

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Rules Committee	<b>Session #:</b>	
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Mollie Grover		
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Julie Dusliere	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	18 July 2023 / 7:30 PM ET

**Actions Taken:**

1. MSA to recommend R-1 to the HOD.

<b>Number of committee members present: # 14</b>	<b>Absent: # 0</b>	<b>Guests: # 0</b>
<b>Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):</b> David Benjamin, Kathrine Casey, Julie Dusliere, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox (Vice Chair), Mollie Grover (Chair), Claire Letendre (Vice Chair), Susan Nolte, Barbara Protzman, C.J. Rushman, William Tingley, Jason Weis, Kris Wingenroth, Ben Wyckoff		
<b>Not present:</b>		
<b>Ex Officio present:</b> Chris Colburn (VP of Administration), Michael Abegg (USMS Officials Committee), Terri White (USMS Officials Committee)		
<b>Ex Officio absent:</b> Stephanie Gauzens (USMS Legislation Committee), Onshalee Promchitmart (USMS National Office)		
<b>Guests: n/a</b>		

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm ET.

Mollie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

1. M/S (Bill/Claire) to approve the minutes of the June 20 meeting. Passed unanimously.
2. M/S (Bill/Claire) to approve the minutes of the June 25 meeting. Passed unanimously.

2023 USMS Proposals

1. R-1
  - a. M/S (Bill/Claire) to remove R-1 from the table. Passed unanimously.
  - b. The aim of this proposal from the USMS Officials Committee is that all officials working on deck at a USMS meet are certified through a swimming body or under the supervision of a certified USMS official. Effective by 2025, the Officials Committee would like all referees to be certified through USMS or another swimming body with an appropriate level of referee experience.
  - c. The committee discussed the updates and changes to the language in the proposal and made some minor housekeeping updates for consistency to align with other areas of the rulebook.
  - d. Motion to recommend R-1 to the HOD passed 12 yes, 1 no.
2. R-3
  - a. M/S (Bill/Claire) to recommend R-3 to the HOD.
  - b. Proposal from South Texas to modify minimum number of events without a National Qualifying Time (NQT) when timeline is impacted as well as changing timeframe for a NQT to within the prior three years.
  - c. The question was raised as to whether the Championship Committee is aware of the proposal and if they have been consulted for feedback.

- d. The committee discussed the rationale for the proposal as originally submitted in light of the inclusion of swimmer names and reviewed an updated version of the rationale that does not call out specific swimmers.
  - e. The committee identified section 104.5.3 A(1) as potentially unclear in terms of total number of events that may be entered with and without NQTs. The term “non-qualifier” was also flagged as it is not used elsewhere in the rulebook.
  - f. M/S (Kathy/Bill) to amend 104.5.3 A(1) as follows: to strike “non-qualifiers” and rephrase to “competitors will be allowed to enter a maximum of two events without meeting the qualifying times”. M/S (Claire/Jason) to call the question on the amendment, passed unanimously. Amendment passed 13 yes, 9 no.
  - g. The committee discussed item (3) and the new language addition which would necessitate a proof of time system for USMS moving forward. This will be a philosophical shift for USMS and will require operational support to implement. Various examples and scenarios were discussed including events that do not have published NQTs and conversion among courses.
  - h. M/S (Claire/Jason) to call the question on the entire proposal, passed unanimously.
  - i. Motion to recommend R-3 to the HOD as amended fails 1 yes, 12 no.
3. R-4
- a. M/S (Bill/Claire) to recommend R-4 to the HOD.
  - b. Proposal from South Texas for seeding changes in distance events (1000/1650 and 800/1500) at National Championships.
  - c. The committee discussed the clarity of the proposal, the logistics and level of complexity of managing the proposed seeding changes in the context of meet management, and a review of the timeline statistics in terms of the rationale proposed.
  - d. Motion to recommend R-4 to the HOD fails 0 yes, 13 no.

#### Logistics for Convention

Mollie reminded the committee members that they are automatic delegates to the USMS HOD and do not count against their respective LSMC delegate count. Mollie requested that committee members confirm their attendance at the annual meeting and whether in person or virtual.

Mollie reminded the committee that the Rules Forum is scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup>.

There is a possibility of needing a meeting in conjunction with convention, more details forthcoming. The committee will have at least one meeting following the USA Swimming Annual Meeting (September 21-23) in order to finalize the U proposals based on the outcomes from USA Swimming.

The committee flagged the need to look at the language in 102.1.2 as it relates to the outcome of R-3 at the annual meeting.

M/S (Bill/Claire) to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 pm ET.