

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:	April 7, 2013 Via Conference Call		

Motions Passed:

1.

Number of committee members present:	10	Absent:	8	Number of other delegates present:	2
Committee members present: Edward Saltzman (Chair), Pat Baker (Vice Chair), Brian Albright, Marilyn Fink, Steve Goldman, John King, Caroline Lambert, David Diehl (Executive Committee-VP of Programs), Kathrine Casey (Ex Officio-Rules), and Sandi Rousseau (Ex Officio-Championship)					
Others present: Lucy Duncan (Meet Referee 2013 Spring Nationals) and Omar de Armas Sr. (Meet Referee 2013 Summer Nationals)					
Members/others absent: Charlie Cockrell, Sean Murphy, Al Ness, Fred Pigott, Mary Pohlmann, Ed Stranc, Jr., Laura Hamel (Ex Officio-Staff), and Clark Hammond (Ex Officio-USA Swimming)					

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

1. National Championships

- A. Lucy Duncan presented the liaison status report for the 2013 Spring Nationals (Indianapolis, May 9-12, Thursday-Sunday).

The key positions filled are:

- Meet Referee – Lucy Duncan
- Administrative Referee – Herb Schwab
- Head Starter – Dick Duncan
- Head Chief Judge – Mickey Smythe
- Evaluator – to be determined

For Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 19/20/20 officials, respectively, are scheduled. Twelve are local, 5 are swimmer-officials (who will not be assigned per se), and the rest are from various locations. There will be 3 teams. Lucy will send the list to Ed and Pat.

OQM status has not yet been obtained; wanted to see if it was needed. There are currently only 2 officials requesting evaluation.

Mel has parking passes for all officials working the meet.

Shirts have been ordered; there will be a hospitality area; and the Administrative Referee's room has been taken care of (Herb Schwab).

Per Kathy, there will be a Rules Committee liaison during the morning briefing to address any questions/issues (may not be needed on Thursday since there are only freestyle events).

Per Sandi, there are approximately 1650 entries.

Ed will bring pins and quick reference cards.

- B.** Omar de Armas Sr. presented the liaison status report for the 2013 Summer Nationals (Mission Viejo, August 7-11, Wednesday-Sunday).

The key positions filled are:

- Meet Referee – Omar de Armas Sr.
- Administrative Referee – Herb Schwab
- Head Starter – Pat Baker
- Head Chief Judge – Ed Saltzman
- Evaluator – Dan McAllen

Officials are being recruited; 7 have signed up so far in addition to the assigned officials. As it gets closer in time, hopefully more officials will be available. Omar will be going to a USA Swimming Official's workshop in May and will recruit there. The timing of the meet is problematic since USA Swimming Nationals are the week before (in Irvine) and USA Swimming Jr. Nationals (in Irvine) precede as well as overlap with the USMS meet.

One pool will be used for competition, with another available for warm-up/warm-down.

2. USMS Guide to Operations

USMS has disallowed use of the comprehensive officials website set up by Ed and the Officials Committee as a repository for all things official. A limited number of documents are currently posted to the USMS website under the Guide to Operations. Committee members expressed frustration that there is no easy/user friendly mechanism for making necessary documents and forms readily available to committee members, officials, and other meet personnel. Since documents are buried within the USMS GTO and require a user to drill down to find what they are looking for it is not the easiest or quickest method to access documents or forms. Ed would like feedback on which documents the Committee feels are the most important to make available via the Guide to Operations website.

3 Officials Committee Liaison to National Championship Meets

The following motion was proposed by Steve Goldman and received a second from Pat Baker:

I move that at National Championship SC or LC Meet, one of the assigned positions for the Meet Referee; Admin. Referee; Head Starter, or Lead Chief Judge, be considered from the Official's Meet Committee. That way that person would be actively involved in the decisions and workings of that meet. If those positions are not chosen from the active official members of the USMS National Official's Committee, a liaison "official" from the committee who is familiar with the wet side of the deck and the inner workings of a National Meet, should be selected by the USMS Official's Chair, in concurrence with the official's vice-chair, to attend that National Championship Meet. That person, because they will not be reimbursed by the host team, shall be reimbursed up to \$2,000 for their air fare and hotel. This would be considerably less if that liaison lives closer to the hosted meet or the host arranges for OCL's hotel or a LMSC subsidizes the OCL'S trip. This money shall come from the official's committee budget or from separate funding if voted upon at the next HOD in 2013. That Liaison may, if on the approved listing, also fill in the position for doing evaluations. This would save in the host having to fund to bring in outside help to perform this duty for the meet.

Much discussion ensued. At issue are the duties of the Officials Committee National Championship liaison and whether or not the meet host can deny the need for the liaison, who is tasked with assisting with pre-meet activities and applications to officiate, working with the LSC/LMSC Officials Chairs, assisting with issues that come up, being at briefings, filling in positions on deck as needed, and reporting on/evaluating things that worked well and those that could be improved upon. Liaisons from the Championship and Rules Committees similarly assist the meet host in their respective areas. The Committee's general consensus was that it is not up to the meet host to determine whether or not a liaison is needed.

The motion was tabled. Ed will look into options for either moving this motion forward or redefining the responsibilities of the Officials Committee Liaison to the National Championship. Discussions to occur in Indy with the Championship Committee and Rules Committee on this matter. Sandi offered to assist Ed and Steve in developing a policy.

4. New Business/Roundtable

- A.** Pan American Masters Championship meet: Rick Walker is the Meet Director and the meet will be worked by USAS officials (Mark McCall – Head Referee, Jackie Allender - Admin Referee, Dottie Daniels – Chief Judge, Pat Baker – Head Starter). The meet was awarded by ASUA, is sanctioned by USMS, and is being run under FINA rules. The meet is 8+ days, during the week, with 3000 entries expected. Don't know how many officials have committed; may be asked to work 2 – 5 hour shifts/day.

- B.** FINA proposed rules changes – if recommended by the bureau, are generally accepted. Regarding SW-7.1, that would allow multiple dolphin kicks on breaststroke at the start only (swimmer must come up by 15 m), if it passes, the earliest it would be implemented is 2 months later (~ September).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM EST.

Marilyn Fink
Acting Secretary
