

LMSC Officials Peer to Peer Teleconference

April 20, 2015

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Facilitator: Mary Hull, LMSC Development Committee & SW Zone Chair

Attending: Stephanie Walsh Beilman (Delaware Valley), Clay Kolar (Ozark), John King (Pacific), Ed Saltzman (Georgia), Judy Gillies (Arizona), Margaret Hair (Inland Northwest), Alina DeArmas (Southern Pacific), Brian Albright (South Texas), Skip Thompson (Michigan), Jerry Clark (NC), Michael Moore (Pacific)

Discussion on DQ's:

Sometimes DQ's are thrown in a box..and the swimmer is DQ'd but has no idea why they were DQ'd . The officials are always busy and may or may not have been able to notify the swimmer of their DQ. There should be a way for the swimmer to find out why they were DQ'd. Is there a better way of notification for the swimmers? If a swimmer is not notified then they need to ask. The Rulebook says to try to notify as much as possible (best effort). A lot of meets list the reason for a DQ in the results. Hytek software allows the reasons to be entered. Effort is made, if not notes are filed, so they may be referred to later. The duty of contacting the swimmer falls on the meet referee, if there is a problem the meet director could step in...hasn't been an issue in our smaller LMSC

Discussion on getting officials for meets:

Some LMSC's have had success in coordinating with the meet directors to make effort to work together to ensure all the officials that are needed are provided. A lot of LMSC's use USA swimming officials for their meets (some have had trouble accessing the call lines for those officials). A lot of LMSC's have officials from other organizations (such as USA Swimming, YMCA, NCAA, etc.) officiate their meets a fair amount of these officials volunteer their time. In SPMS We are also trying to get the officials from other governing bodies to take Masters meets more seriously as some take them as more of a recreational meet and did not really understand the competitiveness of our meets. This year we have also asked the officials to become members of USMS.

Discussion on meet administration:

Some LMSC's hire a meet manager operator who will bring in five or six people to work the meet and the charge will be based on the size of the meet and the services used. Some of the services will include a meet referee, psych sheets, timeline info., putting the meet together for online registration, getting

officials, scoring, timing operator, an administrative official who will run the meet supervising all the meet paperwork. USA swimming requires rigorous training courses for the administrative official. If they have been trained correctly any referee should be able to do the administrative job. It was suggested that we should give consideration to having an admin. For our meets but It was also suggested that requiring additional people may be difficult. For some LMSC's when it is a bigger meet they will pay for these services but for the smaller meets it may be too costly. We also have documentation as to what is expected at our meets. Our goal is to be able to submit files and have nothing kicked back to us.

Discussion on officials:

Some LMSC's pay their officials, some do not, some officials may get a gift card for their time, try to cover out of pocket expenses like they may get hotel night if a larger meet, try and show appreciation for their time. In SPMS we have a lot of officials who are also Masters swimmers.

Recruitment:

We are strict but looser, and the officials like that environment, we have stroke and turn clinics where we talk about Masters meets,.