

**Florida Gold Coast  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 27, 2023, via Video Conferencing**

**I. Call to Order-** Jennifer Gibson at 12:05pm

**II. Roll Call/Excused Absences**

Chair-	Jennifer Gibson-P
Vice-Chair-	Bruno Darzi-P
Senior. Vice-Chair-	Chris Anderson-P
Age Group Vice-Chair-	Liz Kershaw-P
Coaches Rep	Christi Wathen-P
Treasurer/Registration Chair-	Richard Cavanah-P
Secretary-	Lori Bosco-P
Officials Rep	Steven Goldman-P
Finance Vice-Chair	Dave Gibson-P
D.E.I Chair	Jack Davies-P
Op Risk/Safe Sport Chair	Michael Averett-P
Athlete Sr. Rep	Camille Schechter-E
Athlete Jr. Rep	Ari Villar-A
Athlete Jr. Rep	Jonas Santos-A
Athlete Rep	
Athlete Rep	
Athlete Rep	
Athlete Rep	
At-Large-(1yr)	Raphael Lima-E
At-Large-(1yr)	Rodrigo Mendes-P
At-Large-(1yr)	Allan Golding-E
Chair Advisor	Jim McCombs-A

**(Technical planning committee members:** Vice-Chair –Bruno Darzi, Senior Chair- Chris Anderson, Age Group Chair-Liz Kershaw, Coaches Rep.-Christi Wathen, Officials Rep-Steven Goldman, and Two Athlete Reps).

**(Executive Board:** General Chair-Jennifer Gibson, Administrative Vice-Chair-Bruno Darzi, Senior Chair-Chris Anderson, Age Group Vice Chair-Liz Kershaw, Finance Vice Chair-Dave Gibson, Coaches Rep-Christi Wathen and Two Athlete Reps)

**III. Approval of FGC Board Meeting minutes-**

**Motion:** *To approve meeting minutes from May 23, 2023.* Steven Goldman. **Second** Chris Anderson. **Passed.** *No Opposed.*

#### **IV. Acknowledgement of alternative format meeting.**

##### **A. General Chair-Jennifer Gibson**

1. **FGC Mission Statement:** Florida Gold Coast Swimming promotes the growth and development of a diverse swimming community through education, innovation, and by supporting a safe environment and a commitment to excellence.

**Vision Statement:** To create an environment which develops excellence and life fitness through competitive swimming in the Florida Gold Coast.

##### **2. Announcements/Updates**

- a. Recap of USA-S updates

##### **B. Topic #1-Athlete Update-Camile Schechter**

1. No report.

##### **C. Topic #2-USA Swimming Updates/Attachments**

1. FGC-USA Swimming ABM-HOD Voting Delegates 2023

###### **2023 FGC Voting Delegates=**

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| <b>1) Jennifer Gibson (General Chair)</b>        | <b>Coach/Non-Athlete</b>     |
| <b>2) Chris Anderson (Sr Chair)</b>              | <b>Coach/Non-Athlete</b>     |
| <b>3) Richard Cavanah(Reg. Chair/Office Mgr)</b> | <b>Coach/Non-Athlete</b>     |
| <b>4) Steven Goldman (Officials Chair)</b>       | <b>Non-Coach/Non-Athlete</b> |

2. USA Swimming Mighty Mid (size) LSC Workshop 2023 Attendees- Jennifer Gibson and Bruno Darzi to attend.

3. May 2023 Southern Zone Update-see attached

4. June -USA Swimming LSC Leaders Call Meeting Recap-see attached

##### **D. Topic #3-FGC Board Chairs Updates**

1. Officials Chair-See attachment

**Motion:** *To place a QR code on every meet letter for FGC Swim Meets. The QR code links to 60-day apprenticeship/Registered Member Apprenticeship Self Clinic.* Steven Goldman. **Second.** Bruno Darzi. **Passed.** *No Opposed.*

2. Sr and Age Group Chairs-discussion of meets and scratches.

3. DEI Chair-Southern Zone Updates- going through policies and procedures and realigning at National level, will bring to LSC once complete.

4. Finance Committee-Dave Gibson-to hold a finance committee meeting July 6 to review finance portfolio.

**E. Topic #4-Education Programming for FC Membership/Communication Review**

1. Looking at forming a committee to get this going. Members do not need to be on the FGC Board of Directors. Anyone interested—email Jennifer Gibson. The purpose is to determine the needs and wants of coaches—having townhalls, guest speakers, team visits, etc.

**F. Topic #5-Championship Meets 2023-Preview**

1. Summer Meets-Updates-For the Championship meet in Stuart at the Sailfish Splash-for Friday morning, prelims, there will be offsite parking as there is limited space in the normal parking lot. The rest of the meet, parking will be good.

2. Discussion of OME entries and issues.

**G. Topic #6-Look Ahead-Fall 2023 Elections**

1. Governance Committee-Kathleen Prindle-Chair-first meeting to be held July 5. An Executive Director position should be added to the list.

**V. Old Business-**

**A. FGC Signature/Annual Events Review (From May Meeting**

1. Lori-working with Josh Davies for an athlete for swimposium.

**VI. New Business-(introduced No Later than 1:45pm)**

1. Bruno-waiting to hear back about Coaches Mentoring program.

**VII. FGC B.O.D 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule**

**A. Meeting Dates 2023 (Subject to change)**

1. No July Meeting
2. Tuesday August 22, 2023-FGC Board Meeting@12pm via ZOOM
3. Wednesday, September 6-Saturday, September 9, 2023-ASCA Coaches Clinic, Dallas TX (2024-Orlando, FL)-Jennifer Gibson, Dave Gibson, Kathleen Prindle, Mike Averett attending.
4. Monday, September 18, 2023-FGC Board Meeting@7:30pm via ZOOM
5. Thursday, September 21-Saturday, September 23, 2023-USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting, Colorado Springs, CO Live and ZOOM (HOD-Saturday, Sept 23)-Kathleen, Jennifer, Liz to attend in person
6. October-FGC Coaches Mentoring Speaker/Program Details-TBA
7. Tuesday, October 17, 2023-FGC Board Meeting@7:30pm via ZOOM
8. Saturday, October 21, 2023-FGC Swimposium & HOD-Details TBA
9. Sunday, November 12, 2023-FGC Board Retreat-Details TBA
10. No December Meeting

**IX. Adjournment – 1:50pm**

**Motion: To adjourn.** Lori Bosco **Second** Bruno Darzi. **Passed.** *No Opposed.*

Greetings Everyone and Welcome to Summer!

Lots of information to share with you, so let's get started!

## **SOUTHERN ZONE OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

This upcoming weekend, June 3-4, the 2023 Southern Zone Open Water Championships will be held at Lake Echo, Seven Lakes, NC. Thank you to the Sandhill SandSharks for hosting this exciting event! Results will be posted on the Southern Zone website and the SandSharks team webpage: [Sandhills Sandsharks - Open Water \(gomotionapp.com\)](https://gomotionapp.com)

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## **SOUTHERN ZONE POOL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 2023 SZ Long Course Age Group Championships will take place July 26-29 at the Triangle Aquatic Center in Cary, NC. Information will be constantly updated on the TAC website . [TAC Titans - Events \(teamunify.com\)](https://teamunify.com) and the host has also prepared a helpful [Visitor Guide](#). **Entry Deadline is July 25, 2023, at 12 noon ET.** Please let Mark Frank know if you are sending an LSC team. He is extremely helpful with special requests: [mfrank@triangleaquatics.org](mailto:mfrank@triangleaquatics.org).

The 2023 SZ Long Course Senior Championships will be held July 26-29 at the Tupelo Aquatic Center. Please visit the host team's website for more information: [Shock Wave Aquatic Team - 2023 LC Southern Senior Zones Championship \(gomotionapp.com\)](https://gomotionapp.com). **Entry Deadline is July 23, 2023.** Barbara Aguirre is your contact for everything Tupelo: [Barbara.Aguirre@tupeloms.gov](mailto:Barbara.Aguirre@tupeloms.gov).

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## **APPLICATION TO HOST 2025 SOUTHERN ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Application to host the 2024 and 2025 Southern Zone Open Water Championship is open for bids. The link on the Southern Zone website will take you to the USA Swimming Formsites for the application. [Open Water Meet Application \(formsite.com\)](https://formsite.com) This year (2023) North Carolina is hosting a synergistic LSC OW Championship along with a Southern Zone Championship. Given the cost and safety details required to host OW meets, the Southern Zone welcomes these joint opportunities.

**\*New\*** Application to host the 2025 Southern Zone Age Group or Senior Championships is open for bids. The application form is new, so please follow this link on the Southern Zone website for the [updated application](#) and please distribute the information to all interested parties in your LSC.

**Deadline for all host applications is August 15, 2023, and should be sent to SZ Secretary/Treasurer Herb Schwab at [herb.schwab@gmail.com](mailto:herb.schwab@gmail.com).** The date for the **SZAG and SZSR meets is July 30-Aug. 2, 2025.** The approved swimmer entry fees and facility fee can be found on the current 2023 SZ AG and Senior meet information letters.

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## **2024 SOUTHERN ZONE AG AND SR CHAMPIONSHIP DATES**

2024 Southern Zone Long Course Age Group Championships

July 24-27, 2024

City of Midland, Texas

Contact: Jenna Purkey [jennap@comaquatics.com](mailto:jennap@comaquatics.com)

2024 Southern Zone Long Course Senior Championships

July 24-27, 2024

Club Mountaineer, West Virginia

Contact: Vic Riggs [Vic.Riggs@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Vic.Riggs@mail.wvu.edu)

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## **SECTIONAL GUIDELINES MANUAL**

During the April Workshop in Denver, a presentation was made at the Zone Directors' Council about the new Sectional Guidelines Manual. According to the minutes, Pam Lowenthal, one of the creators of the manual said: "This manual is a guideline to help facilitate a more consistent sectional meet with new hosts. The plan is to send out this

guideline to past and future hosts, as well as coaches to get feedback. Pam hopes this will be seen as a helpful guideline, which does not take autonomy away from the hosts.” It is meant to include tips for further thought when creating a Sectional format and meet information announcement. It is NOT a requirement. Follow this link to the [Sectional Guidelines Manual](#).

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## **ZONE DIRECTORS’ COUNCIL**

The Zone Directors Council held a Q&A Forum at the April Workshop in Denver. Those [ZDC Minutes](#) are here.

The May ZDC meeting was held a week ago and you can find the [May ZDC Minutes](#) here. Lots of interesting information came out of this meeting, including a pursuit for the possible creation of “Junior Official” for select meets.

You may notice that we created a new landing page on the SZ website for ZDC minutes and agendas! This group, to which Bruno and I belong, are willing to take on some considerations that assist the USA Swimming Membership moving forward. If you have ideas, send them our way!

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## **SOUTHERN ZONE SURVEYS**

Bruno Darzi, our SZ Coach Director, has been working on a set of surveys to be distributed to Coaches, Officials and Swimmers in the SZ. The purpose is to provide the Southern Zone Leadership with information and solutions to help move forward the SZ. Bruno worked with our SZ Athlete Reps, Megan Braman and Nicole Caruso to draft the Swimmer Survey and it has already been distributed. Bruno will be relying on LSC Leaders to forward the surveys to interested parties in the LSC. Please look for those surveys in the coming days and help with distribution throughout your LSC.

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## SNEAK PEEK AT SEPTEMBER USA SWIMMING LEGISLATION

Several pieces of legislation have been [proposed](#). Scroll down to find World Aquatics (formerly FINA) legislation and rules changes, and below that items for discussion in September at the 2023 Annual Business Meeting.

And finally, USA Swimming has several informative sessions coming up. Please visit the [USAS Event Page](#) for more information.

Thanks!

Bruno and Melissa



**Melissa Hellervik-Bing**

Non-Coach Director, Southern Zone

Member, USA Swimming

Zone Director Council

**Mobile: 407-808-2683**

**Email: [mhellervikbing@hotmail.com](mailto:mhellervikbing@hotmail.com)**



**LSC Leaders Call Agenda**  
**June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
10:00 a.m. MT/12:00 p.m. ET

Join Teams Meeting: [Click HERE To Join The Call](#)

**USA Swimming Mission:** USA Swimming is the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming. We administer competitive swimming in accordance with the Olympic & Amateur Sports Act. We provide programs and services for our members, supporters, affiliates and the interested public. We value these members of the swimming community, and the staff and volunteers who serve them. We are committed to excellence and the improvement of our sport. We are committed to providing a safe and positive environment for all members.

**USA Swimming Priority Results:**

1. USA Swimmers achieve sustained competitive success at the Olympic Games and other high-level international competitions.
2. Members have and use resources for sustainable success.
3. There is growth in swimming participation and interest.
4. USA Swimming is recognized as the “Best in Class” National Governing Body.

**AGENDA**

1. **Welcome and Introductions (to include Provisional Coach Membership) (Joel Shinofield)**
2. **Safe Sport Moment (Liz Hahn)**
3. **SWIMS LTS Registration Launch (Tina Dessart)**
4. **DEI Educational Webinar (Noah Wilson)**
5. **Bulk Renewal (Karin Olmsted)**
6. **Scholastic All-America (Eric Stimson)**
7. **10&U Coaches Network (Dana Skelton)**
8. **Foundation Update (Nick Gold)**
9. **Women In Governance (Beth Winkowski)**
10. **Club Development Webinar Series (Corey Manley)**
11. **Coaches’ Leadership Summit (Dana Skelton)**
12. **Closing Remarks (Brendan Hansen)**

Upcoming Events: Head to [USA Swimming's events page](#) to see what racing opportunities are coming up.

- [SWIMS Resource Hub](#)
- [Safe Sport](#)
  - [SSRP Trainings:](#)
    - June 8th (athletes), 9th (coaches), and July 19th (parents)
- Events
  - [PHILLIPS 66 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS](#)
  - [By The Numbers: 2023 TYR Pro Swim Series](#)
  - [Speedo Sectionals Return This Summer](#)





- Programs & Resources
  - [RCC Coaches Clinic Link](#)
  - [USA Swimming Marketing Toolkit](#)
  - [USA Swimming Releases 2022-23 Scholastic All-America Application Procedures](#)
  - [Nominations Open for Women Coaches in Governance](#)
  - [SWIMS ALERTS](#)
- Member Spotlight and Educational Opportunities
  - [PRIDE Month: What You Need to Know](#)
  - [Kick Set Podcast | Episode 56: Nick and Gabi Albiero on Pride Month, Sibling Dynamic and Swimming Goals](#)
  - [USA Swimming, Diversity in Aquatics and TYR Host Event for Southern California Community](#)
- Organizational and National Team News
  - [USA Swimming to Utilize New Technology from Gerford AI](#)
  - [Provisional Coach Membership Coming in September](#)
  - [Make-a-Splash Tour Attendee Makenna John Carries Experience into Lifeguarding](#)
  - [Denigan, Tepper Secure Spots on World Aquatics Open Water Championships Teams with World Cup Finishes](#)
  - [Torri Huske Takes Back-to-Back Wins to Close TYR Pro Swim Series Mission Viejo](#)

*\*\*From here moving forward, the agenda will be posted on the website.*



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*LSC Leaders,*

Thanks for a great LSC Leaders call last week. There was a lot of information discussed, and as Brendan mentioned, we want to follow up with resources after each call. We are looking forward to continuing these conversations to ensure we keep our LSC Leaders informed. For any topics that you would like to discuss in the future, please fill out the [Agenda Suggestion Form](#).

Here is the agenda, points discussed for each item, and a link to the meeting in case you missed it. Please note the below bullets are approximate time stamps for the recording if you wish to go back and review. As a reminder, all past recordings and recaps of LSC Leaders calls can be found on the LSC Governance page [here](#).

- [6-8-23 Agenda](#)
- [Recording Link](#)

Approximate time stamps, points discussed and relevant links:

- **1:30 - Opening Remarks (Joel Shinofield)**
  - LSC Leaders Call is information that you need.
  - What do you need from us?
  - Topics to be collaborative
- **5:20 -Safe Sport Moment (Liz Hahn)**
  - Discussed SSRP Renewal
    - Graphic will be posted each month to show what clubs were SSRP approved.
  - SSRP advice from LSCs:
    - Training
      - New portal in USA Swimming University shows what is needed by individual member.
      - Athlete Protection Training (APT): There is a window of 10 months from completing one course and being able to take the next course.
    - How can LSCs help motivate clubs to participate in SSRP if not already?
    - Reporting has improved for what Teams can see and what they need to do.
    - Re-doing work when renewing SSRP

- Patrick's team made updates, moving forward clubs will not have to reupload if already in system.
- **15:00 - SWIMS LTS Registration Launch (Tina Dessart)**
  - Updated Lessons on the Club/Lesson finder.
    - If a club has a lesson program, they can register here: <https://club.usaswimming.org/learntoswimregistration/entry>
    - All LTS programs, including USA Swimming LTS programs, must register.
  - Learn to swim lesson network application (if not previously completed) [https://usaswimming.smapply.io/prog/usa\\_swimming\\_lts\\_application/](https://usaswimming.smapply.io/prog/usa_swimming_lts_application/)
- **19:10 - DEI Educational Webinar (Noah Wilson)**
  - Webinar tonight at 5:00 MST [https://usaswimming.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CLX3ZwyzTBWzjT8pLG9zoA](https://usaswimming.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CLX3ZwyzTBWzjT8pLG9zoA)
  - Feedback was good:
    - Love the webinars and ability to watch recordings later
    - Can't top in person opportunities
  - All Webinars - <https://www.usaswimming.org/coaches-leaders/team-leaders/programs-services#webinars>
- **23:00 - Bulk Renewal (Karin Olmsted)**
  - Bulk Renewal is coming as an opt-in option for teams.
  - A FAQ will be rolling out in next two weeks to help clubs and team leaders figure out what is the best option for them.
    - Opt-in period will be later this summer.
    - Teams will either opt in or will be automatically opted out, can not do both
    - Can bulk renew multiple times throughout season
    - All new members must go through regular registration
- **33:30 Scholastic All-America (Eric Stimson)**
  - <https://www.usaswimming.org/times/popular-resources/scholastic-all-america>
  - Step by step instructions available here (also on the website): <https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/timesdocuments/scholastic-all-america/2023/6-1-23-2023-saa-application-instructions.pdf>
  - Contact Eric if you have any questions: [estimson@usaswimming.org](mailto:estimson@usaswimming.org)
- **39:00 - 10&U Coaches Network (Dana Skelton)**
  - 10 & under Network Webinar – great opportunity for coaches education
    - – JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>, 12:30 MST <https://usaswimming.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvcu6sqD0uGNfpfYg4qiGEoBbibXyXmGJe#/registration>
    - JUNE 22, 10:30 MST <https://usaswimming.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0rdOGspilqHdSKn1NbnYjvb8SuVOMVp4Y#/registration>
- **42:00 - Foundation Update (Nick Gold)**
  - Lots of Events – wrapped up MAS, MLB events at Nationals and RedSox
  - Swim-a-thon shout out – Lakeside Aquatic Club, who doubled their fundraising from last year to this year.
  - Contact Nick with questions – [ngold@usaswimming.org](mailto:ngold@usaswimming.org)
- **45:00 - Women In Governance (Beth Winkowski)**

- The program encourages Local Swimming Committee (LSC) General Chairs, LSC Coach Representatives & LSC Executive Chairs to identify and nominate one candidate per LSC.
- Nominations are open through June 30  
<https://www.usaswimming.org/news/2023/06/01/nominations-open-for-women-coaches-in-governance>
  - Preferred nominee criteria located on web article
  - Looking for a coach that is in this for the long haul
- **50:30 - Club Development Committee Webinar Series (Corey Manley)**
  - Club Dev Committee working with Team Services in creating webinars to help clubs succeed
    - Recording for grant writing -  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g1j11\\_neuYU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g1j11_neuYU)
- **55:00 - Coaches' Leadership Summit (Dana Skelton)**
  - This Coaches' Leadership Summit will focus on helping coaches that are expecting or currently experiencing a change within their organization or their role. Join USA Swimming and our Facilitators Jon Mann and Cathy Wright-Eger as we learn to manage the change moment.
  - For more information, including the application:  
<https://www.usaswimming.org/coaches-leaders/team-leaders/programs-services#leadership-summits>
    - Applications close in August
    - Scholarships are available
- **57:00 - Closing Remarks (Brendan Hansen)**
  - Other News:
    - Olympic Trials Tickets
    - Team information to attend trials together

For any topics that you would like to discuss in the future, please fill out the [Agenda Suggestion Form](#).



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## OFFICIALS' NEWSLETTER



### **Greetings from the Chair // Matt Wilson:**

Happy Summer, everyone! Where does the time go? It feels like yesterday that we were selecting our team to send to Budapest. Actually, it was (sort of)! With a condensed quad due to the global pandemic, the international meets are stacked up and waiting for our representatives to be selected.

Phillips 66 Nationals is just around the corner. With selections for four international teams coming from the event, a lot is on the line. Oh, and Olympic Trials are now less than a year away! While meets such as this are the culmination of months and years of effort, the journey begins at the hundreds of meets held in LSCs almost every weekend. As we work meets of all levels, we should constantly be in pursuit of excellence in officiating just as the athletes we are observing are looking to do in the pool.

In our ongoing effort to provide chances to both learn and be taught, presenters from the National Officials Committee met with the LSC Officials Chairs and New Referees, as two separate educational tracks, during the USA Swimming Workshop in April. A broad range of topics were covered, allowing for interactive conversation and discussion.

Later this summer, additional officials from each LSC will have the opportunity to hear the information that was covered in the New Referees track. As with any continuing educational opportunity, take it as a chance to reinforce the things you know as well as expand your horizons to new experiences and ways to consider situations and resolutions.

Thank you all again for your ongoing contributions to the sport of swimming. It couldn't be done without all your hard work and dedication!

#### **Announcements:**

- The next **Officials Chairs call** will be Wednesday, July 5.
- **Applications / Meets:**
  - [Meet applications](#) can be found at USASwimming.org > Officials menu > National Meet Applications.
- **2023 Winter National Meets:**
  - 2023 Toyota U.S. Open (Greensboro, N.C.) // Nov. 29-Dec. 2 (MR: Peter LaGow) // application posted
  - 2023 Speedo Winter Junior East Championships (Columbus, Ohio) // Dec. 6-9 (MR: Traci Johnson) // application posted
  - 2023 Speedo Winter Junior West Championships (Westmont, Ill.) // Dec. 6-9 (MR: Rich McMillen) // application posted

#### **Officials Certification Exams:**

Officials certification exams are now active in the USA Swimming University online portal.

To access an exam:

- log in to your USA Swimming account
- click on "Education" on the menu bar on the top of the page
- click on "Officials"
- select the desired online exam

When finished, please send a screenshot showing completion of your exam to your LSC Officials Chair.

Please note that re-certification exams are not yet active in the portal. Officials needing to take an

exam for recertification should complete a certification exam for the time being.

### **Hot August Nights:**

This summer's educational series presented by the NOC will focus on the role of Meet Referee. We had a wonderful response to the New Meet Referee track at the Workshop. Hot August Nights will offer some of this information via webinar training. We encourage all LSC Officials Chairs to attend. Additionally, the LSC Officials Chairs will be asked to identify 3-4 officials within their LSC that would benefit from this training:

- Tuesday, August 8, 8p ET: "Meet Referee 101" // General MR philosophy
  - TARGET: New LSC Meet Refs
- Thursday, August 10, 8p ET: "Yes to the Ref ... Now What?" // Pre-meet preparation
  - TARGET: New LSC Meet Refs and LSC Officials Chairs
- Thursday, August 10, 8p ET: "World's Colliding: Meet Refs & National Evaluators: Who's in Charge Around Here?" // How Meet Refs and National Mentors work together at OQMs
  - TARGET: Experienced Meet Refs & N3 Evaluators
- Thursday, August 17, 8p ET: "First Whistle" // MR practices during meet
  - TARGET: New LSC Meet Refs and LSC Officials Chairs
- Thursday, August 24, 8p ET: "Swim Meets and the Management of Risks"
  - TARGET: All Meet Refs and LSC Officials Chairs

"Meet Referee 101", "Yes to the Ref ... Now What?" and "First Whistle" are meant to be attended as a series of learning for new LSC Meet Referees.

All National Evaluators are invited to the "Worlds Colliding" session on August 10. The Zoom link will be emailed to National Evaluators. Experienced LSC Meet Referees will benefit from the information in this session, as well.

LSC Officials Chairs and National Evaluators will receive information regarding Hot August Nights via email.

### **Officials Tracking System (OTS) and National Certification Updates:**

In the last two months, USA Swimming has worked hard to migrate historical OTS data and enhance the current OTS functionality. We recognize that we have much more work to do, specifically surrounding National Certifications, Evaluations and Activities. We continue to work closely with the National Committee and select LSC Officials Chairs to ensure all requirements are well-documented and understood prior to the next software development cycle.

Due to some reprioritization efforts from the Board of Directors, the USA Swimming software and data team has two primary focuses for the next month: ensuring Online Member Registration (OMR) goes

smoothly in the fall and drastic Reporting improvements. In unison with the National Officials Committee, it has been decided that additional OTS functionality development is currently paused until our OMR work is complete. We plan to re-engage developing OTS functionality in July with a goal of launching the remaining functionality in the fall. We appreciate your patience and willingness to work with us as we continue to progress through our Digital Transformation.

### **OTS Meet History**

Meet History prior to Sept. 1, 2022 has been loaded into OTS as line items. Session information was not designated in the old OTS. Restoring the number of sessions by position will be a future OTS development item.

### **National Certifications**

Anything listed under the National Certification pill under "My History" in OTS is prior to Sept. 1, 2022. Updates to certifications (advancements and recertifications) and expiration dates will continue to be reported monthly on the National Certification web page spreadsheet. This will continue for the foreseeable future.

### **Interim Process for National Certifications** *(updated 5/25/2023)*

The [Interim Process for National Certifications](#) was updated at the end of May when the pre-Sept. 1, 2022 meet history became available. All officials meeting advancement or recertification requirements may apply. Requirements are listed on the National Certification webpage under the position's certification document. Activity requirements are still being waived. Evaluations pre-Sept. 1, 2022 cannot currently be accessed in OTS and may still hinder the advancement/recertification process.

If you applied before the end of May and received an email stating your application was denied since sessions could not be validated, you may reapply at this time. The working group does not automatically re-pull the applications for review.

National Mentors must also submit an application to recertify their national certifications. The process is not automatic. Please review the [Professional N3 Mentor Recertification Requirements](#).

The review process is still taking up to two months, and officials whose applications are denied or require additional information will be contacted. Please be courteous in your communications with our volunteer working group members.





**Officials' Excellence Award:  
Dr. Allan Golding, Florida Gold Coast Swimming**

Dr. Allan Golding is a board-certified interventional endocrinologist who completed a fellowship in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism. Despite his physician schedule at Memorial Hospital, he still finds time to fill multiple roles in both the LSC and Zone.

He started officiating in the Florida Gold Coast in 2013. He came to the FGC from New England Swimming as a certified Starter and Stroke and Turn official. Allan has mentored officials in all positions from Stroke and Turn up to Administrative Referee. He has taken on the task of certifying almost all our Administrative Officials. He has volunteered as the FGC Sanctioning Chair and is currently serving on the Board of Directors.

Allan is often seen on weekends either as Meet Referee or Administrative Referee at his home pool, as well as spending time on the National Deck where he has served in multiple roles including

Admin Ref.

When Allan came to Florida Gold Coast, he was a Starter and Stroke and Turn official. Since arriving, not only has he achieved all LSC certifications and become a National Evaluator, but he has mentored countless officials at all levels. In addition to all his activities within the LSC, Allan is currently serving as the Southern Zone Assistant Officials Coordinator and will become the Officials Coordinator in September 2023.



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