

# Southeastern Swimming Officials Committee Meeting Minutes

## July 22, 2017

Members Present	Members Absent
Donna Williamson, Chair	
Walter Smalley, Immediate Past Chair	
Larry Alexander	Non-Members Present
Robby Dellinger	Johnny Busby
John Fellows	Clark Hammond
Mary Franklin	Steve Karman
Gary Heapy	Frank Odell
Clay Minatra	Dave Smith

The July 22, 2017, Southeastern Swimming (SES) Officials Committee meeting was called to order between sessions in the Officials Preparation Room of the Huntsville Aquatic Center, by the Chair. The Athlete Representative(s) were not available as those who were present at the meet were preparing for finals.

### **Committee Membership Changes**

The Chair shared she had received word from Stephanie Nadeau that she was stepping down from the Committee. She indicated that she was planning to continue officiating and would be available and willing to provide mentoring. The Committee recognized her many accomplishments and contributions to Southeastern Swimming. Clay noted that he would be able to handle the Nashville area. Since the southern-most area in the LSC is fairly large, it was decided that it would be beneficial to have another Committee member there to help cover all of the teams. Mary Ann Petruska was suggested, as she had been instrumental in helping bring new Officials aboard. All agreed that Donna would propose this to Mary Ann.

### **Potential FINA Changes**

It was noted that FINA was scheduled to hold their Congress this summer 2017. Major rule changes were not expected, but clarifications on the freestyle during the individual medley and medley relay events and on false starts may result.

### **New USAS Website**

Everyone was encouraged to explore the new website and document any broken links or things that function as they should. It was noted that it would be helpful if past/archived newsletters could be made available. Clark was going to let them know.

### **Financials**

It was stated that budget is due to the Finance Chair ASAP. The following was proposed and agreed to by all present:

- \$2000 Referee Workshop
- \$1500 First Time Attendance National Level Meet
- \$1500 Equipment
- \$500 Performance Recognition and Incentives
- \$1500 National Evaluator Attendance for LSC OQM Meet

### **Official Advancement**

Since the advancement and progression of Officials to the level of Meet Referee is based upon the recommendation of the SES Officials Committee and not a single individual, it was previously decided that each committee member would bring a list of potential individuals to each biennial meeting so that the entire group could discuss and assist with their mentorship. The group as a whole would make the determination of whether or not to advance someone from DR to MR. Tiffany Myrick from AUB, Gina O'Neill from CMSA, Robert Clemons from BCS, and Chris Tarsitano from MSA were discussed for advancement to MR-Q. Matt Hudson from TNAQ was recommended for advancement to MR-EX.

## **SES SC Championship Meet Management**

The following individuals were recommended for the next LSC championship:

Meet Referee: Corey Franklin  
Admin Referee: Chris Chance (with Alex Hughes as Assistant)  
Team Lead CJ: Gary Heapy (with Chris Tarsitano as Assistant)

## **Masters Swimming**

Frank Odell announced that he was selected as the Officials Chair for SES Masters Swimming and will be going to Dallas for the National Aquatic Sports Convention in September.

## **Diversity and Inclusion**

John Fellows provided an overview of a scholarship program he was working on with the City of Huntsville and HAS for athletes from under-represented areas. Mary Franklin shared that TNAQ had a similar program.

## **Continuing Education**

SES Officials on the National Deck – It was noted that SES had quite a number of Officials who worked on the National Deck this past year.

2016 We ARRE Mentors Workshop – Larry Alexander and Mary Franklin both attended this October workshop. They provided a written summary of their very positive experiences and lessons learned via email.

2017 National Evaluator Workshop – Walter attended this April workshop in Atlanta for the Southern Zone and reported how beneficial the experience was.

2017 LSC Officials Chair Workshop – Donna attended this June workshop in Houston and shared the following points:

*Standard Uniform* – The Chair reported that the uniform for upcoming National-level meets (three star and above) would be black pants, black socks, and black shoes with the same white (prelims) and blue (finals) shirts. She also said that “to tuck or not to tuck” shirts was a topic of discussion at a recent LSC Committee Chairs workshop. As long as the shirts were designed to be on the outside (no long tail in the back) that having them untucked was appropriate. Also, belts are not part of the required attire (even though it appears in online training).

*DQ Slips* – There was quite a discussion on what DQ slips were and were not. DQ slips are not legal contracts. They are merely a communication tool used to convey the infractions observed by the Official to the coach. If after investigation the call was a good call, but the slip was completed incorrectly, the slip should be corrected and delivered to the coach.

Upcoming October 2017 New Referee Workshop in Denver – The Committee discussed who to send to this meeting. The Chair indicated that one participant slot was currently open and that she would be notified if we were able to send a second participant. After much discussion, it was decided that Tiffany Myrick would be offered the first opportunity, and that if a second space opened, Deb McCorry would be offered the opportunity.

Open Water – The Chair reported that SES currently only had one Official certified for open water swimming and recommended that each committee member take the online test. John Fellows offered to be in charge of open water officiating for SES.

## **LSC Evaluation and Achievement Program (LEAP) 3 Update**

Dave Smith provided an update on progress made toward LEAP 3 Certification.

The Chair asked if there were comments, additions, or questions. There being none, the meeting adjourned so that all could participate in the LSC Championship Officials Photograph.

Respectfully submitted by:



Donna S. Williamson, Chair  
Southeastern Swimming Officials Committee