



Montana Swimming House of Delegates,

I would like to report that as of September 1, 2015 we have 79 registered officials with 71 certified and currently only a few trainees working on their stroke and turn certification. There are several currently registered officials that need to complete their background checks and athlete protection training.

We had a very successful long course season that concluded with the 2015 Montana Swimming LC State Championship Meet in Bozeman the end of July. We had 36 officials that worked the meet over the three days. With this many officials working, the meet was run extremely well and the comments which were made during and after the meet were all positive and, with around 266 swimmers, the meet was completed ahead of the projected time line each day.

Montana Swimming had several officials who traveled and worked the upper level meets including both Western Zone Meets, in Hawaii and California which gave them the experience of working upper level meets.

As we get ready to start the 2015 – 2016 short course season, I would like to ask that we continue to recruit new officials from all the teams as we will continue to lose officials each year and the need for trained officials will grow each year. I would like to ask that we continue to add two officials from each team every year.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the officials that have worked meets throughout the last year, the officials that have helped me this year and for all their efforts in training and mentoring our new officials. I would encourage all our officials to continue with the training and mentoring of all the officials. We have a great group of officials in our LSC and I know we all learn something at the meets we work.

At the long course state meet, the officials were asked about Montana Swimming presenting them with something to recognize their service to swimming and it was decided to present each official with a pin with the number of years they have officiated swim meets. I want to thank Jim Cherewatenko for getting the pins and to the officials that donated the funds to pay for the first set of pins. The officials have put a proposal forward to have Montana Swimming provide the funds in the future to continue this recognition of our great officials group.

If anyone has questions or need anything please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle L Gunderson
Montana Swimming Officials Chairman
mtgunders@outlook.com
September 1, 2015