

VSI Officials Committee Meeting

September 22, 2013

Summary and Action Items

Attending: Bryan Wallin, John Stanley, Georg Fuhs, Dan Demers, Mike Romanowski, Art Anthony, Mike Sizemore, John Squires, Bob Rustin, Tommy Lovell, Susan Hynes

Chairs Report/Recap of 2013 Long Course Season

In discussing the number of officials that attended LC Championship Meet this summer, the drop off of officials at Age Group Champs was discussed. The main reason seemed to be:

- Many summer league champs were held that same weekend through the state
- Seems to be harder to get officials to come out to Christiansburg twice a year
- Southwest District lost a number of officials over the last two years.

We have around 400 officials in the LSC, and certified around 65 new officials last year. The "Chris Jennings" letter was discussed. The letter had no direct impact on the meet as far as the athletes were concerned.

LC Age Groups Champs- Chase starts were used successful using boys at one end of the pool and girls at the other end. There was some talk about trying to odd heat/even heat format. Believed the boys/girls set up is simple to understand, less opportunities for failure.

LC Senior Champs- Good turnout of officials and the "Chris Jennings" letter had no impact on attendance. Will request the Senior Committee consider using some kind of Ready Room for finals. Helps manage the flow of the meet and cuts down on "dead time".

ZONES- Va. Officials were well represented again. Many officials working assigned positions at this level meet for the first time. Kevin did a great job.

Discussed facilities issues with Freedom Center equipment, and hope under new management changes will be seen this Fall.

Clinics

Want to get all of the clinics for SC lined up and posted online. Discussed the difference between doing clinics during the week or the weekend.

Referee Candidates

Laurie Hynes and Jeff Kaufman got some training during LC; both are finished with Timing Judge. Tony Martinich and Carolyn Baker still need to finish the TJ training.

Bob Rustin recommended someone from the Central District to begin their Referee training. Everyone approved and Bob was going to contact the person this week.

Administrative Position

Discussed that many LSC's didn't have dry deck and that we were fortunate to have our mechanism already in place. All Administrative Referees and already approved Administrative Officials (recommended by District Chairs), will be provided to the Meet Referees the week before the meet. Timing Judges will be allowed to serve as AO, with MR approval, during SC season. David Bihl will be doing the Administrative Clinic at the Swimposium.

Swimposium

Bob Rustin is giving the Referees clinic, as mentioned David Bihl will be doing the AO portion and Dan Demers will be giving a Train the Trainer clinic.

National Meetings

John Stanley will be going to Phoenix, Arizona on October 18-20. This is a workshop for newer Referees.

Rules Updates

Most of the changes were just wording issues and shouldn't pose any problems for interpretation. There will be no difference in the backstroke interpretation from what we are doing now. We would still judge the finish of the backstroke as we have been doing. In regards to judging the swimmer at the finish of the backstroke, the swimmer has to be on the back and when your eyes focus on the swimmer to make sure they are on the back at the finish, it is too late to go back and see if the whole body was submerged.

Also, FINA will interpret "separate" to mean that the hands may touch each other at the thumbs (no visual separation required) but there can be no overlap of the hands, including thumbs, whatsoever.

LSC Championship Meet Referees

AGSC- Mike Sizemore	AGLC-John Stanley
SRSC-Bryan Wallin	SRLC-David Bihl

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Wallin

Officials Chair

Virginia Swimming