

Open Water P2P call 5/7/19

Bob Bruce Leading the meeting

Lisa Brown introduced.

Bob said he will cover 3 points of interest regarding the governance of the Open Water information

- Open Water Strategy

- Where to find Open Water Info on USMS website

 - Volunteers, Guide to operations, Open water Section

- Open Water Sanctioning

 - Sanctioning Open water events/admin/conv/2017/workshop7/pdf

Open Water Strategy Task Force was authorized at convention by Dawson Hughes

- Topics include list of biggest problems with Open Water events

- 58 pages of input

- Simplifying the Sanctioning process

- Lowering cost and adding value

- Relationships with U.S.Triathlon, USA swimming, WOWSA – Dawson is working on this

- Working on a one vent registration

- Working on a results database similar to Pool event results database

Bob then opened it up for discussion:

What about workout groups for Open Water

- Bob said look at rules 1,2,3 and set them aside

- It sounds like a practice schedule as defined as USMS and covered by USMS insurance if followed as outlined.

Question from Zoe in NM. She wants to know about sanctioning open water clinics, is there a difference in sanctioning? Bob said he runs clinics that do not have to be sanctioned he runs them as a practice.

But if the water requires insurance then you would need to sanction the clinic so that it is covered.

- Guidelines for temperature - what are the minimal temps? In the rule book

- What are the lifeguard requirements? It is up to the state/county/area and what the conditions are, how far is the course, water conditions.

- What about power boats? Think about a emergency in the water, how do you get them to the shore? It may be a power boat.

- The law enforcement people can help with the patrolling, marine board, sheriffs, Search and rescue.

- Safety person from USMS? How do I find one. Bob: they need to be the designated safety person to organize the people. Spotters, rescuers...setting it all up.

Kenton Jones from San Diego to get a La Jolla cove swim event. Worked with the state and working on Craig from Ohio asked about open water practices being conducted. If you do an official practice, vs usms practice covered by insurance.

Don brought up insurance for usms:

- Think about basketball practice vs open gym. Practice is only for the team by the coach, open gym is more for the shooting and practicing without the coach, if you sprain you ankle it is on you for the liability for open gym.