

Committee Name:	Long Distance	Session #: 2	Report #: 1
Committee Chair:	Catherine Rust	Vice Chair:	David Brancamp
Minutes recorded by:	Tim Murphy	Date/time of meeting:	02/23/2025 at 8pm ET

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

Actions Passed:

- **Please see New Business section, Rules Changes (Jim)**

Number of committee members present: 11	Absent: 1	Number of other delegates present: 2
Committee members present: Catherine Rust, Dave Brancamp, Tim Murphy, Nicki Phillips,., Bob Kolonkowski, Jim Davidson, Christie Ciraulo, Marnie Whitley, Vesna Shelnut		
Absent: , Phyllis Quinn, Stephen Rouch, John Fox, Jay Eckert, David Miner, Robin Smith		
Ex-Officio members present: N/A		

Topic: LDC Meeting – January 23, 2025

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

Call to order

Welcome and roll call

Reports:

Chair – Catherine: Surcharge OWNC

- One Hour Virtual Championship is wrapped up. Over 1400 entries with Oregon having over 400. Discussion of new procedures for finishes in the 1 Hour. Jim will be presenting rules. Dave will discuss subcommittees and goals. 5K and 1mile swims in Sarasota as of today have 141 entries.
- Proposal to increase the swimmer surcharge in OWNC to \$8.00. Current surcharge is \$3.00. Prior to 2025 a \$5.00 surcharge per entrant was paid by the host to the LMSC. This surcharge has been eliminated along with the OW sanction fee. The increase will assist in covering NO expenses of liaison travel, caps, banners and event promotion. There is no surcharge for no-shows and swimmers in multiple events only charged once.
 - This will be tabled until the next meeting
 - Jay will get more information
 - This would be effective for 2026.
 - Our committee can make this decision together with the national office. Does not need to go to the HOD.

Vice Chair – Dave: Sub-committee

- Portland Bridges Swim (Ultra-marathon Swim) is sold out (100 swimmers) and taking a waiting list. Talk to everyone on Sunday evening.
- Committee assignments: have been sent. If they don't hear any issues by Tuesday (Feb 25) night, then we will consider the committee assignments final for the year.

VP of Programs – Robin Smith

USMS Office– Jay Eckert

OW - David Miner

Committees:

Open Water – Dave: by Wednesday, Dave B will send out an email

Open Water Safety – John F: look at the rules, see what looks good, what needs to be updated/deleted/changed.
Safety plan needs to come online, together with the dual sanction with USA Swimming.

Rules – Jim

PARA – Jim

Procedures and Documents – Nicki

Virtual Championships – Catherine

Liaisons:

Sarasota 1m & 5K – Jay, Catherine

Cable Swims 1m & 2m – Nicki

Ultramarathon – Dave

New Business:

Change to 1 Hour Virtual Championship Procedures

Rule Changes: Jim

- Needs to be submitted in June, so we have time to look at them.
- 301.2: this has more to do with process, delete.

- Motion to delete (Catherine, second by Dave B). The documents will be maintained separately, but removed from the rulebook.
 - In favor: 9 / Opposed: 0
- 301.1: safety plans need to be approved by Dave Miner. Just clean-up
 - Motion (Catherine)
 - In favor: 9 / Opposed: 0
- 303.4: swimwear for event should be in the event information, particularly for championships.
 - Motion (Nicki/Vesna)
 - In favor: 9 / Opposed: 0
- 303.5: suggestion about how seeding might take place. Want to clarify that this will be up to host.
 - Motion (David/Marnie)
 - Need a motion to amend. Delete, “without times,” from the rule (Catherine/Vesna)
 - Voting on the amendment: In favor 9 / Opposed
 - As amended voting: In favor 9 / Opposed 0
- 306.6.3: goes along with the next change. We have a rule on how times are adjusted based on decimal or not. If someone wants to apply for a record, they have to use their official time
- 308.1.4 B & C: adjusted time is the official time.
 - All 3 of these items are grouped together
 - Adding C, the official time must be less than the existing record. So if someone swims a 5k without a decimal, .9 is added to it.
 - Times submitted need to be in the proper format, and they need to be that way to set a national record.
 - In favor: 9, opposed 0

- 306.10.2: for non-championship events, the host must ask the LD Committee for clarification to disqualify. For national events, any issues would be handled by the national office with the LD Committee
 - Motion (Catherine/Marnie)
 - In favor: 9, Opposed: 0
- 307.2.2: this is a process change. Gives the LDC the latitude to identify the open water events for a particular year. It specifies that at least three open events will be held each year. This leaves the criteria for All-Americans intact. It also preserves the character of the current open water event definitions while allowing the LDC the ability to identify other events
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 307.4.1c: Performance bond is no longer required, deleted from rules.
 - Motion: (David/Nicki)
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 307.3: rule about site selection, table, etc. this is more of a process for LDC, so removing these requirements from the rules. This could go into a procedure.
 - Motion (Nicki/Bob K)
 - Discussion: Dave: when we present to HOD, we'll do our best to spread out. But sometimes only a few bids are submitted.
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 307.7.1: deletes the requirement that the swimmers' names in the result appear as on membership card. It has never been enforced.
 - Motion: Verna/Nicki
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 307.7.2: eliminates the requirement for the order of genders in which the results are shown. No reason to require an order, will be left up to the host.
 - Motion: Dave/Marnie
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0

- 307.8.3: club scoring. Removes the requirement for divisions. Divisions may be recognized. Leave this up to the event host. If division makes sense, then do it. Otherwise, not necessary.
 - Motion: Verna/Dave
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 307.9.4: this is not a rule. This can be left up to the LDC. Rule not necessary. The LDC can develop a procedure for making awards
 - Motion: Dave/Nicki
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 307.10.3: easy for the LDC and PARA committee to compile a list of all-Americans. One less thing for a host to do. Deletes requirement for the host.
 - Motion: Dave/Nicki
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 307.11.2: stating that in order to qualify for all stars, the events have to be national championship events (not any open water or virtual event)
 - Motion: Nicki/Dave
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0
- 308.1.5: for USMS record, adding a requirement that a cable event needs an Application for a Cable Event Record to apply for record
 - Motion: Dave/Verna
 - In favor: 9, opposed: 0

Goals: Old Business –

1. Develop a plan to increase the number of overall USMS sanctioned open water events. Clarify OW strategy between LDC and NO.

- 2 Continue to remove procedures from rule book
3. Look for more prominent venues for Open Water National Championships

Adjournment

LDC 2025 Meeting Dates 8:00 pm Eastern Time as needed

March 30, 2025

April 27, 2025

May 25, 2025

June 29, 2025

July 27, 2025

August 31, 2025

USMS Annual Meeting September 12, 2025

September 29, 2025

October 26, 2025

2025 Open Water National Championships

Sprint Distance and Long Distance Open Water National Championships - Sarasota FL April 4 -

1 mile. April 5 - 5K. National Office will be conducting in connection with the LDC

- Catherine will be there as an observer
- John Fox will be a referee

One Mile and 2 Mile Cable Swims National Championships - Charlottesville, VA May 31st

Liaison: Nicki Phillips and Asst. Liaison: Vesna Shulnett

- Can swim one or both swims

Ultra Marathon Open Water National Championship – Portland, OR, July 13th

Liaison: Dave Brancamp and Asst. Liaisons: Marne Whitley and Christie Ciraulo

- Event is full. There is a waiting list.

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