

Officials Chair Report

January 2026

- 49 people in 2025 received new certifications
- The officials committee met on Thursday 1/15/26, the following was discussed,
 - Officials fundraising updates. Sales of King Ropes hats will be the start of a specific fund for athlete outreach and assistance
 - Ideas for different methods of travel reimbursement to encourage officials to travel to higher level national meets continues to be discussed
 - Dividing the state into sections with a specific referee responsible for each area is being discussed. The end goal being better communication and a closer connection to the officials committee for all officials throughout the state.
- We are currently working on ensuring all high school conference meets have observing officials on deck. The LSC is taking a more active role in the conference meets; turnover amongst high school personnel has led to a lack of understanding of past observed meet procedures.
- Back stroke ledges are here in Wyoming, it appears most clubs are using the Finis ledges. We will be instituting best practices for working with athletes and the ledges during a meet. Please make sure your athletes are competent in the use of the ledges and are familiar with them. The time to become familiar with them is not during a meet. Referees will be instructed to inspect the ledges before each session, making sure they are at an adequate depth, straps are installed properly and not twisted with the hook being in the 0 position. If an athlete moves the strap off the 0 position the officials will be asked to move these back 0 prior to the next race. Typically this is a job of the chief judge, deck staffing will determine whose responsibility this is.