

Ozark Officials Committee Meeting

12/4/2019

Committee members in attendance: Patty Draves, Dan Dreisewerd, Bruce Dreyer, Steve Grimm, Jeff Heveroh, Mark Imig, Stephanie Petersen

The meeting was called to order by Steve Grimm at 6 PM.

1. Advancement from certified official to qualified official will be done annually at the start of the swim season. Advancement to evaluator will be approved by vote of the officials committee about every 6 months.
2. The officials committee proposes that officials who volunteer as meet referee for Ozark championship meets and who don't have a swimmer participating in the meet should receive payment of \$50 per session to help cover their travel expenses. This payment could be covered by a small increase in the splash fee at these meets. This will be presented at the next HoD meeting.
3. Several ideas for encouraging officials to volunteer for meets were discussed, including current policies in other LSC's. Obtaining a sufficient number of officials to run a meet is becoming more difficult in the LSC, particularly afternoon sessions at championship meets. Most of the incentives that were discussed were deemed too difficult to accomplish or likely to decrease the quality of officials in the LSC. The most feasible idea was supplying meet shirts to officials who agree to work a minimum of 4 sessions at a championship meet, including at least 1 afternoon session and 1 finals session.
4. Unassigned swimmers have caused some confusion at recent meets, in particular knowing who is responsible for communicating with them. Per USA Swimming Rule #202.5.3, "At a sanctioned competitive event, USA Swimming athlete members must be under the supervision of a USA Swimming member coach **during warm-up, competition, and warm-down**. The Meet Director or Meet Referee may assist the swimmer in making arrangements for such supervision, but it is the swimmer's responsibility to make such arrangements prior to the start of the meet." This information will be communicated via e-mail to all Meet Referees.
5. Several current officials have asked about local opportunities to advance to N2/N3 levels of officiating. Brian Perkins has tentatively agreed to be an observer at one of the 2020 championship meets. We will likely limit this to S&T, starter and deck referee at N2 and S&T at N3 levels.
6. The committee proposes elimination of the \$30 charge for attending Officials Clinics as a fund raising method to support budget expenses for officials. It should be replaced with a slight increase in meet entry fees. This will be presented at the next HoD meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Submitted by Stephanie Petersen