

Metropolitan Swimming Officials' Committee Minutes

August 7, 2024 / Virtual

Prior to the meeting, Chair David Rodriguez opened the session by announcing changes to the Officials Committee leadership. He expressed sincere thanks to Co-Chairs Elaine Ang and Ken Graham for their valuable contributions, and formally appointed Jennifer Bancroft as Interim Officials Chair. To conclude his opening remarks, Mr. Rodriguez underscored the importance of Metro Swimming's Mission and Vision Statements, urging the committee to maintain these guiding principles throughout their discussions.

CALL TO ORDER

Jennifer Bancroft, Interim Chair, called the August 7, 2024, Officials' Committee Meeting to order at 7:06 PM with the following members in attendance:

PRESENT

Jennifer Bancroft, Tyler Gallub, Andy Kass, Phil Paspalas, Ron Sommer, Allen Wone

ABSENT

Julie Chen, Wilhelmina Dwyer, Ann Fosteris, Darryl Strabuk, Ryan Wagner

GUESTS

Jeff Chu, Ken Graham, Annette Mackrel

MOTION: *To approve the Agenda. Seconded. APPROVED.*

Consent Agenda: Proposal A-May 8, 2024 minutes, Proposal B-May 15, 2024 minutes, Proposal C Education Coordinator recommendation. Ms. Bancroft stated in order to streamline the committee meetings, routine items that need to be voted on will be placed on a consent agenda, with the committee members being able to pull any proposals requiring discussion. All proposals were circulated amongst the committee prior to the meeting. Having no further discussion, a request for a motion was made.

MOTION: *To approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded. APPROVED.*



These minutes will be officially approved by the Metropolitan Swimming Officials' Committee during the November 13, 2024, meeting.

Official Chair

Ms. Bancroft stated that moving forward, the committee members would have a role in the meeting, reporting to the committee on area and subcommittee activities.

Championship Meet Referees for the Short and Long Course 2024-25 season along with the selection of creating Meet Referee criteria was discussed. The official for Short Course Championship must be presented to the BOD no later than October 1, 2024. To fulfill National OQM requirements, Meet Referees for Championship meets must be N3 Stroke and Turn Officials and ideally, N2 Referee. Additionally, the concept of establishing a 5-year waiting period for past meet referees prior to be re-nominated, as well as cycling through the available referees within LSC's geographical areas.

MOTION: *To select the Metropolitan Championship meet referee through an application and/or recommendation process, on a 4-5 year rotation between officials who have been prior Championship Meet Referees, while rotating between the geographically areas of the Metropolitan LSC. Question Called. APPROVED*

Mr. Graham arranged for Peter LaGow to be the National Evaluator for the February Short Course Championship meet, and Ellen Colket for the July Long Course Championship meet. If a committee member has additional suggestions, they should forward that name via email.

MOTION: *Securing a room block for officials in addition to the rooms reserved for the assigned team and evaluators. Seconded. APPROVED*

There will be a OQM meeting in Newburgh in January, with the idea that officials from the northern area of the LSC, who may not normally travel to the Championship meets, will actively seek National Certifications.

DocuSign expenditure has been proposed to David and CJ, who are supportive. Mr. Sommer and Ms Bancroft will continue working on a demo for the BOD.

The next Committee Working Session is September 11 and the next Committee Meeting November 13, 2024.

Mr. Chu requested that the application for Meet Referee be forwarded to the Metro Secretaries as soon as possible. It was clarified that the new motion for the Meet Referee selection stated "application and/or recommendation process". For the Short Course Championship, the committee



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Admin Vice Chair

Mr. Paspalas stated that he is working on AVC issues and asked that everyone on the committee vigorously do their absolute best to work in a cooperative manner. This is necessary to improve the image of the committee in the eyes of the LSC.

Advancement Coordinator

Ms. Chen was not present

Athlete Representatives

Mr. Gallub inquired why LSC outside of Metro staff pools differently. A discussion on available officials and pool staffing ensued. Mr. Paspalas encouraged Mr. Gallub to pursue a junior official certification. Ms. Bancroft asked Mr. Gallub if there was a project that he would like to take on, as the General Chair has asked all chairs to get the Athlete Representatives more involved in committee work. Ms. Bancroft suggested working committee, to recruit minor athletes in to the junior official role.

Communication Coordinator

Ms. Bancroft will send out a communication to the officials about the Open Water Championship in September.

Education Coordinator

Vacant position

HV North Coordinator

Mr. Sommer having reported on DocuSign earlier, had nothing further to report.

HV South Coordinator

Mr. Kass and Mr. Sommer have been discussing which Middle HV teams are HV South versus HV North. Mr. Kass discussed with the Middies coach to see if officials for the Middies can be reimbursed by the YWCA and will share a recruiting flyer that he created with the committee. Mr. Kass asked about officials he had who have not been advanced. Ms. Bancroft asked that he forward the names of the officials so she could research the subject.

Manhattan Coordinator

Ms. Fosteris was not present.



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Nassau Coordinator

Mr. Strabuk was not present.

Suffolk Coordinator

Mr. Wone has been working on a "how to become an official" document that he will share. His subcommittee will re-connect on refining the officials' reimbursement for presentation to the BOD. Currently, there is nothing in the P&P that states officials received reimbursement for travel to elite meets. Ms. Bancroft requested that the subcommittee meet in August and present at the September working session,

Unfinished Business

Mr. Sommer raised the topic of OTS access for area chairs. Mr. Wone stated for the record that there is no limitation on how many people have OTS access by USA Swimming in Colorado. Ms. Bancroft acknowledge that she also knew that to be true, asked for the committee to give her until the end of the week to investigate and present an answer to committee members about OTS access.

Mr. Kass inquired when the Junior Official certification will be available. Mr Sommer asked when the starter clinic will be available online. Ms. Bancroft will verify with USA Swimming and report back to the committee.

New Business

Ms. Mackrel asked if the Meet Referee for the Championship meet will have prior meet referee experience.

Mr. Kass inquired what is being done to address Meet Referees who do not enter their meet information into OTS. Ms. Bancroft stated that she would be discussing this subject with the Admin Vice Chair and the ARB if necessary.

ADJOURN

Ms. Sommer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. **APPROVED**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Jennifer Bancroft
Communication Coordinator

