

# Open Water Committee Meeting

August 21, 2025

Minutes

Meeting started at 7:30pm

2026 LSC Open Water Championship discussion was held.

- Phil Barnes presented requests for consideration
  - Meet Director, proposed Scott Weinheimer
    - **Action Item:** Phil will contact Scott to see if he is willing to take on this responsibility.
  - Open Water Committee: Per the Committee's Policies and Procedures, the chair of the Open Water Committee is appointed by the General Chair at the start of odd number years
    - Mehal informed Phil know that she does not intend to continue as the Open Water Chair, but would like to remain on the committee
    - Phil informed the committee to select a new chair and committee members then send selection to him for the board's consent
  - Music: Phil inquired if the use of music was allowed at the venue.
    - **Action Item:** Andrea to inquire about this with Polk County.
  - Banners/Signs: Phil encouraged the use of the LSC Championship banners.
    - **Action Item:** Mehal to request banner usage with the LSC office.
  - Celebration theme: Phil would like the event to have a celebration theme with food trucks
    - **Action Item:** Andrea to check with Polk County on food truck usage at Easter Lake.
  - Participants
    - Phil inquired about invitation to triathletes
    - Andrea discussed an invitation to other LSC's
      - Illinois has shown interest
      - Midwestern spoke with Bill Brown about their interest
    - **Action Item:** Committee will discuss event format to potentially include these athletes
- Discussion on Qualifying Times for the Event
  - Mike presented various open water qualifying times used in past events
    - **Action Item:** Mike will compile qualifying times from other open water events to help the committee determine which would be best for IASI
- Andrea presented
  - Independent Safety Officer
    - Andrea reported that George Geanon and John Shenberger will both be available to help

# Open Water Committee Meeting

August 21, 2025

Minutes

- Open Water Checklist
  - Presented the checklist created by CZ OW members
  - **Action Item:** Andrea will begin to compile information for the IASI OW Champs and create a timeline draft
  - **Action Item:** Mike will send Andrea OW timelines of past events to add to the open water checklist
- Discussed the nomination of an Iowa Swimming Representative to the Open Water National Clinic
  - This clinic will be held Thursday, April 2, 2026 in Sarasota, Florida
  - The Open Water Committee agreed to recommend Susan Repko as the LSC's representative who will attend this clinic
    - **Action Item:** Mehal will email the nomination to Phil (General Chair) and Bill Brown (Official's Chair)
      - **Action Item:** Andrea will follow up with IASI verifying Susan's name has been presented to USA Swimming
- The Open Water Committee Structure was discussed
  - Mike Repko stated he is willing to be the Open Water Committee Chair for the term September 1, 2025- August 31, 2027 with the boards consent
  - Andrea Kelley is willing to be the Open Water Committee Vice Chair for the term September 1, 2025- August 31, 2027 with the boards consent
  - Mehal Raghvani is willing to be the Open Water Secretary for the remaining term September 1, 2024- August 31, 2026 with the boards consent
  - Athlete Representatives are being requested to join the committee
    - **Action Item:** Mehal to approach athletes in the LSC for their potential to join the Open Water Committee
- Discussion was held and the committee established a meeting calendar for the 2025-2026 fiscal year
  - Meetings will occur the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm beginning September 2025
  - Frequency of meetings will increase as the timeframe nears closer to the Open Water LSC Championship

Meeting concluded at 8:50pm

*Notes submitted by Andrea Kelley  
August 23, 2025*