

# Underwater Society of America

## 2024 Sports Commission Meeting Agenda

5 October 2024

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:
  - b. Directors:
2. Approval of the Agenda..
3. Approval of the Minutes from 7 October 2023..
4. Director Reports (Complete Director Reports can be found at [www.underwater-society.org](http://www.underwater-society.org) in the Documents/Annual Reports 2024 tab.
  - a. Apnea - Diego Rodriquez
  - b. Fin Swimming – Diego Rodriguez (10 minutes)
  - c. Mermaiding - Anatoliy Pak
  - d. Skin Spearfishing – Scott Turgeon (10 minutes)
  - e. Underwater Hockey – Jenny Mohn (10 minutes)
  - f. Underwater Rugby – Timmy Burke (10 minutes)
  - g. Visual - Evan Frost (10 minutes)
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 /YouTube Channel
  - a.
8. Fundraising
9. Adjournment am CST

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## 2023 Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

7 October 2023  
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).*

10. 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
11. Approval of the Agenda. Approved.
12. Approval of the Minutes from 1 October 2022. Approved.
13. 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.

14. Approval of USOA Competitive Sports Commission Changes.

15. Social Media accounts

- a. All sport directors should have the PWs to their individual sports accounts
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  - 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.
- 16. Live-Streaming
  - a. Boston was the first livestream event with drones
  - b. Charleston or BAA will be next.
- 17. 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?
- 18.
- 19. Adjournment 11:00am CST