

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Conference Call February 5, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Coleman. He read the Mission and Vision statements.

PRESENT: Coleman Bye, Mary Poletto, Gwenn Lochstet, Rick Carson, Mike Wigginton, Jamie Platt, Mike Seip, Tiffany Epoca, Kylie McMurray, Tom Estep

ABSENT: Jack Behm, Allie DeFrehn, Mike Petrakis, Rob Jorgensen, Carlos Inacio, John Nelson, Larry Schwarz

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The January 2024 minutes were approved.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT: Coleman read the statement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Clyde officially resigned as official

- We still need to get him his medal.

2. Jamie reports that the Swimposium has been postponed until September 2024.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Staff Report – Mike Seip

- There are 196 Sanctioned meets, 40 Approved meets, and 27 Observed meets.
- Badge information will now go to Amy instead of Mike Seip.

OC Chair - Coleman

- He met with Tiffany, Larry, and a number of other officials on the Recruit, Retain and Advance Initiative. They are looking at other assertive LSC's and seeing what works. They would like one more female member. Tracey Lee of Keystone was floated as a possible candidate.

Training – Rick and Tiffany

- AO, SR, and CJ clinics have been scheduled.
- ST clinic will be rescheduled due to short notice.

OTS – Mary

- She is working on moving meets from sanctioned to OTS so that official sessions can be entered.
- She noted that coaches who are also officials must register separately as officials to be credited with sessions in OTS.

Advancement – Tiffany and Mike Wigginton

- They are in a holding pattern waiting for implementation of R9. All referees must be certified as AO's to be certified. There is now no more LSC AR certification, but the referee can be assigned to the position of AR at a meet.

Secretary - Gwenn

- Jamie recorded the meeting using the Fathom AI software. It now records the transcript of the meeting. It also provides a summary of the discussion, which can be used to produce the minutes.

Meet Management

- There was discussion on how to staff all SC championship meets.

- It was suggested that we have an application for official positions as in other USA Swimming championship meets. This will be done for assigned teams at Senior Champs because we designated it as a national deck.
- Tiffany pointed out that we need more officials to work national meets (3 stars or above) so that they qualify to be evaluators. Coleman will share the list of national meets and encourage officials to attend them.

Certification - Rick

- Discuss updates and changes to officiating policies and procedures following the rollout of R9.
- 150 officials have renewed USA Swimming membership but have not taken required tests for recertification. Outreach may be needed to get them certified.
- Attending a clinic is required now for recertification every 3 years. Clinics will need to be recorded for officials to view. Assignments were made to create presentations.
- Email communications and website updates are top priorities to inform officials of changes.
- Questions remain around specifics of recertification requirements that need clarification from the national officials committee.
- Coleman will communicate the new requirements of R9, and the website will be updated in the coming days to inform officials of changes. Scripting consistencies across communications is important.
- A town hall could be held in the coming weeks to review changes.
- A plan needs to be developed for communicating deficiencies and evaluation during the certification process.

Athlete Representatives - Kylie

- None.

Coach Representative

- None.

Web Advisor

- Jamie will mirror the maswimofficials.org page and tweak it to move it under the maswim.org page.

OLD BUSINESS

Requests for Trainers for Clinics

- Jamie thinks that all communications should be streamlined through the OC.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 4, 2024

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Minutes Submitted by Gwenn Lochstet