Dan/Robin:

I am traveling on the east coast so I am not sure if I will make it to the conference call. In case I don't make it here are my comments for the meeting:

- I ordered and sent out the awards for the 2012 open water series
- We received notice from the USMS that sanctions of open water events are on hold until the USMS releases new compliance standards
- The preliminary new standards include:
  - Sanctions may only be issued via the online sanction program at usms.org
  - All propeller driven watercraft used in conjunction with the sanctioned open water events must have a propeller guard(s) installed for the duration of the event. The following are exceptions:
    - Boats owned and operated by Coast Guard, police, fire and rescue, or other government agencies;
    - Boats at anchor from start to finish of the sanctioned event with engine(s) off, while any swimmer is in the water;
    - Boats with propellers fore of the rudder (e.g. inboard motors), provided
      - These boats do not run directly on the designated swim course.
      - For events requiring personal escort craft, water craft with inboard motors may be allowed on the course provided their engines are off when any swimmer is within 20 feet of the propeller and during relay exchanges. For feedings the swimmer may approach within 5 feet of the bow or side of boat with engines engaged.
  - All motorized watercraft hired for the event (by the host, participants, or others) must provide a certificate of insurance naming United States Masters Swimming, Inc., its LMSCs, officers, directors, employees, sponsors, trustees, and event host as additional insured. The certificate shall be submitted to the referee at least 24 hours prior to the event. Liability coverage limits shall not be less than $1 million with a $2 million aggregate.
  - All motorized watercraft volunteered to the event must provide proof of insurance. The proof of Insurance shall be submitted to the referee at least 24 hours prior to the event.
    - All current sanctioned USMS open water events are subject to administrative review to ensure compliance with these new standards. Any current sanctioned event not meeting these standards may have its sanction revoked and thus no liability insurance from USMS. All open water events not yet conducted may be subject an insurance surcharge, amount to be determined.

I think that is all for now. Let me know if you need any additional information from me.

Thank you,
Tanya