

**ILMSA Board Meeting by Conference Call
January 8, 2018
Minutes**

Attendees:

Heidi Kafka, President; Tracy Lord, Vice President & Chair Communications Committee; Phil Dodson, Treasurer; Marissa Filippo, Secretary; Barb Delanois, Registrar; Mike Abegg, Chair Records and Tabulations Committee; AJ Block, Chair Health and Fitness Committee; Inge Clark, Chair Competition and Sanctions; Molly Hoover, Chair Coaches Committee; Andy Seibt, Chair Long Distance Committee; Dave Sims, Chair Finance Committee; Ed Stranc, Chair Officials and Safety Committee; Billy Cordero

Minutes

M, S, A = Motion, Seconded, Approved

I. Call to order

Heidi Kafka, Chair called the meeting to order 7:35pm.

II. Approval of agenda

M, S, A to approve the agenda.

III. Approval of December minutes

M, S, A to approve the December minutes.

IV. Old Business

- a. Sanctions policy (online sign up, calendar, creation of policy, enforcement)

Online signup, calendar, creation of policy and enforcement of the policy. Inge sent a 2018-2019 proposed sanctions policy, which was not sent out to the board prior to the call. Inge went over some of the facets of the proposed policy.

Online signups:

Using Indiana as an example or benchmark, here is some data: Club Assistant is mandatory in Indiana. If a club does not have the funds to purchase Club Assistant, the board steps in and subsidizes the purchase of the software. In addition, the board also subsidizes meet hosting if hosts are stretched financially. Indiana already does a paperless process for sanctioning and meet directors will now be required to use it. Everyone submits the same way, everyone pays the same way, and there is a digital footprint of which club submitted what sanction and when.

Calendar of events:

Inge recommends enforcing policy that is written, and not creating policy on the fly. There have been a couple of event requests that are for-profit in nature, and we need to have a published reason that we can refer to when we deny requests like this. We might need to consider having a published policy that is clear about what types of events ILMSA will sanction or support. How do we define for-profit in this context? Our policy is that if a calendar request conflicts with a sanctioned event, then we don't publish it. We do have a policy dated May 2011 that describes the types of events we will sanction. If an event doesn't conflict with a sanctioned event, then currently, we will put it on the ILMSA calendar. If ILMSA recognizes this event on the calendar, does ILMSA or USMS have any liability? On the USMS website, the calendared events are labeled as "sanctioned" or "recognized" events, so it's easy for swimmers to make a distinction. We may need to clarify our policy to make this distinction. We may want to check with national to see about their process. We might want to consider NOT recognizing events that don't have anything to do with USMS or ILMSA. There is a 3rd category of events in the rulebook called "fitness" events that could be a part of the policy. Fitness events are the subject of rule 202.3.

Inge will check with national on their policy and we will mirror their policy.

Proposed Sanction Policy:

Meet dates will be approved on a first to sanction basis. First to sanction is defined as receipt of all required paperwork (received by the Sanctions Chair) AND payment with transmittal form (received by the Treasurer) for the requested meet date. No electronic payments will be accepted. Please submit your sanction requests as soon as possible in order to secure your preferred date(s). Once sanction paperwork has been formally submitted, requested meet dates will be reserved throughout the sanctioning process. Reserved meet dates will be posted on the ILMSA website as "sanction pending" until formally approved.

- 1) *Sanction dates will be confirmed/reserved when an Illinois Sanction Transmittal Form AND Sanction Fee have been received and processed by the ILMSA Treasurer. The payment date reported by the Treasurer to the Sanctions Chair will be the date the meet payment AND Transmittal form are received.*
- 2) *The previous year's calendar will serve as the template for the current year. All Meet Directors will be emailed this template on June 1st and December 1st as a reminder to sanction/secure their meet dates.*
- 3) *Beginning June 1st and December 1st, Meet Directors will have 2 weeks to request meet dates. After these 2 weeks, the list of prospective meet dates will be submitted to the ILMSA BOD for consideration. The ILMSA BOD will have 2 weeks from submittal date to approve meet dates.*
- 4) *Approved meet dates will be listed on the ILMSA website as "Sanction Pending" until the sanctions process has been completed.*
- 5) *Sanctioned events take priority over non-sanctioned events, Recognized are given second priority and Calendar are given third priority.*
- 6) *Non-sanctioned events (Recognized and/or Calendar) will not be advertised on the ILMSA website. They may be promoted on ILMSA social media and USMS LMSC Forums. Sanctioned events, whenever requested, will always take priority on the ILMSA calendar. Non-sanctioned events may be removed from ILMSA social media in the event of a conflict with a sanctioned meet.*
- 7) *ILMSA will market/promote all sanctioned meets via the ILMSA website. Upon receipt of a draft email from the meet director, one member email reminder can be sent.*
- 8) *Only one sanctioned event will be permitted per day. If sanction conflicts arise, they will be brought before the ILMSA BOD for discussion.*
- 9) *Illinois events (Sanctioned, Recognized or Calendar) take priority over non-IL events. Non-IL events are advertised (on the ILMSA website) via links to the appropriate states' Masters sites.*
- 10) *All changes to previously submitted sanction requests must be resubmitted through the USMS online sanction system/process.*
- 11) *Meet Official contact information (phone # and/or email address) must be listed on the Meet Information Sheet.*
- 12) *Meet results must be submitted within 2 weeks of meet conclusion in order to receive the refund for half of the sanction fee.*

M, S, A to table this discussion until the next meeting. Suggestions for changes and comments to this policy should be sent to the entire BOD. Inge will send existing and proposed policies to the BOD for discussion.

b. State Meet Committee report

The Championship Committee agreed to the following:

1) *All the following is consistent with the Libertyville meet in 2017:
Breaks will be scheduled -*

- A. *10 minutes after morning 200 relays*
- B. *10 minutes mid day after 400 relays*

- C. Meet host is authorized to post these breaks, but is given full discretion to extend breaks if judged necessary.

2) All the following is consistent with the Munster meet in 2016:

Other meet considerations -

- A. The 1000 Freestyle will be limited to the first 176 entries received (22 heats - 11 simultaneously).
- B. The 500 Free and 400 IM will be limited to the first 200 entries received.
- C. The 1000 Free will be swum mixed, the 400IM and 500 Free will be swum by gender.
- D. Friday night (1000 free) timeline will utilize 8 lanes providing 4 continuous wu/wd lanes through out the Friday session.
- E. Saturday and Sunday sessions will utilize all 10 lanes to manage the timeline to 3:30 - 4:00 PM. Under this utilization at least 1 pool will remain open for wu/wd during the morning relays and break and again during the afternoon relays.

3) There be 3 team trophies in the three-size team categories.

c. Membership awards

Bob Zeitner is working on this, but people remember an initiative like this in the past and it was difficult to administer. We have good data starting from the 2000s, anything prior to that is less reliable. We could recognize members that have 10 years or more in the state meet program or on the website. Heidi will pass this along to Bob for consideration.

d. Relay records policy proposal

M, S, A to accept the proposed policy to maintain ILMSA Relay Records and Relay Top Ten Lists as follows:

Summary: ILMSA maintains Relay Records and Top Ten Lists in four categories: Overall SCY, SCM, and LCM Relay Records/Top Ten, and SCY Team Records/Top Ten. Definitions: "Club" is a Club registered as such with USMS. "Team" is applied to a group of swimmers belonging to the same Club identifying themselves to ILMSA and USMS and is the equivalent of the USMS "Workout Group." "Combined Club" is a Club that has one or more affiliated Teams, including the Illinois Masters Swim Club (IM) and Life Time Swim Illinois (LTIL).

1. *Relay swims will be those eligible for USMS Top Ten consideration in the year swum. If rules for Official Times and/or Top Ten eligibility are changed by USMS (e.g. elimination of a rule requiring bulkhead pool length confirmation) records will not be revised to include swims formerly excluded.*
2. *For all 3 courses, the ILMSA Relay Record is the fastest Official Time by four members of the same ILMSA-affiliated Club, in each gender, age group and event. For members who belong to the same Team within a registered ILMSA Combined Club, the relay will be identified by the Team name, not the Club name.*
3. *For the SCY course only, there shall be a separate set of ILMSA Team Relay Records which shall comprise the fastest Official Time by four members of the same ILMSA-affiliated Team, or by an ILMSA-affiliated Club, excluding relays swum by members of a Combined Club who are not all members of the same Team. Relays swum by members of a Team at a National- or World-level meet where the relay is identified by the Combined Club name are eligible for Team Relay Records but must submit information to the Top Ten Recorder to retain the Team identification in the ILMSA records database.*
4. *Top Ten Lists for each course will be maintained in a similar fashion, with both Club and Team Top Ten Lists maintained only for the SCY course.*

Rationale: Eligibility for annual USMS Top Ten is a reasonable minimum threshold for swims that conform to the standards for rules and facility requirements. However, it will be nearly impossible to retroactively determine records for swims that might have been records had the present-day eligibility rules been in effect. Essentially, paragraph 1 just clarifies that we will not go back and add in swims that previously were excluded from records. Primarily, this would apply to a situation where a disqualification was properly issued but would no longer be a disqualification under current rules, or where a meet was conducted in a pool without proper length certification that later achieved certification. Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 define the treatment of Teams and Clubs in records and top ten lists. Because many swimmers are strongly attached to their Team identity, and compete as such in relays at local meets, it is appropriate to maintain records that preserve that identity. However, at National and World level meets, swimmers belonging to a Combined Club may "cross" Team lines to compete as members of the Combined Club. This creates a larger pool of

swimmers to assemble relays and creates the opportunity to set records that may be difficult to approach by individual Teams. Both types of records should receive recognition. However, because of the lack of local-level LCM meets, it is very rare for Teams to set LCM records (as they compete by Club at the national and world level). Likewise, due to a lack of national- and world-level SCM meets, it is very rare for Combined Clubs to set SCM records unless they compete as members of the Combined Club at a local SCM meet. So maintaining dual sets of records and Top Ten lists for SCM and LCM meets is simply an unnecessary complication.

e. State meet bids

There is no new information for this agenda item. We have some ideas about how to move forward and get back on schedule for 2019 and 2020 state meet bids. The membership doesn't really need to vote on this. Until there is a 2-pool option in Illinois, our choices are the same. Phil will work on getting good bids by State meet 2018.

V. New Business

a. Nominating Committee

We need to put together a nominating committee to get folks to run for officer positions for election at the State meet. The Vice Chair position and Treasurer position are up for election. Ed and Tracy volunteered to participate on the committee. Heidi will reach out to Andy or Camille to see if they want to be a part of the committee.

b. Fitness-Day at the Labs and Fitness series

AJ is looking for some interesting fitness ideas to implement for ILMSA. There is a facility in Aurora, IL that has video capabilities, and other options for technique, nutrition clinic. We could do a day there for ILMSA swimmers and then have a social afterwards. We might be able to rent the place out and do a circuit for a large group. Weekend date options: February 23-24 (before the state meet), or we could consider doing it after State in May. This event should be recognized.

USMS Fitness Series - Phil, Molly and AJ have talked a little about how to support the SSL in this program. We could offer some support to teams that have the most participation (maybe in three categories based on size). If anyone has ideas about competitive benchmarks, send them to Phil, Molly or AJ and they'll work on it.

c. Coaches Committee

The Coaches Committee will be sending out a survey to all ILMSA coaches at the end of next week. The plan is to find out what our coaches do, wish for, have questions about, excel at, etc. throughout the state. If you have any ideas for questions we should ask or info you would like to hear from our coaches, please email Molly ASAP.

VI. Adjourn

M, S, A to adjourn the meeting.

DECISIONS SUBSEQUENT TO THE JANUARY ILMSA BOD MEETING BY CONF. CALL:

January 11, 2018

By unanimous email vote the board agreed to temporarily suspend the approval of Calendar events based on the lack of USMS insurance attached to them. Furthermore, they agreed to amend the existing sanctions policy online to state that Calendar Event requests will not be approved due to the aforementioned reason.

The Board further agreed that an event should be connected to USMS and ILMSA to benefit members and not to be put on the calendar for solely requesting exposure and advertising from ILMSA and USMS because it's intent is only for profit.