



## ISI OFFICIALS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 4th 8:30pm

Video Conference Via WebEx Invitation.

WebEx Meeting Invitation sent to all officials

Join by Phone 1-419-853-6052 (pin 488504349)

### 1. In Attendance

Committee Members: Phil Barnes, Kerry Barnes, Kirstin Oppel, Art Dinkin, Jodie Stone, Alex Stone, Audrey Repko, Chrissy Beagle

Others: Amy Renze, Amy Mundisev, Andrea Kelly, Barbara O'Connor, Bill Brown, Bobby Kelley, Curt Oppel, Cindy Opitz, Deb Dieter, Faith Griffin, John Van Meter, Lelahni Plasier, Marie Koenigsfeld, Lori Rehmert, Michael Repko, Robert Fry, Susan Repko, Tom Belin

a.

### 2. Adoption of minutes from Fall Officials General Meeting, held October 6 2020 no objection moved without objection.

### 3. Report from the Officials Chair

a. Thank you to Mike Repko and new member Jodie Stone

b. Iowa LSC summary

c. Overview of IASI Swimming Officials and Committee Members

i. Phil provided detailed documents outlining the officials in the LSC

ii. 197 officials are current for training and checks as of April 24, 2020

1. Wet Side=177 Dry side=78

2. Seeing a decrease in Starters (76) and Deck Referees (43). Meet Referee (24). (Please refer to the distribution document for further details).

3. Officials concentrated in the central and eastern parts of the state.

a. Phil would like to work on increasing the number of officials as well as mentoring through more Starters, Deck Refs and Meet Refs

b. He would also like to try to gain more officials in outlying areas.

c. We may see a Meet Referee scarcity if we move into competitive swimming and online meets.

d. Outlook for the rest of summer and the upcoming winter season

- i. No meets for IaSI long course season.
  - 1. Silvers and Long Course champs cancelled.
  - 2. Robert Fry: 3 meets in early July--what are the status of those?
    - a. There are no sanctions being given?
    - b. Bobby reported that USAS has not said anything definitive...May be late July at the earliest.
- e. Extended apprentices
  - i. Extend time for officials to finish their apprenticeships
  - ii. During Virtual Meets can make use of cameras for stroke and turn and AOs to officiate
    - 1. Unrealistic to get apprentices on deck
      - a. Can use cameras for apprenticeships, too
      - b. 2 mentors with apprentices onsite
    - 2. USAS general council looking at legal considerations for using cameras as well as document wording
  - iii. Other Considerations:
    - 1. Officials wearing masks
    - 2. Referee whistles
      - a. Fox 40 whistle app.
- f. Virtual training opportunities (including potential virtual apprentices) for both new officials, advancement and refresher
  - i. Webinars for officials from the USAS National Committee to keep interest up.
  - ii. Zone officials reps possibly also creating their own.
  - iii. Would like to see LSC webinars reteaching/introducing apprentices, newer officials, and newly experienced starters, deck refs and AO's so we are not going in cold when meets start.
- g. Phil is working on using the Swimmingly app as an alternative to using meet manager and pads.
  - i. Easier to run a meet with limited officials.
  - ii. Virtual meets will be basically itrasquads combined into a master meet.
    - 1. 1 Deck Ref and 1 Starter who also serve as Stroke and Turn official, and then also one AO.
  - iii. Swimmingly helps manage the virtual meet but the cost is a tradeoff moving forward.
- h. Zone, Sectional and National Championship Meets
  - i. Signups for National Championship meets should be up on the USAS website on July 1. November will start the first TYR Pro Series of the Season.
- i. Virtual meets (emphasis on consistency for Referees)

- i. A virtual meet will be where teams can meet at different times and run a series of races then combine all the times into a single meet with scoring.
  - 1. Be aware as officials if it is a sanctioned meet we have certain requirements regarding certification of the pool, starting system, recording of times and timers, number and location of officials.
    - a. Attention will be needed to ensure consistency around the pool to make sure we are having equitable swims at all locations
      - i. Ex. number of officials and location on deck
      - ii. One recommendation for consistency in virtual meets will be to have a single official responsible for coordinating all the pools to ensure consistent number and layout.

j. Questions

- i. Lori: concerned Big 6 pools are not open and many rec departments are not opening or delayed to later in the season. How will we hold meets, have access to competitions?
  - 1. Phil: LSC will try to look for access to other pools and rent time at YMCA's.
  - 2. Goal is to try to help the athletes maintain their interest in swimming.
- ii. Competition is one way we can retain athlete interest in swimming.
  - 1. Swimmingly seems to help teams of Big 6's size
  - 2. Meets can be held as long as the pool is aligned with length.
    - a. We can get Meet Ref set up quickly around multiple sites
  - 3. BobbyL per Frankie athletes may have the opportunity to go to YMCA's and to train and possibly compete
    - a. Small groups of athletes at coordinated times
    - b. Possibility of 38 lanes between 3 pools
      - i. Waukee, Indianola and Downton
      - ii. Use of YMCA's to provide access to water for swimmers who's sites are not opening as well as for unattached swimmers...
      - iii. Teams in the water currently: Dubuque, Ames, Pella.
        - 1. These teams might choose to do home meets but not inviting others to them this summer.
        - 2. May have an opportunity for competition in August.

- a. TPC to meet again in July to make the decision.
- b. Frankie is open to the concept of Y use for LSC athletes.

#### 4. Other Reports

##### a. Athletes

- i. Audrey--No Report
- ii. Alex--Why run meets in separate areas and compile times? Why not just send times into USAS? Why hold multi team "meets"?
  - 1. Phil: The reason is because we have heard athletes express an interest to compete with other athletes.
  - 2. Could also hold not-scoring meets. Easier to send where times don't go into swims.
  - 3. Nothing is stopping us from holding swims where we are not compiling times. It is basically just an Intrasquad.
    - a. Still have to have officials and valid timing system
  - 4. Opens some level of competition.

##### b. Other Questions?

- i. Amy Renze: When will virtual meets be available?
  - 1. Phil: Now that swimmers are starting to get back in water, meets can start as soon as we can get organized .
  - 2. USAS is formalizing suggestions that will be released in a standardized document for meet format, etc.
    - a. how to have swimmers in water,
    - b. Meet organization
    - c. Events swum and
    - d. compiling times.
    - e. Phil has a copy from the Officials Committee and as well as Ohio Swimming.
  - 3. Virtual is more than one site or can be multiple nights.
  - 4. Competition start date is driven by clubs and athletes. We can start to do it. We just can't have them sanctioned until sanctions resume.
- ii. How does timing look for a swim meet?
  - 1. Running opposite heats every other lane.
  - 2. 2 timers per lane to provide adequate social distancing and room for officials as well as swimmers to get in and out of the pool.
    - a. What that looks like will depend on timing system
    - b. Swimmingly solves some of these problems.
      - i. Cost \$300 per team plus monthly or annual fee per swimmer depending on club size.

##### iii. Vice Chair

1. Officials Conference still set for September to be held virtually. When more information is available it will be sent out.

c. Secretary

i. Disability Updates

1. Purpose of updates is to create more access to swimming for people with disabilities that include autism and medical needs.
  - a. Does not require special training for officials or special observations for athletes. Categorizations are only a paralympic thing.
  - b. Disability athletes need only check the box on their registration and choose a grouping based upon parents' word. Not to be questioned. No longer need App-21 as Dr.'s information is no longer necessary.
    - i. Examples of accommodations include lane assignment, race length, assistance behind the block or in changing rooms, etc.
    - ii. More information will be coming out in the newsletter and documentation will be listed on the officials page. (Please also reference September 17, 2019 documents previously posted.)
  - c. Officiating to be done the same. Official makes and observation, makes a call. Deck Referee accepts or denies calls based upon the accommodation necessary as previously discussed with the meet referee.
  - d. Creates increased communication between coaches and meet personnel.
  - e. Purpose it to level the playing water and create equitable swims for all athletes based on their abilities.
    - i. Eventually we would like to see scoring, prelims/finals, and recognition for disability athletes competing together..

d. East Zone-Kirstin

- i. Will not be holding the Open water meet scheduled for later this summer.
  1. Cost Prohibitive (\$1,000)
    - a. Included cost of boats, drivers, pontoons, facilities, etc.

