

OUR KIDS INITIATIVE

USAS CONVENTION

September 26, 2018 – 11:00 am

Jacksonville, Florida

Jay Thomas called the meeting to order at 9am by reviewing the history and mission of Our Kids Initiatives and welcoming member organizations

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED:

- FINA – Carol Zaleski
- NCAA – Greg Lockard
- NFHS – Sandy Searcy
- USMS – Charles Cockrell
- USP – Julie Dussliere
- USA Diving – Lia Fusaro
- USA Swimming – Jay Thomas, Dan McAllen, Jim Holcomb
- YMCA – Ed Miller

OVERVIEW

Each federation provided an overview of their rule-change process along with a brief overview of upcoming rule changes.

FINA

Proposals may come from any federation. The Technical Committee reviews the submission and makes recommendations. They are voted on by the Congress, where each Federation gets two votes. Next Congress is in 2021

NCAA

This is the second year of a two-year cycle. NCAA has adopted USA Swimming Rules. Only inaccuracies from the previous rulebook will be edited online.

NFHS

The US is separated into 8 sections. A representative, either a coach or official, serves for 4 years. Also included in the process is a representative from the NCAA. The process is to submit rules proposed from the membership. Submissions are then put on a questionnaire where representatives bring it to their contingency. Once the questionnaire results are reviewed, rule recommendations are sent to an editor, and then brought to the Board of Directors for approval.

There was major editing last year, so only expecting some housekeeping updates in the upcoming year.

USMS

If USA Swimming makes changes to sections 101 and 102, USMS will automatically adapt -- if not it must be agreed by HOD. There is an annual cycle for rule change. Deadline for rule changes is in June prior to convention.

Anticipated updates include:

- Timing as it relates to records
- Transgender rules
- Updates to Appendix E, regarding rules changes for USA swimming Members

USP

Rule changes taken every 4 years at the start of the quad. Technical rules mirror FINA rule changes within a reasonable time change

USA Swimming

Deadline for rules proposals is May 15th each year. The rules committee meets in June and 1-2 times at convention to review proposals which are then voted on by the HOD. Technical rule changes from FINA are adapted immediately.

2018 items that will be voted on at HOD;

- Transgender
- Age group technical suites
- Backstroke ledges must be identical and similar for all competitors

YMCA

The YMCA follows USA Swimming rules. The only difference in training are some YMCA components.

DISCUSSION:

Differences Document – current document follows

Water Depth Comparison – current document follows.

Data Collection Devices:

- NCAA - Data collection devices are allowed as long as it isn't real-time.
- NFHS – Not allowed -- How to you address whether the items are being set in a factual mode
- FINA – No devices are allowed

Suite Requirements:

The purpose of this discussion was to explore how we can protect our athletes, in a culture where they don't necessarily protect themselves. Water Polo is going a good job. Check out the You Tube Video – Fix Your Suite.

USA Diving would like for organizations to come together and look at similar language

The group agreed that this is a cultural issue. Educating coaches that they need to talk to their athletes will be an important component. Coaches today, do not believe that they need to talk with their athletes. To change the culture, we will need to help coaches find the right language.

NFHS requires appropriate coverage for both males and females. This is the only code that talks to minimum suite coverage. There is language in the rulebook although states may NOT necessarily adapt the rules. Two-piece suites for women is no longer allowed in High School.

Action: Jay will start working on some basic language that he will share with the group.

In closing Jay referred participants to the Our Kids Initiative Website. The website includes a Rules Differences Summary Chart and a Water Depth Summary Chart. He requested that you email him at jayfthomas@gmail.com if you see any changes that need to be made