

Central Zone Officials Chair Report

The Central Zone continued to make progress with assigning Meet Referees from outside host LSCs. At the LSC Officials Chairs meeting in Houston last year the CZ Chairs agreed that although they could provide opportunities within their LSCs, to advance people to the next level we needed to work cooperatively. Having a more formal development process for Sectional and Zone MRs would ensure that there were opportunities made available for deserving candidates. This is the first full year we have been operating under those principles.

- Looking for candidates who have extensive experience at Sectional and Zone meets
- LSC Championship (prelim/final) MR experience
- N3 DR preferred
- National experience desired (it's hard to create a national deck experience if you don't know what it is)
- Strive to assign people OUTSIDE their home LSC.
- Breaks away from home pool/regular meet mentality. Referees bring their "A Game" if they are not in their regular pool
- Not had an out of LSC meet in the last 3-5 years

Hopefully we have set the path for continued opportunities for officials to advance, be supported, and gain opportunities both within and outside their LSCs.

Biannual calls with the Sectional Chairs began this year. The goal of the calls includes the following:

- develop not only an environment of excellence but also how the sections can help to build the next generation of officials.
- talk about up-and-coming referees and work together to plan for upcoming meets

Separately, the Central Zone officials chair and vice-chair will work with the Central Zone Championship meet coordinators to develop a process for advancing officials in the CZ. This may include:

- choosing Zone referees
- ways to support officials attending the Zone Meets,
- developing guidelines such as:
 - what it takes to be a zone referee,
 - requirements in meet bids about evaluators,
 - requirements to secure free rooms,
 - budget to allow zone officials chairs to be reimbursed for attending meets

This year we canceled the \$200/year Officials Application service we were using for Sectional and Zone meets. We gained several benefits from migrating to Google Forms:

- Meet Referee (and anyone they designate) is notified whenever an application is submitted
- Officials receive an immediate notification of receipt
- Submission can be edited at any time
- Meet Referee has direct access to all the data at their convenience

Thanks to Marianne Walling from IN who set up the meets.

Once again CZ Meets, both Sectionals and Zones, brought in high caliber national evaluators who were able to cover many, if not all, evaluation requests. Most OQMs could mentor positions through N3final evaluations at all positions.

The following Section and Zone Meets were hosted:

- Section 1 –
 - Spring – Pleasant Prairie, WI
 - Referee – Phil Barnes, IA
 - Summer - Iowa City, IA
 - Referee – Fran Werner, IN

- Section 3 -
 - Spring – Akron, LE
 - Referee – Marianne Walling, IN
 - Summer – Cleveland, LE
 - Referee – Anissa Kanzari, OH

- Region 8 –
 - Spring – Columbia, MV
 - Referee – Amy Hoppenrath, MV
 - Summer – Jenks, OK
 - Referee – Steve Potter, GA

- Open Water - Pleasant Prairie, WI
 - Referee – Ann Widdowson, IL

- Age Group Zones (2) –
 - SPIRE, LE
 - Referee – Curtis Myers, MV
 - Minneapolis, MN
 - Referee – Anne Lawley, OH

Next year there will be an additional meet – the Multi-Cultural Meet. It is being hosted in Edwardsville.

It has been my privilege to serve as Officials Chair/Assistant Chair these past 4 years. I have strived to bring transparency to how we select officials for key positions at our meets, working with the LSCs to ensure that we spread opportunities to those that have demonstrated a commitment to the Zone and are ready for the opportunity.

I have met many dedicated officials and coaches throughout the Zone, and learned from each of you. Thank you for your commitment, passion, and support in providing the best possible meets for our athletes. I hope to see you on deck again soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Lawley
Central Zone Officials Chair

2018 Meets

SC Sectionals						
Host	Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
WI	44	212	30	9 (20%)	13	3
LE	33	165	20.6	12 (36%)	9	2
MV	62	370	53	33 (53%)	41	3
LC Sectionals						
Host	Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
IA	29	168	21	11 (25%)	7	2
LE	28	157	19.6	8 (29%)	12	4
OK	41	171	21.3	13 (32%)	20	4

2018 Age Group (4 day format)						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/Session	Host #	Evals	# LSCs
LE	31	187	15.6	4 (13%)	9	8
MN	53*	252	21	17 (32%)	20	11

*Application closed

2018 Open Water			
Host	# Officials	Host #	# LSCs
WI	30	10 (33%)	8

2017 Meets

SC Sectionals						
Host	Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
IA*	37	W- 193	24.1	19 (51%)	12	4
		D- 32	4			
	40	W- 221	27.6	22 (55%)	9	5

IN (LC)		D- 40	5			
MV*	49	W- 230	32.9	28 (57%)	31	3
		D- 52	7.4			
* 2 pool prelims						
LC Sectionals						
Host	Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
MN	28	W - 140	17.5	16 (57%)	10	2
		D - 36	4.5			
OH	37	W - 175	21.9	26 (70%)	10	5
		D - 40	5			
MW	32	W- 175	21.9	16 (50%)	12	6
		D - 48	6			

2017 Age Group (4 day format)						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/Session	Host #	Evals	# LSCs
WI	45	W-230	19.2	9 (20%)	17	8
		D-50	4.2			
MN	43	W-259	21.6	13 (30%)	18	11
		D-58	4.8			

2017 Open Water			
Host	# Officials	Host #	# LSCs
WI	22	7 (32%)	8

2017 Multicultural Meet						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/Session	Host #	Evals	# LSC
OH	19	W- 41	10.25	14 (74%)	0	5
		D - 12	3			

2016 Meets

LC Sectionals						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
WI	41	W - 145	20.7	6 (14.6%)	8	3
		D - 38	5.4			
LE	24	W - 115	14.4	11 (45.8%)	8	1
		D - 24	3			
OK	49	W - 246	30.8	14	26	3

		D - 59	7.4			
LC Sectionals						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
WI	37	W - 182	22.8	17 (46%)	19	2
		D - 24	3			
OH	49	W - 186	26.6	45 (92%)	19	1
		D - 43	6.1			
MV	40	W - 187	23.4	18 (45%)	18	1
		D - 50	7.1			

2016 - MEGA ZONE (4 days)						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/Session	Host #	Evals	# LSCs
IN	64	W- 345	28.8	20 (31%)	24	14
		D- 46	3.8			

2016 Open Water			
Host	# Officials	Host #	# LSCs
WI	24	6 (25%)	6

2015 Meets

SC Sectionals						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
IA	36	W - 144	20.6	17 (47%)	10	5
		D - 28	4			
IN	48	W - 238	29.8	31 (65%)	9	4
		D- 32	4			
OK	47	W - 193	27.6	18 (38%)	23	1
		D - 50	7.1			

LC Sectionals						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/session	Host #	# Evals	Out of Section LSCs
MN	26	W - 129	16.1	13 (50%)	11	0
		D - 22	3.1			
OH	51	W - 219	27.4	42 (82%)	15	5
		D - 43	5.4			
MV	47	W - 240	30	23 (48.9%)	13	2
		D - 64	8			

2015 Age Group Zones						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/Session	Host #	Evals	# LSC
MN	44	W- 184	20.4	30 (68.2%)	22	7
		D- 37	4.1			
MV	61	W- 271	30.1	26 (42.6%)	17	9
		D- 49	5.4			

2015 Open Water			
Host	# Officials	Host #	# LSCs
WI	23	7 (30.4%)	5

2015 Multicultural Meet						
Host	# Officials	# Sessions	/Session	Host #	Evals	# LSC
IN	29	W- 54	13.5	23 (79%)	0	4
		D- 17	4.25			