

## Minutes of April 3, 2019 LSC Officials Chair Conference Call

1. Welcome from Scott. Reminder to group to Mute phone unless you are speaking. Reminder that you need to enter your information on the Google form if you want credit for attending the call. (Scott)
2. Reminder to share the information you get on the call with the officials in your LSC. (Scott)
3. Remarks from Bob Vincent on the new governance structure. (Bob V)
  - At Y Nat'ls. – talked with Y about our continued working together.
  - Thank you for continued patience in working with the USA staff taking over as leaders.
  - In Sept at convention it was agreed that our BOD would be a learning BOD and governing/compliance rather than working/leading.
  - Have heard from the Zone chairs, will soon learn from the LSC Chairs and other leaders to allow the BOD.
  - Finishing our mission and vision statements - need to review and consolidate these.
  - Implement our new CRM system -- combining all our databases into one. This will allow us to include athlete's parents' data.
  - Online membership - we have another NGB attending the April meeting to learn and make the online membership a reality.
  - Investing in the coaches education and certifications.
  - Flex membership - Feb at 18,765. To date almost 2,000 have upgraded to full membership. Over 18,000 – 61% are NEW USA membership. Feel the numbers are going to show this is a success.
  - What can you do. Be vigilant – be communicative
  - BOD – 4 vacancies coming up, applications are online.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> most successful FINA championships in China. Our support is 2<sup>nd</sup> to none on support of our athletes.
  - Thank you for your support.
4. Clark Hammond, Rules Chair situation explanation (Clark)

Situations – several inquiries, some very good technical. Not going to discuss those as do not want them to get out as what should always be done.

**Issue of wearing watches (on swimmers)** – concern of it being used a pacing device. I have not seen one that would be of the type that would beep, pulse, or provide a light that would be a pacing device. If you see a watch and suspect it's a pacing device then investigate but wearing a watch is not illegal.

Garmin Phoenix 5 – does have some pacing features, uses pulse and measures the turns. They are working on the technology.

As technology advances, we will simply need to be aware of them but as a general matter, do not feel it is a concern.

**Putting alternates in Final:** page 28, 102.5.6b, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence

There was a discussion about putting alternates in empty lanes of heats that involved team selection, scoring point or winning money.

This is on my list of topics for the Rules committee to discuss at its meeting at the end of May and I will write to someone on the issue and get it out to all LSC Officials Chairs.

5. Open Water (Sandy)

- National Open Water Champs in Miami in May – Open Water Olympics Trial
- If LSC does not certify in open water, please encourage the LSC Chair to please offer it.

6. Reminder to submit your nominations for the Officials Excellence Awards. They will be reviewed and voted on at the Officials Committee meeting. (Scott)

7. Officials online testing (not APT) will be down April 15-30. Only INCOMPLETE tests will be deleted on 4/15/19. (Gina)

8. Reminder to send an official to the zone workshops (especially Chicago C/E). Content will focus on communications at all levels (Gina)

9. Reminder to register for the LSC Officials Chairs Workshop in June (Gina)

10. There will be a new referee workshop October 4-6 in Tampa. Registration will come out in the summer. Start thinking about who to send. (Gina)

11. APT Changes – annual renewal required, current expiration dates will be honored, new expiration will be one year from renewal, so May 1, 2019 completion will expire May 1, 2020. Now going to be aligned with the actual date taken, not year-end dates. Any APT related questions, send an email to [learn@usaswimming.org](mailto:learn@usaswimming.org). (Gina)

12. Summer meet application for Natls and Jrs will probably close April 6. Futures will close when enough applications have been received to staff all four. Futures applications are still needed so encourage your officials to apply, great opportunity. Winter meet applications will open around June 4. (Gina)

13. USA Swimming has new social media platforms. The current Facebook page for officials will be sunset and you will be invited to join the new Facebook Officials Group. The new group page will function very similarly to the old page but will be more community oriented. Search for USA Swimming Officials on Facebook and join the official group. USA Swimming member news will be moving to @USASwimInsider on Twitter. You will want to follow that Twitter handle for all member news and information.

14. Officials Committee will meet April 27. Lots on the agenda. (Kathleen)

Data submitted from all of you will be reviewed and categorized and time will be spent on a strategic plan to accomplish the goals.

Will be looking at our individual skills and talents and taking on a subject matter. At that time there may be some sub-committee members added to assist the official's committee members in their roles and subjects.

15. There will be two officials' meetings at convention. First will be a business meeting for officials committee on Wed. There will be a few seats for audience spectators, but it will not be an open session as in years past. The second meeting will be on Fri and will be the announcement and update of several initiatives from the committee, and a celebration of meet referee assignments (Kathleen)

Convention will not be a training type of forum. We currently have workshops for training purposes. There will be 2 meetings, the first a business meeting but will not be an open session as in the past. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be on Friday will be celebrations and recognition of upcoming Referees for meets, 2020 Olympic trials assigned team and upcoming meet teams.

16. Matt introduce Marianne Walling as a new member of his subcommittee to run evaluator reports and take over national cert app review to replace John Julian (Matt)

- John Julian, who has served as a sub-committee member for several years has resigned. Marianne Walling will replace John – she will be available to run reports for evaluators and will be transitioning on to review applications for upgrades/certifications.
- Housekeeping for LSC Official's Chair – when you receive a notification of national advancement for an official all that is needed in response is that the official is in good standing with your LSC. The Committee will determine if they are eligible for the advancement.

Call ended due to reaching the hour.

Next call July 3<sup>rd</sup>, same time.

Items which were not discussed due to time limitations on call:

17. Review of questions submitted on the Google Form.

- a. First question is why do some of the online test results come to me as the LSC Officials Chair and some don't. I am kind of embarrassed when I ask my Officials to take a current test and they say they have taken it. I then have to have them send me the results or I have to look up the test they have taken. It is just more work to look for their tests when a message always use to come to me. (Gina)
- b. Another situation that is happening quite often is my Officials have not completed their APT, because they have forgotten to do something leading to completion. It could be putting the courses in the cart, checking out completely not being able to use their home computer but their laptop or matching up the Officials name to the course. I know someone at USA Swimming who helps me every time I need to match up the APT to the Official taking the APT. I have noticed on the expiration date for the APT, the date taken 2/20/2020 is the expiration date and not 12/31/2020. Will the new expiration date be one year from the date taken? (Gina)

- c. The registration/certification process is fairly complex and does not have any one person that can handle all issues. How can this be made simpler? (Gina and Kathleen), short answer is there is not an easy solution. LSCs will continue to do registration and do it their way, but we can try to create a cheat sheet of sorts that gives a list of who to contact for what (i.e. [learn@usaswimming.org](mailto:learn@usaswimming.org) for APT questions)