



ISI OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2019

Robert Fry, 07/22/19

Roll Call

- Committee: Curtis Witt, Robert Fry, Mike Repko, Art Dinkin, Kirstin Oppel, Alex Stone, Audrey Repko
- Others: Phil Barnes, Jodie Stone, Bobby Kelley, Andrea Kelley, Chrissy Beagle, Dave Thoma

Adoption of minutes from March 27 regular Committee meeting.

- Proposed and seconded. Approved by voice vote.

Unfinished (Old) Business

ISI Certification and Recertification Requirements Document (Robert)

- New document was created, just needs posting to website.

New Business

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Program (MAAPP) (Curtis)

- **Curtis** plans to print the multi-page document from USA Swimming and distribute at LC Champs.
- A link to the document was requested to be posted to the ISI officials website. **Curtis** will do this.
- ISI has emailed all teams regarding MAAPP.
- Jen Matthews is the correct ISI person to approach with any questions.
- Teams with limited facilities (only available bathroom is in locker room) can still run meets, porta-potties not required.
- Points raised at the recent national officials chair meeting:
 - Ensure you are never alone in a locker room with an athlete. If you have no choice but to use the bathroom in a locker room, and an athlete enters while you are in there, finish your business, leave promptly and inform the meet referee of the incident.
 - Starter needs to include MAAPP language in the timers briefing
 - MAAPP needs to be included in guidelines for the meet marshall.
 - No massage of minor athletes by coaches under any circumstances.
 - Adult athletes are now included with adults and differentiated from minor athletes.
 - Adult athletes entering a meet will need to have credentials checked for MAAPP compliance (they must take APT).

Evaluators for ISI Short Course Championships (Curtis)

- David Coddington and Robert Broyles were suggested as possible evaluators.
- Curtis requested any officials attending Futures, Zones, etc., to network and provide back any other possible names.

Officials Numbers Update (Curtis)

- Were down to 214 at start of long course season.
- Numbers are now back up to 240+, following ST and AO clinics and apprenticing this season.

Officials Committee Election (Curtis)

- Two names were nominated so far for Vice-Chair position. Curtis is waiting to hear back.
- One name was nominated so far for East Zone rep.
- Still seeking nominations for Secretary.

Compensation for Meet Referees (Bobby Kelley)

- It is time consuming and challenging to certify as MR, so the number is limited.
- LMST has been dependent on outside MRs for a long time.
- Like to be able to pay, to make it easier to recruit MR for meets.
- Other LSCs compensate some officials (e.g. Missouri Valley (MV), Minnesota (MN))
- ISI Policies and Procedures, Section G, states "It is the general policy of ISI to use volunteer officials in all capacities."
- Discussion followed, with points made both for and against the idea of compensation for MR. Points made for the idea included:
 - School districts already pay high school swim officials. NCAA officials are also paid.
 - Not against host club using meet revenue to pay the MR.
- Points made against the idea included:
 - Concern it would be a divisive issue for the LSC. It pits clubs against each other to bid for available MR.
 - The LSC does not have money to do this.
 - Tax forms would be needed if an individual earned enough in 1 year. The ISI office does not have time to take care of this.
 - Officials might move clubs if one pays better than another.
 - Officials might be in greater conflict over obtaining an assigned position at a meet.
 - Big clubs would have advantage over smaller clubs
 - Competition between meets could be an issue
 - This could affect teams' inclination to bid for meets, esp. big meets, as it will negatively affect net revenue.
- Other points made:
 - Value in creating memo to state policy where this might be appropriate.
 - OK to comp a hotel room for MR, just not to pay. (This is already commonly done by teams)
 - It is a general ISI policy, but not an absolute rule. It is to be discouraged, but is not banned.
 - MN pays assigned team positions per session. Officials Committee selects assigned officials before meet. Host club pays, not the LSC.
 - National meets do not pay, just cover expenses.
 - Q - Can LM school district contract with USA officials like with HS officials?
 - A - No rule currently forbids compensation. However, USA officials do not do this to be paid. Covering expenses is OK.
 - Q - How would it work for non-ISI officials?
 - A - Treat them the same as ISI officials.
 - ISI should not dictate to clubs whether they will pay.
 - High school district deals with tax issues if HS official's pay goes over the threshold.
- Outcome of discussion - Because it is not banned by any LSC rule, Bobby plans to discuss the possibility with LM school district.

ISI Open Water Certification (Mike)

- Apprentice forms for OW have been created.
- Certification requirements and OW positions have been set up the same as USA Swimming.
- All the basics are in place, and mirror USA Swimming.
- Nothing is on the officials website right now. Do we just need to place documents on the site?
- **Mike Repko** will review documents again and report back.

Officials Recognition Program (Robert)

- This is now mandated by the new Section G passed at the last HoD meeting.
- Propose that a subcommittee be set up to discuss program details. The subcommittee will develop a proposal for consideration by the full committee.
- Robert Fry, Chrissy Beagle and Mike Repko agreed to serve on the subcommittee.
- Q - What aspects of officiating service might the program cover?

- A - Any proposal is on the table to start with.
- Info – Recognition for wrestling officials is based on years of service.
- The committee needs to be sensitive to previous input on this subject, in particular things that were expressed to be inappropriate for recognition during an earlier committee meeting (1/31/18).

Proposed Section G Update (Robert)

- A proposed document markup was posted to the officials website on the committee page against this evening's meeting. The markup addresses two proposals.
- Consolidation of Introduction and General Sections.
 - Two items were retained from the old General section by an amendment at the last HoD. The items refer to the ISI dress code. The plan is consolidate these items into the Introduction section. At the same time, the current requirement for meet referees to specify the dress code for the meet is revised. Dress code need no longer be specified, but standard ISI dress code may be modified by the meet referee.
 - Brief discussion:
 - Dress code should specify the minimum length for skirts.
 - Alternatively, include more general language on dress code to emphasize professionalism.
 - Instead of specific language on skirt length, just leave it up to the meet referee to enforce appropriate dress code.
- Disputes and Disciplinary Actions
 - HoD failed to pass the proposed language for Section G, leaving it without any language covering this topic. The proposal is to add a minimal paragraph that clarifies:
 - ISI does have a process for dealing with these issues, and it follows USA Swimming guidelines.
 - Who should be contacted with an issue of this nature.
- A vote on the proposal was tabled until the final committee meeting before Fall HoD.

Any Other Business

- N2/N3 national certification requirements documents on the officials website are out of date. It was recommended to change links to point directly to the documents on the USA Swimming website instead of hosting the documents directly on the ISI site.

Date of Next Meeting

- The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 14th at 8pm.
- This will include the results for committee elections.

Adjournment

- Proposed and seconded. Approved by voice vote.
- Meeting adjourned at 21:00.