

**Wisconsin Swimming Officials Committee**  
**Tuesday, June 21, 2005**

Members present: Susan Zblewski, Judy Linsley, George Geanon, Jackie Vargas and Tim McAvoy

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 by chair, Susan Zblewski. The May minutes were reviewed and corrected (spelling).

**New Members**

Tim McAvoy (EBSC) and Bruce Barbee (LAKE) are new members of the officials committee. Bruce was unable to attend the meeting, but Tim was present and welcomed to the committee. There was some discussion about expanding the committee as some present members have children who are nearing the end of high school. Suggestions for new members included Cindy Thompson, John Borja, Steve Brandl, Bill Clewien, and Glenn Haemeister. It was decided to table this discussion until the fall.

**Summer State Meets**

George Geanon and Judy Linsley were appointed to be meet referees for the 12-under meet. Steve Surprenant and Bruce Barbee were appointed to be meet referees for the 13-over meet.

The committee discussed the importance of reviewing the meet information prior to the meets. It was agreed that some changes to the meet information should be allowed at the meet provided that the changes don't negatively impact swimmers. For example, the committee would like to add breaks at the discretion of the meet director. It was noted that the meet information for the 12-under state meet includes language that allows such changes.

George and Judy will meet with Nancy Roos and Matt Miller from the host club SSTY prior to the 12-under meet. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the meet information and discuss any concerns about the meet. The committee wants to be sure that any changes made at the discretion of the meet director are impartial, giving no unfair advantage to any swimmers.

**Colorado Springs Officials Meeting**

George Geanon attended the May28-30 meeting of USA Swimming Officials at Colorado Springs. He passed out some handouts from that meeting, including clinic minutes, chief judge duties, and proposed new certification program. He reported that there was much discussion at the meeting regarding false starts. Officials should understand that "stationary" does not mean "motionless." An official's ability to judge false starts develops over time. The use of chief judges, especially at the state meet, would be helpful to our LSC. George will look into the possibility of having a national certification meet in the future, perhaps at the fall WGLO meet.

**Officials List/USA Swimming confidentiality**

Judy Linsley reported that many officials replied to the request for permission to post their name, address, and phone number on the WI Swimming website, but many officials did not reply. The list of officials on the website now will only include officials who have granted their permission. Judy will contact Carol Graham to get a list of registered officials, and then determine how many of them have not granted their permission. Another request for permission will be included in the August mailing by Carol Graham, and will be discussed at recertification clinics in the fall. Judy will also send a copy of the officials list file to Susan Zblewski. Susan and Judy will coordinate updating the

list, especially for officials who complete their training. Judy has already posted the updated list to the website in June, and will continue to post updates monthly.

### **Budget**

Susan found out that the LSC budgets \$4,000 for officials committee expenses. We have income of about \$1,000 in fees for training and recertification clinics that covers most of the expenses of those clinics. It was also suggested that the committee invite the LSC treasurer to one of our meetings to discuss budget issues.

### **Nametags and polos**

The committee agreed that all officials should have a nametag. Susan will approach the LSC to ask for funding for nametags for all officials and one shirt for new officials (a welcome appreciation gesture as well as help to reduce to cost of becoming an official). It was suggested that the splash fees could be increased by 25¢ to cover these expenses.

### **Fall certification clinics**

With so few of the committee members present at the meeting, it was felt that selecting dates for fall certification clinics was not possible. Judy will get a copy of the flyer from Patty Kramer, and modify it to promote smaller clinics sponsored by clubs. Judy will send the flyer to the meet directors of the summer LC state meets for inclusion in the heat sheets.

### **Officials recruiting, promotion, and retention**

The importance of local club recruiting was stressed.

### **Fall recertification clinics**

We need to get ideas of situations for discussion. A request for situations will be sent to officials with recertification clinic registration.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at UW-Waukesha.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Linsley, July 13, 2005.