

USMS Convention — Atlanta, Georgia 2016

Committee Name:	Rules	Session #:	1
Committee Chair:	Charlie Cockrell	Vice Chair:	Kathy Casey
Minutes recorded by:	Mollie Grover	Date/time of meeting:	Thursday 9/22/2016 3:30 pm

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. R4, R13, R20
2. R27 (Not recommended by the committee.)

Motions Passed:

1. MSA to recommend R4 as amended to the HOD.
2. MSA to recommend R13 as proposed to the HOD.
3. MSA to consider R27 and a forthcoming legislation proposal as an indivisible package.
4. MSA to remove R20 from the table.
5. MSA to recommend R20 as amended.

Number of committee members present: 15

Absent: 2

Number of other delegates present: 45

Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Charlie Cockrell, Kathy Casey, Mollie Grover, Steve Unruh, Claire Letendre, Rand Vaillancourt, Jessica Seaton, Brian Hoyt, Matt Hooper, Carolyn Boak, Lucy Johnson, Karen Harris, Barry Fasbender, Laura Groselle, Barb Protzman

Ex Officio: Meg Smath, Brian Albright

Executive Committee: Ed Tsuzuki

Committee Members Absent: Ginny Trimble, Marilyn Fink

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 3:29 pm.

1. Charlie had the committee introduce themselves to the audience members. He then outlined the committee's processes when making changes to rules throughout the year. He mentioned that 8 of 32 proposals have had action taken on them, which will cause the discussion to skip around in the number proposals. He mentioned that the action taken on the 24 proposals not specifically being discussed at convention have been recommended to the HOD for passage.
2. Charlie informed the audience as to what proposals would be discussed in this meeting.
3. R4 – 102.5 Time trials in SCY meets
 - a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to recommend approval to the House of Delegates (HOD). Barry asked if time trials can be separate from a meet, as per the glossary definition. The definition was pulled directly from the USA Swimming rule book. MS (Claire/Carolyn) to remove the parenthetical statement from the glossary definition. Charlie clarified that the five events per day requirement cannot be circumvented by having multiple sanctions on a single day. Carolyn then stated that if the parenthetical statement is left in the definition, the definition is confusing and Claire's amendment is clearer. Amendment passed to remove parenthetical statement from glossary definition.
 - b. Matt asked if there was a reason that the glossary definition did not mention SCY, as time trials would only be allowed in time trials. Discussion ensued that the restriction to SCY is in the rule itself, so it is not needed in the definition. Further discussion was had regarding why the rule is restricted to only SCY meets.
 - c. Ed then asked how a time trial is different than a meet itself. Charlie mentioned that there is no order of placing or awards conferred after swimming a time trial, as the only goal is to record a time. Lucy asked for the purpose of offering time trials in general terms. Judy gave an example that a time trial can be offered for an event that was not offered during the course of the meet itself. Carolyn asked what events could be offered and Charlie clarified that it would depend on the wording on the entry form itself.
 - d. Recommended as amended.

4. R13 – 103.18.1 – Acceptance of time trials from USA Swimming meets
 - a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to recommend approval to the House of Delegates (HOD). Claire asked if time trials in meters would be accepted under the proposal. Charlie confirmed that they would count for USMS purposes, but not for FINA purposes. Carolyn stated that language needs to be published somewhere stating that times in this case would not be accepted for FINA. Recommended as proposed.
5. R27 – 105.1.7 Bulkhead confirmations
 - a. Charlie mentioned that the rule change would require a change to 202.1.1 as well. There are two options to deal with this situation. The first is to make the proposal an indivisible package, which would require a 2/3rd vote from Rules and a 2/3rd vote from Legislation, with both recommending approval. The other way to deal with the situation is deal it through housekeeping. MS (Kathy/Rand) to consider this proposal, along with 202.1.1 (which would require an L proposal from Legislation). Discussion was had regarding submitting this proposal as an indivisible package. Committee voted unanimously to make R27 an indivisible package.
 - b. MS (Kathy/Claire) to recommend approval to the House of Delegates (HOD). Matt asked if this would remove confirmations in SCY as well. Charlie confirmed that it would apply to SCY as well. Leo Letendre gave an example of a meet where there was a bulkhead that had been bowed approximately 5 inches and stated that removing this language would allow all of those swims to be accepted.
 - c. Jeanne Seidler (Records & Tabulations chair) provided a handout to the committee that documented when pools needed to be measured for official times in various types of meets. She then spoke to the three page matrix that Anna Lea Matysek put together to summarize the measurement requirements. Walt Reid (FINA Masters recorder) then took the floor to clarify what FINA Masters requires for pools with bulkheads. FINA treats bulkhead pools as fixed-wall pools (a one time measurement on file) for masters. This means that no bulkhead confirmation is required for FINA world records or FINA world top ten. Walt then mentioned that the requirement for world records in the elite section of the FINA rules requires bulkhead measurement on the lane where the record was set, but it does not apply to masters as a matter of policy. This policy will be included in the FINA rule book in 2017. Walt mentioned that no other federation outside of USMS requires bulkhead confirmation for federation records.
 - d. Tom Boak asked that, if this rule passes, would a bulkhead pool need to be remeasured after its initial measurement. Sandy Rousseau mentioned that when USMS enacted the measurement rules, the organization was ahead of the game and assumed that other federations (and FINA) would catch up with the policies. Jeff Strahota mentioned that the multitude of measurements of required for multiple day meets can be onerous, but that some sort of initial confirmation should be required at the beginning of every meet. Barry then mentioned that there was a meet that had met measurement requirements at the beginning of the meet but was inches short at the end of the meet, so he is a proponent of measuring before and after. More discussion was had over the pros and cons of various measurement requirements, along with various horror stories of bulkheads moving throughout meets. Kathy then mentioned if this rule would pass, USMS would be compliant no matter what FINA rule changes occur. Matt mentioned that there may be pending FINA measurement rules changes, due to an elite SCM meet that did not meet FINA's pool depth requirement.
 - e. Not recommended for approval to the HOD.
6. R20 – 104.5.4B Distribution of entry form
 - a. MSA (Kathy/Rand) to remove R20 from the table.
 - b. Charlie mentioned the relationship between R20 and R21 and asked for an explanation from the Championship committee as to their intent with the two proposals. Jeff Strahota spoke to the reasoning behind removing some of the national championship meet information from the magazine, which is to not require ALL of the meet information to be published by the deadline set by the National Office. The pertinent information would still be published. Laura Hammel then took the floor to ask both the Rules committee and the Championship committee to allow the National Office to promote the meets in the most effective way possible. The National Office feels that this language does not need to be enshrined in the rules, as they need the flexibility to publish whatever information is going to best promote the meet. Sandy Rousseau mentioned that there is a subcommittee of the Championship committee who puts together the meet information in the magazine, and that this subcommittee no longer feels that all of the details currently published are necessary. MS (Kathy/Rand) to amend the proposal to:

(3) Meet information—Meet information shall be published in the official USMS magazine and on the USMS website at no cost to the meet host. National championship meet information shall be published according to the Championship Committee policy. The phone number and address of the USMS National Office shall be published in the official USMS magazine for those who need to order a paper entry form.

Further discussion was had about the relationship between R20 and R21 and the implications of the amendment. Meg Smath stated that the phone number and address is already published with the meet information at this time. Barry made a friendly amendment to

delete both the first and second sentences in the above amended language. The friendly amendment was accepted by the motioner and the seconder.

- c. Charlie asked for a vote on the amendment as restated above. The restated amendment passed.
- d. Charlie then asked for a vote on the full R20. Recommend as amended.
- e. Jeff Strahota of the Championship committee then withdrew R21.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.
