

KY-LMSC Minutes
October 8, 1995

Chairman Bill Tingley called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. In attendance were Ron Finley, WKG; Meg Smath, WILD; Tom Mester and John Graham, CHBS; David Morrow, Randy Scherer, LOUY; Joanne Tingley, Melinda Schmitt, LAKE.

Amend the agenda under New Business—discussion of bylaws.

Motion by Joanne to accept the July 9, 1995, minutes. Second Ron.

TREASURER: Melinda Schmitt passed copies of her report showing total net work on October 6, 1995, as \$8407.45. See attached report. Motion to accept by Randy Scherer, second Tom Mester.

REGISTRATION: Report by Joanne showed on this date Kentucky had 426 swimmers registered, and of that number, 199 are from Wildcat. Joanne announced that until October 31, 1995, new registrations are \$17, a \$5 discount at the national level. All clubs need to register the club for 1996 in October so renewal invoices can be sent in November. Registration forms for each club were given out. As of November 1, NEW registrations can be accepted from 1996 registered clubs and will be good until December 31, 1996.

SANCTIONS: Report from Bill indicated we have received sanction application from New Albany for their 25M meet 12/02/95. Lakeside has received their application for the 25M Mile for 12/10/95 and Ron took his application for 25Y meet January 20, 1996.

OFFICIALS: Report from Meg Smath indicated the USS Official Chair of the LSC has resigned. Meg will try to get names of club Official Chairmen.

SAFETY COORDINATOR: Joanne waived her report until convention reports.

FITNESS: Tom Mester waived report till convention report. Meg announced WILD has fitness program, "Swim to the Olympics" from Lexington to Atlanta, keeping track of your mileage. SCM mini-meet will be held November 19, 1995, at Lakeside. See attached.

TOP TEN: David Morrow gave long course copy to Bill after reviewing it. Bill needs to have it back to David before October 20 deadline for sending it to Walt Reid, national Top Ten/Records chairman. David requested each Kentucky club to give him the names of swimmers who are potential Top Ten contenders.

AD HOC OPEN WATER SWIMS: Report by Randy Scherer. After discussion of Long Run swim and other potential sites, it was decided that open water swimming should have a program developed in Kentucky. Bill suggested that Randy or Larry contact Louisville Police and request they use their laser measuring device to properly measure

Long Run and other open water sites. Open water swimming can bring in new members, triathletes, etc. Sally Ann Dillon's, USMS Long Distance Chairperson, address was given to Randy to write for packet. June 1, 1996, for first swim. Suggest we recognize that lake swim.

Randy will try for Bernheim Forest lake for a swim the third weekend of August. Recognition requires rules applicable to USMS standards be observed; i.e., course properly measured. Fee is set by KY-LMSC. Suggest distance for open swims be 1 mile and 2 mile. Some straight cable, another diamond. Need ¼ mile straightaway for national records.

NEW BUSINESS

CONVENTION REPORTS: Meg reported on committees she attended. See attached report. Also attended a sports medicine symposium where studies had been done on how swimmers felt after they get out of the water and the top of the list was "I feel pleasant," and it became a byword of us during convention. Meg showed us the various cover designs for the 1996 rule book and the winning cover. It was suggested the winning cover would make an excellent poster.

Joanne reported on Registration, Safety Education, Fitness, and Records. See attached. One Event Registration was discussed for use in Kentucky at open water swims. When the program is developed, KY-LMSC will again consider its use as a marketing tool. Discussed OVERT fee; national is \$8. Joanne is to contact Babs Larsen, USMS Registration Chairman, regarding use of \$7 of USMS fee goes to SWIM subscription. KY-LMSC concerned that statement would make subscription optional; it is NOT. Hopefully, that statement will be put on registration card so full payment is made before such a statement.

Insurance: At this time ALL events sponsored by USMS must have only USMS registered swimmers. This does not affect the 30 day tryout clause. Meg went over USS rules given to us showing which USMS rejected and which USMS passed for our rule book. See attached.

Tom reported on Coaches, Legislation, Fitness, Long Distance, and Sports Medicine. See attached. Coaches clinics will include "Snooper" camera for underwater photography, which requires special bright light. Tom suggested Kentucky try to hold a clinic in Louisville and charge a fee to defray costs. Coaches manual in early January to be available.

BYLAW DISCUSSION: Meg is concerned that the KY-LMSC quorum could be disturbed by numbers of delegates from one very large club. Note WILD has 199 members, giving them seven delegates, which could affect the quorum. It was suggested that KY-LMSC change membership to two delegates per club and at-large members who serve as elected officers. Meg moves to submit to the KY-LMSC Bylaw Committee

(Tony Ambrose) a complete rewrite of Article III—Membership based on recommendations from the KY-LMSC. Tom Mester seconded.

The next meeting of the KY-LMSC will be held January 20, 1996, following the meet in Bowling Green.

Meeting adjourned.

Joanne Tingley, secretary

1995 USMS Convention Houston, Texas

Coaches Committee

The most exciting thing out of the Coaches Committee is the establishment of a “Mentor” program to enable full-time Masters coaches to come into a region to put on two-part clinics (for coaches and swimmers). As a “part-timer” coach and “full-timer” swimmer, I would find these clinics invaluable. Each zone will receive \$500 seed money to aid this project. Also, a coaches manual will be available after January 1 (?) for \$20, with future updates as needed for \$1–\$2. What I saw of this book, it will be jam-packed. Though the committee is dominated by “full-time” coaches, I am volunteering for this committee with the thought that I may be able to bring the “part-time” perspective. Relatedly, I attended the coaching school and have included some of the info following. Again, a lot dealt with the professional coach.

Legislation Committee

This was Legislation’s big year and they acted like it. Three marathon meetings!!! Most amendments dealt with semantics. The majority of the time was spent on what is 202.2—Recognized Events. See L-8a, accepting sanctioned USS results and results from FINA or MSI organized events for records.

Fitness Committee

Sat in on an hour of this meeting between two that I had assigned. This committee had hit upon a topic that affected nearly all others during the convention, and one that I am concerned with. They were trying to word fitness events (i.e., postal swims) so that USMS shows up somewhere. The insurance and legal advisors said no way! It is now to the point that two of the fitness events have decided to withdraw from USMS. Is this any way to reach out to potential new members?????????

Long Distance Committee

Another marathon meeting with clashing egos. They have a hard time getting “timely” bids, so have to scramble at the last minute. Nearly every event is a championship. The committee ruled that postal event distance times will be recognized whenever swam, not limited to certain dates. Yet the One Hour Swim specifies January completion date? They also amended Open Water event distances (305.2.1) to $>1 \leq 3$ miles, $>3 < 6$ miles, and ≥ 6 miles.

Sports Medicine Lecture

Again, two interesting topics. The first dealt with injury prevention and rehabilitation, specifically shoulder problems. See included copies. The other topic dealt with overtraining (there certainly is a phase of staleness) and the use of 6-week training cycles to combat it.

Finally, just as last year, USMS stole the show at the Sports Banquet!!

Tom Mester

Committee Reports
1995 USMS Convention
Houston, Texas
September 19–24

Rule Book Committee:

- The committee chose a cover design submitted by Steve Hogan (DC Masters) and Kathy Keffer-Sharpe (Oklahoma Masters) for the 1996 rule book. The photograph shows timers, officials, and spectators cheering on two swimmers at the finish of a close race. This design won out over four other excellent designs.
- The bid to print the 1996 rule book was awarded to Hamburg Offset Press, which has printed the last several rule books. Because of numerous complaints about the last two rule books falling apart at their bindings, the 1996 edition will be spiral bound.
- Chairman Meg Smath stated that despite rumors to the contrary, the Executive Committee has not yet authorized publication of the rule book online. If authorization is received, it is the sole responsibility of the Rule Book Committee to place the rule book online, since it is a copyrighted publication of USMS.
- The committee voted unanimously to dedicate the 1996 rule book to Dorothy Donnelly, in honor of her retirement as executive secretary of USMS at the end of 1996.
- After discussing the matter with legal counsel, the committee decided against recommending an amendment to article 202.1.1A(1), which had been proposed by the Kentucky LMSC, that would specify that the second sentence of the liability release must be capitalized. The LMSC Handbook *does* specify that this sentence must be capitalized, and the committee felt a better way to handle the situation would be to send a cover letter with each handbook, reminding the LMSCs of this requirement.

Officials Committee:

- Gail Dummer and Priscilla Davis from USS addressed the committee on a USS proposal to move the adapted swimming section of their rule book (equivalent to Appendix G in our rule book) into the rules part of the rule book. More on that under *Rules Committee*.
- Chairman Hugh Moore reported on a survey of LMSC Officials Chairmen, which determined that LMSCs sanction approximately 450 meets a year, and that about half of the chairmen had problems getting competent certified officials to work those meets. Most meets have only the minimum number of officials on deck. Along these lines, there is much misinterpretation as to what constitutes the minimum number of officials. The consensus of the committee was that if you have only one certified official on deck, then that official should be a certified referee *acting as* the referee. A subcommittee was formed to amend article 102.17.2 for next year to clarify what the minimum actually is.
- The USMS Officials Certification Manual should be ready for distribution by the beginning of 1996. This will enable LMSCs to train and certify their own officials, and not be dependent on USS or YMCA officials.

- Hugh will send a meet evaluation form to all LMSC Officials Chairmen in his October newsletter. Use of the form will be voluntary.
- The committee half-heartedly endorsed changing the name of the committee from *Officials Committee* to *Officiating Committee*, but this proposal was voted down by the Legislation Committee.

Awards/Recognition Committee:

- The committee finalized a design for pins to be given to all recipients of the Ransom Arthur Award. They are currently soliciting bids to manufacture the pins.
- President Mel Goldstein distributed Presidential Service Awards at the convention to USMS members who had performed outstanding service during the past year. The awards were well received and truly appreciated.
- The “Behind the Scenes” award published in *SWIM* magazine has also been well received. Chairman Julie Paque would like to continue to receive nominations of people who toil away at the local level, and are largely unrecognized for their efforts.
- The committee is investigating awarding ten to fifteen USMS Service Award pins each year. A design has been drafted, and a subcommittee was formed to define criteria.
- USMS now has very attractive thank-you note cards, which will be distributed to all committee chairmen and members of the Board of Directors. They will be used to thank the volunteers who perform so splendidly throughout the year. The first recipient will probably be Gene Donner of Hamburg Offset Press, who printed them free of charge for USMS.
- Scott Rabalais, of the Southern LMSC, proposed starting a USMS Swimmer of the Year Award. Committee members felt the award would be perceived as elitist, and voted against it. They did, however, endorse a USMS Performance of the Year Award. The award would be given to one or more swimmers each year who turned in a single outstanding swim; if the committee felt there were no outstanding swims in a year, then there would be no award that year. Scott is considering whether he would like to be in charge of this award. If he declines, the committee will appoint a subcommittee to propose the award and define criteria for it.
- The Fitness Committee proposed presenting a Fitness Swimmer of the Year Award, to be sponsored by Speedo. It will be awarded to a swimmer who has overcome adversity to achieve fitness, or who has significantly promoted fitness for others. The Awards/Recognition Committee voted to endorse this award.
- Gail Dummer proposed on behalf of USAS that USAS Adapted Aquatics Award be presented. Nominations would be forwarded from member organizations (USS, USMS, U.S. Diving, U.S. Water Polo, U.S. Synchronized Swimming) to USAS. The Awards/Recognition Committee voted to endorse this award.

Legislation:

- All of the housekeeping proposals submitted by the Rule Book Committee were approved.

- Article 202.2 was repeatedly (and at great length) revised to convey the idea that championship (and *only* championship) meets organized by FINA, USS, MSI, or CASA would be automatically considered recognized events, and times achieved in these events by USMS swimmers would be eligible for National records and Top Ten consideration.
- All past presidents are now voting members of the USMS Board of Directors. Previously, only the immediate past president carried a vote.
- The Officials Committee was elevated from an ad hoc committee to a standing committee.
- The boundaries of the North Carolina and Virginia LMSCs were revised.
- The Legislation Committee approved a proposal to change terms of USMS officers from two years, with the option of being re-elected once, to three years, with re-election not allowed; however, the House of Delegates voted this proposal down.
- The West Texas LMSC, which had been inactive, was dismantled, and the counties that fell within its boundaries were redistributed to the North Texas, South Texas, and Border LMSCs.
- An entire section codifying fitness events, which would have allowed non-USMS-registered swimmers to participate in fitness events, was torpedoed by the Insurance Committee, the Legislation Committee, and ultimately the entire House of Delegates. However, USMS-promoted fitness events for USMS-registered swimmers have now been officially defined in article 202.3.9.

Rules Committee:

- This being an off year for Rules, the committee considered only two emergency amendments. One corrected a mistake in 104.4.2, which deals with how much of the performance bond put up by hosts of national championship meets can be refunded; the correct amount is *up to* \$1 per entrant, instead of a flat \$1 per entrant. The other emergency amendment was to 105.5, which changes the amount of time allowed to process world records; this change was made by FINA, and we were merely correcting our rule book to conform with their requirement.
- The committee passed most of the housekeeping proposals submitted by the Rule Book Committee.
- The committee had reviewed the rule book before the convention, and compiled a list of problem areas. During the next year they will refine their ideas, and submit them as rules changes at next year's convention.
- Ted Haartz, the USS/USMS liaison, reported that USS officials working this year's championship meets had incorrectly disqualified swimmers for combining a whip kick and a dolphin kick in one "cycle" of butterfly. The disqualifications were overruled upon appeal, once the correct interpretation of our rule was explained to them. The Rules Committee agreed that article 101.3.3 should be rewritten and clarified, and submitted to next year's convention.
- Our rule book specifies that changes made to articles 101 and 102 of the USS rule book are automatically adopted by USMS, unless we vote otherwise. At the eleventh hour, we were presented a lengthy list of rules changes passed by USS. Several of

them reflected what we have already been doing, so we ignored them. We automatically adopted amendments that made minor changes in the duties of the clerk of course and the announcer; a housekeeping amendment dealing with meet announcements; and a slight rewording of the infamous backstroke turn rule. We voted not to adopt an amendment dealing with the duties of a meet director; an amendment that unintentionally would have allowed a swimmer to swim in a lane other than the one to which he/she had been assigned; and an amendment that changed the duties of the head lane timer. USS passed three very complicated amendments, which we felt we needed more time to consider. Therefore, we voted to table action on them until next year. One amendment was the one that put the section on adapted swimming into the rules part of the rule book. The second was a complete revision of the protest procedure. The third revised the procedures used by relay take-off judges.

Quote of the convention: "I feel pleasant!"