

USA Swimming Operational Risk Committee Minutes

March 16, 2023 - Virtual Meeting

Present: Dan McCarthy, USA Swimming; Nate Chessey, USA Swimming; Mike Seip, Chair; Melissa Millerick-May; Starre Haney; Davis Shelton, Athlete; Lynne Shine; Garret Sims, Athlete; TJ Walsh, Athlete; Jack Yetter; Doug Wharam; Marco Greico, Athlete; Lindsay Mondick, YMCA

Absent: Branden Burns; Stacy Smith; John Wallum, IOA

Guests: Mary Jo Swalley

Call to Order: Mike Seip, Committee Chairman, called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the USA Swimming Operational Risk Committee at 4:01 PM EDT on Thursday, March 16, 2023, via Zoom videoconference.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: None

Agenda:

Operational Risk Committee Meeting

March 16, 2023

4:00 PM EST via Zoom

USA Swimming Mission: USA Swimming is the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming. We administer competitive swimming in accordance with the Olympic & Amateur Sports Act. We provide programs and services for our members, supporters, affiliates and the interested public. We value these members of the swimming community, and the staff and volunteers who serve them. We are committed to excellence and the improvement of our sport. We are committed to providing a safe and positive environment for all members.

Committee Mission: To assist USA Swimming staff in proactively identifying risk areas and in the creation, development and implementation of policies, guidelines, educational resources, legislative proposals, and programs to manage operational risks within USA Swimming.

USA Swimming Priority Results:

1. USA Swimmers achieve sustained competitive success at the Olympic Games and other high-level international competitions.
2. Members have and use resources for sustainable success.
3. There is growth in swimming participation and interest.
4. USA Swimming is recognized as the “Best in Class” National Governing Body.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BUSINESS

1. Welcome
2. NGB updates – Nate
3. Hypoxic Blackout Statement
4. Working Groups Reports
5. LSC Contacts
6. Spring Workshop
7. Future Meetings
8. Other

Goals/Working Groups for 2023-24

1. Meet Marshal Program Development
2. Water Temperature
3. Communications
4. Racing Start Certifications
5. Certifications
6. Hypoxic Blackout

Future Meetings the 3rd Thursday of each month via Zoom at 4:00 PM EST: April 20, 2023, May 18, 2023, June 15, 2023, July 20, 2023, August 17, 2023, September 21, 2023

Adjournment

Announcements

- None

March 2023 Agenda

- Call for Additions to Agenda
 - Concussion Protocols – Starre Haney offered addition
- Motion to approve Agenda as amended: Starre Haney, Second: Jack Yetter

February 2023 Minutes

- Motion to approve February 2023 Minutes: Starre Haney, Second: Jack Yetter

NGB Updates (Nate)

- Relay Incentive Program developed
- 2023 National Championships time standards have been released.
- Spring Workshop 4/21-4/23 – LiveBarn
 - Mike: OR April Meeting time should be listed on website with rest of National Committees
- Legal Team hiring new Risk Manager
- New time for Operational Risk Committee Monthly meetings – 10 AM MT, 12 noon ET

Hypoxic Blackout Statement (Connie)

- The YMCA received a request from the organization, Shallow Water Blackout Prevention, to discuss the terminology in our Joint Statement on Hypoxic Blackout. The goal of the discussion was to reach alignment in language so that our organizations can work together to advance the lifesaving messages around dangerous behaviors that lead to hypoxic blackout in the water. While not yet finalized, based on the conversations to date among representatives of Red Cross, Y USA, USA Swimming and Shallow Water Blackout Prevention, it is currently proposed that:
 - Shallow Water Blackout Prevention will change their name (likely to Underwater Hypoxic Blackout Prevention but that will be their decision)
 - No change is necessary to the Joint Statement from the American Red Cross, USA Swimming and the YMCA of the USA on Hypoxic Blackout and Inaccurate Use of the Terminology Shallow Water Blackout

Connie will report back once final decisions are made.

Working Group Reports (Mike)

- Meet Marshals (Starre Haney)
 - No additional comments have been received regarding last document draft. Will send updated draft to Nate for next steps in dissemination process. Targeted audience will be LSC Permanent Offices and General Chairs.
- Concussion Protocol (Starre Haney)
 - Working group will be meeting in early April. Material from 2015 to present has been sent out to group members for review.
 - State Concussion Law summary document needs updated. Last revision was 2018.
 - Waiting for Amsterdam 2022 Conference document / summary to be issued. The last Conference published in the British Journal of Medicine.
 - USA Swimming Sports Medicine has produced a Return to Swimming protocol document. Protocols for “horizontal” sports are somewhat different than for “vertical” sports.
- Water Temperature (Mike)
 - No update
- Racing Starts (Davis)
 - Two documents currently in production

- Audience: Operational Risk Chairs in each LSC. Letter laying out in detail the requirements and procedures with respect to Racing Start Certification
 - Audience: Broader base. Document providing a list of resources and procedures for the implementation of Racing Start Certifications.
 - Both documents to be completed and disseminated prior to the start of the summer swim season.
- Communications (Jack)
 - Working Group meeting rescheduled. Report at next full Committee meeting.
- Certifications (Marco)
 - No update until USA Swimming reports are resumed.
 - Currently dealing with one-off requests.
 - Will check to see if updated list of acceptable certification providers has been posted to USA Swimming website. Most current revision date should be February 2023.

Hypoxic Blackout Joint Statement (Doug)

- Webinar fell off the radar. Met with Nate to reengage and solicit USA Headquarters assistance.
- Draft update of online recommendations developed. Dan added verbiage to current hypoxic training document.
- Nate and Dan have met regarding this project, and have also interfaced with resources for National Team, Communications Department, and Legal Department. Progress is on task and on target.

Spring Workshop (Mike)

- Anyone who is planning to attend let Mike know so gathering arrangements can be made
- Our next regularly scheduled Committee Zoom meeting will take place during the Spring Workshop.
- FINA is now World Aquatics.

LSC Contacts (Jack)

- Updated list sent out today.
- Please continue to forward any changes or updates to Jack.

Adjournment: Mike Seip adjourned the March 16, 2023, meeting of the Operational Risk Committee at 4:30 PM.

