

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2008

Members present: Karen Smiley, Terry Harms, Bruce Niemeier, Dale Andersen and Mike Scott.

Members absent: Mike Tchoukaleff

Meeting called to order at 10:45

New members of the committee are Dale Andersen and Mike Scott, both are considered committee apprentices. Retained **committee** members **are**: Karen, Terry, Bruce and Mike T.

Members were given copies of the revised policy, the typo is to be corrected and forwarded in next few days.

New Name badges are in the process of being made. We will need to make year stickers before the end of the year.

Clinic schedule: Sept 21 Belleville YMCA will offer stroke and turn only
October 7 Crestview will offer new stroke and turn new starter but the referee session will be for recertification only there will be emphasis on meet referee obligations.

Possible future dates: Nov 1 – St Charles new referee session to be held at this clinic
Nov 15 Cape

Official requesting advancement were discussed; Ernie Paskoff and Tania Hillmer both have requested advancement to referee. Tom Lombardo, Stephanie Petersen, Ron Marion and Steve Grimm have requested advancement to starter. We have limited concern regarding a newly certified referee and starter on the same small team. **There was also a discussion as to whether the one or both of the referee requests are ready to move up.**

Use of the ~~revised~~ **new** starter DVD was discussed; we will use the older version for starter training and the new for referee. We feel that the new DVD addresses issues more relevant to the referee deck responsibilities.

The clinic fee has been increased to \$20.

Everyone must take the online test; revised tests on the website were discussed. There is a recert starter test; we feel starters should also take the timing judge test. Recertifying referees need take only the referee recert test. Other test requirements are:

New Stroke Judge: new timer and new stroke

New Starter: Recert s/t - timer
Officials – clerk of course
Officials – timing judge
Officials - starter

New Referee: Recert st/timer
Recert starter
Recert clerk of course
Recert timing judge
Officials Administrative
Officials Referee

We will introduce a trial program per national guidelines in respect to current YMCA officials wishing to obtain USA certification; YMCA officials with a minimum of two years experience in addition to experience at the District level, or above may request an abbreviated apprenticeship (two sessions prior to observation request) this request must be approved by the District Chair (Ron Marion) in addition to the Ozark Chair.

Apprenticeship guidelines are to be forwarded by the Chair to all meet referees. These guidelines will obligate assignment to veteran mentors in addition to a more structured set of expectations per apprentice session; session 1 & 2 are tutorial, session 3 is a writing session and a session 4 apprentice is to be positioned as an active judge (all calls are still to be made by the certified official assigned to the apprentice) We discussed concerns about having too many apprentices present on the deck at one time and stressed the need to remind mentors that infractions not observed by them prior to being called into question by the apprentice are not to be called. We discussed also allowing the 3rd apprentice session to be completed during 13 and over competition sessions as long as there are no meet **qualifying** time standards.

Discussion was also held regarding the pre meet briefings. We will ask the meet referees **(or their designate)** to use the officials briefing outline available on the USA website. We will put a link to the outline on the Ozark Website and will distribute copies along with session guidelines to meet referees prior to short course season.

Dale will submit a draft for apprentice evaluation to be used at meets prior to observation as an assessment tool for training.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30.