

**Southern California Swimming  
Open Water Committee  
Meeting Minutes and Discussion Notes**

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Attendees: Robin Smith (Chair), John Abrami (Coastal OW Rep), Mark Johnson (Metro OW Rep), Paul Szuszkiewicz (Eastern OW Rep and Officials Liaison to OW Committee)

Guests: Michael Kinross (WZ OW Coordinator, Desert), CJ Wanser (Official, Orange)

Absent: Ron Aitken (Desert OW Rep), Colin Geer (Athlete Rep – Metro), Iman Khadembashi (Pacific OW Rep), Paige Kuwata (Athlete Rep – Desert), Alex Nieto (Orange OW Rep)

Meeting Called to Order: 7:33 PM

MSP – To Approve the July 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Robin noted that these minutes have already been posted to the SCS website.

**COMPETITION:**

1. Michael Kinross gave an update on the 2021 WZ Open Water Championships (Sat Sep 18<sup>th</sup>) and the Las Vegas Open Water Champions Cup (Fri to Sun Oct 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>) being held at Lake Las Vegas, Henderson NV. Both open water meets are sanctioned and entries are open. It was confirmed that the Las Vegas Open Water Champions Cup will serve as a Qualifying Event for the USA Open Water National Team.

2. Mission Mile Open Water Meet (Sunday Sep 12<sup>th</sup>) at Lake Mission Viejo, Mission Viejo, CA has been sanctioned and approved. Online registration will open shortly. Entries will NOT be run through OME. There will be time limits in place for each race distance.

**EDUCATION:**

1. Due to the lack of venues and availability of special event permits, it was decided to postpone the SCS Age Group Open Water Camp and Clinic to 2022.

**SUPPORT:**

1. A request for funding assistance by Sandpipers of Nevada was discussed. This request is to assist with the increased costs of lifeguards and safety equipment (boats, kayaks), plus additional requirements at the venue for the two upcoming Open Water Meets at Lake Las Vegas. Open Water Committee supports this request and will bring this forward to the SCS BOD Meeting in September.

2. Certification and Training of Open Water Officials, including Open Water Referees, was discussed. There will be limited opportunities for training at the upcoming open water meets due to pandemic limitations.

**OTHER:**

1. Bids for 2022 and 2023 Western Zone Open Water Championships will open shortly.

**\*\*\*NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 7:30PM Pacific Time\*\*\***

Meeting adjourned: 8:23 PM