

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING

Officials Committee

October 22, 2025 7:00 PM

Zoom

Minutes

Vision Statement: Connecticut Swimming...better life through swimming.

Mission Statement: Connecticut Swimming promotes the pursuit of excellence in swimming and in life through competition and education.

Resolution to Convene the Officials Committee Meeting

Roll Call - Margy Sargent, Dylan Lee, Blake Carlson, Gretchen Cahill, Dave Heller, Steve Christensen

Approval of Agenda

Adoption of Minutes - first meeting of the season....none to approve

Welcome/Announcements/Officials Chair's Report

- New member - Web Site Admin - Steve Christensen - Welcome!
- USA Summit
 - o Steve Christensen went for Officials Track and will be presenting to others in our LSC about being a good mentor.
 - Steve asked who our primary audience will be.
 - Primary, current officials who have an N2 or higher certification in any position
 - Secondary, all officials who would like to learn more about being an effective mentor
 - o Our Athlete Committee was recognized with the Breakout Award
- Patrick from Greenwich and Leon from RYWC both requested the materials form RST about their officials training.
 - o Gretchen will reach out to both to see if we can help with their planning.

- **Seniors MR - Jeff Sargent**
 - o **We will apply for this meet to be a full OQM**
 - We plan to bring in 1 National Evaluator and use local officials, as well, for running the OQM.
- **Age Group MR - Margy Sargent**
 - o **New committee co-chairs - we felt we needed to support them with an experienced MR**
- **Official of the Year has been selected.**
 - o JoAnn McCaffrey - WYW
- **We had an issue with a parent wearing glasses that are capable of recording video while on deck as an official. We will be sending out an email reminding all that those glasses cannot be worn while serving as an official.**
 - o An email will be sent reminding all officials that these types of glasses are not allowed when they are on deck as officials, in any capacity.
- **Junior Officials: Age Restriction for sessions they can work has been removed. Also, they may train as Admin Officials. If working as an admin official, once certified, they MUST be supervised by an adult admin official on the desk.**

Reports of Committee Members:

- **Secretary**
- **Recruitment & Retention**
 - Joe sent in his report. He has been meeting with officials on deck and went to a parent meeting in Newington. Has gotten a few responses and we are seeing new officials sign up for training along with a few officials signing up to move up to higher levels of certification.
- **Club Liaisons**
 - Do we have any other new teams showing interest in doing an in person option?**
 - Not so far, but they will continue to reach out to clubs to see how we can help.
- **Web Site Administrator**
 - Steve has been given access to the editing functions and will monitor the web site for accuracy.
- **Open Water**
 - No updates for Open Water. Dave brought up email from CIAC for clarification on what observers should wear. Margy contacted Mike. Observers should wear comfortable deck clothing that does not give the appearance of a uniform.

- **Athlete Members**

- Blake brought up several ideas for recruiting Junior Officials
 - Host virtual info sessions
 - Create Step-by-Step similar to one for adult officials to post on CT Swim (Blake will work on that.)
 - Work with Athlete Committee to spread the word

Old Business

New Business

- **How do we encourage teams to engage their parents as officials?**
 - o Survey gave us some good info but the respondents were mostly people who are already working.
 - o Other LSC's have specific requirements, for example:
 - For every 10 swimmers entered in a session, team must provide an official for that sessions (1-10=1 official, 11=20=2 officials and so forth.)
 - What if we instituted this, but start with only Championships (Seniors and Age Groups) to see if we can get us back on track for officials working when their athlete is in the water?
 - The committee is divided on how to encourage more participation. All members will try to come up with additional ideas to present at our next meeting.
- **Getting Teams to Be Invested in Keeping Officials**
 - o In order to keep officials when their athletes leaves CT....
 - Pick up USA Membership and provide special name tag, if the official meets the following:
 - At least 8 sessions in a year
 - At least 1 session at a Championship in both SC and LC
 - o To get teams invested in encouraging parents to stay on....
 - If officials meet the above requirement, CT Swim will give the team a \$50 rebate (this would be every year the official remains active.)
 - o The committee is in agreement on this proposal. Margy will write up a formal proposal for us to vote on at the next meeting and we will then present to the BOD for discussion.

- Uniform: changing wording on shoes to “mostly black” to clarify.

Discussion/Public Comment

Adjournment