

Committee Name:	Championship Committee	Session #:	Report #:
Committee Chair:	Jeff Roddin	Vice Chair:	Kim Crouch / Jim Clemmons
Minutes recorded by:	Jillian Wilkins	Date/time of meeting:	4/23/2015 3:00pm

Motions Passed:

1. None

Number of committee members present: 8 	Number of other delegates present: 6
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Kim Crouch, Jim Clemmons, Jillian Wilkins, Jack Groselle, Sandi Rousseau, Tom Boak, Ed Saltzman, Jeff Strahota	
Others Present: Kathy Casey, Jim Matysek, Nadine Day, Kyle Deery, Rob Butcher, Scott Bay	

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 3:05p.m.

I. Introduction/ Roll Call/ Guests

Kim Crouch called the meeting to order and introduced the committee members, USMS staff members, and other committee chairs present.

II. National Championship Meet Updates

A. 2015 Spring - San Antonio (Kim Crouch/Tom Boak)

1. The organization of the meet has been wonderful. They are well staffed and have a ton of officials and volunteers. The Meet Bop App has been a wonderful addition to the meet because the venue is large and spread out. There was a late start on Thursday because the volunteers were stuck in traffic due to weather, but as it was the 1650 we were able to have one timer per lane until everyone arrived. The loud speaker is not available in the indoor pool, but the 2 scoreboards mirror the live scoreboards from the competition pool.

B. 2015 Summer - SPIRE (Jack Groselle)

1. Jack and Jeff Roddin met with the SPIRE team over Easter weekend and Jack will be visiting again mid-summer. He said the city planning and hotels are really nice and the pool will be easy to get to from hotels. One concern is the lack of locker room space but there is a ton of deck space to make up for it. They have wonderful food planned for the hospitality areas and will be bringing in the local winery for the Saturday event. There will be no dorms available.

C. 2016 Spring - Greensboro (Don Gilchrist)

1. Don was not at the meeting to report. Steve Weatherman, co-meet director for Greensboro Aquatic Center, will be in San Antonio to meet key people and observe how the Masters event is run in an effort to host a wonderful event in 2016 at the facility. Jeff Roddin is liaison for this meet.

D. 2016 Summer - Gresham (Sandi Rousseau)

1. Sandi reported that Oregon had just had their first meeting to start the organization process. Many of the same key people will be working the event as in 2008, so they are confident in their team. They plan on having a 5-day meet. Jim Clemmons is liaison for this meet.

III. Business

A. Feasibility of Online Relay Entries

1. Now that rosters are posted real time, coaches could technically start entering relays once 4 eligible athletes are entered in the meet but it makes more sense to wait until individual entries close. Some coaches have said this is not desirable because people drop out last minute. Sandi suggested that a lot of people are going to resist change until they see how much easier it will be.
2. Propose a different entry deadline (if different than paper deadline)? How will changes be made after entry and before the deadline?
3. Different fee structure than deck entries? Currently host receives 100% of relay entry fees but they do 100% of the work; if we develop this system to handle entries should USMS get a portion?
4. Implementation: would require programming changes to the online entry system and the USMS BOD would have to assess IT priorities. Jim Matysek said that it was currently low on the priority list
5. True question is what is the value of this and are online relay entries truly the next step that we must take? Discussion about current ability to do electronic entries via Team Manager. Coach can request mdb and turn in relays electronically. The roster for the electronic relay entries needs to be verified so that no swimmers are added after the meet entries close. Can we try to formally implement this at Greensboro SC 2016?
6. We would like to discuss more at convention to move forward with online entry.

B. Consider \$10k advance to hosts

1. USMS would front the host "seed" money to help get started since the first checks they get are well after entries are underway (~2 years after winning the bid but only a few months before the meet).
2. The check would be issued around convention time (8-12 months in advance of meet).
3. Once Entries start coming in, the first \$10K paid to the host (in addition to the already withheld \$5K) would be kept by USMS.
4. If a majority of the committee agrees, add to contracts going forward (starting with 2016).
5. Rob Butcher and Nadine Day both support this and the committee members present are in favor. This "bid award" will be a policy change, not a rules change.

C. National Championship Bids

1. Bid application and bid packets have been updated and we are currently accepting bids for 2017 and 2018.
2. Bid packets requested: Sarasota (summer; bid already received); Univ Tenn-Knoxville; Tempe, AZ (spring); Riverside, CA (spring); Indy (2018 spring); Monterey county, CA (not sure they have a facility that can host); Greater Cincinnati area; Rochester, MN (summer); Univ of Minn (summer); Univ of Houston (summer); Federal Way (2018 spring); Western Michigan (not sure they have a facility that can host).
3. Schedule: June 1 bid deadline; bidder conference calls start second half of June; final selections made via committee conference call late July; notify winners prior to Summer Nationals.
4. There were two issues that were brought to our attention by Nadine Day.
 - a) 2017 Masters Worlds will be in Budapest, Hungary and not Guadalajara, Mexico.

2018 - USMS is considering the opportunity to host Masters Pan Americans. It would be a LCM event and the committee was asked to consider the possibility of combining summer nationals and Pan Americans. Nadine Day

and Rob Butcher asked us to consider awarding just 2017 because of the opportunity that has been presented to USMS and until further discussion can take place.

IV. New Business

- A. Officials: Jacki Allender asked if we could do anything to help officials at our national meets financially? If not can we at least set up a block of rooms just for the officials at one hotel and maybe a shuttle for them back and forth from the pool? We were told that some LMSCs support the officials attending, but the officials committee only has \$2000 per meet to help support. Ed will discuss this in the Officials Committee.
- B. Order of Events process.
1. Kim will head a subcommittee to develop event orders for the upcoming nationals based on events offered and the facility and then bring their suggestions to the committee for a final vote. This will all take place on the forums before convention. We would like to support each venue and have an event order that helps it shine.
 2. We have been asked to advertise the mixed events when individuals are signing up for the events to help prevent confusion. 1650/1000 would be the events affected by this. For LC, the meet information should state that the 1500 and 800 will be combined since they are always combined for seeding.
- C. General Information Meeting
1. 58 people came to San Antonio's meeting. The question has been asked 'How can we get last minute important information out to swimmers?' and 'Is this meeting really necessary anymore?' To be discussed further by the committee.
- D. Questions:
1. Backstroke Ledges: Rob Butcher-Why are we not using the backstroke ledges? Jacki, meet referee, felt the use of ledges that are spring loaded would create some safety hazards to swimmers not used to using them and the timeline would be adversely and likely significantly affected by using them.
 - a) Spire would like to use them; can we advertise this in advance? We decided it would need to go into the meet information emails. Scott Bay said that there is an online informational video that we can send a link to athletes to watch. Kathy plans on placing an article in the next Coaches for Streamlines about the specific rules for the backstroke ledges. Sandi suggested we could try them for the 50 backstroke if it is the first backstroke event LCM and if they take too much time in between then we can remove them for the 100 and 200 events. We will suggest that Pat Baker, Spire referee, talk to Jacki about safety hazards.
 2. Order of Events: The order of events for 2016 nationals will be decided on the Forum in 2015 and before convention.
 3. 200 Seeding: Can we pre-seed the 200's as opposed to deck seeding the 200's? It was decided at convention in 2014 to deck seed all 200s for two years as a trial and then reevaluate.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04pm
