

**USMS CONVENTION – Greensboro, NC - 2005**

Committee Name: Safety Education \_\_\_\_\_ Session # 1 Cmte. report #: 19

Minutes recorded by: Jani Sutherland Date/time of this meeting: 15SEP@ 5:15P

**ACTION ITEMS**

MSA to recommend to the editorial board of USMS Swimmer/Healthy Swimmer section, to include a safety tip for each issue.  
MSA for Julie to send the safety tips to the LMSCs newsletters again.  
MSA for Julie to identify which LMSCs are without a safety chair contact and to encourage the appointment of one.  
MSA to accept proposed legislation\*\*\* L31, 507.3.\*\*\*

Committee Chair: Shannon Sullivan Vice Chair(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of committee members present: 6 Absent: 9 Number of other delegates at this meeting: 8

Committee members present: Julie Heather, Jody Welborn, Jani Sutherland, Mary Pohlman, Shannon Sullivan,  
Ex-Officio: Colleen Driscoll

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at: 5:15PM

Committee introduction and welcoming of the delegates. Not much action was taken this year when the new chair took over, because of the expected merger of Safety Education with Sports Medicine.

As VP of Local Operations, Julie Heather will once again try to bring safety to the forefront. She attended the USAS Safety meeting which is revising the coaches' safety training requirements. She will get a copy of the manual and try to get our Masters information included. USA Swimming is talking about changing policy by having a safety committee co-coordinator.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposed legislation of Sports Medicine to be renamed **Sports Medicine, Health, and Safety Education**, which Jessica Seaton is proposing to the Legislation Committee. It was noted that the Safety Education Committee was originally part of the Insurance Committee before its own committee was formed. If the current proposed legislation passes, and there is significant activity regarding safety education, a subcommittee will be created.

Julie Heather stated the continued need to get safety messages out to the membership, and would like to see safety related articles in USMS Swimmer, and will confer with the editorial board as soon as possible. All LMSC newsletter editors have been sent safety tips.

What topics do we need to address? Since we will be hosting the XI Fina World Masters Championships next year, it would be important to the international swimmers to become familiar with our rules, especially diving in the shallow water. Encourage the coaches training team to provide education on health problems. Swimmers need to inform their coaches of any health problems. There were other suggestions such as filming a safety video, or requiring coaches to be CPR certified. Since each state has their specific requirements for coaches, lifeguards, and pool administration, the committee can only encourage not mandate, to avoid liability. Some LMSCs don't have a coach or the coach is in the water with the team.

Colleen Driscoll informed us that during one of the convention morning workouts, up to **ten** masters swimmers dove into the shallow end of the pool ! A discussion of insurance claims followed. Safety Education members swimming the remaining workouts will remind people on the bus about the no-diving rule.

The meeting was adjourned at: 6:00PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Shannon Sullivan