

Underwater Society of America 2024 Annual Membership Meeting

5 October 2024
1pm-2:30pm CST

1. Call to Order/Attendance (5 minutes)
2. Approval of 2022 Minutes (5 minutes)
3. Approval of 2023 Agenda
4. Treasurer's Report (15 minutes)
 - a. Fiscal Year 2023 - Located on website.
 - i. USOA
 - ii. By Sport
 - b. Approval of 2025 Budget Located on website
5. Recap and approval of Sports Commission 2023 Meeting (15 minutes)
 - a. Finswimming: Diego Rodriguez
 - b. Spearfishing: Scott Turgeon
 - c. UWH: Beven McWilliams, acting UWH Director
 - d. UWR: Timmy Burke

Recap and approval of Board of Governors' 2024 Meeting (15 minutes)

6. Elections (15 minutes) - see voting tally below
 - a. President
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. National Sports Directors
 - i. Finswimming
 - ii. Spearfishing
7. By-law changes - None
8. Standardized Competitive Rule Changes - None
9. Approval of membership dues structure - No change
 - a. \$30 USOA plus \$20 UWH, \$15 UWR, \$15 Fin Swimming, \$15 Visual
10. Set 2025 Meeting (5 minutes): October 4, 2025 (tentative)
11. Adjournment: pm CST

Underwater Society of America

2023 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

7 October 2023

1pm-2:30pm CST

12. Call to Order/Attendance (5 minutes) 1:02pm
 - a. Karen Thullner, Mike Gower, Bill Van Deman, Carol Rose, Kurt Allen, Ray Tucker, Anne Giesecke, Jenny Mohn, Philip Hickey, Kendall Banks, Cristian Parra, Diego Rodriguez
13. Approval of 2022 Minutes (5 minutes) Approved
14. Approval of 2023 Agenda Approved
15. Treasurer's Report (15 minutes)
 - a. Fiscal Year 2021 - Located on website.
 - i. USOA
 - ii. By Sport
 - b. Approval of 2024 Budget Located on website
16. Recap and approval of Sports Commission 2023 Meeting (15 minutes)
 - a. Finswimming: Diego Rodriguez
 - i. Coral Springs World Cup (15 countries)/ Finswimming Nationals (25 athletes)
 - ii. Egypt - World Champion Juniors and Masters (7 gold, 5 silver, 3 bronze)
 - iii. PanAmericans Columbia
 - iv. CMAS World Championship in Serbia 2024
 - b. Spearfishing: Scott Turgeon
 - i. Nationals- Kona, Hawaii
 1. Largest ever
 2. New clubs and reactivated clubs
 3. Lots of invasive fish, no limits for size and quantity
 - a. Sent to Oahu for food, approx 2,000 lbs
 4. 2024 Nationals - Florida Keys July 17-18
 - ii. CMAS World's
 1. Women's Team 3rd Place out of 13
 2. Women Individual 4th Place
 3. Men's 7th out of 24
 - iii. Churchill Trophy repaired
 1. FSDA will house trophy
 - c. UWH: Jenny Mohn/Megann Largent, UWH Director
 - i. Committee made document for Financial Responsibilities
 - ii. UWH Referee training is online
 - iii. Several upcoming events, including women's event
 - iv. Potentially raise dues next year to \$20 for UWH.

- v. Putting Tournament regulations and guidelines together.
- vi. UWH Worlds
 - 1. 4 teams and 3 referees
 - 2. MM - Gold
- d. UWR: Cristian Parra
 - i. World's in Montreal - 2 teams (10 countries)
 - ii. See previous meeting notes

Recap and approval of Board of Governors' 2023 Meeting (15 minutes)

Spearfishing

PanAms 2026?

Worlds 2029?

UWH

Age Group 2026?

Zone Qualifiers 2025?

17. DEMA attendance going forward

- a. Works well for spearfishing
- b. Will Visual Contest help?
 - i. Display winners next year
- c. USOA is the oldest recreational diving organization.
- d. USOA Legislation component
- e. Chance to be in front of recreational diving and sports.

18. Elections (15 minutes) - see voting tally below

- a. Vice President: Bill Van Deman
- b. Secretary: Mike Gower
- c. National Sports Directors
 - i. UWH Jenny Mohn
 - ii. UWR Cristian Parra

19. By-law changes - Approved

- a. https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/3c1e-3051514/Bylaws_-_10-2023.pdf?_gl=1*1mvzqn8*_ga*MTYzOTc5NjAyLjE2OTYzODExMDM.*_ga_PQ25JN9PJ8*MTY5NjY0NTc3NS40LjEuMTY5NjY0ODE4NC4wLjAuMA..#_ga=2.142668021.1393365130.1696645780-163979602.1696381103

20. Standardized Competitive Rule Changes - Approved

- a. https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/f3bd-3051506/Standardized_Competitive_Rules_-_SCR_2023.pdf?_gl=1*i4jzb4*_ga*MTYzOTc5NjAyLjE2OTYzODExMDM.*_ga_PQ25JN9PJ8*MTY5NjY0NTc3NS40LjEuMTY5NjY0ODE4NC4wLjAuMA..#_ga=2.51509481.1393365130.1696645780-163979602.1696381103

21. Addition of Visual as a Sport - Approved

- a. Visual Rules
- b. https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/6be4-3035288/USOA_Visual_Committee_Rules_2023.pdf?_gl=1*yrh4ku*_ga*MTYzOTc5NjAyLjE2OTYzODExMDM.*_ga_PQ25JN9PJ8*MTY5NjU1NDQzNC4zLjEuMTY5NjU1NjcwMi4wLjAuMA..#_ga=2.125168399.420408651.1696551830-163979602.1696381103

22. Approval of membership dues structure: Approved

23. Set 2024 Meeting (5 minutes): October 5, 2024 (tentative)
24. Adjournment: 2:11pm CST

Election Results for 2023 USOA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEET
105 voted

USOA Vice President: Bill VanDeman

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Yes - I approve the candidate	82	96.47%
No - I reject the candidate	3	3.53%

Votes tallied: 85
 Abstentions: 20

USOA Secretary: Mike Gower

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Yes - I approve the candidate	75	93.75%
No - I reject the candidate	5	6.25%

Votes tallied: 80
 Abstentions: 25

Approve USOA Bylaws changes as published

Option	Votes	Percentage
Yes - I approve the changes	74	86.05%
No - I reject the changes	12	13.95%

Votes tallied: 86
 Abstentions: 19

Approve the Updated Standardized Competitive Rules

Option	Votes	Percentage
Yes - I approve the rules	76	84.44%
No - I reject the rules	14	15.56%

Votes tallied: 90
 Abstentions: 15

Approve Visual Rules

Option	Votes	Percentage
Yes - I approve the Rules	57	85.07%
No - I reject the Rules	10	14.93%

Votes tallied: 67
 Abstentions: 38

Approve the dues structure for 2023

Option	Votes	Percentage
Yes - I approve the changes	70	72.16%
No - I reject the changes	27	27.84%

Votes tallied: 97
 Abstentions: 8