

# VSI Officials Committee Meeting

## May 29, 2007

### Summary and Action Items

Attending: Kevin Hogan, Cathy Rudolph, Mike Willard, George Smith, Pat Donohue, David Strider, Avis Aheron, Wally Hunt, Jim Frye, Mary Turner, Tom Elliott

Not attending: Tom Colasurdo, Charles Cockrell, Jr., George Homewood

#### 1. Chair Report

- a. *General remarks* – Short Course Senior Champs went well. Boots Hall, the National Evaluator thought it was a well run meet and was highly complementary of our officials. Mike Willard very successfully ran Short Course AGC in two venues.

We've made a lot of progress in developing training material, meet materials, etc. Recommend that the future emphasis be placed on recruitment, retention, and mentoring. Would like to plan for a committee retreat sometime this summer, with these latter topics as a major focus.

- b. *Referee recertification results* – The results of the Referee recertification were reviewed. In general, those choosing not to renew their certification had not attended a clinic in the past two years. The recertification test, for those needing it, has not been an impediment for most, and some have indicated that taking it was valuable.
- c. *Referee certification status* – The current status of individuals training for Referee was reviewed. *Action item:* Kevin Hogan to follow-up with selected individuals.
- d. *Officials certification status* – Tom Colasurdo has updated the database to reflect national certifications and to include both DTS and CTS certification. A continuing effort is needed by all to maintain the accuracy of the database. This is especially true of Club Officials Chair contact information. A major communications issue is that 14 of 47 clubs have no officials and no contact information. *Action item:* General announcements, etc., can be sent to the "Point of Contact" listed for each club on the VSI website.
- e. *Coaches certification status reports* – These reports are now posted on the web and will be updated by Louise L. on a monthly basis. Meet Referees will still receive an updated report shortly before the first day of the meet.

#### 2. District Chair Reports – No issues brought up.

3. *Name Tags* – Cathy Rudolph reported on the purchase of updated official's name badges. They include the state/goggle logo and a magnetic back. *Action items:* Cathy will pursue getting the badges for fall distribution. The plan is for all existing badges to be replaced. Kevin needs to check to make sure the budget can handle all at the same time.

4. *Policies* – Three policies were considered and were adopted as indicated below. It was decided that these would most appropriately be located in the VSI *Official's Handbook*.

- a. *Travel Reimbursement Policy* - Adopted the policy as presented with some modifications. Discussion took place on whether reimbursement should be limited to out-of-LSC Qualifying Meets, or if it should also include disability meets (none of which are Qualifying Meets). It was decided that because the inclusion of disability meets would require a change in purpose as stated in the policy, and because the current (2006/2007) and pending (2007/2008) budgets are predicated on the support of travel to Qualifying Meets, that disability meets should not be added to the policy. There was unanimous support, however, for the developing a travel reimbursement policy in conjunction with the Disability Committee. *Action items:* Kevin Hogan to incorporate suggested changes into the policy

and insert into the VSI *Official's Handbook*; contact Lee Gibbs to work with Disability Committee.

- b. *National Evaluator Policy* - Adopted the policy as presented with one modifications. *Action items:* Kevin Hogan to incorporate suggested changes into the policy and insert into the VSI *Official's Handbook*.
- c. *Officials Mentor Policy* - Adopted the policy as presented. *Action items:* Kevin Hogan to incorporate suggested changes into the policy and insert into the VSI *Official's Handbook*.

5. *Advanced Certifications* -

- a. *Administrative Referee* – Too many criteria to be practical during a Senior Champs meet. The question of separately certifying Administrative Referee came up again. As this has been an issue on which we've not been able to reach consensus, it was decided that the issue would be tabled. The plan is to make this a major topic for a summer time committee retreat. Ideally, a small group can get together beforehand to come up with concrete recommendations.
- b. *Timing Equipment Operator* – Criteria are fine but it was decided that advanced certification would be available for both CTS and DTS.
- c. *Timing Judge* – Criteria are fine.
- d. *Recorder* – Criteria are fine.
- e. *NOTE to a, b, c above:* While finalizing the worksheets it was noticed that V1 was being referenced rather than V2. All documents were changed to reflect V2. It was also noticed that our published advancement criteria require 1 year of experience at V1 before being able to be observed for V2. This was also incorporated into the documents.) *Action Items:* Finalize the worksheets and have them posted on the website.

- 6. *National Officials Certification Report* – Michael Downs provided an update on the National Officials Certification program. The program has recently been revised and some portions simplified. The updated program materials are posted on both the USA-S and VSI website. Since January 1, 2006, four VSI meets were designated as Qualifying Meets. A total of 88 VSI officials have at least one certification at the N2/N3 level. Continuing to work on establishing an informal agreement with PV, MD, and NC LSCs to set-up a rotation of evaluators for Qualifying Meets.
- 7. *Mentoring Activity Report* – Michael Downs provided an update on mentoring activity within the LSC. Meets were observed in each of the districts. Overall, our efforts to increase consistency have paid off. Some issues were uncovered which can be focused on over the course of the next year.
- 8. *Swimposium* – Will be held the weekend of October 6-7, 2007. Will address specifics at summer retreat. Note added following HOD meeting – The weekend has been compressed to include committee meetings on Saturday, the HOD/BDO meeting on Sunday morning, and the banquet on Sunday afternoon. This will most likely limit the officials' portion of the Swimposium to Saturday.