

Wisconsin Swimming Officials Committee
Tuesday May 17, 2005

Members present: Susan Zblewski, Judy Linsley, Steve Surprenant, Cindy Maltry, Dave Wardecke, George Geanon and Joe Barta

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by chair, Susan Zblewski. The March minutes were reviewed and corrected. Joe Barta was present at the March meeting. Some spelling errors were also corrected.

Spring Certification Clinics

Spring Certification clinics were held at Homestead High School on April 9 (5 stroke/turn) and Madison Memorial High School on May 10 (12 stroke/turn and 2 starter/referee). Both clinics went very well. A clinic will be held at the Appleton YMCA on May 21 with 9 stroke/turn and 2 starter/referee trainees expected. Training tips were discussed. The location of the on-line test is changing. Information is available on the USA Swimming website.

Officials List

Judy Linsley is working on updating the officials list that is posted on the WI Swimming web site. The new list will be available both alphabetically and by team. Susan Zblewski and Judy Linsley will coordinate adding new officials to the list.

Summer State Meets

The committee discussed the importance of reviewing the meet information prior to the state meets. Susan Zblewski will contact Cris Lewis to get meet information to committee members.

Nominations were taken for the LSC appointed officials. Judy Linsley is available for either meet. George Geanon is available for the 12-under meet. Steve Surprenant is available for the 13-over meet. Cindy Maltry would like to shadow the appointed officials at one of the meets. Bruce Barbee, Lynee Phelps, and Ben Radloff will be contacted by Susan Zblewski to see if they are available.

Colorado Springs Officials Meeting

George Geanon will attend the May28-30 meeting of USA Swimming Officials at Colorado Springs. The committee asked George to ask other officials at the meeting about how their LSC's handle declared false starts and delay of meet.

Nametags and polos

Patty Kramer is getting bids from vendors for nametags and polos.

Budget

A discussion was held about having the LSC officials budget cover the cost of nametags and one polo shirt for any new official. Many other LSCs offer incentives for new officials to help them get the uniform and equipment needed to officiate. Some LSCs waive swimmer fees for children of meet officials. Susan Zblewski will find out more about the LSC officials budget and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Officials directory/USA Swimming confidentiality

Judy Linsley has received many replies to the mailing that was sent seeking permission from officials to post their name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and club affiliation on the WI Swimming web site. The updated list will be posted in June.

Official Committee size

Susan Zblewski presented the need for new members on the officials committee. Many of the current members have older children, and may not continue to serve for much longer. George Geanon moved (Steve Suprenaut second) that a position on the committee be offered to Bruce Barbee. Motion passed unanimously. Joe Barta moved (Susan Zblewski second) that a position on the committee be offered to Tim McAvoy. Motion passed unanimously.

Clinic Protocol

A discussion was held about how to conduct a training clinic. Many good ideas were shared. Start with introductions, including why the participants want to become an official. The videos provided by USA Swimming are excellent. Discussion at training sessions should be casual and open to any questions. It was agreed that some important issues are professionalism, impartiality, and volunteer vs. paid officials. Trainers are encouraged to follow the agenda developed by Patty Kramer. Any suggestions for changes should be sent to Patty.

Next Meeting

The next meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, June 21st and Tuesday, August 16th at 7:00 pm at UW-Waukesha, pending availability of a room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Linsley, June 17, 2005.