

New Jersey Swimming Officials' Committee
Report for the NJ Swimming Board
October 8, 2016

There is not much to report at this time, but here are a few things that might be of interest to you.

Rules and Regulations

This was a very quiet year for potential rules changes. Only twenty-four proposed rules changes and four housekeeping items (minor editorial changes) were submitted to the Rules & Regulations Committee, and six proposals were subsequently withdrawn. There were no significant contentious proposals and all proposals were approved by the House of Delegates.

One change that could affect us is that Deck Pass will become the primary identification medium for swimmers and others. USA-S will no longer require the issuance of the colored membership cards, although such cards will still be available to LSCs. At the Officials Committee meetings at the Convention, the general consensus of the officials was that we should still issue such cards to the officials to make it easier to check them out on deck. The same can be said for coaches. We have already told Stephanie that the officials here in New Jersey will need to get the cards each year. The Board may want to consider issuing the cards to our coaches as well, for the same reasons.

Nest year may be different, as it is a FINA rules changes year. It is not known what is on the docket yet, but you can never tell.

National Officials Training

As previously reported, Val Gibson and Judy Sharkey will be attending a mentoring clinic in Chicago later this month (October 14-16) hosted by the National Officials Committee. It will deal with mentoring officials who are moving up to the N2 and N3 levels, an area with which both Val and Judy are quite involved in our LSC.

Also as previously reported, Jae Lee and Ray Wong will attend the annual workshop for newer referees also hosted by the National Officials Committee later this month (October 21-23) in Phoenix.

In both cases, we are responsible for the attendees' airfares, while USA-S picks up the cost of rooms, meals and transportation to/from the airports.

Local Officials Training

The training season for officials is getting into full swing. So far, we have posted five NJS course offerings, along with eighteen YMCA course offerings, and more will be posted shortly, as soon as the details are finalized. As you know, for our dual certified USA-S/YMCA officials, we accept the YMCA clinics and tests, other than the initial starter and referee clinics. This has greatly reduced our clinic load and made it a lot easier for our dual certified officials. I might note that many of these clinics are full, and we will probably need to add some more clinics later this month and in November.

We are currently in the process of setting up meetings for all of our referees this fall, which will be structured so that they can also serve as a recertification clinic for our referees who need to recertify this year. This will be done jointly with the YMCA meeting, again to make it easier for our dual certified officials.