

# Minutes of the Officials' Committee Meeting/Teleconference

Tuesday, December 15, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Plapp, Committee Chair, at 8:00 p.m.

Attending were Stephen Plapp, Chair; Roger Deary, Vice-Chair; Patrick Piper and John Hulvey, Coaches' Representatives; the Athletes' Representative; Area Representatives Jeff Breault (Area 1), Ellen Johnson (Area 2), John Jansen (Area 3), Doug Garthwait (Area 4), Debbie Landis (Area 5) and Judi Wojcik (Area 6); Area Assistant Representative Keith Powell (Area 1) and Joe Glennon (Area 6); Helen Kelly, FL Executive Director; Dave Nesper and Chris Wojcik.

The Minutes of the meeting of October, 2015 were approved without correction.

## Area Reports:

Area 1 - Jeff Breault reported that the AO recertification was proceeding with 8 of the 10 certified AO's already having completed recertification. The area has 4 new certified S&T officials and 14 current apprentice officials.

Area 2 - Ellen Johnson stated that she had submitted a written report (attached). Ellen thanked Tom Tiedt for serving as her Assistant Area Rep and announced that Mike Brewer is the new Assistant Area Rep for Area 2.

Area 3 - No Report.

Area 4 - Doug Garthwait reported that the area had two (2) AO's recertifying. The area has 25 officials at present with 4 or 5 current apprentice officials. Doug also commented that long time official and former Officials' Committee Chair Jack Goltz may be retiring due to ongoing health concerns.

Area 5 - Debbie Landis reported that not much has happened in her area since the last meeting as many were busy with High School competitions. Approximately 50% of the area's AO's have recertified and others are in process. She has several current apprentice officials that are progressing.

Area 6 - Judi Wojcik echoed Debbie's report of reduced activity due to High School season and her area hosting the State Series Finals. The area has multiple apprentices currently in the process and has scheduled a tentative Starter clinic for January. Judi concluded her report by thanking Joe Glennon for taking on the Area Rep position and offered her assistance in the transition.

The Chair thanked Tom Tiedt, Judi Wojcik and Mark Davis for their service and welcomed new members Doug Garthwait, Joe Glennon, Mike Brewer, Roger Deary, Patrick Piper, John Hulvey and the new Athletes' Representative to the committee.

The Athlete Rep inquired as to the possibility of requesting that the FHSAA consider consolidating the District and Regional competitions into a single round (eliminating one round of meets) due to the difficulty of athletes preparing for over three weeks of Championship competitions. The committee noted that it really had no control over this and suggested that the Rep contact Kellie Doucette of the FHSAA with her concerns and suggestion.

## Old Business:

1. Issues with the FHSAA Championship series were discussed. It was suggested by Debbie Landis that local officials try to become involved in the District planning meetings in August to try to solve officiating issues as early as possible. Issues with recording sessions worked by officials in the OTS system were also noted and the Chair suggested discussing this further at the next meeting to establish a procedure for this.
2. Judi Wojcik expressed a willingness to continue to head up the publication of a FL Officials' Newsletter. She pointed out that input is an issue and that many of the local areas are publishing their own newsletter that she did not want to duplicate. She will prepare and conduct a survey to determine what direction(s) to take with this.

3. Roger Deary has been given access to the FL website and can create and publish updates and new pages. Please email any items you may want placed in the "Officials" section of the website to him and he will work to get it posted. Roger is also trying to update and "clean up" what is already there.
4. The Chair announced that FL would be represented at the 2016 National Open Water Clinic by Tim Jacobson and Mike Brewer.
5. Jeff Breault discussed the situation with the Name Tags for officials. Jeff is preparing an order that will go in later this month and will coordinate with John Jansen on this.
6. John Jansen attended the 2015 National Officials' Clinic and reported on his experience. John felt there were many helpful classes offered on Saturday including ones conducted by FL officials Bob Griffiths and Melissa Hellervik-Bing and that the Sunday sessions that pulled all of the teaching together was also very helpful. John will forward some of the better handouts for posting on the FL website in the near future.
7. FL Championship Meets:
  - Chair inquired about the location and state of the FL radios and bells. It was reported that the radios were at the Central Florida YMCA and that Helen had the bells at the FL Office. Chair will follow up to make certain they are available for the spring meets.
  - Assignments for the spring meets were confirmed as follows:
    - Senior Champs - MR - Tim Jacobson, AR - Don George, Asst AR - Ellen Johnson, CJ - Jeff Breault
    - FLAGS - MR - Matt Wilson, AR - Mark McCaw, Asst AR - Kay Caldwell & Mike Brewer, CJ - John Russo
    - All Stars - MR - Stephen Plapp, AR- Dave Nesper & CJ - Debbie Landis
8. Recertification:
  - The AO recertification is progressing despite some confusion as to the required test. The Chair stated that we would accept whatever test the official completed as long as it was one of the Administrative tests (AO or AR, Certification or Recertification). Anyone that still needs to take the test should complete the AO Recertification test.
  - The Chair thanked Dave Nesper for his work in organizing and producing the submitted situations for use as part of the 2016 Recertification clinics. The Chair appointed Jeff Breault, Ellen Johnson, Roger Deary and Don George as a committee to review these situations and create the final document for the clinic to be submitted to the committee.
9. The Chair reported that there are ongoing issues with the required officials for teams to have to receive a sanction and that this issue will be addressed at the upcoming BOD meeting. Roger Deary reported that an amendment to the FL Standing Rules & Regulations is likely to be proposed regarding the waiving of the requirements for "closed" competitions such as dual or tri meets provided the necessary minimum officials are present for the actual competition. Debbie Landis inquired as to how the Area Reps would know how many officials each team was required to have. Helen Kelly offered to produce a report for each area showing the number of full year swimmers registered by team for the Area Reps' use.

New Business:

1. Assignments for the summer meets are pending.
2. Assignments for the Arena Pro Series Meet in Orlando are being handled by USA Swimming and the application is now available on their web site. Judi Wojcik noted that the meet is being staffed and classified as a "National Meet."

Next Meeting - Saturday Afternoon (approx 1:00 p.m.) on Saturday, February 27th at FL Sr. Championships.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:02

Respectfully Submitted by  
Roger Deary