

Officials Committee Meeting Minutes: May 20, 2008 (Tuesday)
Wisconsin Swimming, Inc.
University of Wisconsin Center, Waukesha

Participants: George Geanon (chair), Judy Linsley, Cindy Maltry, Tim McAvoy, Paul Roehr, Dave Wardecke, Susan Zblewski

George Geanon convened the meeting at 7:07PM.

Review of April 15, 2008 Minutes: The minutes were approved as read.

OLD BUSINESS

Summer State Meets: Judy Linsley will be the meet referee and Susan Dlugopolski will be the head chief judge for the 12-under meet on July 25-27. George Geanon will recruit officials as part of his duties for the LAKE, the host club. Patty Kramer will be the meet referee, Steve Surprenant will be the administrative referee, and Al Brooks will be the head chief judge for the 13-over meet on July 31-Aug 3. Someone from the host club SEAY will recruit officials.

Recertification Requirements: George Geanon presented a draft of key points for recertification which include the following:

- Recertify every even year (rather than annually) via a recertification class or by taking the on-line recertification test.
- Maintain USAS non-athlete membership.
- Officiate a minimum of 4 sessions for stroke/turn officials and 6 sessions for starter/referees. Sessions must be recorded on the USAS Officials Tracking website.

Officials Manual: Comments from committee members on the revised WI Swimming Officials Manual are due to George Geanon by August 1st. Members who have reviewed the manual have made written comments in the draft copy. An advantage of the revised WI Swimming Officials Manual is that it includes the USA Swimming manual which is currently available on the USA Swimming website. To advance nationally, an official needs to have read this manual.

Speedo meets: The committee is very excited that the spring and summer Speedo meets are in the Milwaukee area. There is a lot to be learned at these meets about officiating in general, but especially about the administrative referee position. George Geanon commended WEST for the great job that they did hosting the spring meet, but was disappointed in the low turnout of WI LSC officials. The summer meet will be at Schroeder and hopefully more WI LSC officials will be able to participate.

NEW BUSINESS

Swimposium, Fall Recertification Clinics: A swimposium is being planned for Saturday, April 18, 2009 (the Saturday following Easter). This date was set by the WI Swimming LSC. The officials committee would like to invite Dan McAllen, a nationally certified official, to be the

speaker for officials. The committee had planned to invite a speaker to our fall recertification clinics. Paul Jones, another nationally certified official, would be invited to speak. Tentative dates for the fall recertification clinic are September 13 or 20. Mr. Jones would speak on chain of command, jurisdiction, deck assignments, deck positioning, uniform dress, preparing to officiate by reading the rules, and stroke briefings. Other topics would include when is it appropriate for a referee to overturn a disqualification and the online officials tracking system. It was suggested that YMCA officials be invited to our recertification clinic. Paul Roehr will contact Linda Klope, a Y-official who would send the invitations via e-mail. Committee members should think of other topics for the recertification clinic to be added to the list of topics.

Budget: George Geanon presented the 2008 officials budget request. Projected income of \$3,000 from certification/recertification clinics will help to offset the projected expenses of \$11,110. These expenses include national certification meets, and attendance at the USAS officials conference and USAS convention. Money was budgeted for new stroke/turn officials to receive a shirt and nametag. New starter/referees would receive a bell. The budget will be modified to include rental of more powerful headsets for state meets.

Summer Meets: The Speedo meet will be held July 17-20 at Schroeder. George Geanon stressed the importance of recruiting WI Swimming officials for this meet.

Situations: During the breaststroke or butterfly, does a touch with one palm open flat and the other hand on top count as a two-handed touch? This is a potential benefit-of-the-doubt situation. Is the official positive that nothing other than the one hand touched – perhaps the fingertips of the other hand also touched. If the official is positive that one hand never touched the wall, but was on top of the other hand, it would be a one-hand touch and thus a disqualification.

According to the rule book, referees can overturn a call based on an interpretation of the rules or on an action that the referee observes.

Next Agenda:

- Recertification seminar/clinics
- Swimposium
- Speedo meet – review the number of officials who have signed up to officiate
- Budget – financial summary from Pat Lewno, WI Swimming treasurer
- Membership subcommittee
- Ben Radloff's job descriptions for state meets
- Concerns about swim meets without enough officials

Next Meeting Date: June 17, 2008 (Tuesday), at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Linsley, June 16, 2008.