Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 pm Central (Daylight) Time.

1. **Announcements:**

   Jeanne Seidler announced that the purpose of the meeting was to pre-meet before convention so that anyone not attending convention could share their thoughts on the rules proposals and potential projects for 2014-2015. The meeting was estimated to last 30 minutes.

2. **Rules Proposal R15 (25’s of stroke and 100 relays)**

   The consensus of the members of the RT Committee is that this proposal should be defeated for the following reasons, although the reasons listed below are not the only reasons. Please also see the discussion forum item regarding this rule proposal for discussions from other RT committee members on this topic.
   
   a. Safety … this is a huge issue which concerns pool depth at the starting end for the 25’s.
   b. Pool length considerations … are pools long enough for a touchpad on each end of a 25 yard pool.
   c. Officiating … would need two sets of relay take off judges (for both ends of the pool).
   d. Timing … if timers move to the opposite end of the pool, watches become the primary timing system.
   
   Requirements are three watches for a record and two watches for Top Ten consideration. Most meets run with one backup timer per lane as the primary timing system is electronic.
   
   e. There are other alternatives for a meet. Any meet may run non-standard events at their own discretion. Non-standard events can be run at sanctioned USMS meets without jeopardizing insurance.
   f. LMSCs, Meets and Zones may all elect to keep records for non-standard events.
   g. Records and Top Ten Recorders are already busy LMSC volunteers without complicating their workloads with additional distances and relays. Relays and events might not be eligible for Top Ten due to timing or officiating issues, thus the Top Ten Recorders will be burdened with segregating ineligible data out of meet files.
   h. Too many variables and unknowns about facilities, safety and timing. Official times might not be achievable in the large majority of pools.

   The committee Chair plans to attend Rules Committee meetings to monitor the discussions on this proposal. If this proposal comes to the HOD, members will speak to the issues noted above.

3. **Potential Projects for the RT Committee for 2014-2015.**

   A spreadsheet is posted on the RT Forum with a starting list of about 55 items from the USMS projects database. Some of these items are carried over from the End-to-End-Event Management Project’s On-Line Sanction design and testing. There will be a formal project selection process announced soon. Our steps as a committee will be to validate this starting list, add to the list (fill in the gaps), rank/prioritize by the committee, and discuss with the VP (Chris Stevenson). The requests from all committees will be consolidated for consideration by a steering committee that will allocate IT resources to the projects. More information will be coming on the process of selection and allocation. In the interim, the RT Committee’s first step will be to work with the project list posted in the RT Forum. This will begin after the convention is over. Mary Beth Windrath mentioned that there are other projects noted in past committee meeting minutes from this year that will need to be added to the projects list.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm CDT