

USA Swimming Operational Risk Committee Minutes

February 16, 2023 - Virtual Meeting

Present: Chloe Adkins, USA Swimming; Dan McCarthy, 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; Branden Burns; Stacy Smith; Marco Greico, Athlete; Lindsay Mondick, YMCA

Absent: Nate Chessey, USA Swimming; Connie Harvey, American Red Cross; John Wallum, IOA

Guests: None

Call to Order: Mike Seip, Committee Chairman, called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the USA Swimming Operational Risk Committee at 2:00 PM MST / 4:00 PM EST on Thursday, February 16, 2023, via Zoom videoconference.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: None

Agenda:

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BUSINESS

1. Welcome
2. NGB updates – Chloe/Nate
3. Working Groups Reports
4. LSC Contacts
5. Spring Workshop
6. Future Meetings
7. 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: March 16, 2023, April 20, 2023, May 18, 2023, June 15, 2023, July 20, 2023, August 17, 2023, September 21, 2023

Adjournment

Announcements

- None

February 2023 Agenda

- Call for Additions to Agenda
 - Concussion Protocols – Starre Haney offered addition
- Agenda as amended approved by acclimation

January 2023 Minutes

- Approved by acclimation

NGB Updates (Chloe / Dan)

- Chloe is leaving USA Swimming effective tomorrow. Dan has been appointed the USA Swimming Staff Liaison to the National Operational Risk Committee.
- Any questions regarding insurance between tomorrow and when a new Risk Manager comes on board should be directed to USA Swimming Team Services personnel.
- Clarification requested by Committee members regarding membership category to be used for Club Registrars¹.

Working Group Reports (Mike)

- Meet Marshals (Starre Haney)
 - No comments were received with respect to the circulated draft, so it is ready to be sent to the LSCs. The LSCs upon receipt can then check their internal policies and procedures and revise accordingly.
 - The USA Swimming website will be checked by Davis and updated as needed.
- Concussion Protocol (Starre Haney)
 - The information sheet that provides the state of the law in each of the 50 states needs to be updated.
 - Subcommittee formed – Starre Haney, Stacy Smith, Melissa Millerick-May, Marco Greico
 - Coach Education will default to CDC and NFHS certification programs
 - The 6th International Conference on Concussion in Sport took place in October 2022. Paper on findings to be issued soon.²

¹ Q: Do registrars of a club need to be registered if not employed by the club? A: Club registrars will need to register if they have access to SWIMS or if they interact directly and frequently with or have authority over athletes as a regular part of their duties. (from Q&A fact sheet issued by Safe Sport)

² [6th International Consensus Conference on Concussion in Sport – Canadian Concussion Network | Réseau Canadien des Commotions \(ccn-rcc.ca\)](#) [United States National Institutes of Health \(NIH\) concludes CTE is caused by repetitive traumatic brain injuries | Concussion Legacy Foundation \(concussionfoundation.org\)](#)

- Water Temperature (Stacy)
 - Current USA Swimming Rules only address the competition environment, however, longer exposure to sub-optimal conditions potentially occurs during warm-up and practice time. The subcommittee is proposing guidance for LSCs to post on their websites to encourage coaches and clubs to consider proactive guidelines for the benefit of athletes.
 - Discussion ensued among Committee members with several pertinent issues raised for consideration.
 - A written draft of the proposal will be sent to the full Committee for formal input prior to the next meeting.

- Racing Starts (Davis)
 - Meeting next week. Working in conjunction with Communications Sub-Committee. Goal is to increase Coach awareness and compliance with Racing Start Certification process and procedure.

- Communications (Branden)
 - Subcommittee met and narrowed the initial topics to be addressed to
 - Warm-up procedures / protocols
 - Hypoxic Blackout
 - Safety Certification for Coaches
 - Possible modalities that LSCs could use for information dissemination will be developed. We will seek to collaborate with other working groups in this endeavor.
 - Next meeting March 6

- Certifications (Marco)
 - Written report provided to member of the Committee

Hypoxic Blackout Joint Statement (Doug)

- Met with Chloe and Nate. Will continue the process with Branden to get the statement pushed out.
- Need to get the recommendations on the website updated before the Statement is issued.
- Initial review within the Communications Department is complete. Only minor changes / updates were needed.
- Webinar planning in process. James Pawelczk, a physiologist at Penn State, will be the speaker / presenter.
- Hypoxic Blackout is not currently a topic available on the Coaches Education platform – but will be added in the future.

Spring Workshop (Mike)

- Davis, Marco, TJ, and Mike are planning to attend.
- Dan advised that the Workshop Agenda will be made available by the end of the week.

LSC Contacts (Jack)

- All currently listed LSC OR Chairs were contacted for purposes of a status check. Most responded, although not all. Committee members are requested to reach out to their assignments to ensure the currently listed individuals remain the LSC Operational Risk Chair / contact.

Adjournment: Mike Seip adjourned the February 16, 2023, meeting of the Operational Risk Committee at 5:00 PM.