

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES (12/2/13)

Attendees: Nancy Wargo, Ed Becker, Christina Guertin, Mike Huffman, Matt Marion (phone), Dave Pite, Bill Repass, Jim Robison, Jeff Scobee (phone), and Barbara Wiederecht

Minutes – the October meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Member Reports

- Renewals Coordinator- Mike Smalec (status of AO clinic ppt): not in attendance. Report deferred until next meeting.
- Operations & Championship Meet Coordinator-
- Tags/distribution plan -Barbara W. reported that the 2014 Officials certification cards are red, white and blue, and are being labeled by deck certification. Mailings will be completed by the beginning of 2014.
- Sr Championships status - OQM - Nancy Wargo will be meet referee and Jeff Scobee will be the Administrative Referee.
- Age Group Championships status – Meet Referee Jeff Scobee reported briefly on the roster of officials for the AGCs.
- Recruitment & Retention Coordinator- Dennis Rodney--not in attendance. Report deferred until next meeting.
- Social Event at Seniors: the committee discussed the possibility of a social event after seniors. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
- Officials Budget Coordinator & Communications Coordinator- Matt Marion (status blog/site/etc): Matt M. reported that he had circulated an email proposing changes to the website.
- Secretary - Matt Marion has agreed to act as meeting secretary since the resignation of Kevin C.
- Advancement & Certification Coordinator--Suzannah Rogers--not in attendance. Report deferred until next meeting.
- Catch the Wave: Nancy W. reported that compliance has been good, and noted that there should be an end of year flurry of activity as officials renew background checks that would otherwise expire during 2014.

- Officials Training Coordinators- Dennis Rodney & Dave Pite (AO & other Clinics). Dave P. noted that the power point slides for CT Swimming's S&T, AO, and Starter clinics are being revised and should be completed shortly. Dave also confirmed that the coordinators are developing handouts for each clinic, with Mike Huffman reviewing the drafts, and will circulate updates at the next meeting. The proposal of two different certifications—one for Meet Referee and one for Deck Referee—have been tabled for the moment.
- LSC Liaison/Policy Coordinator: The open issues are whether to request that each team designate an officials representative to liaise with Connecticut Swimming and, if so, how best to handle smaller teams that may only have one or two officials. The committee needs a new coordinator, as Marie Pierre Graf has stepped down.

ADDITIONAL ISSUES

- Athlete Representatives –The committee thanked the athlete representatives--Christina Guertin of WHAT, Katie Wargo of Zeus, Lindsay Smalec of CDOG, and Jeffrey Gilbert of RAC—for volunteering to participate on the committee.
- PD: Jeff Scobee discussed the following rule change proposed by the Technical Planning committee: “The results of any USA Swimming sanctioned, approved or observed meet or a meet attested by a USA Referee or CIAC/Independent Referee will be accepted as proof of time.” The committee’s goal was to tighten the procedures for custom times by requiring a USAS referee to attend meets and attest to swims where the times would be used to make a CT Swimming time standard. Mike H. raised concerns about the timing for the new rule as the old rule governing custom times procedures was online through 11/27. The rule does not change the requirements for observed swims and is intended solely for times to be entered in CT’s FAST database.
- Timing Standard for splits - Jim Robison—confirmed that no formal standards regarding inaccurate splits in meet results.

[TELECONFERENCE CUT OFF AT THIS STAGE]

- Timing season and posted information - who is changing
- Use of AO
- Understanding the new custom times policy and USA-S observed swim policy (2 S+T level no ref required)
- Tips that went out - tape, photography, new stroke rules questions, suggestion for other tipS

- Observed HS - 4 officials each deck - report - Nancy Wargo
- Select an official to go to: Open Water Officials Workshop April 11-13, 2014 in conjunction with the Open Water Festival in Ft. Myers, FL. (budget - airfare only to FLA USA covers all else