

***Officials Committee Meeting Minutes: June 17, 2008 (Tuesday)***  
***Wisconsin Swimming, Inc.***  
***University of Wisconsin Center, Waukesha***

**Participants:** Steve Brandl, George Geanon (chair), Patty Kramer, Judy Linsley, Cindy Maltry, Ben Radloff, Kim Thompson, Dave Wardecke, Susan Zblewski

George Geanon convened the meeting at 7:14 PM.

**Review of May 20, 2008 Minutes:** The minutes were approved after making a spelling correction.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Officials Manual:** Two draft copies have been circulating amongst committee members. Comments are due to George Geanon by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Members who have reviewed the manual have made written comments in the draft copy.

**Summer Meets:** George Geanon sent an e-mail to inform officials about four upcoming summer meets:

- Central Zone Speedos, July 17-20, Schroeder
- Silver Meet, July 18-20, Waukesha South
- 12-under LC State Championship, July 25-27, Schroeder
- 13-over LC State Championship, July 31-Aug 3, Schroeder

**Budget:** George Geanon has not yet received details of expenditures from Pat Lewno, but we are under spent at this point. George recently sent Pat receipts for spring Speedo national certification expenses and for rental of radios for the spring state meets.

One budgeted item that has not yet been spent is for new officials. New stroke/turn officials would receive a shirt and name badge, and new starter/referees would receive a bell. Patty Kramer has been pricing shirts and name badges. Purchasing shirts one-at-a-time rather than in bulk would increase the cost (including shipping) from approximately \$24.50 to \$34 per shirt. The committee felt that ordering in bulk twice yearly rather than annually would be acceptable and would help to keep the price down. Name badges ordered one-at-a-time are about the same cost as the current bulk price. George Geanon had two bells for the committee to evaluate. One bell was from School Specialty in Appleton, WI, the supplier listed on the WI Swimming website, and the other was from a different school supplier. It was felt that the one from School Specialty had a better sound quality.

**Recertification Clinic:** The weekend of September 20-21 was set for the recertification clinics that will feature Paul Jones, a national level official. The suggested clinic locations are Saturday AM in Waukesha, Saturday PM in Oshkosh, and Sunday late morning/early afternoon in Madison. George will ask Paul for permission to videotape. For those officials who are unable to attend that weekend, alternative tentative dates are Wednesday, October 15 in Madison; Thursday, October 16 in Appleton; and Wednesday, November 5 in Waukesha. The committee

reviewed a draft agenda prepared by Tim McAvoy. Committee members should e-mail Tim with any suggestions for the agenda.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Policy Revisions:** The committee reviewed George Geanon's revisions to the following policies:

- Management of Pool Contamination
- Becoming a USA Swimming Certified Official
- Selection of Appointed Officials for LSC Championship Meets
- LSC Championship Meets: Officials' Responsibilities

Some spelling and grammar changes were suggested. Patty Kramer will make the changes and have the documents posted on the WI Swimming website.

**Subcommittees:** An important duty of the officials committee is to oversee membership. This includes recruitment, training, certification and recertification. Ben Radloff, vice chairman of the officials committee, is the chair of the membership subcommittee. The following duties were delegated as follows:

- Training: Patty Kramer and Dave Wardecke
- Recertification: Tim McAvoy and Paul Roehr, agenda; Ben Radloff, registration
- Roster/Officials Listing: Judy Linsley
- Recruitment/Team Liaison: Kim Thompson
- Recognition: Patty Kramer and Susan Zblewski

Two other subcommittees were established:

- Rules, Policies, Procedures: Paul Roehr and Steve Brandl
- National Certification: John Borja

**New Officials Summary:** Patty Kramer gathered statistics about new officials. In 2007, a total of 12 clinics were held of which 8 were for stroke/turn and 4 for starter/referee. There were 80 new stroke/turn officials trained, but only 32 completed the certification process. A total of 19 new starter/referees were trained, with only 3 finished with the certification process. So far in 2008 there have been 6 clinics held with a 7<sup>th</sup> clinic scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup>. Only one of those clinics was for new starter/referees. 36 new stroke/turn officials and 4 starter/referees attended the clinics. As of May 2008, we have a total of 256 officials and apprentices listed on the WI Swimming website. Judy Linsley reported that she removed 5 starter/referees, 19 stroke/turn, and 20 apprentices from the roster in June due to their not being registered with USA Swimming. Judy sent e-mails to those officials to let them know of their status so that they could correct it if they are still officiating, or to thank them if they retired.

During 2007 and so far in 2008, all of the stroke/turn clinics were conducted at the request of a club, 2 of them in conjunction with a swim meet. The officials committee decided last spring to

set the dates for the starter/referee clinics, as a single club is unlikely to generate sufficient interest. However, of the most recent starter/referee clinics, clubs initiated two of them, with a third one set by the officials committee. Another change in training is that the rules tests are now online rather than done during the clinics. Some new stroke/turn officials never complete the process because they do not complete the online test. They also lose out on valuable discussion that happens when the tests are taken at the clinic. Another concern is that not enough starter/referees are being trained. The new membership subcommittee of the officials committee will bring ideas for clinics and having more participants follow through to certification for discussion at the next meeting

**Next Agenda:**

- Membership issues
- Recertification clinics
- Officials manual

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Linsley, June 20, 2008.