

# Report of SPMS Voting Procedures and Requirements sub-committee

17 May, 2020

Members: Errol Graham, Becky Cleavenger, Bob Eberwine, Michael Heather

The committee was tasked with two agenda items:

- (1) Determine whether or not face-to-face meetings should be counted in the meeting attendance requirement (for voting and reimbursement),**
- (2) Determine whether or not online voting for contractors will be allowed, and whether only members present on a conference call when contractors speak are eligible to vote.**

Item (1):

The committee interpreted face-to-face meetings to be open to all members and informative to qualify as full meetings, even though not all typical agenda items are necessarily covered. Face-to-face meetings give the opportunity for members to interact and socialize on a personal level not available on conference calls, thereby giving the meetings a special meaning to SPMS.

The committee recommends that the face-to-face meetings should be used as part of the whole when calculating voting and reimbursement privileges. It further recommends that the meeting schedule be stated as typical: 11 meetings per year (generally 8 conference calls, 2 face-to-face meetings, and 1 annual meeting).

Suggested policy for Policies & Procedures:

- *Any SPMS member who attends 50% plus 1 of all eligible meetings in a specific calendar year will be afforded reimbursement of registration fees for USMS and SPMS championships swim meets in that same calendar year as well as reimbursement of the annual registration fee for USMS membership in the immediate subsequent calendar year.*

Item (2):

The committee feels that online voting is difficult to control with the existing technology and may not be fair to SPMS or candidates bidding for a contractor position. However, voting via email is acceptable with voting packages emailed to eligible SPMSC members. Votes shall be submitted to the Secretary plus one additional predetermined EC member.

Attendance on conference call meetings where candidates for contractor positions make their case is important so that questions can be asked of those bidding for the contractor positions. However written bids are submitted to the SPMSC for review prior to the meeting where the bids are discussed. Therefore, the committee recommends that attendance and participation on that conference call should not be required in order to vote on the contractor positions.

Suggested policy for Policies & Procedures:

- *SPMS voting eligibility is limited to current officers, current SPMSC members, and club representatives of record. There shall be no proxy voting.*
- *Contractors who are SPMSC members shall not be eligible to vote on a contractor position for which they are bidding, regardless of their eligibility to vote as an SPMSC member or club representative of record.*
- *Attendance at an SPMS meeting where a contractor bid is presented or discussed is not mandatory.*

The committee trusts that eligible voters would educate themselves to the contracts under consideration as they would when voting on any issue at hand, regardless of whether or not they were in attended or participated in the meeting at which the contract was discussed.

- *SPMS will allow online voting for contactor positions on whatever method the Board of Directors determines appropriate.*

Respectfully submitted.