

Officials Committee Meeting Minutes: January 15, 2008 (Tuesday)
Wisconsin Swimming, Inc.
University of Wisconsin Center, Waukesha

Participants: Steve Brandl, John Borja, George Geanon (chair), Patty Kramer, Judy Linsley, Cindy Maltry, Tim McAvoy, Ben Radloff, Paul Roehr, Kim Thompson, Jackie Vargas, Dave Wardecke, Susan Zblewski

George Geanon convened the meeting at 7:07 PM.

Review of December 18, 2007 Minutes: The minutes were approved as read.

Recertification Issues: It has become apparent that there are communication gaps in the recertification process. It is difficult to determine which officials have completed all requirements for recertification. Ben Radloff proposed that a subcommittee be formed to look into those problems. Patty Kramer, Tim McAvoy, Judy Linsley, George Geanon, and Ben Radloff will serve on this subcommittee with a goal of improving the system for certifying and recertifying officials. At the next officials committee meeting, each member of the subcommittee should bring written information about who they communicate with, and then a date will be set for an April meeting.

The committee is considering a switch from an annual to a biannual recertification process. Most other LSCs recertify biannually. The subcommittee will discuss this and bring a proposal to the committee in May.

A swimposium is being proposed for mid-October, 2008. The committee would like to have an official's swimposium at that time.

Officials Manual: Ben Radloff, Paul Roehr, and Patty Kramer (Madison-area), Cindy Maltry and Dave Wardecke (Appleton-area), and George Geanon (chair) have reviewed the revised manual. Steve Brandl and Susan Zblewski will review the manual and then pass it to Judy Linsley and John Borja.

Timers Test: USA Swimming does not require that stroke/turn officials take the timers test. Ben Radloff moved (Dave Wardecke seconded) that all new stroke/turn officials will be required to take the timers test in order to be certified, but the timers test will no longer be required for recertification. The motion passed unanimously.

Short Course State LSC Appointed Officials: Ben Radloff will be the meet referee and Paul Roehr will be the head chief judge at the 12-under state meet. Paul Friedemann will be the meet referee and Don Steinberg will be the head chief judge at the 13-over state meet. The administrative referee for the 13-over state meet has not yet been appointed.

Recommended Deck Assignments: Paul Roehr presented a series of graphics that show recommended chain of command and deck assignments for meet officials. The

documents were well received by the committee. Paul will e-mail the documents committee members and will make revisions based on their feedback.

YMCA Officials: YMCA certification requirements are not as stringent as USA Swimming's. However, YMCA officials do follow the USA Swimming technical rules. Patty Kramer moved (John Borja seconded) that experienced YMCA stroke/turn officials who have officiated a minimum of four sessions would be able to be certified by WI Swimming provided that they pass the USA Swimming timers and stroke/turn tests, and then apprentice twice. Tim McAvoy moved (Steve Brandl seconded) that experienced YMCA starter/referees with at least one year of experience and a minimum of six sessions as starter/referees would be able to be certified by WI Swimming provided that they pass the USA Swimming timer, stroke/turn, starter, referee, administrative referees, and clerk of course tests, and apprentice twice as a starter and three times as a referee. Both motions passed unanimously.

Schroeder Pool: The Schroeder YMCA has decided to sell their aquatic center to a new non-profit group, Walter Schroeder Aquatic Center, Ltd. The group needs to raise a million dollars. There are other financial concerns about the ongoing operation of the pool. If the pool is not sold, Wisconsin will lose their only indoor 50-meter pool. The pending sale will be discussed further at the next LSC meeting.

Next Agenda: LSC owned equipment and officiating at masters swim meets will be on the agenda at our next meeting.

Next Meeting Date: February 19, 2008 (Tuesday), at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Linsley, February 6, 2008.