

Officials Committee, Panera Blvd. of the Allies

September 10, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 7:15pm

In attendance were:

Kathy McFaden Chair

Jamy Pfister

Scott Wilshire

Mike Kosco

Nikki Kosco athlete

Christie Newcamp scribe

Dave Watterson

Scott Pauley (ex officio)

Absent: Michelle Schonbachler and Ryan McFaden

The September AMS Convention and House of Delegates structure and schedule was discussed. The schedule, and scheduled trainings and sessions is slated to be:

8:00-8:45am	House of Delegates
9:00-11:00am	Keynote Speaker
11:00am-12:00pm	Lunch for general attendees
11:00-12:30pm	Referees Roundtable lunch moderated by Jamy P. and Scott W.
12:00pm	breakout sessions
	Meet directors
	Coaches
12:30-2:00pm	Break out Officials Training (new, advancing and established)
	AO – Jamy P.
	CJ – Scott W.
	SR – Christie N.
12:30pm 2:00pm	ST presentation– Mike K.
2:30pm-3:30pm	in water observations and tutorial – Mike K. and select athletes

Ongoing training discussion

A> Standard for Advancement

The progression and proposed standard to demonstrate mastery of skills in a position, prior to seeking to advance and broaden one's skill base was discussed. A set minimum time frame/number of sessions served in current position was discussed, but found to be lacking. Proposed standard will be fluid, rather than a static timeframe. Advancement potential for Starter and Referee will be determined by consultation with the Officials Chair in advance of any on-deck training sessions. On-deck training must be conducted under the observation of an

approved Trainer. The Chair will offer advice and approval based upon a review of their OTS, confidential consultation with officials with whom the interested person has worked, and personal knowledge based upon personal experience. Other factors may be taken into consideration, as deemed germane. At all times, the best interests of the swimmers will be paramount in training and advancement.

B> Advancement Progression

In order to become eligible to train as a referee, it is important to have been trained in all “wet-side” positions. This training allows an understanding of roles and responsibilities of Officials on deck needed to execute the duties of the Deck Referee. The Progression may take one of two paths being:

1. ST ST
2. CJ SR
3. SR CJ
4. DR DR

C> Ongoing Training

The structure and location of ongoing training for new, advancing, and established officials was discussed. A plan is to reach out to coaches in each region (East, South, West and North, as practical) or, at a minimum, in a variety of geographical locations and offer on a variety of dates. Christie undertook to speak to Coach Dan, KW swimming to request access to a practice for training session with in water observation. Kathy spoke to representatives from PTAC, FAST and MMSA regarding access to athlete assisted training. Kathy also informed the committee that PRA has agreed to facilitate/host training at their facility. Training of Deck Referees to assume the role of Meet Referees was also discussed. The unique duties and timing of responsibilities of a Meet Referee were discussed, in part. Further training opportunities will be discussed in the coming meetings.

D> Reinforcement Training through Evaluations

Kathy proposed giving local officials a second opportunity for a National Evaluation by requesting that the Senior Circuit meet, customarily held at Trees Hall in early July, become an Officials Qualifying Meet. This would provide an opportunity for N2 evaluations by appointed persons to a large number of local officials. Kathy will appoint a list of N2 capable evaluators from the ranks of AMS Officials. Additionally, a national evaluator can be engaged to perform higher level, N3i and N3f evaluations. This would benefit AMS with a learning venue, as well as the attraction and interaction with out of area officials who may desire evaluations.

Roundtable topics were discussed. Scott W. and Jamy P. will create and moderate a panel discussion and explain best practice and commonly accepted practices for deck behavior, protocol, roles and contentious interactions or aggressive behavior by a participant, spectator, or deck personnel, as well as address and offer guidance on any issues raised.

IV

The three-year historical record for the officials of AMS were discussed. A large number of officials are not serving on deck for the stated 12 session threshold. A discussion was held regarding the best way to motivate and engage the current officials. A suggestion to send an email to those below the threshold and their respective club alerting them of their deficiency compared to the stated threshold. The represented club would be included in the email, due to the fact that the clubs are subject to penalty for noncompliance. Also, most clubs offer perks to incent their membership to serve as a USA Swimming official. All recipients' identity would be protected through the use of the blind carbon copy means of address.

V

The Christmas Meet customarily held at Trees Pool on the Univ. of Pgh campus was discussed. Jamy P. undertook the role of Meet Referee for the upcoming meet. As part of this, Jamy undertook to find an appropriate National Evaluator. After discussion of multiple qualified persons, the committee decided to request Dan McAllen.

VI

The electronically circulated Code of Conduct for Officials and was discussed. Comments were discussed and approved by the Committee. Christie will incorporate the comments and recirculate.

VII

Persons who are authorized trainers for new starters and referees is crucial. Training and advancement of our membership will help to better serve the athletes. The list of authorized trainers of starter and Referee must be a living document which is reviewed and amended on an ongoing basis. A discussion of the persons responsible for the training of new starters and referees was held. No resolution was reached. Additional discussion will be held.

VIII

The standing schedule of meetings will be the Second Monday of each month, Panera, Blvd. of the Allies, Oakland d 7:30pm. This standard is subject to amendment as necessary.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm