

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Rules Committee	<b>Session #:</b>	Summer Meeting #1
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Charles Cockrell		
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Mollie Grover	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	25 June 2020 / 8:00 PM EDT

**Actions Taken:**

1. MSA to consider the Part 2 omnibus proposal as an indivisible package between Rules, Legislation, and Long Distance.
2. MSA to recommend R-1 to the HOD.
3. MSA to recommend R-2 to the HOD.
4. MSA to recommend R-4 to the HOD.
5. MSA to table R-8 for tonight.
6. MSA to table R-10 for tonight.
7. MSA to withdraw R-11 for 2020.

<b>Number of committee members present: 12</b>	<b>Absent: 2</b>	<b>Guests: 2</b>
<b>Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):</b> Charles Cockrell (Chair), Mollie Grover (Vice Chair), Claire Letendre (Vice Chair), Carolyn Boak, Kathrine Casey, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox, Judy Gillies, Mark Marshfield, Barbara Protzman, Jessica Seaton, Jason Weis		
<b>Not present:</b> Julie Dussliere, Ian King, Chris Colburn (VP Administration)		
<b>Ex-officio:</b> Steve Hall (USMS National Office), Terri White (USMS Officials Committee Chair)		

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 pm ET.

Instructions and General Updates

- a) Charles explained the general process for working on proposals for the newer members of the committee. He also mentioned that the process for this year’s virtual convention has not been completed determined yet.
- b) Claire asked if the meetings will be during the day or during the evening. Charles mentioned that the current ideas is to adhere to the dates that convention was scheduled for, with emphasis on Friday and Saturday for HOD meetings. The committee meetings will likely be in the evenings the week before convention.

Part Two Reorganization Project Update

- a) Charles reminded everyone what exactly this project was trying to do. In summary, the relevant information for pool events would move to a new article in Part 1 (108), relevant open water information would move into Part 3, and membership related information would move into Part 5. Charles mentioned that there were no substantive changes in this proposal – all of the proposals are to move the information out of Part 2 to streamline where to find information.
- b) Charles explained that the current proposal requires an indivisible package from all 3 committees (Rules, Legislation, and Long Distance). This would require all 3 committees to vote by a 2/3rds majority to accept the indivisible package in order to move it forward.
- c) MS (Kathy/Claire) to move this omnibus package forward as an indivisible package between the 3 committees of jurisdiction. Motion passed via roll call vote with 11 yeas and 0 nays.

## 2020 Proposals

### R-1: Glossary Definition of Gender

- a) Charles briefly went over the background document he sent out earlier this week in relation to gender and recent related developments. He also mentioned that the equal opportunity statement does not include gender identity. The Diversity & Inclusion committee will be proposing an addition of “gender identity” to the equal opportunity statement and to the glossary.
- b) MS (Carolyn/Claire) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Jessica brought up that without having competition categories beyond female and male is still discriminating. Charles clarified that the equal opportunity statement deals with membership and inclusion, which is separate from the rules of competition. Jessica agreed that this makes sense but cautioned that eventually someone will challenge the 2 competition categories. Kathy stated that, as a committee, there will be a need to have a plan for the eventuality that the competition categories get challenged. Charles also explained that adding gender identity to the glossary would track with the recent Supreme Court decision about Title VII.
- c) Motion to recommend to the HOD passed unanimously.

### R-11: Time Verification

- a) Charles mentioned that the Championship Committee did not support this proposal, this year. He said that it is due to the likelihood that nationals will not be well-attended in the next few years, and that the Championship Committee may even consider relaxing NQTs for the next few years.
- b) MS (Carolyn/Kathy) to withdraw the proposal. Judy mentioned that this should be brought back in 2021. Kathy mentioned that they supposed future implementation of this proposal, just not in the current climate.
- c) Motion to withdraw proposal passed unanimously.

### R-9: Article 104

- a) Charles explained that the Championship Committee continues to look at what information needs to be in the rule book versus what can be moved to policy. This proposal condenses appropriate parts of 104 and states that the details can be found in the Championship Committee’s policies.
- b) MS(Carolyn/Claire) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Kathy asked who would be in charge of making sure the removed rules were actually added into the Championship Committee policies. Claire stated that she agrees with trying to make the rule book smaller and wholeheartedly agrees with this proposal.
- c) Motion to recommend to the HOD passed unanimously.

### R-10: Distance Events at Nationals

- a) MS (Kathy/Claire) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Carolyn expressed that as a former national meet director that she does not agree with this proposal as it strips away the flexibility the Championship Committee currently has to keep timeline at national championship meets reasonable. Charles explained that this proposal from Kentucky would only allow for 1 of the distance events to be restricted by NQT rather than being able to restrict both as the rule currently allows.
- b) Kathy asked if Championship Committee has seen this proposal. Charles stated that they had not. Additionally, the phrase “proof of entry time” is not defined and would be problematic if the proposal is ultimately recommended to the HOD. While tabled, Claire and Kathy will work on the “proof of entry time” language issue with the proposers.
- c) MS (Kathy/Claire) to table the motion to recommend. Motion to table passed unanimously.

### R-2: Glossary Definition of Official Time

- a) MS (Kathy/Claire) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Charles explained that this proposal came from the USA-S Rules and Regulation meeting but is not in a part of their rules that triggers automatic action by the USMS Rules Committee.
- b) Motion to recommend to the HOD passed unanimously.

R-4: Meet Announcement

- a) MS (Kathy/Claire) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Charles explained that this proposal simply aligns language throughout Article 104 to use “meet announcement” rather than the various phrases used throughout the article.
- b) Motion to recommend to the HOD passed unanimously.

R-8: Automatic Splits

- a) MS (Kathy/Claire) to recommend the proposal to the HOD. Charles explained that this came from the Records and Tabulation Committee and that they were amenable to changing the proposed language in 103.18.2(D).
- b) MS (Kath/Claire) to table the motion to recommend the proposal in order to work on the language in question. Motion to table passed unanimously.

Final Discussion and Planning

- a) Charles thinks only one more meeting will be needed to finish committee business this year.
- b) Charles asked the committee to look at U-1 before the next meeting so that the committee can have robust discussion about the proposal.
- c) Charles also mentioned that the updated Dual Sanction agreement will be reviewed next time.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm ET.