

# OFFICIAL'S LIASON REPORT

**Meet Name:** USMS Short Course National Meet 2009

**Location:** Clovis, CA Two (2) 25M Pools

**Meet Referee:** Jacki Allender (OR)

**Administrative Referee:** Herb Schwab

**Head Starter:** None

**Approximate Number of Officials Each Day:**

Day 1: 10	Day 2: 15
Day 3: 21	Day 4: 18

**Were there an adequate number of officials each day?:** Somewhat. We made it on a skeleton crew for two (2) pools. We could have used more officials - 4 backed out and it was the state meet to contend with for officials that weekend.

**Were there enough officials to provide a relief?:** There was a third crew of referee and starter that would rotate and relieve at 15 minute intervals.

**How long was the average S&T shift?:** They worked on 45 minutes and off 15 minutes through ALL events.

**How many officials were provided by host LC?:**

AZ - 2	OH - 1
CC - 14	OR - 2
GU - 1	PC - 2
IL - 1	SN - 2
LE - 1	UT - 1

**Conditions for official's?:** Both ends of the pool were in the sun all day. There were tarps where they could put them - especially for the starters and referee's. The temperature was in 80's each day, and sunny.

## **Quality of officiating:**

\* Where the officials briefed on the difference of USAS and USMS swimming rules? YES, the lead chief judge was Jim Patterson and he did a detailed daily list of where we were supposed to be and for how long. He had hour long meetings prior to each day. At the first meeting and subsequent days, we introduce ours at that time he addressed the differences of the strokes for USMS. Kathy Casey (Rules Committee) was hand to answer any questions and explain the current changes and the stroke differences

\*From my observations how would I rate the quality of officiating? They did come up to the edge. We had the high school timing each session which helped a lot. The timers did ask the names and check if they were in the right lanes. Towards the end it was slipping off as they were tired. The quality of officiating was great for the numbers we were working with.

\* Did the officials step up to the edge, were they friendly to the athletes, did they explain the DQ's and lastly did they notify the athletes? YES. They did come to the edge at starts and turns. They were friendly to the athletes. I did not notice any discussions re any DQ's. There were a minimal amount of them. Some of the athletes did get away before they were notified, but they saw the results on the wall. There was one protest and it was denied. The lead chief judge and the

one on each pool did use radios. This was used by them and the administrative referee. The administrative referee was in the office along with the other office workers. The chief judge on the deck would hear the DQ, ask the questions of the official and recommend that it be accepted to the head chief judge, write it up for final approval by the lead chief judge. The lead CJ would advise the athlete.

\*How would you rate the quality of the starters and deck referees? They did not rush the starts and gave the athletes time to get on the blocks and out of the pool. They encouraged the athletes to either hold the ropes or exit where applicable. There were not many false starts. The referees did work well with his/her partner. Each day the referee and starter changed pools and partners in their same positions, so no two days were alike. The starters, referees, administrative referee, meet referee were given comp. rooms. The ones that traveled from other LSC and were assigned were reimbursed \$200 toward their expenses. The swimmers who also helped out on deck were not eligible for this reimbursement or rooms. Athletes who were also officials did help out on deck ONLY as stroke & turn positions.

\*Did the host make the officials feel welcome: YES. We had meet shirts. Breakfast, lunch, snacks and drinks were provided daily. They were very gracious.

\*The overall observations of the officials and administrative officials were good. Co-operation was apparent and the meet ran smoothly.

\* We did OTS observations for stroke and turn. Carolyn Burt did this and advised each person how they did. There were 4-6 people that asked for this certification.

\*Those athletes who entered too slow times or incorrect times did slow the meet down. Also, those relay teams that only had 3 swimmers. This is tough to catch -- but we did it!

\*\*\*\* Meet length: The sessions were within 4-5 1/2 hrs. We were going to do dive over's, but the athletes did not understand. Warm-up and the meet both started at the listed time. Each session was started with a form of the national anthem.