

Committee Name:	Rules Committee	Session #:	Summer Meeting #3
Committee Chair:	Charles Cockrell		
Minutes recorded by:	Julie Dussliere	Date/time of meeting:	16 July 2020 / 8:00 PM EDT

Actions Taken:

1. Approved minutes from Rules Committee meeting on 9-July-2020.
2. MSA to recommend R-5 as amended to the HOD.
3. MSA to recommend U-1 as amended to the HOD.
4. MSA to recommend R-7 as amended to the HOD.

Number of committee members present: 13	Absent: 1	Guests: 1
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Charles Cockrell (Chair), Mollie Grover (Vice Chair), Claire Letendre (Vice Chair), Carolyn Boak, Kathrine Casey, Julie Dussliere, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox, Judy Gillies, Mark Marshfield, Barbara Protzman, Jessica Seaton, Jason Weis		
Not present: Ian King		
Ex-officio: Terri White (USMS Officials Committee Chair)		

Minutes

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

Approval of Minutes

1. M/S (Claire/Mollie) to approve the minutes of the July 9 meeting. Minutes approved: 13 yes, 0 no.

2020 Proposals

1. R-3 Relay Age Groups
 - a) M/S (Kathy/Claire) to recommend R-3 to the HOD. Charles opened the discussion and provided historical context regarding this proposal, which has been brought forward in prior years. Carolyn shared that there is a belief that this change could benefit smaller teams, however upon analysis of relay data and compilations that has not been proven. Kathy shared history of relay composition including that in the mid-80s, prior to USMS having own rulebook, only one method was used. In subsequent years, the rules changed several times incorporating one method or the other, or both, before stabilizing for many years with the current combination of both methods. Mollie shared that teams who may be heavy in membership on younger/older ends of the age spectrum may have athletes getting left out of relays, and there is support for this proposal.
 - b) The committee entertained a brief review of the results of the 2019 HOD vote on this proposal.
 - c) Motion to recommend R-3 to the HOD failed. 1 yes, 11 no.
2. R-5 Deadline for Publishing Order of Events in the Meet Announcement
 - a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to remove R-5 from the table. Motion to move from the table passed unanimously.
 - b) Charles reviewed the suggested wording changes.
 - c) M/S (Judy/Claire) to amend R-5 with the revised language regarding order of the process for sanction and publication. Judy spoke in favor of the changes. Marilyn queried the difference between submission for sanction and publishing. Charles clarified that a meet announcement cannot be published until after a sanction is issued. Passed unanimously.
 - d) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to amend and re-insert the “one week” timeframe language. Marilyn is in favor of a establishing a minimum time frame and felt that a week is reasonable. Jason shared that from a sanction chair perspective a week is necessary to complete all required sanction steps. Kathy shared that timeline

was originally included because last minute sanctions often cause challenges for records and tabulations, particularly in the case of dual-sanctioned meets. Passed unanimously.

- e) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to amend the language “eligible swimmers”. Passed unanimously.
- f) Motion to recommend R-5 to the HOD as amended passed unanimously.

3. U-1 Virtual Meets

- a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to recommend U-1 to the HOD. Charles provided the context and background information for this proposal based upon USA Swimming discussions at their Rules & Regulations meeting in May.
- b) Marilyn asked if virtual meets are intended to be official with sanctions and times eligible for Top 10 and records. Charles clarified that the intent was for virtual meets to be official and an opportunity to create options for smaller meets within the current COVID environment. A discussion regarding the sanctioning process and requirements ensued. Carolyn noted that pools must be certified for results to be Top 10 eligible. Judy brought up the requirements for minimum number of officials and timers. Kathy noted that all rules in part one should be complied with, however meet sizes would be smaller. She also recommended that a virtual meet conducted across multiple pools should have all participating venues listed within the meet results. Charles noted that as per 202.1a, sanctions must be made by the LMSC within which the event will be held. Multiple pools across multiple LMSCs would require sanction from each respective LMSC.
- c) The committee briefly discussed the August Virtual Nationals. As a point of information, the event is not sanctioned, and times are not eligible for Top 10 or records.
- d) M/S (Carolyn/Kathy) to amend the proposed U-1 to add language “sanctioned by each respective LMSC” and provide clarity that meets must be held within a ten-day timeframe. Passed unanimously.
- e) The committee updated minor language clarifications within the definition of meets.
- f) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to make U-1 effective immediately following the USMS annual meeting. Charles shared that USA Swimming is making effective immediately following their convention meetings. Passed unanimously.
- g) Motion to recommend U-1 to the HOD as amended passed unanimously.

4. R-7 Meet Committee/Meet Operations Language

- a) M/S (Mollie/Claire) to remove R-7 from the table. Motion to move from the table passed unanimously.
- b) M/S (Kathy/Marilyn) to amend with revisions of meet director in 103.1 and meet committee in 103.5. Charles reminded the committee that the first iteration removed meet committee and proposed new language for meet operations/meet director. Marilyn noted that meet committee is referenced in several places throughout the rulebook and in order to minimize the number of reference updates, the new proposed changes retain the meet committee language.
- c) The committee discussed the role of a meet committee versus the role of a meet director. Kathy mentioned that often a sanctions chair or LMSC board makes decisions on financial matters (i.e. refunds) as opposed to the meet director. Judy noted that while some LMSCs don’t formally establish meet committees, the work is oftentimes too much for one person to do and the meet director relies on others to assist. Kathy recommended alignment with the language in 507.1, to include a “sufficient number of members to implement committee functions.” Jason noted that protests that arise go to the meet committee. Charles noted that we are no longer removing meet committee but are changing the definition.
- d) Language amendments to R-7 passed unanimously.
- e) Motion to recommend R-7 to the HOD as amended passed unanimously.

Next meeting Thursday, July 23, 2020.

M/S (Mollie/Claire) to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm ET.