

Utah Swimming Officials Committee Meeting

Monday, November 4th, 2024, at 7:30pm

IN ATTENDANCE: Julie Floyd (chair), Connie Christensen, Adelaide G., Izabel G., Erik Harris, Carri Oviatt, Theresa Werner

EXCUSED: Barry Hayden, Lori Onsaе, Tiffanie P.

October 2024 minutes approved and meeting called to order by the committee chair.

Utah Swimming Officials Committee Membership (10 members):

Chair: Julie Floyd	Team Liaison: Lori Onsaе
Vice Chair: Carri Oviatt	Training: Connie Christensen
Advancement: Erik Harris	Athlete Rep: Adelaide G
Communication: Theresa Werner	Athlete Rep: Izabel G.
Mentoring and Retention: Barry Hayden	Athlete Rep: Tiffanie P.
Open Water: Julie Floyd	

Officials Certifications and Advancements

- The following advancements and certifications were discussed:
 - We had a few new stroke and turn certifications in the month of October.
- Utah Officials List posted on Utah Swimming website will be updated later this week after the new certifications and advancements are added (last updated online September 2024).
 - Those with expired certifications are not included on the online officials list until they have all their certifications current.

New Committee Business

- The issue of the lack of officials in our LSC which has led to the same officials working most of the meets and getting overworked was brought up.
 - Clubs are supposed to have certified officials in a 1:20 ratio officials to swimmers. This is outlined in the policy and procedures. We have not had a penalty if a team does not meet this quota.
 - Consider suggesting that you cannot host a meet if you do not have this quota for officials or planned officials for your meet. This is also stated in the policy and procedures that sanctioned meets must meet minimum criteria of officials.
 - Minimum: 1 referee, 1 starter, 1 S&T (can be ref or starter), and 1 AO for intrasquad and dual meets.
 - Need to consider not sanctioning so many meets on the same weekend and encourage teams to attend each other's meets.
 - Meet fee waivers for officials working the meet are being done by many teams although this is not consistent throughout the LSC. This has been appealing to many officials.
 - Having the LSC pay for officials to work meets was suggested by a coach.
 - There is concern over non-profit status.
 - Our LSC needs to encourage teams to get more officials and teams will need to figure out how to incentivize their parents to become officials, especially as the official training and certification process is now online and requires less time commitment overall to become certified.

- Referees are not expected to purchase carbon copy DQ slips for meets they work.
 - Our LSC purchases these for state meets.
 - Meet host teams should supply these if they are needed at a meet.
 - You can make copies of the pdf of the updated DQ slip on USA Swimming website or use DQ logs for meets.
- USA Swimming is not tracking 'Activities' in OTS for national certification any longer.

Championship Meets

- Short Course Senior State December 5-7, 2024, in St. George (sanction posted in the last week).
 - Meet Referee is Julie Floyd.
 - Admin Referee is Carri Oviatt (also doing entries as AR).
 - Meet Director is Dani Caldwell.
- UTAGS Short Course State March 6-8, 2025 (not yet sanctioned).
 - MR and AR are being solicited at this time.
- Senior LC State, July 10-12, 2025.
- UTAGS LC State, July 17-19, 2025.
- Utah Beehive Finale, July 25-26, 2025.
- We did discuss that sanctions need to be coming out sooner than one month before a championship meet; Julie and Carri will discuss this at next Championship Committee meeting.

National Certifications and Opportunities

- Policy 4.2 on officials' reimbursements for high level meets previously reviewed. Will plan to add some criteria for who should be considered for funding (those seeking national certification, those working the full meet, those attending certain meet for the first time).
 - Our committee will do the final write up for travel reimbursement for officials working at higher level meets with new policy for 2025.

Officials Training and Clinics

- We hosted our last in person CJ, Starter, AO, and Referee Clinics at Swimposium in September 2024.
- The new USA Swimming AO training and test are online now as of October 1, 2024.
- The new USA Swimming Starter training and test are online now as of October 1, 2024.
- Will update website to add our new CJ training and certification process.
- InfoFirmation for junior stroke and turn officials is on the website, and they will use the same training document we have posted for stroke and turn officials.
- All new officials need to take the new Foundations Course as well that is online.
- Reminder that anyone wanting to advance to Referee must become a certified AO prior to starting Referee training.

Theresa has set up upcoming meetings as a recurring Zoom meeting (closed meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month).

Next meeting will be Tuesday December 3rd at 7:30pm via zoom.