

Officials' Committee Meeting Minutes October 26, 2016

In attendance:

Nancy Wargo, Matt Brown, Dave Pite, Margy Sargent, Caroline Sargent, Barbara Wiederecht, Mark Wollen, Ken Gray, Dennis Rodney

In attendance via call-in:

- None

Secretary Report - **Matt Brown**

Minutes:

- Minutes from 9/28/16 meeting approved

Chair Report - **Nancy Wargo**

- A/O vs A/R Discussion
 - A/R is not a separate position per national
 - CT certifies people as A/O at same time as Deck Ref Certification. A/R certification comes with Meet Ref Certification.
 - National evaluations only occur for Meet Ref and not for Deck Ref.
 - **Action Item – Mark and Matt to review A/O final session evaluation form.**
- We ARRE Mentors National Clinic (with Ken & Ed)
 - OQM opportunities are important for LSCs, even if officials are not planning on ever working national decks.
 - Attendees heard about our award program and loved it. Discussed potential additional gifts for reaching new levels of certification (bells for starters, headsets for refs). Intent would be to distribute at annual meeting rather than ship individually.
 - Tips for LSCs included accepting minor shortcomings by officials (lateness and uniform) and to accommodate officials as much as possible (religion, illness, etc.).
 - **Action Item - National requested photos for social media campaign.**
- Disability Awareness Event
 - Action Item: Looking for at least one official and one swimmer to attend meet in NJ in early March (Same weekend as SC Regionals).
- USA Swimming Rule 102.10.2
 - All Trainees are allowed to make disqualification calls if supervised. Suggestion is to give S&T trainees latitude to do this in their last training session.
- Additional Athlete Representatives
 - Committee agreed to accept two new athlete representatives. Nancy is seeking concurrence from CT Swimming.
- Increasing CT Swimming Apparel Offerings
 - Interest in adding new items for purchase through the website. Caps, Fleece items, and possibly polo shirts (other than white) were discussed

- Action Item – Ken and Margy to review apparel and make recommendations for new items to add
- CT Swimming Logo
 - New CT Swimming website has updated logo. Nancy is working to determine if variations of the logo have been created that are more compact for use by the officials.

Athlete Representative – **Caroline Sargent**

- No Report

Advancement & Certification Coordinator- recertification status - **Barbara Wiederecht**

- CT Swimming has 324 certified officials, including trainees
- 175 have renewed registration as of meeting date. Barbara is concerned with registrations that occur later in “catch the wave” period (some may wait until December when background checks need to be done). Time is needed to confirm recertification steps are complete and to prepare bag tags.
- Action Item – Nancy to send email to all officials noting that registration renewals to be completed by December 1st and background checks being done by December 8th in order to ensure re-certification is completed before Jan 1st.

Operations & Championship Meet Coordinator- **Open Position**

- Lead Officials need to be selected for Short Course Age Groups and Seniors
 - Nancy to accept nominations via email.
 - Support will be offered if first championship for selected meet refs or A/Rs
 - OQM is being sought for SC Senior meet
- Action Item – Send nominations to Nancy for Lead Officials for SC Seniors and Age Groups

Officials Communications Coordinator - **Philip James**

- No Report – Not present

Officials Training Coordinator - **Ken Gray & Dennis Rodney**

- Clinic update
 - Looking to schedule date(s) for Meet Ref and A/O Clinic in Fairfield county
 - New Clinics have been added since last meeting
- Online S&T Clinic
 - Beta test went very well
 - Check in points added to clinic to ensure people are actually paying attention
 - Uber Conference purchased for online clinics. Allows up to 100 people at a time and provide timestamps to demonstrate trainee was present for the whole time
 - Only works on Chrome browser. This is highlighted on the instruction form
- Discussed possibility of expanding online clinics for other certifications
 - Committee prefers A/O, D/R, and M/R clinics to be in person for Questions and Answers – will research online option for Q&As

- Suggestion of use of Sign-up Genius for managing clinic signups - \$120 per year cost.
- **Action Items - Ed reviewing Deck Ref recertification clinic, Matt to share google docs meet officiating signup invitation.**

Renewals/Retention Coordinator - **Mark Wollen & Mike Smalec** (not present)

- Summary of Annual Meeting questionnaire responses provided
 - Idea for officials reception of some sort well received
 - Possibly set for evening during championships – would be well advertised
 - \$35 pp stipend approved by Program Ops.
 - Possible venue = Milford Yacht Club – seek Ed Becker’s assistance
- **Action Item – Mark to ask Nan for list of teams that don’t host meets**

LSC Liaison/Policy coordinator - **Margy Sargent** policy, **Ken Gray**

- List of single direct point of officials contact for each team continuing to be developed. List about 2/3 of the way complete. Margy to reach out to team head coaches for remaining teams to determine who contact point should be.
- **Action: Contact head coaches to finalize primary official contact list.**

Athlete/Referee team visits - **Dave Pite**

- Several team visits have been completed and are scheduled. Great feedback has been received thus far.
- Suggestion was made to offer this during Long Course season as well

Other

- Matt and Mark discussed experiences from National Officials Workshop
 - A lot of time was spent going over each role on deck as well as going over scenarios and resolutions.
 - **Action Item – Workshop materials (.ppt,etc) will be distributed to the committee**