

Officials Committee Meeting Minutes: May 15, 2007 (Tuesday)
Wisconsin Swimming, Inc.
University of Wisconsin Center, Waukesha

Participants: Bruce Barbee, John Bradley, George Geanon, Judy Linsley, Cindy Maltry, Tim McAvoy, Ben Radloff, Drew Walden, Dave Wardecke, Susan Zblewski, Chair

Susan Zblewski convened the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Review of April 17, 2007 Minutes: The description of the officials committee mission statement and structure document was corrected to include subcommittees.

Mission: Mission statements written by George Geanon and Ben Radloff were reviewed. Both versions were very similar. The committee used the two versions to create the following mission:

It is the mission of the WI LSC Officials Committee to ensure safe, fair and equitable conditions for competitive swimming throughout the WI LSC. The committee is responsible for the recruitment, training and retention of officials, in accordance with the rules and regulations of USA Swimming. We seek to inspire excellence, consistency, and professionalism among the officials of the WI LSC.

The committee approved this mission statement unanimously.

Officials Committee Structure: An LSC subcommittee of Susan Zblewski, George Geanon, John Bradley (age group chair), Dave Anderson (senior chair), and Bob Steele (master coach) reviewed the document. George also reviewed the USA Swimming bylaws to be sure that our WI LSC Officials Committee structure met their guidelines. Some changes were made to the officials committee structure document to refer to certified officials instead of officials and to emphasize knowledge base and skill sets.

George Geanon moved (Tim McAvoy seconded) to approve the officials committee structure document as amended at this meeting. Ben Radloff requested that the motion be tabled until our next meeting so that the final document could be reviewed once the changes are made.

Committee Membership Nominations: Four people were nominated for committee membership:

Paul Roehr, MEYO, an official who is certified both as a USA and YMCA official. Paul would represent the Madison area and comes from a smaller swim club.

Kim Thompson, BST, a stroke/turn official who serves on the board of her club. She recruited 8 new stroke/turn officials. Kim would represent the Kenosha area and also comes from a smaller swim club.

John Borja, WEST, an official who has meet management experience. John has prepared a PowerPoint presentation to aid in training officials on handling timing discrepancies. John would represent a large swim club from the Milwaukee area.

Paul Young, WEST, an official who has a lot of national certification experience. Paul brought national evaluators to the NIKE meet last December, the only national certification opportunity in the WI LSC in many years.

Susan Zblewski will call these four people to invite them to join the committee. If they agree, they will join at our next meeting. This would bring our committee membership to 13, which is one over the recommended membership. A few of the current committee members are considering retiring from the committee. The next resignation will not result in another appointment to the committee.

LSC State Meet Officials Document: The policy for appointing the meet referee, administrative referee, and head chief judge for LSC state meets are outlined in this document. Currently only two officials are appointed by the committee. Because appointed officials are compensated, the budget would need to be changed. A subcommittee of Susan Zblewski, George Geanon, and Ben Radloff will work on criteria for compensation.

Ben Radloff moved (Dave Wardecke seconded) to accept the document. The motion passed unanimously. Susan Zblewski will present the document at the June LSC meeting.

Many thanks go to George Geanon for his work on the mission statement, officials committee structure, and LSC appointed officials documents.

2007 Long Course State Meet Officials: The 12-under meet will be July 27-29, hosted by LAKE at Schroeder. The 13-over meet will be August 2-5, hosted by SEAY at Schroeder. Nominations for meet referee include Paul Friedemann, Steve Brandl, John Borja, and Paul Young. Nominations for head chief judge include Paul Roehr, Ted Hanson, Cindy Thompson, and Steve Ritt. Susan Zblewski will contact the nominees to determine their interest and availability.

New Officials Certification Clinics: Ben Radloff is planning to hold a clinic for stroke/turn officials in early June in Madison to support the Madison All-City League. The training would be in accordance with USA Swimming rules.

A starter/referee clinic has tentatively been scheduled for September 22 at Waukesha South. Judy Linsley and Tim McAvoy would be the presenters. John Bradley will facilitate scheduling.

Budget: Our officials committee budget needs to include money for another national certification meet.

USA Swimming National Convention: Susan Zblewski announced that the WI LSC would like to bring an official to the September 25-30, 2007 convention.

Fall Swimposium: WI Swimming is planning a swimposium on October 13. This would be a recertification opportunity for officials.

Recertification Clinic Subcommittee: Ben Radloff will handle registration for recertification clinics. Tim McAvoy will contact Patty Kramer to get last year's agenda, and then will draw up a preliminary agenda for this year's recertification clinics. John Borja's input will be sought for administrative referee training.

New Business: Recruitment and retention needs to be an agenda item. Judy Linsley has a list of officials who did not renew their membership with USA Swimming.

Next Meeting Date: July 10, 2007 (Tuesday).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Linsley, July 8, 2007