

Committee Name:	Long Distance	Session #: 1	Report #: 1
Committee Chair:	Phyllis Quinn	Vice Chair:	Catherine Rust
Minutes recorded by:	Tim Murphy	Date/time of meeting:	07/28/2024 at 8pm ET

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. N/A

Motions Passed:

Number of committee members present: 8	Absent: 2	Number of other delegates present: 1
Committee members present: Phyllis Quinn, Catherine Rust, Tim Murphy, Nicki Phillips, Stephen Rouch., Bob Bruce, Jenny Hodges, Jim Davidson,		
Absent: , John D, John Fox		
Ex-Officio members present: Robin Smith, Jay Eckert, David Miner		

Topic: LDC Meeting – July 28, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm ET:

1. Welcome and roll call.

2. Reports from the chair (Phyllis) and vice chair (Catherine) and vice president (Robin) and USMS National Office (Jay)

A. Chair (Phyllis): Please submit any updates or information to this forum.

0. I would like to try to keep the July meeting short so we all can watch the Olympic evening coverage.
1. The August meeting will be cancelled so we all can have a break before the USMS annual meetings begin.
2. The LDC forum to discuss the rule proposals for next year is schedule for September 3 at 5pm West coast time.
3. All the LDC member should plan to attend. Jim and Catherine will be my backup if my travel plans prevent my attendance.
4. Thank you to all the members of this committee for the work that you have done this year.

B. National Office (Jay):

0. 5K/10K: 131 entries so far and the event runs through Sept 15
1. 3000/6000: entries opening next week for the event that starts Sept. 15
2. 2025 OWNC: now that USA Swimming event staff has finished Trials, I have a meeting scheduled next week to work on 2025 planning for the Sarasota event

C. Liaison report from Square Lake: The Sprint and the Long Distance NC at Square Lake, MN July 20-21 went off without a hitch. Congrats to Nicki and her team for two very well organized and run events. In the mile there were 200 registrants and 166 swimmers made it and were

able to compete. In the 5K race there were 200 registrants and 165 swimmers were able to make it and complete the course. The weather was great and the lake was lovely. I only heard positive comments from those I visited with after the races.

D. VP Report (Robin Smith):

0. USMS Summer Board Meeting held on Sat July 13, 2024 via Zoom. Recap email sent to all members.
1. Board/Zone Communications Meetings continue, Board reviewing discussion notes and feedback.
2. USMS 2024 Annual Meeting (Sep 13th to 15th - virtual) - see SCHED for schedule of meetings and events. Elections for At-Large Directors - candidates' nomination packets posted.
3. I would like to add my thank you to each of you for your time and good work accomplished this year. I have appreciated your participation and input into the business of the LDC.

E. Vice Chair Report (Catherine Rust)

0. OWNC Time Limits - started discussion of having time limits with list of considerations to determine if the events should have time limits. Still needing input.
1. Virtual Operating Guidelines - Looking at the procedures when NO receives entries and if the entries are checked for anomalies or other red flags. If not being checked the LDC needs to be involved in making sure all entries are legit.

3. Working groups – reports (please send your report to all in advance)

- A. 2024 Rules/Legislation –Jim, Steve, Bob B, John F

- B. Administration/ Liaison of Virtual and OWNC's events- Phyllis- Report on Middle Distance OWNC swim at Berryessa. Tim- Report on Marathon Distance OWNC at Del Valle, Jenny- Update on Sprint and Long distance OWNC at Square Lake.
- C. PARA – Jim and Nicki; Patches & Awards – National Office; All-Americans (AA) - Men –, Bob B; (AA) Women –Jenny, Tim; (AA) Relays – Phyllis, Records – James, All-Stars – TBD; Postal Series – **TBD**, Virtual Series Recognition: Catherine, Jenny
- D. Review of Bids for future LD events. –Update on location for 2025-(Jay)
- E. LDNC and Open Water Service Awards – Bob B, Catherine, Stephen-**Update?**
- F. Updating Guidelines and Educational Resources for Open Water Events- **NEW**. Members TBD

Goals for 2024: The Executive Committee has been putting together a list of 2024 priorities/goals for our committees. Here are some draft priorities/goals for the LDC:

1. Develop a plan to increase the number of USMS sanctioned open water events
2. Look for more prominent venues for Open water National championships
 - Clarify Open water strategy between LDC and NO
 - 1-3mi OWNC weekend festival concept already in discussion
 - Clarify NO role regarding the OWNC bid process, at least for shorter events.
3. Remove the operations and procedures from Rule Book and update Guide to Operations documents.
4. Clarify LDC roles and responsibilities and those of National Office.

New Business- Any report from the OWNC time limits sub committee?

- OWNC Time Limits: please see Vice Chair report above
- Awards (Bob Bruce): will get materials out to his subcommittee. Because of virtual convention, he won't order awards until he knows winners and can send directly to nominators who can do something locally to make it special for the winners.
- Annual O/W Events (David Miner): David Miner: nothing specific. 44 sanctioned events for the year, same as last year. 1 more should be sanctioned soon.

2024 LDC Championships. Liaisons assignments

Below is a list of the 2024 LD OWNC events. When assigned, each lead liaison will please give a brief written report on the status of their event (sent to the full committee prior to the conference call – Friday at latest for SUNDAY calls). LIAISONS—PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL EARLY AND OFTEN FOR MESSAGES.

2024 Long Distance National Championships:

- June 1: USMS Middle-Distance Open Water Nationals: Lake Berryessa, CA. lead liaison- Phyllis. Back up- Nicki
- June 8: USMS Marathon-Distance Nationals: Lake Del Valle, CA. Liaison Tim, backup Phyllis
- July 20: USMS Sprint-Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN. Lead Liaison Jenny, backup Catherine
- July 21: USMS Long-Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN. Lead Liaison Jenny, backup Catherine

USMS is also hosting five virtual championships: the 1-Hour Virtual Championship Jan. 1–31, the 5K/10K Virtual Championships May 15–Sept. 15, and the 3000/6000-Yard Virtual Championships Sept. 15–Nov. 15.

Other business for the good of the order

Next Call: **Sept 3, 2024 LDC Rule Forum**

Projected List of Dates for 2024 LDC Calls:

January 28

February 25

March 24 One week early to avoid Easter Sunday

April 28

May 26

June 30

July 28

August 25 – **NO AUGUST MEETING. There will be a Long Distance forum as part of the National Meeting on September 3 @ 8pm Eastern / 5pm Pacific.**

LDC Approximate High-Level Timeline Items by Month: A work in progress

January:

New OWNC season registrations open

initiate work on new goals

Assignments for working groups

February:

send out award nomination requests

begin to consider rules changes

March through May:

Review bids and documents for next year

consider rules changes

updates on LD NC events progress

June:

Prepare next year's events

finalize rules proposals

finalize award nominations

thick of the competition season

July:

award working group meets

finalize OWNC for next year

August:

finalize all LDC details to prepare for Annual Meeting

September: Annual Meeting

October-December:

Relay meeting: Open water workshop

Request for next season's details

Conclude remaining event details.

Open registration for next season's OWNCs

Wrap-up year's business