

USA Swimming Operational Risk Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

I. Call to order

Mike Seip, Committee Chairman, called to order the Annual Open meeting of the USA Swimming Operational Risk Committee at 1:00 PM EDT on Thursday, September 16, 2021, via Zoom videoconference.

II. Roll call

Lynne Shine conducted a silent roll call; Committee members present: Abigail Howard, Staff Liaison; Mike Seip, Chair; Marco Greico, Athlete; Starre Haney; Melissa Millerick-May; Russell Payne; Davis Shelton, Athlete; Lynne Shine; Stacy Smith; Mary Jo Swalley; Donna Williamson; Sandi Blumit, Risk Management Services; Connie Harvey, ARC; Lindsay Mondick, YMCA.

Guests Present: Tracy Meece, Laurie Benton, Russ Scovel, Tim Husson, Robin Smith, Keith Clements, Kyle Bauer, Nathan Gloier, Pete Sodestrom, Robert Walker, John Pristash, Jane Grosser, Charles Kunsman, Carla Morelli, Betsy Russell, Alex Ongaco, Michael Peterson, Deborah Kruhm, Lisa Black Sholudko, Gordon Hair

III. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Mike Seip asked for Committee Approval of the September 16, 2021, Meeting Agenda.

Motion: Stacy Smith; Second: Donna Williamson

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mike Seip asked for Committee Approval of the August 2021 Committee Minutes.

Motion: Starre Haney; Second: Mary Jo Swalley

V. Progress Reports

i) Air Quality (Donna Williamson)

The Committee presented two one day webinars in August 2021 on Air Quality issues and resolutions in both indoor and outdoor venues. The presenters were highly qualified researchers and practitioners in the field. In addition to discussing the current state of various research projects, they also discussed the impact of air quality on various chronic conditions such as asthma. An information sheet was provided to participants for future reference.

ii) Website (Davis Shelton)

Davis updated the Committee on the migration status of Operational Risk Committee material from the legacy website to the new USA Swimming website. The material will

be in a central spot, as well as in dual locations where appropriate. It is anticipated that this project will be completed by the end of October 2021.

- iii) USA Swimming Committee Chair Meeting (Mike Seip)
USA Swimming leadership held meetings with all the National Committee chairs over the last several months to assess their effectiveness and viability moving forward. It was determined that the Operational Risk Committee will be retained.
- iv) LSC Contacts Master List (Mary Jo Swalley)
Mary Jo is continuing to manage the Committee's contact list. Committee members have been instructed to stay connected with their assigned LSCs for any personnel changes, and to alert Mary Jo of any new Operational Risk Chairs along with their contact information. This information will then be forwarded to Abby.
- v) Coaching Certifications (Marco Greico)
There have been some recent issues with coaches receiving their STSC online certificates. Connie has been assisting to resolve this problem. Due to Hurricane Ida, CPR and STSC expiration extensions to November 1, 2021, have been offered to those LSCs that were impacted by the hurricane. This extension was granted in collaboration with Abby and Mike. Only Louisiana accepted the offer. Marco presented the current numbers with respect to coaches that are in good standing with respect to their CPR and STSC certifications. It is unknown, at this time, whether those who are out of compliance have resigned from coaching and will therefore, not be renewing their USA Swimming membership for 2022.
- vi) Committee Appointments (Abby Howard)
Committee members should reapply if their term of office is expiring. The application link can be found on the Annual Business Meeting webpage. The deadline for submission of applications is October 8, 2021.
- vii) Meet Marshall Training (Starre Haney)
Starre is currently revising the Meet Marshall Training that she developed during her time in Arizona LSC. She is soliciting the help of a current member of Arizona Swimming, as well as a member of this Committee to assist with the project. Given that Meet Marshalls are required for a meet sanction, Mike reiterated the importance of providing training for Meet Marshalls in the event of an accident or occurrence. If a lawsuit should subsequently arise because of the accident / incident, it is imperative that the club can show proof of adequate training of all personnel, including Meet Marshalls.
- viii) 2021 Kiefer Award (Mary Jo Swalley)

The 2021 Adolph Kiefer Safety Commendation will be presented at the Spring 2022 Zone Meeting to Sandi Blumit who has been USA Swimming's insurance "guru" since 1989. Sandi has always gone beyond the "call of duty" in serving our Clubs, Coaches, Officials,

and Volunteers. At Conventions Sandi presented insurance education for all attendees and answered all insurance related inquiries. She also willingly volunteered to help convention staff whenever needed. Sandi represents Risk Management Services on the OpRisk Committee and is readily available for consultation. The Committee is deeply grateful for her dedication and service to USA Swimming and the sport of swimming.

VI. 2022 Committee Goals

- i) **Water Temperature – Indoor / Outdoor (Stacy Smith)**
Water temperature guidance for both practice and meets needs to be developed and issued.
- ii) **Hypoxic Blackout (Mary Jo Swalley)**
The American Red Cross will be reviewing the Science document in December. After that document is updated, Connie, Lindsay and Mary Jo will develop a joint statement to be issued.
- iii) **Racing Start Certification - (Lynne Shine)**
Racing Start Certification is required; however, its implementation has declined in recent years. In collaboration with Mike, Marco, and Davis, we will reeducate LSCs and clubs on best practices.
- iv) **Air Quality (Donna Williamson)**
New studies are currently underway. Reporting to be forthcoming.
- v) **Operational Risk Manual (Russell Payne)**
Completion and posting to USA Swimming website.
- vi) **Meet Marshal Training (Starre Haney)**
See above under Project Reports for detail

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business of the Committee, Mike Seip, Committee Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM EDT.

Next meeting will take place on October 21, 2021, at 4:00 PM EDT via Zoom.

Minutes submitted by Lynne Shine

