

Committee Name:	Coaches Committee		
Committee Chair:	Ken Brisbin	Vice Chair:	Chris McPherson
Minutes recorded by:	Molly Hoover	Date/time of meeting:	6/12/2023 5p PST

Roll Call

Number of committee members present: 16 Absent:2 # of other delegates present: 4

Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Ken Brisbin (Chair), Chris McPherson (Vice Chair), Bill Brenner, Chris Campbell (VP), Steve Hall, Michael Hamm, Molly Hoover, Laurie Hug, Wilson Josephson, Cokie Lepinski, Jacky Merianos, Carol Nip, Aaron Schneider, Trey Taylor, Tim Waud, Celia Wolff

Not present: BJ Graham, Susan Ingraham

Others present: Virgil Chancy, Thomas Murphy, Scott Bay, Nadine Day

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm Pacific Standard Time

1. Welcome!

2. Committee Reports –

- a. Web Workouts (Molly): Nothing new to report - all going well.
- b. Worlds Coaching (Tim): The contract was signed by Chad. There are 52 days until the open water competition and 55 days until pool swims. Merchandise is available on the landing page of the web site via SwimOutlet. So far 6000 swimmers have entered with registration closing today. Relays are the next thing on the to do list. He is mostly using facebook to communicate and is doing a great job keeping everyone informed..
- c. NCC – (Trey): Nothing new.
- d. Awards - (Laurie) : So far there have been 2 nominations for Coach of the Year, and no Kerry O'Brien nominees. Molly just sent out a reminder to the chairs to nominate, and everyone on this call should let their coaches in the LMSC know about the awards.
- e. Education – (Bill/Chris M): Schedule is set for the remainder of the year. Boston, Houston and Miami are still coming up. They will all have level 2 and 3 as well as a stroke development course. Some will have an ALTS class as well.
 - i. Are we only doing ALTS with coach certification, or are there any separate classes?
 1. Up to the host if they want to offer it, based on time and space. It goes both ways as far as if they would rather host one or the other or both.
- f. Level 4 Applications (Tim): So far, no level 4 applications have come in.
- g. Communication (Molly): Sent an email last week and will update again this month. Will remind about deadline for awards. Let Molly know if you have anything you want shared.

- h. Mentoring (Chris M): We are going through a transition with the program. It will be more on demand moving forward; anyone can send an application any time to ask for a mentor.
 - i. Traditionally partnerships were supposed to meet over a weekend, but for the last round some did and some did not. Is this something we are still trying to do?
 - 1. When pairing, decisions were made based on if it was felt they needed an in person meeting or if zoom would be enough. Ultimately, it's a budget issue and we can't have them all meet, but if someone really needs to, we would address that.
- i. On Deck Coaching – (Michael): 300 plus swimmers have signed up for LC Nationals so far. Celia and Mike are going to try to get together this week and get the sign up ready, then will send it to the home office so they can get it online.
- j. Long Distance (Michael): Currently for 2024, there is no bid for the ultra marathon, but all the rest are set. There are a lot of records being broken and things are going well. The committee is dialing in on what kind of swimsuits are allowed and trying to follow FINA guidelines. <https://www.worldaquatics.com/open-water/approved-swimwear>
- k. Peer to Peer – (Trey): July 20th is set up for a call and the topic will be Paralympics 101 for masters. Going forward, Trey is compiling a list of ideas to try to get 2 more for the year and find speakers. He is looking at late summer and one after the annual meeting.
- l. Coaches Community Forums – (Susan): Nothing to report.
- m. Diversity – (Wilson/Nadine): D&I award nominations close on July 1. So far there are no nominations. Please send a note to anyone who may be worthy of this award or willing to nominate.
 - i. The committee spent a lot of time talking about LC Nationals taking place in Florida and the feeling that the location is not a safe space for all people. If you have thoughts about that, please feel free to reach out to Wilson.
 - ii. General consensus by the end of the call was that there is not a lot that can be done about it. The meet details were determined a long time ago, before the current political climate became so divisive. The issue lies more along the lines of time spent at hotels and places away from the pool deck.
 - 1. Chris C.- Things seemed to blow up about this issue due to a reply that Peter made to an email about this topic. Rightly or wrongly, it struck a lot of people on the committee as off key. Many were upset about it, and the aftermath has been quite significant. There is work to be done here, but also we want to remember to be mindful that when a controversy arises within USMS, there are only 2 people authorized to speak for USMS: Dawson, as CEO, and Peter, as Board President. Their responses in this capacity are going to be very bland, not necessarily an indication of how either of them feel. They are working on this behind the scenes as there are a lot of very upset people on the committee.
 - 2. Scott B. lives in Florida currently, and he feels these issues regarding diversity are not an issue there at all, but rather it is a couple of politicians doing the talking. As far as the culture, it is not how the general public is acting.
- n. ALTS – (Michael): They had a great class in Fresno with part of Carol's crew; 20 people got certified. They are working on mentoring by designing mentor programs and connecting new programs with those that are working well. They should have statistics and data in August regarding numbers for this year.
 - i. Is there a database of certified ALTS instructors by state?
 - 1. Not online. Bill B can get that information for anyone who wants it, though.
 - ii. Celia has referred several people to find an instructor near them, but not having much luck finding certified instructors.

1. Instructors need to opt into the database and pay \$30 per year, in order to stay current and stay on the list. Many ALTS-certified instructors do not.
 2. On Club Finder, a badge shows up if there are any ALTS-certified instructors.
3. **Old Business** – (Kenny):
- a. Survey - The survey is just about wrapped up, and we are getting ready to start. Kenny sent a second reminder to a few chairs who haven't responded. Kenny will reach out by phone to those he still has not heard from.
4. **New Business** –
- a. Virgil - regarding ALTS, he always suggests to those who want to learn to swim that they talk to a masters team to help them learn to swim. Coaches should go advertise. Many don't know that Masters can volunteer with ALTS. If there is a water safety program around, see if you can have your masters get involved.
 - b. Chris C - Update shared with the group regarding retirement and new contact info.
 - c. Scott - Open water marathon regarding suits: do we tell swimmers to follow FINA's World Aquatics guidelines on marathon open water swimming?
 - i. Yes, that is a safe thing to do.
5. **Final Roll Call**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm Pacific Standard Time.