

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 8, 2008 – CAPE GIRARDEAU

Meeting called to order at 11:30 AM

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

Members absent: Mike Tchoukaleff, Bruce Niemeier

First order of business is interpretation of the technical suit rule:

**102.9 SWIMWEAR**

**.1 Design**

A. Swimsuits worn for all 12 & under age group defined competition shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor past the knee.

B. Swimsuits worn for competition must be non-transparent and conform to the current concept of the appropriate.

C. The Referee shall have authority to bar offenders from the competition until they comply with the rule.

It was decided that any swimmer presenting to the block shall be disqualified for delay of meet if unable to adjust the suit on the block to comply with the rule. Article 102.9 does not specify any particular fabric or type of suit; ie surfer or board shorts are not any different than a leg suit. The swimmer may adjust the suit in such a way that it no longer falls below the knee.

Referees are also to be reminded that transparency as a result of wear is a violation of the suit rule and any swimmer in violation is subject to the above consequence.

Second order of business: Rule changes at 2008 convention.

DQ slips no longer must list swimmer's name. Event, Heat and Lane are sufficient. The rule will be included in the 2009 book (published in May) but may be implemented immediately in Ozark at the discretion of the meet referee.

Modifications of disability rules and accommodation of disability swimmers was also passed at convention. Among other changes: additional hand signal for hearing impaired swimmers (a waving action) to signal short whistles and clarification as to who (Coach or athlete only) is responsible for notifying the meet referee PRIOR to competition of an athlete's disability. The athlete is not required to present their disability card. It is the responsibility of the meet referee to determine whether or not the athlete's needs can be met at that particular meet (venue). Any modifications made at that meet are not to be assumed at subsequent competitions. The referee must ascertain whether the accommodation is fair to the disabled athlete and the competition.

Third order of business: Evaluation forms have been revised to remove subjectivity as much as possible. Copies of the revised forms will be forwarded to each member of the committee for reference when asked to evaluate new deck officials.

Meeting adjourned 1:15pm