Member Progress Report: Council for the Model Aquatic Health Code

June 1, 2018
CMAHC Vision

- An up-to-date, knowledge-based Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC) that supports healthy and safe aquatic experiences for everyone and is used by pool programs across the U.S.
CMAHC Vision translation

- Public pools/waterparks/spas in every community
  - Well operated and they remain open on inspection
- Everyone knows how to swim
- Everyone enjoys the health, social, and family benefits
- Healthy and safe experiences for everyone
  - Improving swimmer ability, knowledge, and hygiene and improved pool operation leads to:
    - Reducing drowning
    - Reducing chemical and other injuries
    - Limiting disease outbreaks
- The MAHC and CMAHC can achieve the long range vision using incremental change to move aquatics towards the vision
2017 CMAHC Conference: Member-driven changes in process and organization

- New on-line Change Request (CR) submission process
- New on-line CR commenting process
- New on-line conference registration capability
- New on-line CR voting system
- New membership system to allow multiple enrollments for single institutions
- Seven Technical Support Committees created to support Technical Review Committee (TRC)
- Multiple opportunities for member comment
- Members could now listen to TRC discussion by phone
- Standardized CR discussion slide layout
2017 CMAHC Conference completed with >100 in-person attendees

- 179 Change Requests submitted
  - Reviewed by Technical Review Committee with assistance by seven Technical Support Committees
  - 68% (122/179) of CRs passed and sent to CDC
  - Only 3.9% impacted by weighting. All seven CR votes that changed (all to YES) due to weighting had a TRC vote recommendation of YES.

- 760 members at end of conference

Recommendations sent to CDC

CDC working on July 2018 release for 2018 MAHC 3rd Edition
2017 Conference: Ad Hoc Committee outputs

- Ad Hoc Committees submitted CRs for:
  - Acoustic criteria for natatorium design to reduce noise levels. (passed)
  - Performance criteria for disinfectant feeders with sizing dependent on stated chlorine demand factors. (passed)
  - Design & operational criteria for regulation of floatation tanks. (passed)
- Chlorine Stabilizer committee developing guidance for use including a scientific publication. Presented results at 2017 WAHC conference.
2017 Conference: Key Change Requests passed

- Acoustic criteria to natatorium design to reduce noise levels.
- Added wording to improve chemical control and feed system interlocks and no/low flow deactivation.
- Performance criteria for disinfectant feeders with sizing dependent on stated chlorine demand factors.
- Provides design & operational criteria for regulation of floatation tanks.
- Specifies that numerous pool chemicals (stabilizers, pool-grade salt, clarifiers, flocculants, defoamers, pH adjustment chemicals) must meet NSF/ANSI Standard 50 or 60.
- Calcium hardness levels raised to 2500ppm.
- Lifeguards required if alcohol served in aquatic venue.
- Guidance for responding to *Legionella* contamination
New Board Members: Expanded to 14 members

- Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee recommended changes in Bylaws. Board passed changes including expanding Board size:
  - Dave Dyjack: National Environmental Health Association
  - Franceen Gonzales: WhiteWater West Industries
  - Jody Kneupper: Premier Parks
  - Alvaro Mendoza: Commercial Energy Specialists, Inc.
  - Carl Nylander: Counsilman-Hunsaker
  - Jim Rada: Jefferson County Public Health, CO
  - Pieter Sheehan: Fairfax County Health Department, VA
  - Retired
    - Scott Hunsaker, Colleen Maitoza

See https://www.cmahc.org/board-of-directors.php
Adoption and Member Involvement
MAHC adoption status

- **Key considerations**
  - States must review and use regulatory process and timeframe: adoption can take > 2-4 years

- **Adoption**
  - Full adoption: NM; National Park Service, Department of Defense, Nova Scotia, Canada
  - Partial adoption/use: GA, FL, DE, PWTAG/UK
  - In process for full/partial adoption: AL, AZ; CO; IA; IN; MD; MN, NY; OH; OR; RI; TN; Counties in MO, NV, VA; Ontario, Canada; Mexico State/Mexico; Colombia
Visible groundswell following MAHC release: becoming a standard while waiting for adoption

- Operational adoption: Use in operations, MAHC-compliant operational materials, and operational assistance
  - YMCA, Great Wolf Lodge, Jeff Ellis & Assoc., Counsilman-Hunsaker
- Variances granted: MAHC-based variances/waivers given liberally to requestors while discussing adoption (e.g., FL, NY, CT)
- Surrogate pool code: States without a pool code pointing to MAHC for design, operation, management guidance (e.g., MS)
- Acceptance of design requirements: MAHC design features becoming accepted and not immediately removed from designs due to cost
  - Clients signing liability waivers if they require removal (e.g., secondary disinfection on increased risk venues)
- Being referred to as standard of care
Support statements

- **Endorsements**
  - Public Health: NACCHO 2015; NEHA 2017; CSTE 2017
  - Aquatics Sector: WWA “Kelly Ogle” Safety Award 2017
  - National Safety Council tracking MAHC adoption to support their anti-drowning risk reduction effort

- **CDC**
  - Continued support by senior CDC management
  - Creation of five state sentinel system: Network for Aquatic Facility Inspection Surveillance (NAFIS) System to monitor impact of adoption

See https://www.cdc.gov/mahc/policy.html
Getting members involved

- Moved to 3-year cycle---next conference October 2020
  - In line with APSP/ICC updates coming in year after CMAHC
  - More time for Committee work to improve CR quality
  - Challenge: show value added during intra-conference period

- Beginning development of aquatics sector network to know about potential adoptions and public meetings
  - Continue support of MAHC Adoption Network webinar from NACCHO
  - Arranging to have MAHC – knowledgeable people attend meetings or ask why adoption is not occurring
  - Increasing role in MAHC technical consultations
Getting members involved: Committee work

- **Standing Committees**
  - Annex updates (in place)
  - CMAHC/APSP ISPSC alignment (forming)
  - Public health involvement (to be formed)
  - Aquatics sector involvement (to be formed)

- **Ad Hoc Committees**
  - Stabilizer use (Continuing)
  - Ventilation Design & Air Quality (Started)
  - Splashpad design (to be formed)
  - Shell design (to be formed)

See https://www.cmahc.org/cmahc-committees.php
Communicating: Presentations around the U.S. to potential users and adopters

- Neptune-Benson Partner Summit
- New York State Conference of Environmental Health Directors
- International Health Regulators
- World Aquatic Health Conference
- International Pool and Spa Conference

See https://www.cmahc.org/presentations-and-webinars.php
Sustainability
Building a diverse funding portfolio for the future

- **Sponsorships**
  - “You have to invest more to grow”
  - Hired part-time Director of Communications in April to build sponsorships and CMAHC awareness
    - Piloting survey of current and potential sponsors to better craft messaging and gauge the need for changes in sponsorship levels
    - Re-craft sponsorship materials to begin actively contacting potential sponsors; vary types of sponsorship
    - Building media list to promote CMAHC and MAHC progress
    - Re-crafting overall messaging to drive up membership

- **Government grants and contracts**
  - Completing requirements for contact/cooperative agreement application
Sponsorships

- Founding Sponsors
  - National Swimming Pool Foundation
  - SeaWorld Entertainment
  - Counsilman-Hunsaker

- Other Sponsors
  - Gold: American Chemistry Council, Jeff Ellis and Associates
  - Silver: AquaCal
  - Bronze: Independent Pool and Spa Service Assoc, Ecolab, New Mexico Environmental Dept, Neptune Benson, Aquatic Development Group

- Conference Sponsors
  - Aquatic Development Group, Wet-N-Wild Spashtown, Autopilot Salt Chlorine Generators

See https://www.cmahc.org/current-sponsors.php
Building a diverse funding portfolio for the future

- Certification
  - Trademarking/Service marking logo and new “certification mark” to cover CMAHC building a “CMAHC-certified” service (e.g., lifeguard, operator, inspection training, products, other services)
    - Currently developing certification guidance for use with clients

- Development
  - Opportunities for role of technical co-creators for educational materials concerning MAHC
2018-2019 goals

- **Build sustainability**
  - Increase sponsorships, memberships, partnerships
  - Certification of training, products, services

- **Increase awareness about the MAHC and benefits of adoption**
  - Aquatics support statements, adoption support and assistance
  - Media and aquatics awareness

- **MAHC improvement**
  - Continue Ad Hoc and Standing Committee creation to drive data-based discussion and Change Requests
  - Revise Change Request and conference preparation time and schedule to allow more time for Change request development
The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.