

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

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Attendees: Robin Smith (Chair), John Abrami (Coastal OW Rep), Mark Johnson (Metro OW Rep), Chris Kang (Pacific OW Rep), Paul Szuszkiewicz (Eastern OW Rep), Paige Kuwata (Athlete OW Rep – Desert)

Absent: Ron Aitken (Desert OW Rep), Alex Nieto (Orange OW Rep), Rylie Solis (Athlete OW Rep – Desert)

Meeting Called to Order: 8:01 PM

Robin welcomed everyone to the first OW Committee meeting of 2022 and introduced the new members.

COMPETITION:

1. The Committee discussed placeholder open water meets and potential additional venues for the 2022 SCS Open Water Calendar. It was noted that the Huntington Beach Pier Swim has not yet set a date for their 2022 event. Draft calendar is appended to this document.
2. SCS OW JO's 2022 Host – due to the uncertainty with venues and open water meets moving forward, committee discussed possibility of having hosts of current meets bid instead of new hosts/venues.
3. Discussion around issuing special event permits for race venues in 2022. Recommendation is to confirm who is in charge of the body of water and who will provide the lifeguards/safety to determine the permitting process.

EDUCATION:

1. Brainstormed ideas for OW Clinics and Age Group OW Camp. Suggestions ranged from having a clinic at a meet venue before the races to using pool space for both clinics and open water events during pool meets.
2. Committee discussed the “parent's” perspective on OW and OW Safety. Suggestion to finalize the draft training presentations and place on new SCS website for everyone to access.

SUPPORT:

1. Robin confirmed the proposed SCS Club Support amounts for 2022. OW will use the same criteria and formula as Pool. The proposal is in the process of being approved by the SCS BOD. Proposed amounts for the upcoming 2022 OW Nationals/Jr. Nationals in Fort Myers FL: \$1300 for Nationals, \$900 for Jr. Nationals, plus one coach each per 10 athletes.
2. Paul gave a brief update on the current status of OW Officials certification process.

*****NEXT MEETING: Wednesday March 23, 2022 at 8:00PM Pacific Time*****

Meeting adjourned: 8:33 PM

Southern California Swimming

2022 Open Water Calendar

(As of February 16, 2022)

Here are the tentative 2022 Open Water Meets and Events that I am currently aware of.

Dates, Details, and Additional Open Water Meets, Events, and Clinics will be added when venues start to allow Hosts to schedule Meets/Events for 2022.

DATE	OPEN WATER MEET/EVENT	LOCATION
Fri April 1 st to Sun April 3 rd	Combined USA Swimming Open Water Nationals and Junior Open Water Nationals	Ft. Myers Beach, FL
TBD	SCS Age Group Open Water Camp and Clinic	TBD
TBD	70 th Annual Huntington Beach Pier Swim	Huntington Beach, CA
TBD	53 rd Annual Seal Beach Rough Water Swim (dual sanction USA-S / USMS)	Seal Beach, CA
TBD	Semana Nautica Ocean Swims	Santa Barbara, CA
Fri July 15 th	Legacy Triathlon Open Water Swims (USAT Sanctioned Event)	Long Beach, CA
TBD	SCS Open Water JOs Host: TBD	TBD
Sun Aug 14 th	Hermosa Beach Triathlon 1-Mile Pier Swim (USAT Sanctioned Event)	Hermosa Beach, CA
Sat Sep 10 th	2022 Western Zone Open Water Championships Host: Sandpipers of Nevada	Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, NV
Sun Sep 25 th	Mission Mile (Dual sanction USA-S / USMS)	Lake Mission Viejo, Mission Viejo, CA

For Questions OR if you would like to Host an Open Water Meet Event:

Please contact Robin Smith, SCS Open Water Vice Chair

openwater@southerncaliforniaswimming.org