

Committee Name:	USMS Officials Committee	Session #:	1	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Edward Saltzman	Vice Chair:	Pat Baker		
Minutes recorded by:	Marilyn Fink	Date/time of meeting:	January 13, 2013 Via Conference Call		

Motions Passed:

1.

Number of committee members present:	14	Absent:	3	Number of other delegates present:	
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Edward Saltzman (Chair), Brian Albright, Marilyn Fink, Steve Goldman, Caroline Lambert, Sean Murphy, Al Ness, Fred Pigott, Mary Pohlmann, and Ed Stranc, Jr., Katherine Casey (Ex Officio-Rules), David Diehl (Executive Committee-VP of Programs), Sandi Rousseau (Ex Officio-Championship), and Laura Hamel (Ex Officio-Staff)					
Members/others absent: Pat Baker (Vice Chair), Charlie Cockrell, John King					

Minutes

The Officials Committee meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM EST by Chair Ed Saltzman.

1. Welcome

Ed Saltzman welcomed and introduced the committee members. Ed will serve as Chair, Pat Baker as Vice Chair, and Marilyn Fink as Secretary.

2. National Championships

- A.** Ed. Saltzman presented the Liaison Status Report on behalf of Pat for the 2013 Spring Nationals in Indianapolis on May 9-12 (Thursday-Sunday). The meet application was finalized on 1/13/13. OQM designation has not yet occurred. Automatic reporting of splits has been recommended. The following key assignments have been made:
- Meet Referee – Lucy Duncan
 - Administrative Referee – Herb Schwab
 - Head Starter – Dick Duncan
 - Head Chief Judge – Mickey Smythe
 - Evaluator – to be determined
- B.** Steve presented the Liaison Status report for the 2013 Summer Nationals in Mission Viejo on August 7-11 (Wednesday-Sunday). The pool complex (not the pool itself) has undergone extensive renovations that are finished. The meet application is complete. OQM designation has not yet occurred. The following key assignments have been made:
- Referee – Omar de Armas Sr.
 - Administrative Referee – Herb Schwab
 - Head Starter – Pat Baker
 - Head Chief Judge – Ed Saltzman
 - Evaluator – Dan McAllen
- C.** Officials Committee Liaisons to the 2014 National Championships – if interested in serving as a liaison for the short course meet in Santa Clara (May 1-4) or the long course meet at the University of Maryland (August 13-17), please contact Ed Saltzman. Those interested/appointed who will be attending the 2013 championship meets will have the opportunity to shadow/train there.

3. Officials Committee Liaisons are:

- A. Rules – Charlie Cockrell
- B. Championship – Ed Saltzman and Steve Goldman
- C. Open Water – Steve Goldman. (FYI – OW sanctions are currently not being issued until certain issues are resolved, hopefully by the end of February. Projects are currently under way to develop training and documentation for OW officials and safety directors for each event.) Officials Committee is represented on OW sub-committee developing the documents.
- D. Legislation – Brian Albright

4. 2013 Projects

A. Document Review

- The Committee's document repository (all documents and inventory) can be found at www.USMSOfficials.org. These documents can be accessed at a meet via smartphone for those desiring to do so or in immediate need of forms to run their masters meet.
- **USMS Guide to Operations-Officials** will be reviewed by **Mary**.
- **Rule Book** Article 103 that governs the Officials Committee's work will be reviewed by **Charlie**.
- **Championship Contract** officials requirement language will be reviewed by **Ed Saltzman** and **Steve**.
- **Open Water Officials Requirements and Training Project** will be reviewed by **Ed Saltzman, Steve, and Fred**.
- **Open Water Safety Director** document will be reviewed by **Ed Saltzman, Steve, and Fred**.

B. Annual Refresh of **LMSC Officials Chair** contact list – after the National Office sends out a copy of all LMSC Officials Chairs to the Officials Committee later this month, **Ed Stranc** will identify open positions and try to determine why, and will update the database and attempt, with help, to identify Officials Chairs in LMSCs where there currently are none. Additionally, working with the LMSC Officials Chairs, an attempt will be made to develop a regional "Masters friendly" officials database. Can be used by meet hosting seeking officials to work their meets.

C. **USMS Officials Training Material and Officials Certification Program** (revisited) – there is currently no USMS certification process for USMS officials. Over the years various components of the process have been worked on, but the total certification process has yet to be implemented. **Ed Saltzman** will work on this, with input from committee members. Issues that need to be addressed are whether it would be beneficial to offer both a full-blown as well as a refresher program; whether volunteer officials need to be USMS members; what kind of marketing plan would be beneficial; and encouraging LMSC Officials Chairs to join the online Officials Committee forum.

D. **USMS/USA-S Rule Difference Quick Reference Card** will be reviewed, updated, and re-issued by **Fred** and **Kathy**. Funds have been budgeted for printing and disseminating these cards.

E. **Rule Books** – **Ed Saltzman** will poll the committee to see who needs a USMS Rule Book, and will arrange for them to be sent.

F. **USMS Officials Pin** – **Fred** will re-evaluate the current pin and re-order, possibly in a slightly smaller size. There are enough pins for the next two national championship meets, so any revisions to the pins will probably not be seen until 2014.

5. New Business/Roundtable

- A. The 2014 FINA World Championships will be held in Montreal, Canada from Aug 2-9. Officials are needed. Please contact the meet director if interested in officiating. The USMS Officials Committee is unable to partially subsidize travel/lodging for working at the meet.
- B. Kathy asked that Officials Committee members spread the word to masters swimmers and officials that in the 2013 USMS Rule Book, page 49, Article 108.3.1 (starter's arm signals for deaf swimmers for the backstroke start), the second Figure 2D (which should be labeled 2E) incorrectly depicts the starter's right arm overhead rather than at the side (like in the USMS Rule Book, Figure 2B [right-hand figure]). The figures are correctly represented in the USA-S Rule Book, Article 105.3 on page 54.
- C. Sandi suggested the committee consider proposing a rules change to make the implementation date of changes (Article 601.5) later in the year (USA-S uses May 1 or an otherwise-specified date for specific changes). Since USMS Rule Books are not received by officials, officials chairs, meet directors, etc. until a month or two into the new year, information about changes is not readily available for meets early in the year. While the Rule Book is available on the USMS website around the first of the year, it was felt that most people wouldn't want to print it up on their own. Ed Saltzman, Sandi, and Charlie will discuss and make a recommendation to the Committee.
- D. David requested that information the Committee would like to have included in his report to the BOD be sent to him ASAP.
- E. Laura requested a copy of the minutes to review for possible items of concern to present at USMS staff meetings.
- F. It was requested that Committee members be respectful of others during conference calls by muting their phones (if possible, when not speaking) to cut out miscellaneous background noise.

There was a general consensus that quarterly conference calls would be appropriate. The next one will take place in approximately April/May. This meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM EST.

Marilyn Fink
Acting Secretary
