

Officials Committee Meeting Minutes: March 16, 2010 (Tuesday)
Wisconsin Swimming, Inc.
University of Wisconsin Center, Waukesha

Participants: George Geanon (chair), Judy Linsley, Tim McAvoy, Michael Patton, Maurice Pheil, Rick Potter, Cindy Raatz, Ben Radloff, Paul Roehr, Kimberly Thompson, Patrick Weisling

George Geanon convened the meeting at 7:03 PM.

Review of January 19, 2010 Minutes: The minutes were corrected (Michael Patton was present and Paul Roehr was not present) and approved.

Survey Monkey: George is still working on a 10-question survey to be sent to officials.

2010 Fall Clinics: The committee hopes to have either Bruce Stratton or Dan McAllen be the national level speaker. Bruce is the chair of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee. Topic ideas will be discussed at our May meeting.

Observed Swims: Maurice reported that the observed swims process for the high school boys' meets worked well.

State Meets: Ben Radloff, meet referee, presented the meet report for the 12-under Short Course Championships. The meet was well covered with officials. There were no stroke officials walking the sides of the pool on Friday, but there were 4 stroke and turn officials on each end. There was a facility issue with the UW-Natatorium because the locker rooms did not have running water. Toilets were able to be flushed, but there were no sinks or showers.

Overall coaches complimented the officials and understood the decisions made at the meet. An official decision was required when two relay teams missed their heat. Ben had told coaches that as long as relay teams were present in the staging area, they would be allowed to swim. The two relay teams were in the pre-staging area but did not respond to the meet marshal's call for their heat. A heat was added and both teams were allowed to swim.

Later in the meet one girl in the 100 Breaststroke did not respond to the starter's command, but the heat was sent by the starter. No other swimmers were affected and the single swimmer accepted a re-swim at the end of the next event. The committee discussed what to do if a re-swim is offered due to an issue at the start of a race. Best officiating practice would be to offer a re-swim to all swimmers/teams in the heat. However, if a swimmer/team was disqualified during the original swim for a violation not related to the start, that swimmer/team would not be allowed to re-swim.

The committee commended Ben Radloff, meet referee, and Patty Kramer, head chief judge, for an excellent meet.

Paul Roehr, meet referee, presented the meet report for the 13-over Short Course Championships. The meet was adequately staffed and well run. There were some meet information issues with regards to breaks before the 1000 Freestyle (45 minutes vs. 10 minutes). It was determined that the intent was to have a 10 minute break. This was communicated to all coaches via e-mail. Written documentation of all coaches' consents was obtained. There was a

problem with the order of events in Finals and the order had to be changed from that published in the Meet Information. This happened because meet management was unable to get the new version of Hy-Tek to work as they believed it should.

One official decision was required when two swimmers ended up in Lane 8 when they appeared for a consolation heat. One of the swimmers should have been in Lane 1. However, the officials did not notice that two swimmers were in Lane 8, and they called for an alternate. After the alternate appeared, the officials realized that the original swimmer was there all along, just in the wrong lane. The alternate was not allowed to swim. In retrospect, this should have been a delay of meet for the swimmer who was in the wrong lane. Regardless, the decision was made thoughtfully by the officials at the meet.

The committee commended Paul Roehr, meet referee, George Geanon, administrative referee, and Cindy Raatz, head chief judge, for an excellent meet.

YMCA Officials Reciprocity Policy: This new policy is generating more USA Officials because they dual certify when they become Y-officials. The written policy states the number of apprentice sessions required for WI Swimming based on the experience of the Y-officials. The committee agreed that more apprentice sessions can be done if desired by the apprentice or recommended by the mentor. Ben Radloff moved (Michael Patton seconded) that the "Reciprocity for YMCA/USA Swimming Certification" document be accepted with the change in language regarding apprentice session. The motion passed.

Swimposium: The swimposium on Saturday, April 24 will include a starter/referee clinic, a session on the responsibilities of a chief judge, and a session on open water officiating.

Officials of the Year: Nominations for official(s) of the year should be sent to Ben Radloff. The award(s) will be presented at the 13-over Long Course Championship.

Apprentice Session Increase: The WI LSC requires 4 apprentice sessions to become a stroke/turn official while about two-thirds of the LSCs require 6-8 apprentice sessions. After discussion, the committee decided to leave our minimum as 4 apprentice sessions.

USA Swimming Officials Workshops: Tim McAvoy and Paul Roehr will attend the workshop in Minneapolis from May 14-16 if their calendars are clear. Maurice Pheil will be the alternate.

A workshop for open water officials is being offered in June. Only 17 officials will be accepted from those who apply. Please contact George if interested.

Long Course State Meet Officials: The committee nominated Bob Wesel to be meet referee and Michael Patton to be head chief judge for the 12-under meet. Patrick Weisling was nominated to be head chief judge at the 13-over meet. The committee is still considering nominations for the 13-over meet and administrative referees. Many candidates are unable to commit to all 4 days of that meet.

Training Materials: Michael Patton shared the PowerPoint presentation that he uses for stroke/turn training. He will electronically send it to committee members for review. So far the

committee thought that using the PowerPoint presentation would be a great way to make training more uniform. Information on timing and seeding will need to be added.

Next Agenda: Topics include:

- Recruiting officials
- Fall clinic topics
- Swimposium
- Officials of the year
- Summer State meets

Next Meeting Date: May 18, 2010 (Tuesday), at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Linsley, April 18, 2010.