

Our Kids Initiative Annual Meeting Minutes

Kansas City, Missouri

September 30, 2015

9:00am

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

IN ATTENDANCE

- FINA - Carol Zaleski
- NFHS - Sandy Searcy
- USA Swimming - Dan McAllen and Jim Holcomb
- USMS - Kathy Casey
- USOC/USP – Julie O’Neill
- YMCA - Ed Miller & Claudia Multer
- Amy Hoppenrath – Secretary

2014 MEETING MINUTES

Approved as submitted with the following revision to the USMS Recap:

-- *USMS looks at technical rule changes in even years and administration in odd years.*

Amended Minutes will be uploaded to the website.

REVIEW/ DISCUSSION OF REPORTS RECEIVED FROM AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS:

FINA

Process: FINA rule changes every four years in conjunction with World Championships. Any federation can submit proposals to change rules. The Technical Committee reviews the submission and makes recommendations. They are voted on by the Congress where each Federation gets two votes. The next rule change will be in 2017 in Hungary.

Rule Updates:

The following rule interpretations were recently released:

The start: After all swimmers are “stationary” (SW 4.1), any swimmer who moves before the starting signal may be disqualified when such movement is observed and confirmed by both the starter and referee (SW 2.1.6). When video-tape timing system (FR 4.7.3) is available, it may be used to verify the disqualification.

Individual Medley: According to SW 9.1 each of the strokes must cover one quarter (1/4) of the distance. Being on the back when leaving the wall for the Freestyle portion of the Ind. Medley is covering more than one quarter of the distance in the style of Backstroke and is, therefore, a disqualification. Backstroke swimming is only defined as being on the back.

USOC/ USP

Process: US Paralympics follows FINA technical rules. There were no additional rule changes.

YMCA

Process: The YMCA follows USA Swimming Rules.

USMS

Process: The organization looks at technical rule changes in swimming in the even years and administration in the odd years. This year, we are looking at the administrative rule changes.

It was noted that USMS has several rules that will not change until their athletes are no longer practicing it. IE: Breaststroke rule in the butterfly.

NISCA / NFHS

Process: Rules are reviewed annually. The US is separated into 8 sessions and 1 person from each section serves every 4 years. The process is to submit rules proposed from the membership. Submissions are then put on questionnaire where the reps bring it out to their contingency. Once questionnaires are reviewed, rule recommendations are brought to the Board of Directors for approval.

Rule changes for 2015 - 16:

- Prohibition of jewelry was removed from the rules.
- Requires officials to dress in the uniform approved by the state association.
- The starter may designate another individual to sound a device for the lead swimmer.
- Additionally there were changes to warm-up and diving.

The Federation is going to address the issue regarding transgender athletes. There may be changes in the future as it is a growing concern. In the interim -- They will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

NCAA

Process: NCAA is on a two year rule cycle with the rules being published in August. The new rulebook was just released. The membership was solicited for proposals last winter and those proposals were vetted by the Swimming & Diving Rules committee. Membership and Committee driven proposals were compiled on a survey (non-binding) and that was sent to the membership in mid-late March, 2015. Discussion on proposed changes occurred at the CSCAA Annual convention this past May in Indianapolis. The committee then chose to adopt new rules during their annual spring meeting for inclusion in the NCAA Swimming & Diving rulebook. It was noted that many times the rulebook updates happen right before the FINA congress. No changes can be made before the next rule cycle without extenuating circumstances.

Rule changes:

There were over 40 rule changes in the past year. Some of the changes included:

- Backstroke ledge is permitted
- Adopted starting for hearing impaired athletes
- There are NO changes in the backstroke leg of the Individual Medley

See document following for a full listing.

WATER DEPTH COMPARISON

Depth comparison sheet was presented. This issue is currently being examined further.

OKI UPDATES

If you have any differences to the sheet please provide them to Jay Thomas (jayfthomas@gmail.com).

Jay will also update the master calendar.

2016 Meeting

The 2016 meeting will be scheduled at 9am Wednesday at convention.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Hoppenrath