



January 28, 2025

Western Zone Official's Coordinator Report

Action Items in progress: Selection of the Meet Referees for the 8 Western Zone Sectional Meets, the WZ SC Senior Championship Meet in St. George, UT, the WZ Senior Championship Meet in Clovis, and the WZ Age Group Meet in Elk Grove (the 2025 Sectional Meet and WZ Championship Meet Schedule is attached) has been completed. We have been working with the LSC Chairs who have a Sectional Meet, or a WZ Championship Meet in their LSC along with the Meet Directors on the selections of the other Lead Officials. All Lead Officials are selected through March. Most all of the National Evaluators are also in place.

Action Items Year Round: Continue to create the list of "Up-and-Coming" future Meet Referees with the WZ LSC Official's Chairs for the Western Zone Sectional and Championship Meets. Along with this is the selections of Admin. Referees and Team Lead Chief Judges that will potentially be the Meet Referees in the future. These names come from the LSC Official's Chairs recommendations. A couple of these future Meet Referees have Admin. roles or Team Lead Chief Judge assignments at this year's Meets

Keeping the LSC Official's Chairs List current as there were a couple of changes (see attached current Chairs List).

Action items complete and still in progress: Update the Western Zone Website under the "Official's tab" with the current WZ Meet Assignments for 2025, update the Official's applications for the 2025 meets, and post the updated Official's Reimbursement Fund for the WZ Senior Championship Meet and the WZ Age Group Championship Meet. Also to be posted will be the procedure for selecting the Meet Referees along with the Lead Officials and National Evaluators for the WZ Sectional Meets.

Notices: It is the role of the WZ Official's Coordinator to assist the Host Team's Meet Directors and the Official's Chairs in the selection of Meet Referees and Lead Officials for the Sectional Meets. The vision in these selections is to bring up Meet Referees that have worked large Championship Level Meets in their LSC as a Meet Referee (experience in the role of Meet Referee at a Trials and Finals Meet) to the Sectional Meet Level. We look at the Sectional Meets in the Western Zone as training Meets for Officials just as it is for our Athletes competing. Sectional Meets act as a "stepping stone" for Meet Referees moving up from their LSC Championship Meets to the Sectional Level where National protocols are used (the LSC Championship Meets may also use National protocols). It is also

the vision to select Meet Referees from outside of the Host LSC (keeping in mind the cost of how far an Official needs to travel) so to have new Sectional Meet Referees gain experience “away from their comfort level” at their home LSC. This gives the Meet Referees a chance to meet Officials from different LSC’s in the Western Zone as well as different Coaches as this helps develop connections and relationships.

Congratulations: This Year’s Meet Schedule has a couple of Meet Referees that will be running their first Sectional Meet or WZ Championship Meet. Phil Grant from Pacific Swimming will be the Meet Referee for the CA/NV Sectional Meet in Oceanside, CA. Dax Rice from the Montana LSC will be the Meet Referee at the WZ SC Senior Championship Meet in St. George, Utah in April. Debbie Laderoute from Oregon Swimming will be the Meet Referee in Novato, CA in July. And to finish of the 2025 WZ Meet schedule, Todd Yee of Colorado will be the WZ Age Group Meet Referee n Elk Grove, CA.

Next Upcoming Events: 2025 CA/NV Speedo Sectionals in Roseville and Oceanside, CA, Feb. 29 – March 2, 2025. These will be followed by the NW Spring Sectionals in Boise, ID, March 13-16 and the 4 Corners Sectionals Meet in Austin Texas, March 27-30, 2025.

Our first WZ Championship Meet for the 2025 season is the WZ SC Senior Championships in St. George, Utah, April 2-5, 2025.

Meet Referees: Roseville, Sally Taggart. Oceanside, Phil Grant. Boise, Keith Lambert. Austin, Derigan Silver. WZ SC in St. George, Dax Rice.

The Meet Referees for the 2025 season will represent 6 of the LSC’s in the Western Zone.

WZ Official’s Coordinator Notes: Block Party Meets are apparently here to stay. In speaking with Julie Bachman at Reimagine Sports Co, their philosophy is to make it easier to hold meets. They do not limit the concept by Team size holding the Block Party Meet. While there is a lot more discussion to have, it will be up to the LSC’s to determine why the Teams are feeling the need to hold these types of meets. What are the LSC’s not providing the Teams, or are the LSC’s collecting too much money from the Teams that hold a Meet with a percentage of the splash fees going to the LSC. It is my understanding that there will be an update on how the Block Party meets have faired in April .

I would like to Thank all of the Western Zone LSC Official’s Chairs for your dedication to the Officials in your LSC as well as officiating as a whole. A special thanks to Judi Creech, Scott Powell, Scott Hastings, Alicia Simon and Nick Siripipat that have passed the Official’s Chair on to their “next-ups”.

Welcome to Derigan Silver, Colorado, Bill Shreeve, Oregon Swimming, Ed Lesnick, Pacific Northwest, Julie Floyd, Utah and Jason Shibata to the Western Zone LSC Official’s Chairs Team!

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Davis

Western Zone Official’s Coordinator