# Presentation/Class: Officials Committee - 9/26

# Each of the Committee members provided updates on their areas. A few key points are below.

# POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…

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| LSC Board/Committee Members  * The name of the USA Swimming Maxwell Award is being changed to the “Officials Excellence Award”. * A new “End Use Agreement” will be required to be “signed” for those who are permitted access to the Officials Tracking System, due to need for protecting confidential information of officials. | Teams in Wisconsin |
| Coaches  * Sudden Cardiac Arrest is being investigated by the Operational Risk Committee as a potential issue that could require training similar to that related to concussions. | Officials  * Nearby Championship Meets:   + JNats – 8/11/19 at IUPUI in Indianapolis, IN   + Futures on 8/8/19 – 8/11/19 at Geneva, OH and Des Moines, IA.   + Pro Series determined, but not yet announced * Working to finalize N2/N3 certification requirements for Open Water officials * Re-platforming the OTS by the end of October to make it more “mobile friendly” * Updating the “Situations” document to include additional interpretations made. |
| Athletes | LSC Others |

ADDITIONAL NOTES OR INFORMATION CAN BE ADDED ON FOLLOWING PAGES

# Presentation/Class: Open Water Development Committee - 9/26

# The Open Water Development Committee met, with the focus of discussion on developing guidelines to for standardizing Zone OW championships so that there is more consistency in how swimmers achieve qualifications for upper level OW meets. Also, the OW Meet Guidebook developed originally in 2006, is going through a complete update, and re-write. See notes below for more details. POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…

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| LSC Board/Committee Members  * Zone Open Water Championship guidelines were discussed with the following results:   + 13-14 Age Group race distance of 2.5km to 5.0km   + 15-16 Age Group race distance of 5.0km or more   + Use FINA dates for competition age   + In-water starts and in-water finish * A new Open Water Meet Guidebook is under development for use by event organizers.   + The British Swimming guidebook is seemingly well done, and could be used as a starting framework.   + Guidebook sections are being assigned for development to separate sub-groups of OW Committee Members, based on their expertise. | Teams in Wisconsin |
| Coaches See new qualifying guidelines being recommended for Zone OW Championship meets. | Officials |
| Athletes See new qualifying guidelines being recommended for Zone OW  Championship meets. | LSC Others |

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# Presentation/Class: Our Kids Initiative - 9/26

The Rules & Regulations Committee hosted this session that presented information on proposed legislation regard transgender athletes, technical suit banning for 12 & U athletes, and requirements for backstroke ledges to be identical for all if used.

There also was a lengthy discussion on issues regarding swimsuit coverage, and improper body exposure. This primarily relates to how suits are worn by female athletes, but it also is applicable to males. It is an issue for all USA Aquatic Sports including diving and swimming, not just water polo. The WOWPAC (Women of Water Polo and Coaching) has put together a video entitled "[Fix Your Suit](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HF0AY_MPjjE&feature=youtu.be)" to encourage water polo athletes and coaches to be more aware of swimsuits and their coverage.  **POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…**

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| **LSC Board/Committee Members** | **Teams in Wisconsin** |
| **Coaches**   * Consider reviewing the WOWPAC “[Fix Your Suit](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HF0AY_MPjjE&feature=youtu.be)” video with athletes. Although targeted to coaches and athletes of water polo, it is highly applicable to USA Swimming athletes and coaches. | **Officials** |
| **Athletes**   * “[Fix Your Suit](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HF0AY_MPjjE&feature=youtu.be)” | **LSC Others** |

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**Presentation/Class: Rules & Regulations Committee – 9/26 and 9/27**

The Committee reviewed the various proposed legislation, focusing on those where the Committee had yet to make a recommendation. R-3, which relates to banning technical suits for 12&U athletes, was the most discussed proposal. Concerns were expressed in regard to how technical suits would be able to be identified if worn by 12&U athletes. Fabric of technical suits is “woven”instead of being “knitted”. A common practice is to look at the seams of the suit, and if they are taped or bonded, instead of sewn, then the suit is a “technical suit”.

There was also a suggestion from the audience that the age for this ban be changed to 10&U. The Committee did not support this.

Additionally, the exception for championship level meets was proposed to be revised to only allow for competition at Jr. Nationals, US Open, National Championships, and Olympic Trials. The Committee eventually voted to recommend approval by the HOD as revised. (The HOD did subsequently approve R3, effective 9/1/2020). **POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…**

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| **LSC Board/Committee Members** | **Teams in Wisconsin** |
| **Coaches**   * Note effective 9/1/2020, technical suits are banned for competition by 12&U athletes other than at Jr. Nationals, US Open, National Championships, and Olympic Trials events. | **Officials**   * Note effective 9/1/2020, technical suits are banned for competition by 12&U athletes other than at Jr. Nationals, US Open, National Championships, and Olympic Trials events. |
| **Athletes**   * Note effective 9/1/2020, technical suits are banned for competition by 12&U athletes other than at Jr. Nationals, US Open, National Championships, and Olympic Trials events. | **LSC Others** |

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**Presentation/Class: National/Zone Board of Review Workshop – 9/27**Members of the National Board of Review, and USA Swimming Staff Counsel, provided an overview of the structure around the NBOR and ZBOR. The US Olympic Committee is taking a more active role, and is now enforcing an existing policy requiring athlete NBOR panelists to have qualifications related to Olympics, Pan Pacs, etc.

USA Swimming has minimal enforcement capabilities related to levied financial penalties. Lawsuits or small claims court are often the only means for recovering fines. **POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…**

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| **LSC Board/Committee Members**   * The NBOR is involved with Code of Conduct rules 304.1 – 304.10. The ZBOR is involved with rules 304.11- 304.15. | **Teams in Wisconsin** |
| **Coaches** | **Officials** |
| **Athletes** | **LSC Others** |

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**Presentation/Class: SWIMS Times Module Workshop – 9/27**An update on SWIMS development work was provided. Also, there was an explanation on issues with improper connections to Daktronics starting equipment, and on Colorado wiring harnesses. Getting times from Observed Meets was also discussed, including a clarification on when separate USA Swimming observing officials are required or not.  **POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…**

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| **LSC Board/Committee Members**   * TIMES Recon Report is going away with new interfaces developed to 3rd party systems (TeamUnify). TeamUnify will pull info directly from SWIMS database to support this. * OME is not going away, but it is highly recommended to not use for below Pro Series meets. TeamUnify will offer much more flexibility to support unique meet requirements. | **Teams in Wisconsin** |
| **Coaches** | **Officials**   * For a Daktronics starter, if the cable to the timing system is plugged into the Normally Closed (N/C) set of terminals on the starter, a 0.39 delay in the start signal is created, causing the timing console to record times that are incorrectly fast. The start cable from the Daktronics timing console must be plugged into the Normally Open (N.O.) of a Daktronics starter. * Colorado timing system wiring harness, if the starting system is plugged into the “Backup Start” connections on the harness, then a 0.15 second adjustment (added) will be automatically be applied to the time recorded by the Colorado Timing console. This is to correct for delay related to the reaction time of a human pressing a button. The cable from the starting system must be plugged into the “Start” connection of the deck wiring harness. * Administrative Officials and Meet Referees should never assume that timing system wiring is correct. |
| **Athletes** | **LSC Others**   * Meet hosts should verify timing system have been connected properly, even if equipment is provided and connected by venue personnel. |

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**Presentation/Class: LSC Require Bylaws Proposed Change – 9/27**The proposed (subsequently approved by HOD) new LSC Bylaws template was reviewed. Its goal is to simply the bylaws by consolidating sections, and to provide LSCs with more flexibility. There is a new requirement for a “Finance Chair” LSC BOD position (which we have). Also a “Governance Committee” will be required. LSCs may optionally have a separate “Nominating Committee” however. Additionally, the title of “Safety Coordinator” has been changed to “Operational Risk Coordinator” (which we have done).  **POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…**

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| **LSC Board/Committee Members**   * LSC will need to develop a new Governance Committee, which needs to be defined in new LSC Bylaws using the LSC Bylaws template. Deadline is by 1/1/2020. * LSC Rules Committee should develop draft proposed new LSC Bylaws for consideration by the BOD and pre-approval compliance review by Julie Bare at USA Swimming. Recommended that a “redline with changes” version be created for easier comparison to the starting (new) template language. * LSC “Policies” require approval only by the LSC BOD, but “Rules” require approval by the LSC HOD. We currently only have LSC “Policies”. * Need to make sure state laws regarding non-profit organization requirements for “appointed” versus “elected” positions are not violated in Bylaws. | **Teams in Wisconsin** |
| **Coaches** | **Officials** |
| **Athletes** | **LSC Others**   * The LSC HOD will need to adopt new LSC Bylaws, preferably at the April 2019 Annual HOD meeting. Alternatively this could be done at Oct. 2019 HOD. |

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# Presentation/Class: Operational Risk Educational Workshop -9/28 Various topics were covered, but I was only able to attend part of this due to overlap with other sessions. POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…

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| LSC Board/Committee Members | Teams in Wisconsin |
| Coaches  * The American Red Cross has a new online course for coaches. * There is a new HammerHead swim cap that has been approved by USA Swimming for use on its own, or with a 2nd swim cap. The intent of the design is to provide increased protection against injuries resulting from head strikes. The amount of protection it provides was questioned by several audience members. The vendor said legal issues prevent them from asserting any specific claims regarding effectiveness or injury reduction statistics. They acknowledged their cap will not prevent concussions. The SRP is $34.95, but discounts are available in quantities. | Officials |
| Athletes | LSC Others |

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# Presentation/Class: Officials Committee – Burning Issues – 9/28 Members of the National Officials Committee provided a forum for officials to submit questions on burning issues. Also covered was information on how to effectively use Social Media to communicate with officials. Additionally, Jim Holcomb reviewed a presentation on officiating “Myths and Legends”. POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…

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| LSC Board/Committee Members  * Post “Myths and Legends” presentation on LSC Officials page for officials to access. This was used as part of the curriculum for our recent Officials recertification clinics. | Teams in Wisconsin |
| Coaches  * Myth – An error on the recording of a confirmed rule infraction on a DQ slip is not an automatic “get out of jail free” card. If there is no uncertainty regarding the observed infraction, other than how it was recorded on the DQ slip, then this is a correctable error that should result in the disqualification being enforced. Otherwise, if the is uncertainty that cannot be eliminated, then the benefit of the doubt principle should be applied and the disqualification should not be accepted. | Officials  * Review “Myths and Legends” presentation when posted on LSC Officials page. * A DQ slip is not a legal document. Officials should “print” their name, and not “sign” it using cursive handwriting to help with legibility. |
| Athletes | LSC Others |

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**Presentation/Class: House of Delegates**Most all legislation that was proposed and recommended for approval by the Rules and Regulations Committee was approved by the HOD. One exception was that proposal R-7 was defeated, which would have required meet sanctions to identify a “Meet Safety Coordinator” who would be present for the entire meet, and who could not serve in any other capacity. **POSSIBLE MAIN POINTS OR TAKEAWAYS FOR…**

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| **LSC Board/Committee Members**   * LSC Rules Committee will need to review new rules to make sure our Policies and Bylaws are compliant * In particular, the new LSC Bylaws template will need to be used to develop a new set of Wisconsin Swimming Bylaws. * The LSC BOD will need to establish a new “Governance Committee” in conjunction with the new required Bylaws provisions, by 1/1/2020. | **Teams in Wisconsin** |
| **Coaches** | **Officials** |
| **Athletes** | **LSC Others** |

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