

USMS Convention — Dallas, Texas 2017

Committee Name: Rules	Session #: 3
Committee Chair: Charles Cockrell	Vice Chair: Kathy Casey
Minutes recorded by: Mollie Grover	Date/time of meeting: Friday 9/15/2017 10:45 am CT

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. None.

Motions Passed:

1. MSA to authorize the Rules Committee chair to issue interpretations to Part 1 between committee meetings.

Number of committee members present: 14	Absent: 3	Number of other delegates present: 28
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Charles Cockrell, Kathy Casey, Mollie Grover, Christina Fox, Rand Vaillancourt, Laura Groselle, Barb Protzman, Karen Harris, Carolyn Boak, Steve Unruh, Jessica Seaton, Claire Letendre, Matt Hooper, Chris Lysinger		
Ex Officio: Meg Smath, Brian Albright, Ed Tsuzuki		
Committee Members Absent: Brian Hoyt, Marilyn Fink, Chris Colburn		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 am CT.

1. Charles went through the agenda for this meeting, which involved going over policies, procedures, and other issues.
2. Official Interpretation on Requirements for Dual Sanctioned Meets
 - a. Charles drafted two interpretations regarding issues that have come up in regards to dual sanctioned meets.
 - b. Interpretation #1 – covers the list of USA Swimming rules that will be substituted for USMS rules in the combined format.
 - b.i. The combined format occurs when athletes are swimming intermixed in the same heats
 - b.ii. The articles that are not on the list in the interpretation will follow USMS rules.
 - c. Interpretation #2 – covers the daily event limit for USMS swimmers.
 - c.i. If athletes swim in multiple USMS-sanctioned meets in a single day, the 6 event limit applies.
 - c.ii. If athletes swim in a USA Swimming meet and a USMS-sanctioned meet on the same day, the non-USMS events would not count towards the 6 event limit.
 - c.iii. In a dual sanctioned meet, the situation is not clear cut. Because of this, discussion ensued regarding the intent of the “daily limit” wording in the rule book. The sense of the committee is that the “daily limit” is only applicable to USMS-sanctioned events.
 - d. The committee is comfortable with both interpretations as written by Charles.
3. Disability Guidelines
 - a. Claire has updated the official Disability Guidelines at the request of Charles. Currently, most of article 107 places the burden of decision making on the meet referee. Claire has worked extensively on updating the USA Swimming Disability Guidelines, and Charles feels that the guidelines can be adopted as is. Kathy pointed out that the committee should get permission from USA Swimming to use their guidelines. Charles agrees and believes that USA Swimming will be happy to share. The two organizations already follow the same set of rules, so this set of guidelines are mostly for clarification for meet officials.

- b. Charles then asked for a sense of the committee regarding allowing case-by-case exceptions for disabled swimmers to who are ineligible for disability accommodations to be able to participate. They would then be discreetly removed from the results after the swim. The committee agreed that a policy like this would be worthwhile.
4. Difference Sections (Appendix B)
 - a. Charles mentioned that the USA Swimming rule book has a one page table that summarizes the differences between the various governing bodies. Kathy stated that the differences sections grow as different organizations have different hot-button topics in various years, which prompts officials to ask for differences in writing. This is why these topics have been added to Appendix B.
 - b. Charles suggested that major work on the structure of this section could be a project for 2018.
5. Situations and Resolutions + Rules Committee Blog
 - a. Charles has been writing entries in the blog regarding rules-related questions he receives, roughly on a monthly basis. Kathy has a document of situations and resolutions that she has compiled over the years that could be added to the blog. Charles asked if anyone on the committee was interested in helping to get those situation onto the blog.
6. Interpreting Part One between Committee Meetings
 - a. Charles asked the committee if the current process for how these situations are currently handled is proper. He mentioned that USA Swimming authorizes their chair to handle interpretations between meetings. He then asked if the committee should follow the same procedure going forward. MS (Kathy/Rand) to authorize Charles to make interpretations between committee meetings. Motion passed.
7. Submission from Southern Pacific
 - a. This proposal was submitted late and is in regards to genders and the transgender policy. This would be an addition to article 102, but would have to be designated as an emergency amendment. Charles asked for a motion to designate this proposal as an emergency proposal. MS (Carolyn/Steve) to consider this proposal as an emergency proposal. Motion failed unanimously to consider this proposal as an emergency.
8. Projects for Next Year
 - a. Collaborate with the Championship Committee on updates to article 104. Carolyn and Barb volunteered to work on this project.
 - b. Get Kathy's situations and resolutions information added to the Rules Committee blog. Christina, Matt, Mollie, and Kathy volunteered to help.
 - c. Kathy also has a broader situations and resolutions manual she has been working on with the Officials Committee. Brian will help her with work on this manual.
9. Charles then opened the floor for suggestions for doing committee business going forward. The biggest suggestion was to rotate the day that the conference calls occurs, potentially scheduling all the calls at the beginning of the year.
10. Rules #4 will start tomorrow at 12:30 pm (rather than 1 pm) in Sanger A/B.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. Collaborate with the Championship Committee on updates to article 104. Carolyn and Barb volunteered to work on this project.
2. Get Kathy's situations and resolutions information added to the Rules Committee blog. Christina, Matt, Mollie, and Kathy volunteered to help.
3. Kathy also has a broader situations and resolutions manual she has been working on with the Officials Committee. Brian will help her with work on this manual.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am CT.
