2019 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — St. Louis, Missouri

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<th>Committee Name:</th>
<th>Rules</th>
<th>Session #:</th>
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<td>Committee Chair:</td>
<td>Charles Cockrell</td>
<td>Vice Chair:</td>
<td>Mollie Grover/Claire Letendre</td>
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<td>Minutes recorded by:</td>
<td>Christina Fox</td>
<td>Date/time of meeting:</td>
<td>9/13/2019; 8:00 am</td>
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**Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:**
1. None

**Motions Passed:**
1. MSA to reconsider R-2
2. MSA to recommend R-2 as amended to the HOD
3. MSA to reconsider R-8
4. Motion to recommend R-8 to the HOD failed
5. MSA to recommend that the National Office post all digital versions of the rule book to the History and Archives page on the USMS website.

**Number of committee members present:** 14  
**Absent:** 1  
**Number of other delegates present:** 20

**Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):** Charles Cockrell, Mollie Grover, Claire Letendre, Carolyn Boak, Kathy Casey, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox, Judy Gillies, Karen Harris, Barb Protzman, Jessica Seaton, Rand Vaillancourt, Jason Weis, Teri White (ex-officio)

**Committee Members Absent:** Julie Dussliere

**Minutes**
The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am.

1. Charles completed review of proposals and asked for any comments.
   a. R-10 – USA-S will make the same change. There was discussion on education and options.
   b. R-11 – no comments.
   c. Housekeeping proposals – no comments.
2. Proposed Rule Change R-2 (102.9.5 and 102.9.6)
   a. MS (Rand/Teri) to reconsider R-2. Motion approved. Charles proposed updated language. MS (Jason/Claire) to amend as proposed.
   b. Carolyn and Teri noted that only the lead swimmer needs to be verified (for splits).
   c. MS (Carolyn/Rand) to amend further to change 'or their order of swimming' to 'or the name of the lead off swimmer' in 102.9.6. Discussion ensued on intent, procedures and strategizing. Motion failed.
   d. Discussion on original amendment: Charles and Leo Letendre explained intent of amendments is to ensure a procedure for compliance in entries prior to event (102.9.5) and to ensure that the procedure of instructing for compliance is in place during the event (102.9.6). There was discussion (committee and audience) on 'name on entry' and that this must be correct in database (Charles).
   e. Motion to amend R-2 passed. Discussion on R-2 as amended: none from committee; one comment from the audience.
   f. Motion to recommend R-2 as amended to the HOD passed.
3. Proposed Rule Change R-8 (104.5.3C)
   a. MS (Kathy/Rand) to reconsider R-8. Kathy noted that this was not recognized as major change in previous discussions. Motion approved.
b. Discussion: Claire noted that distance swimmers may be discriminated against. Carolyn noted that there are options to limit meet timelines and that NQT are not enforced and does not agree with the change. Teri indicated that the Officials committee will be recommending that the Championship committee considers further changes to limit meet timelines.

c. Motion to recommend R-8 to HOD failed (5 yes, 7 no).

   a. Charles asked for assistance with proof reading the rule book (Kathy, Carolyn, Marilyn and Teri) and Appendix B high school differences (Kathy, Teri, and Judy).

5. Policy Review: Decision Making Policy
   a. Charles reviewed the updates discussed previously. Kathy and Charles proposed additional updates to include National Office and subject matter experts in resources for history.
   b. MS (Mollie/Claire) A to update policy as amended.
   c. There was discussion on having past rule books available online (with watermark of publication year, if possible) for reference.
   d. MS (Kathy/Claire) that the Rules committee recommends that the National Office post all digital versions of the rule book to the History and Archives page on the website. Motion approved.

6. Policy review: Championship Liaison
   a. CC reviewed the updates discussed previously. No discussion/further changes.
   b. MS (Mollie/Claire) A to update policy as amended.

7. Policy review: Swimwear exemption
   a. CC reviewed the policy and updates discussed previously. There was some discussion (committee and audience) on policy and requirements.
   b. MS (Mollie/Claire) A to update policy as amended.

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**Tasks for the Upcoming Year**

1. Recommend that the National Office post all digital versions of the rule book to the History and Archives page on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 am.