**Ozark Officials Committee Meeting**

**April 6, 2023**

Committee members in attendance: Steve Grimm, Jeff Heveroh, Tom Lombardo, Jeff McCoskey, Stephanie Petersen, Bill Rener

The meeting was called to order by Jeff McCoskey at 6:15 PM.

We discussed adding new members to the officials committee. We plan to extend an invitation to Brett Shank (PKWY) and Susan Samet (METS). Kim Weiss has not recently been active on the committee; if she agrees to step down then we would ask Derek Brown (CSP) to join. We need 2 athlete members, and we discussed potential candidates. We also discussed the possibility of adding an official to the Technical Planning Committee, to help avoid scheduling situations that make it difficult to have enough officials at Ozark swim meets.

We went over the USA Swimming rule changes for 2023.

We will begin to charge for officials training clinics starting September 1, 2023. We will ask Trish to set up online registration and payment. We plan to charge $40 for new S&T and AO officials, $30 for recertification of S&T officials, $20 for recertification at other officiating levels and $0 for officials advancing to a new level. Bill and Stephanie will review and update the requirements for advancement, and Steve and Tom will update the training slides; we will send the updates to the committee prior to the next meeting so they can be discussed and approved.

We discussed meet referee assignments for the 4 upcoming Ozark LSC championship meets. We plan to have Jeff H. and Bill run Long Course Champs July 20-23, 2023. If he is available, Brett Shank will run A Champs November 18-20, 2023. He will have backup help from Jeff M., Tom and Brian Perkins, who plan to be there for OQM training at the N2 level. Steve and Tom will run 14&Under Champs February 24-26, 2024. If he is available, Derek Brown and Stephanie run Senior Champs March 3-5, 2024.

We need new officials coordinators for some teams. Current coordinators include Stephanie (PKWY), Jean Ann Lashley (RSCA), Steve (RPLX), Mike Nolte (FAST), Dave Berthe (SEA) and Shaun Rees (SALU). We plan to ask Susan Samet (METS) and Derek Brown (CSP).

The officials budget for this year is $10,000. We plan to restructure the amount of reimbursement for Ozark officials who work at national meets, to include new meet categories; Jeff M. will organize this. We would like to have officials’ shirts for each of the 4 championship meets. We would like the meet referee to order the shirts and have the sponsoring team pay for the shirts. We will continue to provide a free nametag to each new official, but we will now charge $10 for replacement nametags. We would like to order shirts for all new officials, and we will try to include the shirts in next year’s budget. We plan to ask the LSC to increase our budget to 15,000 next year.

The committee approved Casey Krinski, Kate Hanes, Andy Honold, and Crystal Honold for advancement to starter. We approved Doug Ackenhausen, Mike Greene, Michael Nolte, John Wisker, Mike Stephens and Brian DeBosch for advancement to referee. We conditionally approved Nathan Cook for advancement to meet referee if he agrees to work an away meet; Steve volunteered to mentor him at his next meet. We did not approve Nikoleta Kolovos since she did not have enough meet sessions.

The next officials committee meeting will be held on Thursday 7/13/23.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Submitted by Stephanie Petersen