assignment. Further, it was stated that the LMSC Sanctions rep does not need to be the person responsible for obtaining and appointing the ISM; rather, the ISM might be nominated by the event host and *approved* by the Sanctions rep.
3. VP Administration (Ed): Ed solicited questions for the updates from his committees. One question Ed posed was the strategic function of the Championship Committee, and the work they do for Championships events.
4. VP Local Operations (Chris Stevenson): Chris provided a brief overview of his committees' reports. Ray Novitske is looking for direction on how to best recognize award winners to provide a good balance between recognition and time spent on each award winner. Chris recommended a balance between the Hill Carrow approach and the other approaches observed at Convention. The Board suggested time limits for each award or awardee. Jody posed the question of how you spread around the awards. There is some discussion at the committee level about who should be responsible for award winners' stories on the website (Recognition & Awards or History & Archives). Dan Cox gave a synopsis of the workshops that will be held at Convention. There was some discussion on potential agenda changes. Chris spoke to the updates in progress on LMSC standards and improvements on the reporting requirements.

5. VP Community Services (Jody): Jody shared some information related to working with two new chairs (Fitness Education and Sports Medicine and Science). These chairs have had new ideas, and those committees have needed guidance about how things can be done, through whom, and when. Interests from the committees have dealt with new content, and how to find a place for these items. Sports Medicine has improved their presence at national meets. They're working with Dr. Mary Fry on sports psychology. They're also working on positive local PSAs, as well as making policies and procedures simpler. They are also looking into cold water swimming and the rules surrounding the topic. SSL could be an avenue for research. Sports Medicine is blogging more consistently. Coaches is working with Education Services on certification. 14 coaches have achieved L4 this year. Looking for local level clinics and other opportunities to provide education to coaches. They're submitting articles to *SWIMMER* and reaching out to local LMSC chairs. International Coaching: 2 coaches at Pan Ams. The subcommittee is working on formalizing the agreements and expectations of coaches representing USMS at international events. Jim asked if there are budget items to cover equipment/uniforms for coaches. Jody mentioned that the HOD and Finance Committee have been kind in financing the program. The budget has been expanded from travel only to compensation for the work the coaches put in. Nadine added that there need to be standards for coaches that we contract. Jim added that those coaches at international events are watched by other coaches who emulate what they see.
6. USA Swimming Report (Dave Coddington): USA Swimming is proud of Dale Neuberger moving into a leadership role. Several task forces: Transparency task force for National Board of Review issues: questions on what is released and when; hearsay task force; task force to look into the governance as exhibited by the zones and LSCs; PanAms: USA is doing well thanks to Masters members. US Nationals will be held in San Antonio 8/6-10. Junior Nationals will be the week before. USA Swimming has adopted a 5 tier national progression: US Nationals, Arena Pro Series, Juniors, Futures Meets, and Zone/Sectional Meets. Nadine asked questions about the Futures meets and how they tie into demographics and governance.
7. Contract Negotiation Update (Patty): Rob is in the process of moving, so the task force will take some time to observe how this new situation works before determining how to address it in a renewal contract.
8. Diversity Task Force (Sarah): The first call is this Monday. The group is just putting together what they are going to bring forward.
9. Governance (Leianne): The committee is looking at the way that Open Water and Long Distance are organized, to determine how to best organize USMS's governance structure for open water.. The policy manual is done, and is posted on the website. Anna Lea, Hugh Moore, and Carl Brommer have organized the policy manual into sections to make it easier to review. We are responsible to review it annually.
10. Convention Items (Nadine): Board Member Liaison reports due 8/1. Reminders have been sent out to LMSCs who haven't submitted delegates. At-Large requests were due 7/15. The Executive Committee will go over the Convention schedule and submit to the Board before the next Board meeting. The sanction fee topic may garner much conversation. Sean suggested having backup plans in case parts or all of the proposed plans are rejected. Phil also asked about backup plans on the financial end. Ed has been working with Tracy on some changes that will happen at this convention. Free food will no longer be provided at breakfast and lunch because of the prohibitive costs. Bag breakfast will be provided at practice for the swimmers. Light snacks will be provided in the evening. The New Delegate Lunch will happen on Friday. Ed will be soliciting veteran delegates to host new delegates at lunch. Governance is looking for direction from the Board on the size and purpose of future Conventions. USA Swimming proposed (it was defeated) to have a HOD every other year, with an educational component on "off" years. The sense was that people value the opportunity to meet face-to-face every year. Rob Copeland suggested putting together a framework for having the discussion in a future meeting. Nancy urged the Board to keep in mind the value of face-to-face meetings. Jody recommended that USMS should look at what Convention needs to be going forward, instead of trying to be all things to all people. Patty suggested an outline for why we have Convention, what goals we want to pursue, and how the House of Delegates is a subset of that.
11. Nadine summarized some tasks left to do for the next Board Meetings: International Outreach; her work on the concept of Masters Aquatics, and how we might partner with other NGBs. Jim will make his presentation to the BOD on the Wednesday before Convention; We will discuss delinquency in delivering membership cards.
12. Next EC meeting will be August 3 at 8pm EDT. Next BOD meeting will be August 17, 2015 at 8:30pm EDT.

The meeting adjourned at 11:57am EDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Colburn, Secretary
