

Montana Swimming 2019 Annual Fall Officials Meeting
October 5, 2019
Butte YMCA, Butte, Montana

Montana Swimming Officials Chair Lon Huckert opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken. In attendance were Lon Huckert, BOZ; Phil Dolan, HLST; Tracy Flikkema, BMA; Joe Martin, BAC; Ken Kunz, BAC; and Susan Huckeby, BTST. Susan volunteered to take minutes.

The agenda is attached. The group voted to move the nomination and vote on the officials awards to later in the meeting.

Old Business: There was no old business to be discussed.

APT and BGC: Lon reminded the officials of the new athlete protection training requirements and background checks under the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP). Officials should check when his/her/their APT and background checks expire and renew each before the deadline to officiate at meets.

Radios: Radios may be used at Montana Swimming meets. Radios may be ordered by using the radio order information posted on the Montana Swimming website. The rental cost is paid by Montana Swimming.

New Business:

Alaska High School Swimsuit Incident: Lon explained briefly an incident involving an Alaskan high school female swimmer who was disqualified for a swim suit modesty violation in September. While high school swimming (NFHS) has a specific modesty rule, USA Swimming does not. (The USA Swimming swimwear rules are found in Article 102.8 swimwear and in particular in 102.8.1.D – swimsuits worn for competition must be non-transparent and conform to the current concept of appropriate.) The young woman in Alaska was disqualified but after review the disqualification was overturned and the official was sanctioned.

Concussion Training Requirements: USA Swimming now requires officials and coaches to complete either the NFHS or the CDC concussion training and submit the completion certificate to the LSC registrar. Montana Swimming will consider a proposal to require concussion training on an annual basis at the HOD meeting tomorrow. Montana law requires officials and coaches in youth sports to complete annual concussion training.

Updates to the Montana Swimming By-laws: At the HOD meeting tomorrow, the delegates will discuss the new required by-law changes. The biggest change to the by-laws will reduce the size of the Montana Swimming board of directors.

2020 Short Course Championship Meets: The MHSAA State high school swimming championships will be February 14-15 in Great Falls. Montana Swimming Short Course State will be February 21-23 in Missoula. The Junior BC Championships will be March 7-8 in Polson.

There are some proposed changes that will be discussed at the HOD meeting tomorrow that may change when entries will be accepted for short course state.

12&U Tech Suit Ban: Effective September 1, 2020 12 and under swimmers will not be allowed to compete wearing tech suits in all sanctioned, approved or observed meets *except* Junior Nationals, US Open, National Championships, and Olympic Trials. (USA Swimming rules article 102.8.1.F) A technical suit is one with the following components: any suit with bonded or taped seams regardless of its fabric or silhouette or any suit with woven fabric extending beyond the hips. (Note – a suit with woven fabric and sewn seams that does not extend below the hips is permitted. A suit with knit fabric and sewn seams not extending below the knees is permitted.)

There is a handout available on tech suits.

At age group zones in Oregon this summer, where the tech suit ban is already in effect, there were numerous questions about tech suits. The meet referee reviewed questions about suits brought to his attention. Age group zones will be held again in Oregon in 2020 and the Oregon tech suit ban will be in effect.

MAAPP: The group discussed the new MAAPP requirements. Officials should limit one on one interactions with minor athletes. The new safe sport athlete protection training is available online. When using locker rooms and bathrooms when a minor athlete may be present officials are encouraged to have another official with them (bathroom buddy) or leave the locker room/restroom if alone with a minor athlete. Adults should have permission slips to transport minor athletes who are not family members to practice and meets. Communications by adults with minor athletes must take place between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm and must include the minor athlete's parent. Social media contact by adults must include the minor athlete's parent. More information about MAAPP is posted on the Montana Swimming and USA Swimming websites.

USA Swimming Convention and summer meets: Susan Huckleby discussed what was covered during the officials meetings at the USA Swimming convention in St Louis in September. She showed and discussed two presentations given at convention. Both are posted on the website.

At Futures this summer Susan served as the head admin referee for the meet at Mt Hood, Oregon. Mike O'Neil was a starter at Futures in Des Moines, Iowa.

Montana Swimming also had several officials work at the Zones meets. At Age Group Zones at Mt Hood Susan was a deck referee and Dax Rice (BAC) and Ken Kunz (BAC) were stroke and turn officials.

Y Meet and YMCA Officials Certification: Lon discussed the YMCA meet to be held this afternoon. The Montana Y teams must compete in one YMCA only meet as part of the qualification process for YMCA Regional meet and must compete in three YMCA only meets as part of the qualification process to compete in YMCA Nationals. All officials are encouraged to assist with the meet this afternoon at the Butte YMCA. The Billings, Butte and Missoula YMCA athletes will be competing.

Susan announced there would be a YMCA official's certification clinic on Saturday October 12 in Butte during and after the Helena meet. Through today the YMCA only meets in Montana could be run by USA Swimming certificated officials only due to a waiver of the rules. After today under the YMCA rules, YMCA only meets in Montana must have a YMCA level II meet referee and have at least one other YMCA level I or level II official on deck. USA Swimming officials are welcome and needed to officiate at the meets too. Linda Vicik from Seattle will travel to Butte to teach the level I and level II courses. There is a charge for the course. Contact Susan if you would like to sign up for the certification course.

Training Opportunities for Officials: There are several training opportunities available for parents wishing to become an official as well as for official wishing to advance. See Lon for more information.

Montana Swimming Officials Reimbursements: Montana Swimming will reimburse the USA Swimming registration fee and the background check fee for all officials who meet the requirements. More information and the application are posted on the website.

High School Swimming: Officials who will work any high school meets this year must view the rules clinic on the MHSA website and complete the concussion training course before working his/her/their first high school meet.

L1, L2, L3 Certification Requirements: Lon discussed the requirements for L1, L2, and L3 certifications available for Montana Swimming officials. Generally L1 is for officials who are newly certified through the first year or so of certification in each position. L2 is for officials who have completed more than one year of certification in that position and have favorable reviews by meet referees. Officials working state championship meets usually have L2 or L3 certifications. More experienced officials who have worked several state championship meets and/or upper level meets are usually L3. The officials chair advances officials from L1 to L2 to L3 in each position.

Awards: The group discussed the annual officials' award requirements. The following officials were nominated and voted to receive the awards. Congratulations!

Excellence in Officiating Award: Mike O'Neil, BAC

Mark Hallgrimson Award: Anne Kittleson, GFST

Stroke Training: On deck training will be offered during the YMCA meet this afternoon.

There was no further business to discuss. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am and lunch was served. The YMCA meet begins at 1:00 pm today.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Hucceby



Montana Swimming Official's Meeting Agenda

October 5, 2019

Butte YMCA

Butte, Montana

1. Roll Call 9:00 AM

- a. Old Business
- b. Review APT and BGC Requirements
- c. Excellence in Officiating Award
- d. Mark Hallgrimson's Stroke and Turn Award
- e. Radio use at meets and ordering information
- f. Other

2. New Business

- a. Short Course State Meet (Missoula)
 - MHSA Montana High School State Meet – Feb 14-15
Great Falls
 - MT Swimming Short Course State – Feb 21-23
Missoula
 - MT Swimming SC Junior B-C Championships – Mar 7-8
Polson
- b. Updates to MT Swimming By-laws – Required by USA Swimming
- c. Concussion Training
 - CDC or NFHS Concussions Courses
- d. Tech Suit Ban – September 1, 2020
 - No Technical Suit may be worn by any 12 & Under USA Swimming athlete member in competition at any Sanctioned, Approved or Observed meet.
- e. MAAPP – Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy
 - New Safe Sport Training
- f. AK Suit Incident
- g. USA Swimming Convention information – Susan Huckleby
- h. Officiating discussion – Fly, Back, Breast and IM

3. Adjournment

Lunch and then we will host a YMCA Only Swim Meet starting at 1:00 PM.