

## **MESI BOD 3/9/19 At Bath YMCA and Zoom**

Present: Maddie Buck, Marcel Da Ponte (non-voting), Lia Langeveld, Matt Montgomery, Jay Morissette, Zach Mullin, Carrie Peabody (non-voting), Betsy Perron, Taylor Rogers, Mike Schmidt, Olivia Tighe, Marie Weferling, TJ Willis, , Jim Willis,

Guests: Mary Ellen Tynan, Matt Baxter, Aaron Winslow, Tate Warden

Absent: John Smith, Holly Hatch, Emily Ecker

Mission and Vision statements read.

Petitions from CCSC, GPS, SYT, WCY presented requesting that MESI waive the penalty of having swimmers compete unattached if their team does not have at least 1 properly certified official by February 15<sup>th</sup> .

Discussion:

WCY: There was an oversight last year. WCY did not have a registered official and they were not penalized.

SYT: Several team records are on the line this year.

Marie Weferling: What is the biggest obstacle to getting an official certified?

Answers: We don't go to many USAS meets. Most of the USAS meets we attend are in the summer. Inconsistency of notification/reminders is an issue; if teams had been reminded beforehand, they may have met the deadline.

Comment: Someone needs to take on the responsibility of tracking the number of officials on each team and notifying teams if they are in danger of not meeting the requirement.

Marie Weferling: This should be the responsibility of each head coach.

Jim: Admitted that as a coach, he had not looked into this matter on his own team until this issue came up.

Comment: Because of last year's oversight, there is a precedent for waiving the penalty.

Comment: This is an established rule and even new coaches were able to make sure they met the requirements. Perhaps the rule needs to change, but for the time being, this is the policy and it should be enforced.

Comment: The official does not need to be present at the meet, according to the policy.

**Motion:** Grant WCY a waiver.  
Fails 3-8

**Motion:** Grant GPS a waiver.  
Fails 2-8, 1 abstaining

**Motion:** Grant SYT a waiver.  
Fails: 3-8

**Motion:** Grant CCSC a waiver.  
Fails 3-8

Comment: Can we require that each team must have an official at the time of USAS registration? Answer: Probably

Mary Ellen Tynan: What is the spirit of the rule?

Jay Morissette: To have enough officials at Champs.

Jim Willis: As it is, this rule does not positively affect having enough officials at champs. Some of the officials who potentially would have been registered from these teams would not have been coming to Champs anyway.

Marie Weferling: Can we give each team \$100 to cover the cost of having at least one registered official?

Mary Ellen Tynan: We should consider outreach memberships for officials.

Meeting Adjourned.