

## USMS CONVENTION – DALLAS, TEXAS - 2002

Committee Name: Block #4 Teaming Together . . . to strengthen and protect!

Agenda item #25

### ACTION ITEMS

**Efforts should be made to work together with the other committees within the Block. The task for the coming year is for the committees to incorporate the ideas generated into their committee business.**

Committees: Fitness, Insurance, Long Distance, Safety Education, Sports Medicine

### MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Miller at 2:00 PM

Jim commented that we recognize that these committees form two sub groups. Fitness, Long Distance and Sports Medicine deal with the health of the organization and members and Safety, Insurance and, again, Sports Medicine serve the needs of the majority of USMS members. He gave the committees three questions that they were to take back to their committee meetings and discuss.

#### **Question #1 HOW CAN YOU INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER TO INCREASE THE HEALTH OF THE ORGANIZATION AND IT'S MEMBERS?**

**Safety** – We're looking for the cooperation of the block groups to become CPR trained. We challenge the members to see whose block can get the most people certified at next year's convention. Will work with Long Distance on it's safety guidelines.

**Sports Medicine** – Recommend CPR and AED safety training for all members of USMS. Educate the public about health benefits of exercise.

**Fitness** – Recourses – fitness self test, booths at other events. We volunteered to be liaisons to all the other committees and receive all their email to stay informed.

**Insurance** – Committee members interaction with other committees. We would like to interact with Sports Medicine and Registration and others.

**Long Distance** – Joint events with fitness – possibly a virtual swim. Consider the possibility of requiring for very log swims, a medical exam and interact with ins, med, fitness to that. Stay current with activities of the other committees through use of email.

#### **Question #2 HOW DO WE EDUCATE?**

**Safety** – Distribute the handbook via the Internet. Encourage CPR training for all USM. Use the LMSCs – make better use of safety chairs.

**Sports Medicine** – Educate and continue to educate through SWIM Magazine. Sports Medicine presence on on USSM website is up and running. Three new activities plus an article every month will be coming. Will also have a person function as a liaison with all LMSC fitness chairs and newsletter editors.

**Insurance** – An insurance question web site with questions and scenarios. Going forward – individual clubs and newsletters set up a link back to USMS web site. Articles on website “for members only”.

**Long Distance** - Safety and medical issues need to be evaluated. A project is being spearheaded by Jim Wheeler and they will consult with other committees. Want to see bulletin boards at venues which publicizing safety issues.

#### **Question #3 WHAT CONSTRAINTS DO YOU SEE STANDING IN THE WAY OF YOUR COMMITTEE AND THIS BLOCK.**

**Safety** – The liability issues. Fear – it stands in the way of reducing the risks we see (liability and insurance fears). Frustration about how long it takes to get something done when it involves safety. Communications obstacles with committees spread across the country – have to use email.

**Spts. Medicine** - Legal – liability. Difficulty getting data published. Research done but no venue to get it published.

**Fitness** - Our mass audience – trying to reach such a large audience and the tools are not available. Three new activities may be able to use “back door” approach. They can do the activity first and then decide to send in their activity. Various tools, self evaluation – fitness handbook. We come up with good ideas to do but there isn't a good mechanism of follow-up.

**Insurance** - Attorneys, litigation, external forcers – i.e. increased insurance premiums. Privacy issues regarding individual claimants and info we can or cannot release.

**Long Distance** – What we really need is for Congress to pass tort reform.

Minutes prepared by USMS Secretary, Sally Dillon