

Officials Committee Report, April 2007

1. Committee meeting:

Out of 43 officials in good standing, 27 officials (representing six clubs + one unattached) attended the spring Official's Committee meeting, held March 10 at Marshall University. The committee chair presided, and the meeting was called to order at 3:20 PM. After opening discussion, Scott Wilson (WV Aquatics) shared the 2007 High School rules clinic schedule with the members. The schedule is as follows:

- October 16, 2007: 6:30 PM @ Capital High School (Charleston)
- October 20, 2007: 9:30 AM @ Hedgesville High School
- October 22, 2007: 6:00 PM @ Morgantown High School
- October 25, 2007: 6:00 PM @ WVSSAC Offices (Parkersburg)

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to review of current LSC requirements for official's certification and re-certification, in light of USA Swimming guidelines issued by the National Officials Committee (see: http://www.usaswimming.org/USASWeb/_Rainbow/Documents/173caf89-dd74-4d4e-969e-ad527b3626f3/MINIMUM%20STANDARDS%20Rev%20March%202002.pdf). Revisions to the LSC requirements were recommended, as needed, by members of the committee, and following discussion, the revisions were voted upon and approved by the membership, without dissent. The revised (recommended) requirements are transmitted with this report, to be approved by the LSC membership at the upcoming spring LSC meeting.

Official's insignia/credentials were also discussed; this topic was identified as an agenda item for the next committee meeting. Other action items from the meeting were as follows:

Jeff Crain:

- Submit revised recommendations for official's certification/re-certification to LSC and offer motion for approval at spring LSC meeting
- Ask Mary Illich for electronic version of current USA Swimming logo (for LSC use)
- Ask National Officials committee for guidance/preferences regarding officials insignia

Chuck Hendershot:

- Send examples of "bag tag" credentials for possible use as LSC Officials Insignia [complete]

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM. The next committee meeting, normally held in conjunction with the LC Championships, may be deferred to another date/location (possibly prior to the fall LSC meeting).

2. Continuing Education:

No report. An LSC Official's chair meeting is scheduled for June 15-17 in San Antonio, TX. There is no national-level judges' or referees' clinic scheduled for this year.

3. Recruitment and Certification:

According to February registration statistics, 25/43 (58%) of WV LSC officials in good standing are from a single club. Two clubs are unrepresented, and three clubs appear to have only one official in good standing. Only three clubs have certified referee/starters.

As mentioned in the previous committee report, rules 202.3.7 ("Conditions of Sanction"), 102.12.2, and 102.12.3 ("Officials") indicate that a minimum of three officials (Referee, Starter, and Stroke and Turn judge), duly certified, are required to conduct a sanctioned event. All clubs, and particularly the under-represented ones, are encouraged to recruit new judges. The uneven distribution of referee/starters is also a matter of concern, and accordingly, clubs should also be encouraging

experienced officials to obtain certification in referee/starter position.

Since the last committee report, Paul Dryden (HYCAT) was certified in the referee/starter position. Laurie Berkow (WVA) is currently in the referee certification process. Stroke and turn judges certified since the last report are: Jeff Breese (HYCAT), Kevin Carr (HYCAT), Nancy McClure (BRY), Carolyn Spurlock (BRY), Craig Spurlock (BRY), and Stacy Wilson (PKB).

4. Situations and Resolutions:

There were no unusual situations at the recent LSC SC Championship. In accordance with the amended championship entry/scratch rules (approved at the Fall 2006 LSC meeting), a meet jury was convened to determine the penalty for a swimmer who failed to compete in the last (Sunday) finals session of the championship meet. The meet jury's recommendation was transmitted in writing (via Email) to the LSC chair for final disposition.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Crain
Chair, Officials Committee