

Committee Name:	Long Distance	Session #:	1	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Phyllis Quinn	Vice Chair:		Catherine Rust	
Minutes recorded by:	Tim Murphy	Date/time of meeting:	02/25/2024 at 8pm ET		

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. N/A

Motions Passed:

1. N/A

Number of committee members present: 12	Absent: 0	Number of other delegates present: 1
Committee members present: Phyllis Quinn, Jim Davidson, Catherine Rust, Tim Murphy, Bob Bruce, David Miner, Jay Eckert, John Fox, Nicki Phillips, Jenny Hodges, John Dussliere, Stephen Rouch.		
Absent: N/A		
Ex-Officio members present: Robin Smith.		

Topic: LDC Meeting – February 25, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm ET:

1. Welcome and roll call. Intro of John Dussliere
2. Reports from the chair (Phyllis), vice chair (Catherine), vice president (Robin), and NO representative (Jay).

Phyllis – the championship packets have been sent to the liaisons for the OWNC events. These documents will be posted to Dropbox, I will also post the estimated timelines for these events, along with a liaison guideline document. Thank you to Catherine and Jim for helping me get these documents updated.

We will start the discussion on rules.

There are spots available still on some of the subcommittees. Please let me know what you would like to help with.

Thank you to Jay and Catherine for getting the entry deadlines for the virtual events figured out to eliminate individual results being posted before the relay entries are due.

- **Liaisons: let Phyllis, Catherine, or Robin know if any questions.**
- **Catherine –** Work with Jay and National Office on making updates to the Guide to Open Water events.
- **Robin –** In-person board meeting is next weekend in Houston. No agenda yet, but discussion points will focus on what committees should pull out of the rule book to ensure a safe and fair event.
- **Jay Eckert –**

The 5K/10K and 3000/6000 Virtual Championships pages are live. We'll work on opening entries 1-2 months prior to each event.

The 1-Hour Virtual Championship had 1,156 entries. Final results have been published. We are working on mailing the awards. Still a long way to go to get back to our participation numbers from a decade ago, but we're heading in the right direction.

Year	1-Hour
2010	3017
2011	2955
2012	2698
2013	2515
2014	2444
2015	2314
2016	2372
2017	1876
2018	1366
2019	1017
2020	970
2021	693
2022	1049
2023	1019
2024	1156

Hosting open water events and sharing resources with USAS. They have invited USMS to join the Open Water nationals in Sarasota, FL. 1 mile to 5k distances. He is working through some details with Sarasota Sharks, the host group. Dates are May 3-5.

For liaisons who have been assigned, have any connected with their hosts yet? (Phyllis has begun talks with Berryessa, centered on timing). Jay will follow-up with the hosts...when will registration open? Logo usage, signage, other items such as caps.

Rule book: housekeeping—Jessica can either make those changes now or plan out for next year. Proposals, minutes, and what is posted in the rule book. 3 items to compare.

- **Dave Miner –**
19 sanctioned events, with others in the queue (6). Off to a great start this year. Main stumbling point is submitting a USMS Safety Plan from last year with last year's dates. Second biggest is lack of a course map (a current map is required, even if it is the same from prior years). Going back and forth adds time to the process.

3. **Working group reports.**

a. **2023 Rules/Legislation –** Jim, Steve, Bob B, John F

--Rule changes: we can accept requests for change from whoever wants to make one. Jim will keep track in an Excel spreadsheet which have been submitted, the disposition, etc. There will be a Word doc to provide an overview of all rule propositions. Everything will be assembled for all LDC rules proposals for the Annual Meeting. Phyllis will work with Jay and Jessica to figure out what the HOD approved versus what made it into the 2024 rule book.

We have to base any changes on how the Rule Book looks right now. We will defer to Jim as to how he wants to present these items. The process needs to be done by June.

- b. **PARA** – Jim and Nicki; Patches & Awards – National Office; All-Americans (AA) - Men – Bob B; (AA) Women – Jenny, Tim; (AA) Relays – Phyllis; Records – James, All-Stars – TBD; Postal Series – TBD; ePostal Series Recognition: Catherine, Jenny.
 - Jim D--Summary of records from events thus far.
 - c. **2025 NC Recruitment/Selection/Bids** –
 - See Jay's report above.
 - d. Goals – Catherine, lead; Lorena, Bob, Catherine, John.
 - Nothing to report.
 - e. **LDNC Award** – Bob Bruce and Catherine (**need 2-3 more**)
 - Need help with deciding who should receive the awards. Bob will contact LMSC and other chairs to solicit nominations. Want sufficient nominations to make this a truly national award. Bob to check on nominations from last year for possible re-consideration. Please let Bob or Phyllis know if you would like to help with this subcommittee. Jay will work with Bob on sending requests for nominations to the LMSC and Open water chairs.
 - f. **2024 Clinic Working Group** –
 - Nothing to report
 - g. **Document Audit** – TBD
 - Guidelines/resources on the website: Catherine is updating.
- Jim D. Is there an owner for the committee's Dropbox? Needs better organization throughout the whole Dropbox. Jay gave access to all members. Phyllis and Jay will work on organizing the files. Dropbox has info for event liaisons:
--Guideline/timeline, and other pertinent information.
Changes in open water service award: Jay to make adjustments to USMS website. Bob Bruce to assume the contact for this. Please let Bob or Phyllis know if you would like to help with this subcommittee. Jay will work with Bob on sending requests for nominations to the LMSC and Open water chairs.
- h. New Business/Good of the Order
 - o Jim D: Relay Split Sheets for records. Per Bob B, this should be specified on the entry page and the online entry form. Keep your record in case the event needs to be verified.

2023 Long Distance National Championships:

- **June 1: USMS Middle Distance Open Water Nationals: Lake Berryessa, CA**
- Liaison: Phyllis. Back up Nicki

- **June 8: USMS Marathon Distance Open Water Nationals: Lake Del Valle, CA**
- Liaison: Tim. Back up Phyllis

- **July 20: USMS Sprint Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN**
- Liaison: Jenny. Back up Catherine

- **July 21: USMS Long Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN**
- Liaison: Jenny. Back up Catherine.

Other:

- **Bob and Catherine need volunteers to help with Awards Committee**

Next meeting is March 24 (a week prior, due to Easter), at the same time (8pm Eastern / 5pm Pacific)