

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Long Distance	<b>Session #:</b> 1	<b>Report #:</b> 1
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Phyllis Quinn	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Catherine Rust
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Tim Murphy	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	03/24/2024 at 8pm ET

### **Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:**

1. N/A

### **Motions Passed:**

1. See Rules Changes Discussion section, pages 3-4

<b>Number of committee members present:</b> 14	<b>Absent:</b> 0	<b>Number of other delegates present:</b> 1
<b>Committee members present:</b> Phyllis Quinn, Jill Wright, Jim Davidson, Catherine Rust, Tim Murphy, Bob Bruce, David Miner, Jay Eckert, John Fox, Nicki Phillips, Jenny Hodges, John D, Stephen R.		
<b>Absent:</b> N/A		
<b>Ex-Officio members present:</b> Robin Smith.		

### **Topic: LDC Meeting – March 24, 2024**

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

- Welcome and roll call

- Reports from the chair (Phyllis) and vice chair (Catherine) and vice president (Robin) and USMS National Office (Jay)
  - A. Phyllis: Liaison Report for Lake Berryessa: Registration is open. Links are posted now on the USMS website.
  - B. Catherine: N/A
  - C. Robin: USMS Board of Directors Winter Meeting was held in Houston March 2nd to 3rd. The Meeting Recap was sent out in the March 2024 USMS Streamlines for Volunteers. The Board received updates regarding several initiatives and task forces including Grown-Up Swimming (GUS), National Board of Review Grievance Process, Transgender Policy Administration, and Revised Elections Process. There were discussions regarding Committee reviews of their particular parts of the Rule Book and use of Guide to Operations and Policy documents if appropriate. Draft plans and agendas for the Volunteer Relay and National Coaches Clinic (October 18th to 20th) were also presented.
    - There is a summary in the March, “Streamlines for Volunteers,” newsletter. Jay will find the link and circulate.
  - D. Jay: -Working with each OWNC host on logos, linking from OWNC landing page, and ordering caps/banners/partner items.
- -OWNC landing page updated with the appropriate links for each event.
- -Event newsletter to all USMS members on March 26 will promote the OWNCs.
- 2025 OWNC
  - A. -Met with USA Swimming and Sarasota Sharks last week. Targeting late April or early May dates.
  - B. -Working on details with the Benderson Park staff for what is needed to accommodate USMS in addition to USA-S.
  - C. -USMS staff will be in attendance at 2024 USA Swimming Open Water Nationals (May 3-5, same venue) to gather information for planning our event next year.
- Some discussion about all-American and other awards being published; per Jim D this has already happened and is on DropBox.
- Working groups – reports (please send your report to all in advance)
  - A. 2024 Rules/Legislation –Jim, [Steve](#), [Bob B](#), [John F](#). See below
  - B. Administration/ Liaison of Virtual and OWNC’s events- Tim, Jenny and Phyllis

- C. 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
- D. Review of Bids for future LD events. –Update on location for 2025-(Jay)
- E. LDNC and Open Water Service Awards – Bob B, Catherine, Stephen
- F. Updating Guidelines and Educational Resources for Open Water Events- **NEW**. Members **TBD**

**Goals for 2024:** The Executive Committee has been putting together a list of 2024 priorities/goals for our committees. Here are some draft priorities/goals for the LDC:

1. Develop a plan to increase the number of USMS sanctioned open water events
2. Look for more prominent venues for Open water National championships
  - Clarify Open water strategy between LDC and NO
  - 1-3mi OWNC weekend festival concept already in discussion
  - Clarify NO role regarding the OWNC bid process, at least for shorter events.
3. Remove the operations and procedures from Rule Book and update Guide to Operations documents.
4. Clarify LDC roles and responsibilities and those of National Office.

## Rules Changes Discussion:

Rules proposals are located at: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/7m0ee2ocdj13alf2ak1/h?rlkey=s284w1mgn5yojj1147kz8p1dn&dl=0>

There is also a description of the review process for the proposals. Please review them before this Sunday's meeting. Thanks.

- 303.3.1.C.6: (add<sub>s</sub> responsibility for the referee to modify rules for disabled swimmers) **Proposal is approved.**

- 303.4.2.B Allows waist ties for Category I swimwear Vote: Yes 10, No 1 **Proposal is approved.**
- 303.4.2.E: Allows the LDC to waive the prohibition on using personal buoys in OWNC events in specifically defined circumstances Vote: Yes 13 No 0. **Proposal is approved.**
- 303.10.1: Adds authority for modification of rules for disabled swimmers (combined with 303.10.2-3) **Proposal is approved.**
- 303.10.2: Adds responsibilities for disabled swimmer/coach and meet referee
- 303.10.3: Adds accommodations and modifications for disabled swimmers
- 305.2.4: Housekeeping: remove word, “only.” Vote: Yes 10, No 0. **Proposal is approved.**
- 305.2.4: Housekeeping, add, “except for National Championship events described in article 307.2.3” Bob pulled this proposal for future clarification.
- 306.12: noncompetitive category for virtual events—Not considered yet
- 307.7.2: entry forms—not considered yet
- 307.7.3.B: turn judges at OWNCs—not considered yet

New Business-

## **2024 LDC Championships. Liaisons assignments**

Below is a list of the 2024 LD OWNC events. When assigned, each lead liaison will please give a brief written report on the status of their event (sent to the full committee prior to the conference call – Friday at latest for SUNDAY calls). LIAISONS—PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL EARLY AND OFTEN FOR MESSAGES.

## **2024 Long Distance National Championships:**

- June 1: USMS Middle-Distance Open Water Nationals: Lake Berryessa, CA. lead liaison- Phyllis. Back up- Nicki
- June 8: USMS Marathon-Distance Nationals: Lake Del Valle, CA. Liaison Tim, backup Phyllis
- July 20: USMS Sprint-Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN. Lead Liaison Jenny, backup Catherine.
- July 21: USMS Long-Distance Open Water Nationals: Stillwater, MN. Lead Liaison Jenny, backup Catherine: Registration is rolling in.

USMS is also hosting five virtual championships: the 1-Hour Virtual Championship Jan. 1–31, the 5K/10K Virtual Championships May 15–Sept. 15, and the 3000/6000-Yard Virtual Championships Sept. 15–Nov. 15.

Other business for the good of the order

**Next Call: April 28, 2024**

**Projected List of Dates for 2024 LDC Calls:**

January 28

February 25

March 24 One week early to avoid Easter Sunday

April 28

May 26

June 30

July 28

August 25

**LDC Approximate High-Level Timeline Items by Month: A work in progress**

**January:**

New OWNC season registrations open

initiate work on new goals

Assignments for working groups

**February:**

send out award nomination requests

begin to consider rules changes

**March through May:**

Review bids and documents for next year

consider rules changes

updates on LD NC events progress

**June:**

Prepare next year's events

finalize rules proposals

finalize award nominations

thick of the competition season

**July:**

award working group meets

finalize OWNC for next year

**August:**

finalize all LDC details to prepare for Annual Meeting

**September:** Annual Meeting

**October-December:**

Relay meeting: Open water workshop

Request for next season's details

Conclude remaining event details.

Open registration for next season's OWNCs

Wrap-up year's business