

Minutes of the Age Group Committee Meeting

February 4, 2010

- I. Members on the Call:** Geoff Abdoo, Jim Donaldson, Board Liaison, Kat Donatello, Chuck Graziano, Chair, John Jones, Tom Manzi, Steve Sutherland, Rob Vigorito, Jim Weaver, Tim Yount, Staff, , and Tom Zayko, Lee Zohlman, Vice-Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

II. Procedures and Scheduling

The Committee discussed procedures and scheduling and agreed on the following for 2010:

- a. Conference call meetings will take place on a bi-monthly basis, beginning in March. Jim Donaldson made the committee aware that the Board meeting calls take place on the 1st Monday of each month and that we may want to schedule our calls mid-month in order to be able to deal with requests and issues referred by the Board in a timely manner. Due to school schedules (spring break), March will be an exception; however, normally meetings will take place on the third Thursday of every other month, beginning at 7:00 PM Eastern Time. The schedule for the year will be:
 1. March 10th
 2. May 20th
 3. July 15th
 4. September 16th
 5. November 18th
- b. Our objective will be to have calls last no longer than 1 hour.
- c. Chuck will check into the possibility of using the record function of the conference call service so that calls can be recorded for those unable to make a call.
- d. Minutes will be recorded and posted on an AGC Yahoo Group. Recording of minutes will rotate among members from meeting to meeting. Kat Donatello volunteered to take minutes in March. John Jones will set up a Yahoo Group for the committee and also check into the possibility of linking the AGC web site (USATAGC.ORG) with the National web site once again.

III. Issues/Opportunities for 2010

Committee members discussed the following items as goals for 2010:

- a. Tightening up on qualifying criteria for National Championships (document circulated to committee for future discussion).
- b. How to improve age grouper experience at races
- c. Getting more older athletes to participate in the sport. Related items included the promotion of Aquavelo to extend the ability to race for those older athletes and dealing with recruitment/retention issues such that we find ways to reduce attrition of our age group membership.
- d. Increasing numbers for Duathlon National Championship

- e. Creating a National Championship for Aquavelo.
- f. Getting more kids involved with the sport
- g. Creating a closer connection between the AGC and the regional boards
- h. Continuing to pursue representation from every region on the AGC
- i. Raising the stature of the Athletes of the Year Awards- Lee Zohlman will work with Steve Sutherland and Jim Weaver between now and the March call to create an outline of prospective changes to the program.
- j. Getting someone over 70 years old to be represented on the AGC to help create programs and opportunities for older athletes.
- k. Using the National Rankings to determine the Athletes of the Year- Tim Yount pointed out that some major changes are likely to be made to the rankings formula and that this issue may not be ready for discussion for another year.
- l. Make recommendation regarding “bear chest rule” for men in races
- m. Town Hall Meeting- organization and execution by AGC as host.

IV. New Business Items

- e. ITU World Championship Qualifier- Chuck mentioned the issue of the ITU qualifying American age groupers for the World Championship race at events other than the US National Championship and referenced his reply, which was circulated among the committee for informational purposes.

V. Confirm Next Meeting Date/Adjourn

The next conference call of the Age Group Committee will be on March 10, 2010, beginning at 7:00 PM Eastern Time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Graziano, Chair

USAT Age Group Committee