

**Curt A. Oppel**

Iowa Swimming, Inc.

Admin. Vice Chair Report

From 2016 USAS Convention

I attended the following presentations and workshops during the 2016 USAS Convention

**Operational Risk Committee** – This committee’s responsibility is reviewing insurance issues and making recommendations regarding insurance coverages based. Some concerns the Committee is addressing include:

- The importance of Director E&O insurance with appropriate riders, such as employment practices. The use of Drones at swim meets by hobbyist/spectators
- The important role of meet marshals
  - A couple of LSC are requiring marshals to be certified by the LSC. This requires passing an on-line test to be a meet marshal.
  - Some LSC require meet hosts to have at least two meet marshals on duty at all times for invitational meets and five meet marshals for large meets.
- Studying meet warm-up rules. Some suggestions include:
  - Concussion education and awareness
  - Only swimmers that qualify for finals are allowed to warm-up for finals.
  - No training equipment may be used during warm-ups.
  - Coaches should maintain sight and verbal control of their swimmers during warm-ups.
  - A minimum of two marshals and officials on deck during warm-ups.
  - Recommended Number of swimmers per lane:

	<u>25 SCY</u>	<u>25 SCM</u>	<u>50 meter</u>
Age Group (12&U)	12 – 15	15 – 18	28 – 35
Senior (13&0)	10 – 12	12 – 15	21 – 28

ISI Mandatory Warm-Up Rules currently require warm-ups to be split when the number of swimmers exceed:

	<u>25</u>
Age Group (12&U)	24 per lane (144 swimmers in the session)
Senior (13&0)	20 per lane (120 swimmers in the session)

ISI currently has no maximum recommendations of swimmers per lane for 50 meter pools.

Recommendations – We create two task forces. The first task force is to review and make recommendations for changes to the ISI Mandatory Warm-Up Rules. The second task force is to review our current insurance coverage and determine if we have appropriate amount and type of coverage.

**Governance Committee** – This committee is a newly formed, standing committee of the Board of Directors. Its purpose is to be more active than a traditional nominating committee. The Governance Committee works year-round to assist the board to institutionalize effective governance of USA Swimming. Items of interest discussed included:

- Should the Board of Directors be a Management Board which deals with day-to-day operations of the entity or should it be a Governance Board which sets overall strategies, goals and policies and allows “staff” to perform the day-to-day functions based on policies decided by the board.
- Non-Profit Consultants are working with USA Swimming to educate boards of clubs and LSCs to become more governing boards than managing boards. The advantages of Governing Boards is they do not burden boards with micro-managing activities which allows boards to help grow the entity and fulfil the entity’s mission.

Recommendations – We create a task force to study the best form of governance for LSC.

**Roberts Rule’s of Order** – Received a nice refresher on Roberts Rules of Order.

**Athlete Engagement** – I attended the Athlete Engagement workshop and developed action steps with our athlete representatives. Some of the items we discussed in an effort to get more athletes involved with our included:

- Allow our athletes responsibility for running our ISI Webpage, Twitter and Instagram accounts.
- Recruit an engaged Athlete Liaison that will assist the athletes accomplish their goals and objectives.
- Determine ways to insure that our member clubs focus on getting athlete representatives involved in our LSC.

Recommendation – We must recruit the right individual to work with our athletes. This person should be available for our athletes, be responsive to their communications and needs, encouraging, assist the athletes solve problems, be a good advisor, and have experience in swimming.

**LSC Financial Management** – I attend the presentation by the LSC Development Committee on the LSC financial reporting obligations, such as reports that are required to be sent to USA Swimming. This discussion also focused on the steps necessary for us to maintain on Leap 2 status and progress to Leap 3.

Recommendation – We confirm with our Treasurer that our tax reporting obligations have been fulfilled. The task force should also assess the need for a Governance committee and also determine the need for an Audit Committee.

**House of Delegates and Zone Meetings** – I attended the Zone House of Delegates meetings. Important items included:

- Meet hosts must accept Deck Pass as a form of proof of membership
  - Statement must be in Meet Announcements as a condition of Sanctioning
  - USA Swimming will no longer provide Membership Cards for non-athletes.
  - Recommendation – Change ISI Policy & Procedure to compensate for the lack of USA Membership Cards.

**Other Information I learned** - U of I CWRC has been recommended to host the 2017 December Short Course Junior Nationals Meet.