

# Underwater Society of America

## 2022 Sports Commission Meeting Agenda

7 October 2022  
9am CST-10:30am CST

*The Sports Commission is composed of the Executive Committee and Elected Sport Directors (USOA By-laws Section 3.4.1).*

1. Call to Order and Attendance: (5 minutes) 10:00am CST
  - a. Officers: Karen Thullner, Bill Van Deman
  - b. Directors: Jenny Mohn, Scott Turgeon, Diego Rodriguez, Evan Frost, Megann Largent, Anatoliy Pak
2. Approval of the Agenda. Approved.
3. Approval of the Minutes from 1 October 2022. Approved.
4. Director Reports (Complete Director Reports can be found at [www.underwater-society.org](http://www.underwater-society.org) in the Documents/Annual Reports 2023 tab.
  - a. Apnea - Diego Rodriguez
    - i. New CMAS rules
    - ii. Tampa will have a national Dec 1-3. Competition is open, not a USOA event.
    - iii. Serbia will have an event as qualification for the World Games.
    - iv. WADA doping was a recent issue. Better doping controls are needed.
  - b. Fin Swimming – Diego Rodriguez (10 minutes)
    - i. There were several competitions - Juniors, Masters, PanAmericans
    - ii. Working for World Cup in Coral Springs in April
    - iii. World Championship in Serbia. This is a qualifier for World Games 2025 (China).
    - iv. University World Championship (FISU) FISU is Colombia April 28 2028
  - c. Mermaiding - Anatoliy Pak
    - i. We are waiting for CMAS to accept it as a sport prior to USOA.
    - ii. There is a China Championship.
    - iii. This is an upcoming sport.
    - iv. Chicago Area has a Mermaid Swim Club with training.
    - v. Anatoliy is a Mermaid Instructor Trainer.
    - vi. The sport is freediving with underwater figure swimming, an artistic component.
  - d. Skin Spearfishing – Scott Turgeon (10 minutes)
    - i. Nationals 2023 were in Kona, Hawaii.
      1. Over 100 competitors
      2. One of the largest Nationals ever
      3. Two new clubs were formed.
      4. A Hawaii club reactivated
      5. 11 Clubs and councils registered for the year. 8 participated in Nationals.

- 6. There was a 2 man masters division. Sounds like this will be growing.
  - ii. Nationals 2024 - Florida Keys (this is a new club)
  - iii. 2023 CMAS Worlds Spain
    - 1. USA Women's team took 3rd, out of 13 countries
      - a. Rosibel was 4th in the Women's Individual
    - 2. USA Men's were 17th out of 24 countries.
  - iv. Annual Committee Meeting
    - 1. No new rules for 2023
  - v. The Churchill Trophy is repaired.
    - 1. It needs a permanent home.
- e. Underwater Hockey – Jenny Mohn (10 minutes)
  - i. There are 439 registered for UWH
  - ii. Committee made a document outlined guidelines for UWH Funds.
  - iii. 4 teams and 3 referees in CMAS 2023 World Championship
  - iv. USOA UWH Referee Training
    - 1. Level 1 and 2 are available virtually
  - v. Several major tournaments this year, including a women's tournament
  - vi. Proposed policy to update National Teams Composition
  - vii. Potentially 2025 or 2026 CMAS World Event
  - viii. Creating tournament hosting handbook
- f. Underwater Rugby – Cristian Parra (10 minutes)
  - i. CMAS World's 2023 Montreal
  - ii. Nationals was in DC
    - 1. NJ will going to Champions Cup in Berlin - November 2023
  - iii. There was just an open tournament in Boston, similar to a UWH Potluck format
  - iv. Still discussing open tournaments for next year.
  - v. Working on referee training.
- g. Visual - Anatoliy Pak and Evan Frost (10 minutes)
  - i. This is a new sport for USOA.
  - ii. Photography and Videography
  - iii. Will have open contest for Best of 2023
    - 1. Open water
    - 2. Confined water
    - 3. Wildlife
    - 4. Entry fee will be a USOA membership. Hope is to get new members.
    - 5. Submissions will open in November.
    - 6. Potentially livestream judging so people see submissions move through competition.

5. Approval of USOA Competitive Sports Commission Changes.

6. Social Media accounts

a. All sport directors should have the PWs to their individual sports accounts

b. USOA has created a generic social media email account.

i. [socialmedia@uwsociety.org](mailto:socialmedia@uwsociety.org)

- ii. Please ask for a password.
  - c. USOA can use some assistance with the Facebook account. Please let me know if you have knowledge in this area.
- 7. Live-Streaming
  - a. Boston was the first livestream event with drones
  - b. Charleston or BAA will be next.
- 8. Fundraising
  - a. Sustainable Giving
    - i. USOA needs to do fundraising more than just teams going to worlds.
    - ii. Can we hire someone with a contract/commission based upon how much they raise?
  - b. Patreon
    - i. <https://www.patreon.com/>
    - ii. How can we best utilize this?
- 9.
- 10. Adjournment 11:00am CST

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## 2022 Sports Commission Meeting Agenda

1 October 2022

9am CST-10:30am CST

*The Sports Commission is composed of the Executive Committee and Elected Sport Directors (USOA By-laws Section 3.4.1).*

11. Call to Order and Attendance: 10:01 a.m. CT (5 minutes)
  - a. Officers: Karen Thullner, Wendy Okafuji, Diana Madden
  - b. Directors: Timmy Burke, Scott Turgeon, Megann Largent
12. Approval of the Agenda. MS Approved
13. Approval of the Minutes from 20 March 2021. MS Approved
14. Director Reports (Complete Director Reports can be found at [www.underwater-society.org](http://www.underwater-society.org) in the Documents/Annual Reports 2022 tab.
  - a. Fin Swimming – Mike Gower (10 minutes)
  - b. Skin Spearfishing – Scott Turgeon (10 minutes)
  - c. Underwater Hockey – Megann Largent (10 minutes)
  - d. Underwater Rugby – Timmy Burke (10 minutes)
15. Approval of USOA Competitive Sports Commission Changes.
  - a. Major changes: cleaning up repetitive language, making Nationals a sanctioned event, defining a sanctioned event.
  - b. Changes (minor/cosmetic)
    - i. Take out editing
    - ii. Update formatting
    - iii. 5.4.2 “All USOA members” instead of designating the separate sports.
  - c. MS Approved
16. USOA Uniforms
  - a. USOA Provided the Finswimming team with jackets and shorts for World Games.
  - b. USOA has a discount arrangement with Finis
  - c. USOA also worked with Podium to get the Finswimming uniforms (jacket & shorts)
    - i. Design is intended to be standardized across all sports.
    - ii. Athletes can purchase extra jackets if desired
    - iii. USOA will ask athletes to use the uniforms for 2 cycles.
  - d. USOA would like to provide all National teams apparel depending on budget
    - i. The goal is jackets at a minimum.
    - ii. USOA would like to ask the sports dev funds to help fund a portion.
    - iii. Swimsuits. Working on a design.
      1. USOA probably cannot fund the swimsuits in addition to the jackets/shorts.
      2. Suggestion that National Director of each sport appoint a person(s) to the design team. Megann & Timmy will submit names to KT for the design team.

3. UWR also need water shirts & headgear.
  - iv. Spearfishing generally gets sponsored apparel donations. USOA apparel is meant to be official uniforms for the podium & opening ceremonies. It may solve the issues of athletes not wearing uniform because of competing sponsor (2021). Spear teams can let sponsor know that these items of apparel will be covered and maybe they will donate something else.
  - e. USOA also has an account with Bonfire. Teams can submit a design and people order online (no preorder inventory required).
17. Social Media accounts
  - a. All sport directors should have the PWs to their individual sports accounts
18. UWR Women's National team meeting
  - a. Date conflicted with a religious holiday. Coach continued with the meeting.
  - b. Add language to the Harassment Policy? Have a coach's contract that they need to sign saying they have read all the USOA policies, including non-discrimination policies.
  - c. Agreed to table for the next EC meeting.
19. Adjournment MS Adjourn