

Officials Policy & Procedure Proposed Changes

The Official's Committee met on October 20, 2024, and has had ongoing communication through email to discuss the adjustments and changes necessary to support the community of officials of Wyoming Swimming within the current "Officials" section of the Policies. "The Mandatory Club Participation of Officials" has also been reviewed by the Officials Committee as well as by the Governance Committee. Please review the changes proposed below prior to the Board of Directors meeting on December 8, 2024. We will be seeking adoption of these Policies.

VI. Officials

CURRENT

A.OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

1. The Officials Committee shall consist of the Officials Chair, four (4) WYSI-certified referees, and two (2) athlete members residing within the jurisdiction of WYSI. (See Bylaws Section 607.3 "Members and Ex-Officio Members of Standing Committees" for appointment of the committee members, and Bylaws Section 606.2 "Elections" for election of the Officials Chair.)
2. The Officials Committee shall meet quarterly.

PROPOSED

A. OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

1. The Officials Committee shall consist of the Officials Chair, a minimum of four (4) WYSI-certified referees, and at least 20% athlete representation.
2. The Officials Committee shall meet at least once every quarter.
3. The Officials Committee may establish sub-committees/working groups to assist with managing the affairs of the Committee.
4. The Officials Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that there is a robust pool of well trained and competent officials that are prepared to support competition throughout the LSC. This shall include establishing expectations, creating a positive officiating culture, and mentorship/training of officials.
5. The Officials Committee shall support officials within the LSC in pursuit of national level certifications, recognizing that it improves the quality of officiating within the LSC.

6. The Officials Committee shall be responsible for recruiting and identifying officials to serve as observing officials for relevant meets within the LSC (i.e. High School Culminating Events and State Championships)

CURRENT

B. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The proper meet attire for all officials is navy blue pants, shorts, or skirts with white shirt.
2. Officials shall display their USA Swimming registration cards in a visible location whenever on deck at a meet.
3. Officials shall work at least six (6) sessions per calendar year to maintain their certification.
4. Every two (2) calendar years, officials shall attend at least one approved clinic or retake the USA Swimming test for the applicable level of certification.
5. The training (on-deck) time requirements and clinics for all levels of certification may be waived or modified by the Officials Chair on a case- by-case basis.

PROPOSED

B. GENERAL PROVISION

1. All current expectations and rules regarding Officials' training, uniform, certification retention and conduct can be found on the WYSI Website on the officials' page.

CURRENT

C. QUALIFICATIONS FOR STROKE AND TURN JUDGES

1. Be at least 18 years old.
2. Read Article 101.1 through 101.6 and 102.13 of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations.
3. Train for seven (7) sessions under the direct supervision of a certified official.
4. Apply for USA Swimming Non-Athlete Individual Membership through WYSI.
5. Successfully complete the stroke and turn test on the USA Swimming website.
6. Attend an official's clinic that covers stroke and turn judging.

D. QUALIFICATIONS FOR STARTERS

1. Serve as a certified Stroke and Turn Judge for at least twelve (12) sessions.
2. Read Article 102.12 of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations.
3. Start under the direct supervision of a certified starter for four (4) sessions.
4. Successfully complete the Starters test on the USA Swimming website.
5. Attend an official's clinic that covers starting procedures.

E. QUALIFICATIONS FOR REFEREES

1. Be at least 21 years old.
2. Serve as a certified starter for at least twelve (12) sessions.
3. Read the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations in their entirety.
4. Complete the following:
 1. Work with a meet director for one (1) meet.

2. Work with the timing system operator and computer operator for one meet.
3. Train under the direct supervision of a certified referee for four (4) sessions.
4. Successfully complete the referee and administrative official test on the USA Swimming website.
5. Attend an official's clinic that covers referee duties.

F. MEET REFEREES' DUTIES

For all meets in which he or she is designated as the Meet Referee, the Referee shall:

1. Review the draft sanction for all meets and submit any concerns to the Sanctions Chair and the Meet Director.
2. Following the meet, enter the sessions worked by all officials at the meet into the USA Swimming OTS database.

PROPOSED

All C, D, E, & F should be stricken from the Policies & Procedures as ALL Training Expectations are currently set and held by USA Swimming.

III. Non-Championship WYSI Meets

CURRENT

D. Mandatory Club Participation of Officials

1. Any Club wishing to host a home meet must provide two (2) officials for each day of their meet.
Such Official must be a fully registered and up-to-date certified official registered under the Host Club. Unattached officials will not be considered to be part of the Host Club's quota.
2. All WYSI Clubs participating in any WYSI sanctioned meets are required to provide the 4 following number of officials:
 - 1 – 9 Swimmers: No Officials (unless you are the Host Club, then it shall be two (2) officials for each day of the meet);
 - 10-17 Swimmers: One (1) Official for each day that 10-17 swimmers swim in such meet;
 - 18-25 Swimmers: Two (2) Officials for each day that 18-25 swimmers swim in such meet;
 - 26 or more Swimmers: Three (3) Officials for each day that 26 or more swimmers swim in such meet.
3. Each Traveling Club shall submit the name of the official(s) they are providing at the time their registrations are submitted to the Host Club. Traveling Clubs will have authority to list officials

not registered with their Club if they have such official's consent to do so. It shall be the Traveling Club's responsibility to ensure that they have the required number of officials on the first day of the meet.

4. PENALTY: Failure of the Host Club to provide the required number of officials shall result in such Club's meet not being sanctioned nor posted on the WYSI web site. Failure of the Traveling Club to provide the required number of officials will result in no awards (medals, ribbons, trophies, high point, etc.) being provided to such Club or its swimmers and an additional fine of \$500. 00 payable to the Host Club on or before the first day of the meet.
5. The Host Club, the meet director and/or the meet Referee will have NO AUTHORITY to waive the required participation of Officials. Failure to enforce this provision shall result in a \$500 penalty payable by the Host Club to WYSI. and such Host Club will be barred from holding a swim meet for one (1) calendar year, unless an additional penalty is set by the WYSI Board of Directors.
6. This rule and penalty shall be applicable to any and all WYSI sanctioned meets held on or after April 1, 2017, including State Championship Meets.

PROPOSED

D. MANDATORY CLUB PARTICIPATION OF OFFICIALS

1. The Host team is responsible for procuring the following 3 positions: Meet Referee, Admin Official, and the Meet Director; these 3 do not need to be directly associated with the host team. Any club hosting a home meet must also provide two (2) officials for each day of their meet in addition to the three named above. Such officials must current and in good standing.

2. All WYSI Clubs participating in any WYSI sanctioned meets are required to provide the following number of officials:

- 1-9 Swimmers; No Officials (unless you are the Host Club, then it shall be two (2) officials);
- 10-17 Swimmers: One (1) Official;
- 18-25 Swimmers: Two (2) Officials;
- 26 or more Swimmers: Three (3).

3. Each non-host club shall submit the name of the official(s) they are providing at the time their entries are submitted to the Host Club and Meet Referee. Non-host clubs will have authority to list officials not registered with their club if they have such official's consent to do so. It shall be the non-Host Club's responsibility to ensure that they have the required number of officials based on the number of total entries over the course of the meet or to have fulfilled this requirement as per the Meet Referee's discretion. If a non-host club does not fulfill their obligation, a fine of \$1000 will be assessed by WYSI and invoiced upon completion of the meet. It is the Meet Referee's responsibility to notify the treasurer to invoice such club.

4. If a Host Club does not fulfill their obligation of ensuring adequate minimal staffing of a meet, a fine of \$1000 will be assessed by WYSI and invoiced upon completion of the meet. It is the Meet Referee's responsibility to notify the treasurer to invoice such club.

Thank you for your time and consideration.