

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING AT CONVENTION 9/16/2004:

Each committee member presented a summary of discussions at the Registration Open Forum Workshop that was held earlier today. An open discussion workshop at convention was well-received and should be continued.

USA Swimming needs to know which athletes with dual citizenship have declared to FINA that their 'sport citizenship' is a country other than the USA. Therefore, the following change will be made to the athlete record screen in SWIMS:

Next to the Dual Citizen check box, the screen will say "FINA Sport Citizenship (if not U.S.):" with a field for entering the country from a drop down list of FINA nations.

For now, this field will be maintained by USA Swimming staff and will not affect the LSC registrar or athlete application forms.

Larry Herr gave the committee a brief outline of upcoming SWIMS projects. These will not affect LSC registrars. A data mining project is in the early development stage; data from SWIMS will be copied to a different server where it can be sorted and extracted in many different ways. This will initially affect only Times and Sports Science.

More features will be available for USA Swimming member clubs on our website, including club portals and club profiles. The club portal will be introduced in October, and LSC registrars will be included in any materials sent to clubs.

The committee reviewed the SWIMS enhancement list and prioritized items submitted since last April. An updated copy of the enhancement list was distributed to all LSC registrars after convention. Several submitted items were deleted; however, LSC registrars are highly encouraged to continue to submit enhancement ideas for consideration.

LSC registrars will soon be able to request the Outreach category as one of the Registration Types on the Athlete Report parameters page. It was pointed out that Outreach membership is NOT optional. Each LSC establishes its own qualifying guidelines; some LSCs have not set any guidelines, thereby not participating in this program.

If an LSC gets an inquiry about a suspended individual, those inquiries should always be referred to Christine Schemmel at USA Swimming (719.866.4578 or cschemmel@usaswimming.org).

The revised Registration Manual was approved. (A copy was sent via e-mail to all LSC registrars immediately after convention.) There is a new section in the manual titled 'SWIMS Tips'.

A motion was made/seconded/approved to conduct an LSC Workshop for both Registration and Times Chairs in Tampa, Florida on April 16-17, 2005. USA Swimming will provide ground transportation, housing and meals for LSC Registrars. The LSC is expected to pay airfare.

NOTE: It has not been determined as to which, if any, Times people will be invited to attend. Times representatives endorse a joint Registration/Times Workshop at the next convention in September 2005.

The Task Force on Athlete Membership reported that one set of rules would not be in the best interest of every LSC and that each LSC has defined rules that work best for them. The task force has made the following recommendations:

- Clubs should be encouraged to send registrations to the LSC registrar as quickly as possible;
- LSC registrars should process registrations on a timely basis – once a month is not appropriate;
- LSC registrars are encouraged to conduct a brief presentation/workshop for club registrars to educate them on the SWIMS electronic process, how registration and times functions interact, and the necessity of working as a team.