Florida Swimming
Officials' Committee Meeting
Barcelo – Orlando
11:00 AM – September 30, 2006
Minutes

Attendees: Jack Goltz (Chair), Duke Torbert (Area 2), Eva Gronke (Area 3), Sue Kelly (Area 4), Steve Altheimer (Area 5), Anne-Marie Milburn (Area 6), Don George (Area 1 proxy), Steve Plapp (Area 1 proxy), Gina Mayer (Athlete Rep), Bill Vargo (GC), Visitors – Helen Kelly, Melissa Hellervik-Bing.

Recorder: Bob Griffiths (V Chair)

Meeting was called to Order at 11:07 AM.
Approval of Minutes of previous Meetings: There being no Minutes – no approvals.
Agenda: Published and distributed prior to the meeting. No modifications from the floor.

Awards: Chair announced award winners.
Fred Cruciger – Steve McCaw
Al Soltis – Doug Soltis
Presentations will be made at the first appropriate opportunity.
Chair announced that 96 officials cast votes.

Officials' List Update: Area reps were asked to remove all non-registered individuals from their lists and to advise of any updates and corrections.

Recertification Analysis: Discussion

- The DVD program for those not attending Championship Meets was not successful
- Tests were thought to be useful for all
- Recertification "seminars" at Championship Meets were thought to be beneficial and attendance of all should be encouraged.

On-Line Testing: Area Reps should thoroughly learn process and utilize it. Those who have taken them reported them to be very beneficial for learning and relearning. Griffiths reported that the test program is currently being improved for easier maintenance and that it was probable that it will go "down" again for a short period. Any "problems" with questions, or answers, should be conveyed to National HQ. Feel free to use Griffiths as a conduit since he has regular contact with the testing task force and HQ.

Electronic Filing of Referee Meet Reports: A National tracking program is being developed. It will probably be a year before it is fully functional. It will track meet (all levels) participation, test results, evaluations, certifications. It will not track meet data other than identifiers.
Steve Altheimer showed an interactive pdf form that can be used by Referees to electronically submit meet reports. (It can also be filled out and mailed – not the preferred use). It was agreed that this form should be used in from now on. Steve

Altheimer agreed to receive, assimilate and synthesize data, prepare reports and maintain records.

By-Law, Rules and Regulations, and Policy Proposals: Discussion of the various proposals submitted by the Jack Goltz and Steve Altheimer.

1. Article 238.1 – JG – notice filed – adds a recommendation on Officials Chair from the Officials Committee for the consideration by the General Chair. The proposal will need to be amended from the floor to properly comply with USA Swimming requirements.

   Original proposal -
   The Officials Chairman will be ~~appointed~~ **nominated** annually by the ~~General Chairman upon recommendation of the Administrative Vice-Chairman and~~ **Officials Committee** with the consent of the BOD.

   Amended proposal –
   The Officials Chairman will be appointed annually by the General Chairman upon recommendation of the Administrative Vice-Chairman **and Officials Committee** and with the consent of the BOD.

   Jack outlined the duties of the Officials Chair for the committee.

2. Article 223.4 - JG – notice filed - revises number of attached officials for a club to receive a sanction to host a swim meet.

   Original proposal -
   Year round teams ~~(which were registered as of January 1 of the previous year)~~ **registered as of August 31 of each calendar year** shall be required to have certified officials within its membership in order to host a meet.

   .1 0-50 swimmers ~~1~~ **2** certified officials
   .2 51-100 swimmers ~~2~~ **3** certified officials (1 other than stroke & turn)
   .3 101- 150 swimmers ~~3~~ **4** certified officials (2 other than stroke & turn)
   .4 151 -+ swimmers 5 certified officials (2 other than stroke & turn)

   Amended proposal – Each team registered as of August 31 of each calendar year shall be required to have one (1) certified official for each 30 swimmers, with a maximum requirement of 6 officials/180 swimmers, within the team's membership in order to host a sanctioned meet. (This will take effect August 31, 2007.)

3. Article 221.3.5 (new) - JG – notice filed – defines number of officials required on deck, per pool for a sanction to be valid.

   Original proposal -
   221.3.5 All Florida Swimming sanctioned meets must be conducted by the following minimum number of officials: 1 Certified Referee, 1 Certified Starter, at least 1 Certified Stroke and Turn Judge at each end of the pool for every four lanes of competition (for freestyle events, 1 Stroke & Turn Judge is required at each end regardless of the number of lanes). The Starter may assume the dual role as a Starter and one Stroke

& Turn Judge. The referee may not assume a dual role – consistent with USA Swimming Rule 102.12.3.

Amended proposal –
221.3.5 All Florida Swimming sanctioned meets must be conducted by the following minimum number of officials **for each pool used**: 1 Certified Referee, 1 Certified Starter, at least **2** Certified Stroke and Turn Judge at each end of the pool. ~~for every four lanes of competition (for freestyle events, 1 Stroke & Turn Judge is required at each end regardless of the number of lanes).~~ The Starter may assume the dual role as a Starter and one Stroke & Turn Judge. The referee may not assume a dual role – consistent with USA Swimming Rule 102.12.3.

It was agreed to offer that if 2 above was passed, 3 above would be tabled.

All of the above were moved, seconded and passed by OC.

4. Article 238.2 (revised) - SA – to be noticed –
238.2 The Committee will be composed of the following:
.1 Officials Chairman
.2 Members appointed by the Officials Chairman
(a) Vice -Chairman
(b) One representative from each Area
(c) Three (3) coaches appointed by the Coaches Representative.
.3 Each Area Representative may appoint an Asst. Area Representative from among the Certified Clinic Instructors in the area, with advice and consent of the officials committee. This person may attend any meetings of the Officials Committee, but may only vote if the Area Representative is unable to attend such meeting.

The purpose of this is several fold. One, it increases the input into the decision making process. Two, it gets some new folks involved and feeling a part of things. Three, it will help with communication back to the areas to have more folks 'in the know' so to speak. Four, it will help find folks that might be ready for the Area Rep role and sort of expose them to the role. Fifth, in cases where the Area Rep can't attend, it gives the area a voice.

Moved, seconded and passed by OC to notice this amendment to the BOD.

5. Article 238.23 (housekeeping) - SA
238.3 Duties of the Officials Committee include:

.1 Maintain a current list of certified officials
.2 Insure an ongoing program to certify and re-certify officials
(a) Approve details of certification program
(b) Insure sufficient number of clinics in each Area
(c) Provide and grade examinations
.3 Hear and take action on complaints concerning officials
.4 Name Head Referee, ~~and~~ Administrative Referee, **and Chief Judge** for FS Championships

Previously approved by the BOD – needs to be corrected in the SRR.

6. Article 238.4 (for OC discussion) - SA –
238.4 Certification program will be conducted as follows:
.1 Officials will be certified **as Meet** Referee, **Deck Referee**, Starter, **or**

Stroke & Turn **Judge** ~~and Timers~~.

.2 Requirements for certifications are as follows:

(a) Attend a clinic, take and pass the written test**(s) as outlined in the various clinic instructional packets.**

i. Each clinic must be approved by Area Officials Representative

ii. Clinics must be conducted by a Certified Clinic Instructor (CCI)

iii. S&T certification is required before beginning Starters Clinic, **Starter certification is required before beginning Deck Referee clinic and Deck Referee certification is required before beginning a Referee Clinic.**

iv. S&T minimum age is 18; Starters and Referees minimum age is 21.

(b) Serve an apprenticeship, length of apprenticeship shall be:

Meet Referee – ~~50~~ **30** hours – ~~5~~ **3** different meets – ~~5~~ **3** different referees. One ~~long course meet and one~~ novice or NT meet. One full session with automatic timing operator. One full session with scoring/computer operator.

Deck Referee – 20 hours, 3 different meets, 3 different referees. The Deck Referee is not approved to run a meet, and must be supervised by a Meet Referee.

Starter - 20 hours, 3 different meets of 6 teams or more. One novice or NT meet.

Stroke & Turn - 20 hours, ~~3~~ **2** different meets **of 6 teams or more**, 3 different instructors.

(c) Forward signed application to the Area Officials Representative for final approval.

(d) A certified official must work 5 other meets before being allowed to officiate at a FS championship.

~~(e) Referee will be designated "Head Referee" by vote of Officials Committee upon completion of requirements specified by the committee.~~

(~~f~~e) All certified officials shall be current members of USA Swimming.

.3 Officials must be re -certified prior to June 1 in each even year.

(a) Attend re-certification clinic

(b) Pass re-certification examination

(c) Officiate six (6) sessions per year

i. Referees must have at least two (2) of these sessions at a long course meet.

.4 An official certified by another LSC will receive FS certification provide:

(a) Residence is established in territory of FS.

(b) Official's certification is valid and current.

(c) Official attends a clinic and apprentices with Area Officials Representative or his designee.

(d) Re-certification examination is passed.

.5 Each club shall use its own discretion in determining if, whom, and how much with regard to paying officials at meets.

.6 FS shall reimburse the Head Referee for reasonable out-of-pocket

expenses, as determined by the Executive Director and Officials Chairman, at the following FS Championship Meets when approved by the BOD.
(a) FS Junior Olympic Championships
(b) FS Senior Championships
(c) FS B Championships
(d) FS vs. FGC All-Star Dual Meet (when hosted by FS)

.7 FS will pay the Head Referee $200.00 and the Administrative Referee $100.00 at the following FS Championship Meets when approved by the BOD.
(a) FS Junior Olympic Championships
(b) FS Senior Championships

.8 An evaluation shall be made after each meet and submitted to the Officials Committee.

A discussion of 6. above resulted in a straw vote and direction to Steve to proceed with drafting the proposal, incorporating discussion comments, for approval of the OC and noticing.

Teams needing Officials:

Jack Goltz identified a number of meet host teams that may have difficulty meeting current official attachment requirements. Area Representatives were asked to contact those teams and offer assistance with training candidate officials.

Championship Meet Assignments:

2006 Championship meet assignments:

Date	Meet	Location	Referee	Admin Ref	Chief Judge
3/9-12 NA	Sectionals	Orlando	Jack Goltz	Steve Altheimer	Mark McCaw
3/16-19	JOs	Orlando	Roger Deary	Kay Caldwell	Brent Wine
3/23-26	Senior Champs	Clearwater	Steve Plapp	Steve Altheimer	Mike Clow
TBA	FS vs FGC	Ft. Pierce	Bob Griffiths		Jack Goltz
7/5-9	Sectionals	Ft. Lauderdale	---	---	---
7/20-23	JOs	Gainesville	Don George	Rick Sheridan	Mark McCaw
7/27-30	Senior Champs	Ft. Pierce	Eva Gronke	Sue Kelly	Robert Thompson

A list of officials with previous assignments or eligible for assignment was presented.

Discussion of possible assignments for the following meets – It was agreed that the Officials Chair will pursue availability, based on the possible assignments and advise the committee of final assignments.

2007 Championship Meets

Date	Meet	Location	Referee	Admin Ref	Chief Judge
2/22-25	JOs	Orlando	TBA	TBA	TBA
3/1-4	Senior Champs	Clearwater	TBA	TBA	TBA
3/16-18	FS Spring LC Champs	Clearwater	TBA	TBA	TBA
3/15-18	Sectionals	Ft Lauderdale	Appointment by Sectional Committee		
TBA	FS vs FGC	Ft. Pierce	TBA		TBA
7/19-22	JOs	Gainesville	TBA	TBA	TBA
7/26-29	Senior Champs	Ft. Pierce	TBA	TBA	TBA

Other Business:

- Steve Altheimer reported on his attendance at the USA Swimming Referees Clinic in Colorado Springs. His impression was that Florida Swimming is generally doing things "the right way" on deck and is amongst the best LSCs at doing it.

  He also noted a growing awareness of the risks of pedophiles attending swim meets and urged increased vigilance amongst all meet officials and administrators.

  Steve will draft up a briefing guideline for consideration by the Officials Committee and others in Florida Swimming.

- Helen Kelly advised that the background check policy is now in effect for coaches and certain USA Swimming Officers and volunteers. It will be extended to officials in the near future.

The meeting closed at 3:00 PM.