

**Officials Committee Meeting
August 27, 2014, 7:00 pm
Bear & Grille, Orange, CT**

In attendance: Nancy Wargo, Dave Pite, Dennis Rodney, Ed Becker, Suzannah Rogers, Phillip James, Margy Sargent, Mike Smalec.

Calling in: Barbara Weiderecht

OBSERVER FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- Should we have an OQM for Age Groups, since we didn't have one this time? Or keep it for Seniors? Is Age Groups too chaotic?
- Leave it for Seniors. More accurately reflects national deck protocol for observations
- Suzannah will begin the search for the evaluators. Ed and Nancy will give Suzannah a 1,2,3 list of good candidates.

RECERT REQUIREMENT

- The committee agrees that the requirement to work at least one Stroke & Turn session during the year is a good requirement. It keeps everyone's skills sharp.

ANNUAL MEETING

- If anyone has any topics they feel we should touch on, please let Nancy know.
- Ed can do a presentation on Nationals officiating.
- Checking on a new date, Sept 27/28 because of the conflict with 3 meets on the current date.
- Speaker is potential new president of USA Swimming, Jim Sheehan.
- 3 Break Out sessions...one for S&T, one for Starters and one for Refs/AOs/starters who are close to stepping up to ref.
- Coffee/and for light breakfast and then serve a lunch that people can eat while we continue to meet.
- We will also be ready to have a discussion on how splits are going to be handled.
- Ed will check with the Yacht club on dates, Dave Pite will check with Hamden on the dates and Nancy will contact Jim Sheehan, speaker, on change of dates

SPLITS

- having parents time? do they need to move out if it is their child?
- the rules are clear on what will be primary (pad) the only problem occurs when you need extra times because you don't have pads. There is no requirement in the rulebook that it can or can't be a certain person.
- Suzannah and Ed are still working on writing it up clearly.
- If the rules say that a split is an official time, how can we say that it can't be used as a qualifying time for short course zones? Is that a CT selection rule or is that a Zone rule? Suzannah will draft a note to the Zones Committee to ask if it is our rule or their rule.

RECERTIFICATION PLANS

- plans for recertifying 2015...at this point, very few people have not met their requirements. Of those, some have let Barbara know that they don't plan to recertify. There are some refs who have not worked S&T sessions...some may just not have gotten credit. The ones who didn't work a championship have a bigger problem, but there are very few of them. Mostly they are people who are not coming back

or were first years, but there were a few who just didn't do it. They will be required to make up that session by doing two the following season.

- Do we see value added to the process of putting the certification labels on the tags? Yes. It worked well. For updates, if Barbara gives Nancy envelopes with stickers, she could send them out when she updates a status.

- Next list to attack is checking AOs who didn't meet recert requirements.

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

- Is anyone interested in helping with that so Dennis can concentrate on the clinics and training.

- What would be a good incentive for people to stay on once their swimmers graduate? Keeping the experience is good for us.

- Mike Smalec will work on some ideas for retention of experienced officials.

OFFICIALS TRAINING

- Dennis will be sending out requests for host sites. It will go out next week.

BOARD OF REVIEW

- Discussion

2014-2015 COMMITTEE

- Everyone is planning to return next year.

Next Meeting will be Monday, September 15. 7:00.