

## Feb 3, 2016 CT Officials Committee Meeting Minutes

- Discussed deck change and letter for athlete rep to send to coaches.
  - Everyone accepted Elizabeth's content, we agree to add to the letter that you are allowed to have straps down/off should, but must go into the changing area of the locker room to put them down.
  - This is not to be brought up in officials meetings, but can bring up in coaches meeting.
  - Refs should put signs up in the pool area.

**Action Item:** Margy to give addition to Elizabeth, Elizabeth to send note to Rob Riccobon/What (safe sport coordinator for CT) for approval to distribute to teams and determine who should distribute

- Nancy review National Committee call topics
  - House delegates meeting in May – they may have speakers, may be interesting for officials to go
  - National collecting all training material; from all LSCs.
  - Discussed rules (regarding bands, nose plugs, watches)

**Action Item:** Nancy to follow-up re delegates meeting and ask to clarify rules inquiries (complete, email at end of minutes)

- Suzannah discussed transportation for officials evaluators for Seniors
  - Bill Repass picking up Bill Rose, but John Wilson presented a logistical challenge (arriving to LGA on Thursday) Agreed that Suzannah to Reach out to Ed Becker to see if he can pick him up. If that doesn't work out reach out to Ellen Johnson. Ken is back up to pick up if no snow.
  - Discussed that they would room together (Bill and John); Dave to reserve the room
  - Looking into more people to do OQM

**Action Item:** Suzannah to contact Ed Bcker, Dave to reserve room. Suzannah to mention to Bill and John that they will be sharing a room

- Discussed IM rule; specifically that it means you can't push off toward the back intermediate turn of the freestyle leg, which is counter to how swimmers are coached. Decided that there may be more discussion on this after more national meets.
- Debated protocol about swimmer with diabetes, whose mother had a doctor's note that she can be on deck.
  - Agreed officials need accommodate, but that refs should be notified a week in advance (but we should remind coaches to do that. Nancy reiterated that rules told her that we should use common sense, employ good will and remember that we are there for the athletes (all of them). Ultimately how handled is up to the meet ref and solution might vary per pool (options for this case included having mom be a marshal, seating the swimmer near the stands)
- Discussed renewals
  - 303 people caught the wave, 48 in limbo, 8 officially retiring.
  - We are trying to have recertification classes be done online as online webinar; Ed becker leading effort and will test with committee. It will first be offered to S&T and starters.

- Also will have a 20 webex and then available video of what you need to do to recertify (Nancy to open her OTS and walk through). To do first one as webex and record it so people can ask questions and then have the recorded webex be posted online.

**Action Item:** Nancy to follow-up with Ed regarding webexes. Nancy to pull together the “how to” webex (to be scheduled in the fall). Philip to reach out to Barbara to beta test recertification tool to be able to use next season.

- Discussed need for protocol for meet refs for Regionals
  - Agreed that when bidding teams need to list meet ref and assistant meet ref (or call it a CJ). If something changes need to clear through the committee.
- Discussed trainings
  - Deck ref training done at end of year. No meet ref training has occurred; Ken to coordinate with Dennis
  - Consider offering training at age groups championships

**Action Item:** Ken to evaluate Age group training

- Discussed retention event
  - Maybe do something at Seniors at Saturday night. Mike talked to 4 places in Middletown – Boca, Endavy, Middletown Inn, Middletown Elks Lodge. Catered, cash bar.
  - Decided we make it more casual– put it on a wipe board. If you have a time. Test on Saturday on night at seniors
- Four officials visits to teams complete: Tiger sharks, Soundview, ARAC, Wheeler.
  - Dave talks to coaches at meets about it to promote

**Action Item:** Dave to send Nan pics for website

- Reviewed guidance of session length and discussed consequences
  - Currently it is guidance not policy so no consequences
  - Guidance turned into policy

**Action Item:** Jim to put it in front of program development to make it a policy and have the consequences: return US sanction fee. All the swims happening after the 4 hours splash fees returned and home team fees are the fine.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jay Thomas** <[jayfthomas@gmail.com](mailto:jayfthomas@gmail.com)>

Date: Sat, Feb 6, 2016 at 4:47 PM

Subject: RE: Some interesting inquiries

To: Nancy Wargo <[officials@ctswim.org](mailto:officials@ctswim.org)>

Hi Nancy – I will try and address your questions in **RED** below.

Jay Thomas, Chair

USA Swimming – Rules and Regulations Committee

1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5770

[954.873.3370](tel:954.873.3370) (phone) – [888.782.4091](tel:888.782.4091) (fax)

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the originator of the message.

Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifies and with authority, states them to be the views of USA Swimming.

**From:** Nancy Wargo [mailto:[officials@ctswim.org](mailto:officials@ctswim.org)]

**Sent:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 1:56 PM

**To:** Jay Thomas <[jayfthomas@gmail.com](mailto:jayfthomas@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Some interesting inquiries

Hi Jay,

I was at one of our annual meetings and two items were asked about that I wanted to touch base with you on. The use of pacing devices (look like watches/wrist/armbands) and nose clips. I have seen both used on many decks. I'm not sure I know the latest interpretation. The question is are they legal to use or not.

glossary - **ARM** — that part of the body that extends from the shoulder to the wrist. **Yes – that is correct.**

Rulebook:

102.8.1. A..... Armbands or leg bands shall not be regarded as parts of the swimsuit and are not allowed. **This is meant to reference compressive band of elastic band – that may not be used.**

102.8.1.E No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device, substance or swimsuit to help his/her speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, power bands, adhesive substances, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the Referee. Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee.

With the new waterproof FitBit, Polar and Garmin swim trainer watch ([https://buy.garmin.com/en-US/US/wearables/swimming/c10002-atFILTER\\_USERPROFILE\\_SWIMMING\\_01-p1.html](https://buy.garmin.com/en-US/US/wearables/swimming/c10002-atFILTER_USERPROFILE_SWIMMING_01-p1.html)), plus others that beep a pace. Folks wonder what can be used or not and how can they tell - is there a list of allowable or not allowed 'devices.' **Just like a watch – if it is used as a pacing device – then that would be illegal. If it is simply being used to record the performance for later playback – I don't see a problem with that.**

We're seeing more and more kids in our area wearing these types of devices. I had been told from national in the past not to worry about kids wearing watches but with the new training technology changing so rapidly has the national stance changed? **If they come up with a programmable device which has the ability to provide real time feedback to the swimmer via some tactile technology and the swimmer was using that in the race – that would be illegal.**

Thanks as always for your insights, **My pleasure.**

Nancy