



Illinois Swimming Officials Committee Report to the Fall 2020 House of Delegates

To: Illinois Swimming House of Delegates
From: Illinois Officials Committee, Amanda Schleede, Chair

September 28, 2020

Thank you to the Illinois Board of Directors for my appointment to Illinois Officials Committee Chair in March. During the Covid-19 quarantine, I've been focusing my time (with a very strong sub-committee) designing, creating and implementing web-based learning for new and advancing officials throughout the State of Illinois. I've also been focused on keeping the Committee, Area Reps and Officials throughout the State of Illinois updated on USA-S and ISI updates with regard to the current and future swim seasons.

1. The Officials Committee is currently comprised of:

- Chair – Amanda Schleede (CPD)
- Head of Clinic Operations – Tim Krull (ACAD)
- Clinic Operations – Steve Fidanze (MMS)
- Communications – John Schenberger (LWSA)
- Championship Meet Planning – Paula Myhre (SCST)
- Membership and Certification/Renewal – Scott Pendland (BNY)
- At-Large Member – Tim Lehman (BBSC)
- Lead Area Rep – Dan Clasen (WCS)
 - Area Reps
 - Bruce Walker (BNSC)
 - Don Fritz (LWSA)
 - Betty Chan (ULT)
 - Sharon Anderson (DCST)
 - Marcia Srivistava (NTA)
- Athlete Reps – Elizabeth Fritz (LWSA)

Since the last House of Delegates meeting, John Shenberger, Paula Myhre, Don Fritz and Sharon Anderson have joined the committee to fill openings. In addition, we've created a clinic/education sub-committee to review and update clinic materials as needed.

2. The current state of officiating in Illinois:

- We remain the largest LSC for officials.
- A huge thanks to the Membership and Certification team who monitored requirements and marshaled officials through the process into 2020. In addition, we've already started the process for 2021 and have over half of Illinois officials certifications updated to Dec 2021.
- Due to the limited amount of time on deck since the pandemic, we have reduced the 2020 officials session requirements to 4 sessions for Stroke & Turn, Admin and Starter officials. Referee's need to complete 6 sessions and 4 CEU's for 2020

3. Training:

- In 2020, we moved all Officials Training (all 4 certification levels) to web-based learning programs.
- Jack Yetter initially proposed this initiative at the last HOD meeting and we have now delivered on that project (big thank you to Jack Yetter, Jayne Spittler, Tim Krull and swim athletes Molly & Sean Yetter for their hours of work on this project).
- To date, we've had more than 80 complete web-based learning clinics at all levels – to include advancement and new officials.
- Now is a great time for teams to encourage parents to become officials or advance in their positions. Web-based learning moves Illinois Swimming Officials into the future of learning.
- I expect many other LSC to follow suit and request use of our web-based program for their officials training.

We have some challenges we face:

- Some of our more senior officials are starting to retire, creating a need for more “experienced” officials and providing Illinois Officials with more National Certification Advancement opportunities.

We look to the membership to help:

- Work to recruit parents on your team! With the new web-based learning, parents can become or advance as an official from the comfort of their house.
- Please reach out to me, or a committee member, to get help recruiting or training (we've provided a pre-made recruiting handout on the Officials page on the ISI website).

4. Champ Meet Planning:

- There are no Championship Meet leadership assignments to be reported. We will continue to monitor decisions made by USA-S and ISI Leadership.

5. Officials Committee webpages on the ISI website:

- Have been streamlined overall and updated for the new officials web-based learning program.
- Links to USA Swimming resources have been updated and new meet forms/resources are available on the website for use/ download.
- We encourage everyone to take a look and provide any feedback or issues they may find.

6. 12 & Under Tech Suit Rule:

- The 12 & under tech suite rule went into effect on September 1, 2020. All Illinois officials were provided with an email reminder of the rule change and protocols for handling any suit issues.

7. Planning for Meets with COVID Protocols:

- An Illinois Officials Town Hall Zoom was held on Monday, August 17, 2020 to run through the new deck/meet COVID protocols for Meet Referee's. All Illinois officials were invited to attend so they would be aware of the new on-deck restrictions.
- Officials were encouraged to follow the provided protocols – the presentation is available online in the Meet Tools for Officials sections of the ISI website.