

Times and Recognition Committee
Conference Call
May 6, 2009
4 p.m. MST

Present: Suzanne Heath, Larry Herr, Trish Mitchell, Jim Holcomb, Jay Thomas, Morgan Kimminau, Jay Thomas, Betty Kooy

Agenda Items

1. Records Update

- Since January 1 49 men's and 45 women's American, US Open, NCAA short course yard records have been broken
- In the 2008-09 year approximately 63 NAG Records have been broken. Larry reports that certificates are sent out as the list is confirmed by Isabelle Fraser.
- Updated lists are being posted on the USA-S web site. Addition of date of update to file is very helpful so staff knows which update is the latest.

2. Approved Meet Legislation

- Suzanne gave a summary of the Approved Meet Task Force and its work over the last two months and reviewed the proposed legislation prepared for the Rules and Regulations Committee meeting.
- Following were comments noted by committee members:
 - Problematical LSCs were very few and only one real offender
 - Was the offending LSC contacted directly by the TF during the process – not known for sure but the issue is not just a club desiring to host approved meets perhaps as a membership dodge but the LSC buying into the process and authorizing so many approved meets vs sanctioned meets.
 - Committee feels this proposed legislation is not too restrictive and if clubs are doing this as a membership dodge, it is incumbent on USA-S to act on the issue.
- Questions included:
 - What criteria will be used to merit authorization of a club hosting an approved meet? Committee will need to get that information so that it can be put into the Times Module Policy Manual if the legislation passes.
 - What form will be used that will come from the LSC sanction chair to the Program Ops designee? Likely it would be the form used by the LSC but Betty will send us the form used by MW which we can look at for developing a form to come through Pro Ops.
- **Action:** Suzanne will contact Julie Bare and bring forward the committee's questions and if the legislation passes, we will need to add the appropriate language to the policy manual to include a form for submission of the meet to Program Operations.

3. Other Legislation

- Jay Thomas has proposed some legislative items for updating the rule book to agree with the meet information books and procedures for entering national meets. That legislation is going through Pat Lunsford to R & R.

4. Times Enhancements

- Larry reviewed the spreadsheets he had emailed to committee members. Additional items are added to the list as they come in from Times Officers.
- Autosweep has ended up being more complicated than initially believed. Reasons include:
 - Dealing with 35 million times in the system
 - Development of an archive of time standard history had to be completed by the qualifying period
 - Date range overlap was a challenge
- Autosweep will be implemented in stages but it is likely only 2 weeks away from movement to production.
- Other enhancements are prioritized by critical, high, medium, etc. Establishment of priority is based on how many people can be impacted by the update.
- Times list has been in limbo except for autosweep due to longer ongoing projects for other users of SWIMS.

4A. Information Update on 2012 Olympic Trial Standards

- Larry informed the committee that there are many questions coming in to HQ regarding the OT standards for 2012. The standards will be discussed at the convention in fall 2009. Issues include:
 - LCM likely to be only standard applicable
 - Qualifying period will be a reasonable period of time
 - More knowledge on the suit status from Fina is needed
- Time standards for the SCY National and Junior National Championships in December 2009 have been set and are posted on the USA-S web site.

5. Education of SWIMS Officers/LSC Users/Public

- Suzanne reviewed some of the recent dialogue with Pete Malone, Pat Hogan, and members of the approved meet task force regarding the lack of knowledge on certain areas of SWIMS usage such as loading of intermediate splits, relay lead offs, types of meets and their designation. Education has been provided to the actual SWIMS users at convention and through email updates. This information, however, does not reach LSC individuals who authorize meets, coaches, athletes, and parents.
- Larry reviewed the user groups for SWIMS and the USA-S web site for Times which remains the biggest draw of the web site. Times are used for records, for meet entries, for evaluation for special team selection, for tracking, etc.
- Jay discussed the quality of times data coming in now as compared to 10 years ago. There has been some criticism of the quality, but it must be noted that 10 years ago we had no tools to gauge the quality of the data.

- Committee discussion led to the knowledge that the education of all user groups can't be resolved in one type of opportunity. Education must be ongoing. The following were identified as ways to provide this ongoing education:
 - Provide a new FAQ area under Times/Time Standards on the USA-S web site. Change the questions and answers frequently and keep them short and sweet.
 - Use the email blasts from the Zone Coordinators to provide similar information.
 - Use the LSC registrars to email coaches directly (work with the LSC Times Officers).
 - Add the FAQ to the Officials link on the USA-S web site and also to the Athletes link.
- **Action:** Target date for implementation is June 1. Committee members are to submit to Larry questions and answers as soon as possible. 3-5 questions will be used at a time so that there is not too much information provided.

6. Observed Swims/Proposed Legislation

- Suzanne reviewed the proposed legislation sent to her for committee review by Julie Bare of R & R. Comments included:
 - The addition of .3 to 202.5 seems contradictory when .4 establishes that the observers will not overrule association judges in watching strokes.
 - The policy manual and the request for observation forms state what is required as to meet set up, etc. so is .3 necessary.
- **Action:** Suzanne to contact Julie with committee's concerns and get back to everyone by email. Legislation will be reviewed at R & R meeting so legislation could be changed before final proposal.

7. Scholastic All America Deadline/Procedures

- In Marvin's absence Betty reviewed the ways we can publicize the program.
 - USA-S to post info as headline and on SAA page
 - LSCs to post info and link on web sites
 - Zones to post info and link on web sites
 - Zone Coordinators blast email to coaches can include information
- Problems this year include the fact that athletes send in the transcripts of their grades before the end of the school year. This is probably due to misunderstanding on the schools' part in that they are always furnishing transcripts to colleges which do not have to be complete. Larry reported that he gets at least one call a day at HQ about the SAA program.
- **Action:** Betty will develop information which can be posted and emailed. Suzanne and Larry will coordinate distribution of this information to the entities mentioned above.

8. Other Items of business:

- Convention Plans
 - The committee discussed using the Times Workshop as a joint workshop with LSC Sanctioning persons.

- Committee/Times/LSC Workshop
 - If we wish to host or co-host an outside workshop in 2010, we need to submit a proposal for the budget which is due the end of May. Larry will discuss with Mike Unger and other staff members the possibility of doing this and get back to Suzanne and Pat on the feasibility.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Heath
May 9, 2009