

Committee Name:	Rules Committee	Session #:	
Committee Chair:	Mollie Grover		
Minutes recorded by:	Julie Dusliere	Date/time of meeting:	25 June 2023 / 7:30 PM ET

Actions Taken:

1. MSA to recommend R-2 to the HOD.
2. MSA to recommend R-5 to the HOD.
3. MSA to table U-1 until the Rules Committee convenes following the USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting.
4. MSA to table U-2 until the Rules Committee convenes following the USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting.
5. MSA to table U-3 until the Rules Committee convenes following the USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting.

Number of committee members present: # 12	Absent: # 2	Guests: # 0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): David Benjamin, Kathrine Casey, Julie Dusliere, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox (Vice Chair), Mollie Grover (Chair), Claire Letendre (Vice Chair), Barbara Protzman, William Tingley, Jason Weis, Kris Wingenroth, Ben Wyckoff		
Not present: Susan Nolte, C.J. Rushman		
Ex Officio present: Chris Colburn (VP of Administration), Michael Abegg (USMS Officials Committee), Stephanie Gauzens (USMS Legislation Committee)		
Ex Officio absent: Onshalee Promchitmart (USMS National Office)		
Guests: n/a		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm ET.

Mollie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2023 USMS Proposals

1. R-2
 - a. M/S (Bill/Claire) to recommend R-2 to the HOD.
 - b. Proposal to align relay leadoff language to USA Swimming language.
 - c. It was suggested that if this item passes that all sanctioned meets plus Officials Committee are notified to ensure that meet referees are aware if and when the rule change is implemented.
 - d. The committee briefly discussed the philosophy behind the change and the pros/cons of a legal leadoff from a complete relay swim that may not be legal. Additional discussion centered around a 50 split within a 100 leadoff leg. A question was raised as to whether “eligible relay member” is defined in the rulebook. It is defined in 101.7 and additional clarification of relay legal swimmers is included in 102.
 - e. M/S (Kathy/Kris) to make a minor housekeeping adjustment and split the language into two sentences. Place a period after “members” and capitalize “the”. Passed unanimously.
 - f. Motion to recommend R-2 to the HOD passed 10 yes, 1 no.
2. R-5
 - a. M/S (Bill/Claire) to recommend R-5 to the HOD.
 - b. A brief discussion among the committee clarified that the proposal is to update the timing between the end of the published season and the submission deadline, not to change the dates of the season. A few committee members suggested that the rationale language could be better clarified to support the intent.

Record and Tabulations may update and submit an amended rationale, the Rules only votes on the amendment itself.

- c. Motion to recommend R-5 to the HOD passed 11 yes, 0 no.

2023 USA Swimming Rule Proposals

Mollie shared that U-1 and U-2 are updates to align with USA Swimming and World Aquatics. As a point of order the committee addressed the language in 601.4.3C and impact upon USA Swimming rule changes that have not yet been approved by USA Swimming.

1. U-1
 - a. M/S (Claire/Jason) to recommend U-1 to the HOD.
 - b. The committee discussed the wording of the rule and the potential loophole that may exist for delay of meet. Subsequent discussion centered on whether the change is applicable to USMS, impact on swimmers, removal of the referees' power over pace of the meet, consistency with World Aquatics and USA Swimming, potential impact on WA top ten and world records if modified or not adopted,
 - c. M/S (Kathy/Claire) to table U-1 until the Rules Committee convenes following the USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting passed 11 yes, 0 no.
2. U-2
 - a. M/S (Bill/Claire) to recommend U-2 to the HOD.
 - b. There was a brief discussion on the wording and a recommendation to hyphenate 5-meter and 5-yard within the language, and whether deviation from WA language is appropriate.
 - c. M/S (Bill/Claire) to table U-2 until the Rules Committee convenes following the USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting passed 11 yes, 0 no.
3. U-3
 - a. M/S (Jason/Claire) to recommend U-3 to the HOD.
 - b. Mollie provided background info via USA Swimming as this is a substantive proposal. She also clarified that the USA Swimming format differs slightly from USMS format, and style guide.
 - c. A point was raised noting 107.1.2A and B refer to "meet referee" and "deck referee" in the USA swimming language. Additional grammar considerations were raised and the notation of USA Swimming's use of bullets.
 - d. The committee was in favor of the formatting changes made by Mollie/Christina to align with USMS style while retaining the wording and structure of USA Swimming.
 - e. M/S (Bill/Claire) to table U-3 until the Rules Committee convenes following the USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting passed 11 yes, 0 no.

Mollie reviewed the agenda for the committee's next meeting which will be to discuss R-3 and R-4, both of which impact National Championship meets. The committee requested that the Chair reach out to the Championship Committee for information and feedback prior to the next meeting.

M/S (Kathy/Bill) to recess the meeting until Tuesday, July 18th, 7:30pm ET, passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm ET.