

SESSION #3

Report to be given on: Sunday

Committee Chair: Elin Zander

Recorder: Meg Smath

Action Items

1. *This committee strongly urges Finance Committee to present to the HOD in timely fashion all proposed amendments to FOG. Specifically, any amendments proposed prior to convention should be included in the delegates packet. Any amendments proposed and approved during convention should be presented to the HOD as action items in the Finance Committee report.*
2. *This committee recommends that the Executive Committee, in conjunction with the chair of the Legislation Committee, review the role and structure of the BOD and present their findings and recommendations to the HOD.*
3. *Emergency rules proposal to lower eligibility for competition to 18 years old (subject to passage of L-16) submitted to Rules Committee.*
4. *This committee will work with Legal Counselors Committee on Part IV review and revision for 2003.*
5. *Amendment Proposals Recommended to the HOD: L-18, L-33, L-34*
6. *Amendment Proposals Recommended to the HOD as amended: L-6, L-7, L-10, L-11, L-12, L-16, L-32*
7. *Amendment Proposals Not Recommended to the HOD: L-4, L-5, L-8, L-9, L-13, L-14, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31*
7. *Amendment Proposals Withdrawn: L-19*

Attendance: Number of Committee members present: 13

Number of Committee members absent: 4

Total number of delegates attending meeting: 43

Minutes

I. Elin Zander opened the meeting at 9:05am. She noted that after discussion by the delegates on L-16 and 18 were concluded that she would limit discussion primarily to committee members in the interest of finishing the business in a timely manners.

II. L-16 Helen Bayley stated that we need 18-year-olds starting immediately, and that it should not be complicated to make that happen. She felt we're lucky it was only 60% that objected to 18-year-olds on the recent survey.

III. L-18. No discussion offered.

IV. Discussion and action on the remaining amendmet proposals.

L-4. Betsy Durrant noted that she has been involved in other organizations that tried to micromanage finance and it didn't work. Rob Copeland stated that many of the recent financial actions have not been well documented. Adding an extra layer of review might be good. The committee discussed the option of including the part dealing with 601, changing FOR to FOG everywhere. MSP to amend to delete 508 and change rules to guidelines and renumber to 14A. MS to approve L4A as amended. Tom Boak stated the concern about LMSCs having input into FOG if this language is added to the code. The concern was also expressed that codifying the process to amend FOG removes intentional vagueness to those guidelines, potentially opening it up to judicial review of procedures. Failure to follow these guidelines could leave us culpable. Vote was taken on L4A and it was voted to recommend L4A by a vote of 4 to approve, 6 to not approve. Jack Geogeghan suggested that the committee make a recommendation to the Finance Committee as an action item in our report. MSP (See above.) L4 was defeated.

L-5 No discussion. Aye: 2. Nay: a whole lot! Defeated.

L-6 Recommendation from Legal Counselors Committee. "We recommend to the Legislation Committee that article 505.4.1 be amended to read as follows: 'The legal counsel shall be an ex officio member of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and Legislation Committee, having voice but no vote on these committees. The legal counsel may appoint liaisons to any other committees when requested by such committee chair.'" MS to amend. Amendment passed. Replaces underlined wording. L-6 was approved as amended.

L-7 MS to amend to change the word "president" to "chair". Passed. L-7 passed as amended.

L-8 Discussion about the structure and function of the current BOD. In recent years the BOD has become more and more active and the expertise provided the standing committee chairs has proven to be valuable. It was proposed that L-8A be created to leave the existing language but taking away vote from USA-S delegate. Ted Haartz noted that USMS' USA-S BOD member is ex officio but the USA-S member of the USMS BOD has had a vote. It was decided to leave that to that time when the structure of the entire BOD was reviewed. L-8 failed. It was decided by the committee to include a statement in our action items (see above.) item.

L-9 MSF. Not recommended to the HOD.

L-10 MSP to amend to retain 507.1.1D and to strike 507.1.2B. L-10 approved as amended.

L-11 Ginger question how we could meet the requirements of open meetings given that some of our meetings are done by e-mail or conference call. Leo asked if it implies advance notice of all meetings? It was agreed that Ross Wales's language, is looser and more reasonable. Rick Harris: saying a meeting is open to all members doesn't imply advance notice is required. How do we

limit this to USMS committees? Leo felt that it would apply to meetings/discussions occurring in real time. Since USMS is already following an open meeting policy at this time, representatives of the Legal Counselors committee recommended that we not codify this. MS to amend L-11 using language submitted by Ross Wales with changes to specify which entities in USMS would be affected. Aye: 8. Nay: 3. Passed.

L-12. MSP to amend to delete “at all levels.” MSP to recommend as amended. Rick Windes abstained.

L-13. Elin Zander noted that both the nominations and championship committees use the same procedure to go with top 2 votegetters, which differs from the procedure outlined in L-13. Rob Copeland noted that RRO should cover voting policies from now on, but that RRO offers numerous options. Tom Boak offered that he thought it was beneficial to allow latitude for the process to be modified as our needs change. MS Failed.

L-14. Removed from table. Tom: have to amend or defeat based on previous action. Amend by striking “Finance.” Discussion about meaning of “germane.” As amended: Aye 4. Opposed: 6. Defeated.

L-16. Rob MSP to amend to delete second sentence. Aye: 6. Opposed: 5. Rob noted that there was much testimony that extending membership to encourage participation is a good thing. Elin felt that if we allow people to join they should be able to enjoy all the benefits of membership and proposed that, if this passes, we submit emergency to rules to lower the eligibility to compete to 18. Question called. Passed. Motion to submit emergency rules proposal. Discussion about whether this could be considered an emergency. Basically, this would be determined by Rules Committee. Passed. MSP to reconsider L-16. Since 18 is the legal age, it must be rewritten so that the liability statement on the registration form be sign after the individual has turned 18. MSP to amend L-16 to add the words “and may apply..” L-16 Approved as amended.

L-18. MSP.

L-19. Withdrawn.

L-21. It was the opinion of the committee that USMS does not want to codify any process that would dictate to an LMSC how it must handle and internal problem and that the existing Part IV is adequate to handle matters that affect more than one LMSC or is not resolvable on the LMSC level. MSDefeated.

L-23 – 31. The Legal Counselors Committee has reviewed these proposals and think they have merit. However, they do not feel that there is adequate time to identify specific problems not addressed by existing procedures and to formulate appropriate language to correct those specific problems. In the meantime, the current language is serving us well. The LC committee pledged to work with this committee to review part IV and make specific amendment proposals for this committee’s consideration. Tom Boak also asked to be involved as he has had experience with the application of Part IV to issues within USMS. Motion to approve L 23-31. Failed.

L-32. MSP to amend. MSP as amended.

L-33. Submitted by Rules Committee. MSP.

L-34. Housekeeping: correct definition of Delaware Valley. MSP.

Amendment to glossary submitted by Championship handed off to Rules.

V. MSP to adopt the Operating Policies and Procedures for the Legislation Committee as developed by Rob Copeland. The committee applauded Rob's work on this document.

Steve Peterson and Jane Moore have reviewed the LMSC Handbook and are ready to offer new language in the case of the passage of L-16.

Bill Earley has reviewed the sanctions section of the Handbook and will work with Tracy on those changes..

VI. Meeting adjourned at 11:55. MSP. Bill Early presented Elin w/ USA Olympic cap in appreciation for all her hard work. Elin thanked the committee members for their hard work.