

Date: Sunday, March 18th, 2011, 7:30 PM EDT

1. Attendance:

Present: Donn Livoni (chair), John Traynor (vice-chair), Lynn Hazlewood (OW-Ex-O), Bruce Hopson, Tom Spence, Karen Reeder, Susan Kirk, Jill Wright, Greta Van Meeteren, Dave Diehl (EC-Ex-0), Robert Zeitner, Phyllis Quinn,

Absent: Ann Svenson, Susan Ehringer, Dick Sidner, Ali Hall, Heather Hagadorn, Bob Bruce

2. Purchase and distribution of UMS Postal Medal National Championship meals & patches will remain with the LDC instead of the USMS National Office taking over distribution

3. National Championship medals need to be reordered.

MOTION: (John Traynor) & SECOND (Tom Spence): The long distance committee approves the reordering of postal medals by Robert Zietner.

Motion passed unanimously

4. Application for Open Water or Long Distance Pool Event Record(s)

MOTION: (Robert Zeitner) & SECOND (Susan Kirk): Adopt the Application Forms for OW or LD pool records and post online at USMS.org

Motion passed unanimously

5. Bid process & timing for 2014 OW NC's & Postal NC's – Susan and Ann will be working on this process.

6. Issues that have been resolved between the last call and today

- a. Snorkels – not allowed for postal events
- b. Registration and late entry for OHP – An entry from a swimmer who was unregistered at time of the postal swim, was disallowed.
- c. Jennie Quill resigned from the committee for personal reasons. Tom Spence will replace her as the lead on All-Stars and Jill will replace her as back-up for the 5K and 10K postal liaison.

7. Open Water Committee Actions: Lynn Hazelwood reported on the proposed USMS National Awards System which contains three parts.

- a. A National Open Water Service Award.
- b. A National Open Water Ranking System. The event results database must be updated by headquarters to include open water events before a ranking system can be implemented.
- c. A National Open Water Challenge system which is designed to provide a series of challenges that can be achieved by swimmers ranging from novice to elite.

ACTION: David Diehl to find out if open water data results are being incorporated into USMS Events Results Database

8. Working groups – reports

- a. Rules – Bob indicated in his e-mail that March 21st is the deadline for his working group to get back with him on initial rules legislation. He will recollate the material and forward to the entire LDC soon.
- b. All-Stars/Awards/Patches – Completed for 2011
- c. Records – Jill reported that records are up to date.
- d. Susan reported that there were no updates with Club Assistant since the last LDC conference call.
- e. Safety – Karen reported that the 15th of April did not work for the safety call. She will get with race directors and figure out another date and time in late April or early May
- f. Manuals – (on behalf of Ann) No updates to report. Not worked on manuals yet due to other LDC priorities. Expect to start work on Open Water manual once OHP is finished.
- g. NC Selection – Bid packets are being put together.
- h. Officials – John reported they are trying to decide how to move forward with a program to train officials (ie, Referees, Safety, Judges, etc) for open water. A key consideration is whether to utilize USAS's open water officials program or develop an independent program. Ed Saltzman, USMS Officials Chair suggested developing a curriculum for officials' education and training which could lead to a certification program.
- i. General Oversight – discussed other issues in Agenda Minutes No. 6.

9. Liaisons Reports

- a. 3-6 Mile Open Water: Team NASTI, Noblesville, IN (5K). Tom Spence reported:

On schedule to the event timeline. On-line registration is open for business.

- b. 2 Mile Cable Swim: COMA, Sweet Home, OR. Donn reported:

All timelines have been met and the event is on target for meeting all future deliverable dates.

c. 6+ Mile Open Water: Rogue Valley Masters, Jacksonville, OR (10K). Jill reported.

The 10K entry form is online. All timeline dates have been met. Event host Andrew Gramley is doing a great job.

d. 1 Mile Open Water: Hickory Nut Gorge, Lake Lure, NC – Heather Hagadorn reported:

Estimated counts and mailing info have been supplied to Kyle Deery. The event provides for online entry through Club Assistant and paper entry. The paper entries cannot be mailed however; they must be submitted in person the day before the event. They have completed all updates to the event info and entry form. They are behind on the posting and final information for Club Assistant due to efforts making an efficient entry method for other festival events occurring that weekend.

e. 1-3 Mile Open Water: Garden State Masters, Lake Hopatcong, NJ (2 mile) – Susan Kirk reported:

All deliverables have been met and are on schedule with the timeline. Future deliverables are also anticipated to meet or exceed the timeline.

The new online sanctioning system was utilized to sanction this event and post to the USMS Calendar of Events.

Online entries are open and the paper entry form has been posted on the USMS website.

Event information has been provided to Kyle Deery for the USMS/Sponsor Activation.

f. 10 mile Open Water: Genesis Aquatics/Hopkins Masters, Lake Minnetonka, MN. Ali reported

The event director, Scott Tripps responded and I forwarded to Kyle Deery the expected numbers an affirmative response sponsor booth and goodies.

Scott is aware of the OWNC cap color to help him identify alternate colors for other waves.

I still await the sanction number. Forms are good and we will be ready for him to go online as soon as the sanction details are settled.

g. OHP: Blue Wave Aquatics, Federal Way, WA. Susan Kirk and Ann Svenson reported:

The hosts, Blue Wave Aquatics (formerly Federal Way) are doing a phenomenal job. All reports and deliverables have been finished on time or early and in the correct format. Future deliverables are also expected to meet

or exceed the timeline.

An extremely diligent check of the top 10 swimmer results in all age groups was performed, including contacting swimmers with questionable splits/results and resolving issues.

Final individual, relay, and club results have all been posted and announced on the USMS website (March 7th and 8th). Awards and merchandise are scheduled to be mailed the week of March 12th.

The 2012 OHP had 2668 individual participants. 2306 registered online (86.5%) and 362 registered with paper entries (13.5%). This is a significant increase in online registrations over the past couple of years -- 2011- 61% online; 2010 - 32%. We can anticipate that in 2013, the number of online entries for the OHP will continue to increase analogous to the online USMS registration.

h. 5,000/10,000M Postal: Hammerheads Aquatics, Boca Raton, FL. Greta reported:

On 2/20 I contacted the Event Director with the Speedo sponsorship information and Kyle Deery's contact information. I have not received an update about that, and re-sent the information today: 3/18. Jill Wright will be the backup liaison for this event.

i. 3,000/6,000 Postal: Long Beach Grunions, Brea, CA. Bruce Hopson reported.

2011: The Chicago Smelts did a great job of hosting the event. They met all of their deadlines and received a full return of their deposit. The only minor issues were dealing with Club Assistant.

2012: Bruce is in the process of contacting the Long Beach Grunions. The contract is due in April.

10. Bob Bruce sent out the swimwear exemption rule to the committee and it will be posted on the website.

11. Next Call -- Sunday, May 6th **with new times of 8 PM EDT, 7 PM CDT, 6 PM MDT & 5 PM PDT.**