

LSC Officials Chair Conference-Charlotte June 21-22, 2019

Gina Mensay spoke Friday evening. She talked about apprentices. They are now recommending the 60 day apprentice period to start at the time of the first on-deck apprenticeship. Recommend the registrar and officials chair work together on this. If unable to see an official on deck pass, go to history. Recommend new officials have a mentor.

They are phasing out the blue oxfords that are worn at national meets.

A high level AO is now allowed to apply to work Sectionals and Futures.

They are planning to develop an online course for Stroke and Turn.

They would like to grow the number of national evaluators. They are going to have new criteria and an application process to become an N3 evaluator. I am very interested in becoming an N3 evaluator. I sent an email to Dana Covington and Kathleen Scandary regarding this and would like to apply when the application becomes available. They said if applicant is not ready to move up then a pathway would be established to do so.

Kathleen Scandary talked about increasing transparency in USA Swimming. They will try to do more to announce meet refs etc. for higher level meets. They will announce the assigned team for Olympic Trials at Convention. The rest of the team will be notified by Jan 1, 2020.

They talked about improving what we do in the LSC to show appreciation to officials and other volunteers. In Maine we will be establishing an award for outstanding official of the year. I did try to do some swag this year at Winter Champs with badge reels and smiley face bouncy balls. We have been doing name badges for officials for the last 2 years.

There was also talk about recruitment and retention. Everybody has trouble with this. I didn't hear anything new. They also talked about succession planning.

They would like to create a pool of national officials eligible to officiate Olympic Trials. (I think they already have this and they keep using the same people it just doesn't have a title.)

I have sent a copy of the Dropbox files from this clinic to Mary Ellen Tynan and Nicole Viele.