

PVS Officials Committee Meeting

June 12, 2013

Participants: P. Starke Reed, R. Vincent, S. Edwards, M. Rubin, T. Husson, J. Neill, J. Garner, M. Bush, K. Thiel, M. Hurley, B. Ship, E. Jester

Location: Convened 19:00 at Kennedy Shriver Aquatic Center

- **Minutes from 17 Apr 2013**

Decision Approved as written.

- **Summer Championship Meets**

Discussion

- LC Senior Champs approved for all evaluations except N3 final starter.
- Staffing for meets and requests for evaluation are slowly coming in
- Qualifying times for meets are faster than last year, so the meets may be smaller

- **Administrative Official Update**

Discussion

- 21 people attended the inaugural AO clinic
- Initial AO officials will certify with four apprentice sessions and self-evaluation
- Another AO clinic may be offered later this summer

- **LSC Officials Chairs Meeting**

Discussion

- T. Husson attended for J. Neill
- AO was a big topic of conversation with much sharing of information
 - AO can serve in another “dry side” position
 - Minimum standards, e.g. 2 training sessions; most LSCs will do more
 - Some LSCs are grandfathering people into the position. PVS is not.
- Participants viewed video taken from underwater cameras at 2012 Olympic Trials; video showed a variety of infractions, especially in Breaststroke
- Upcoming meeting for FINA technical committee; may be a rule change for breaststroke; proposals are listed on FINA website; if FINA approves rule change, will be adopted by USA Swimming
- Discussion about N2/N3 mentoring and evaluation (progression of skill level)
- OTS – all LSCs are using this for recording sessions worked at meets; most are using it for tracking certifications
- Discussion on official retention; giveaways are beneficial

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• Open Water Officials Certification Proposal

Discussion

- K. Thiel provided information regarding Open Water
- Discussion regarding specific duties and qualities required for various positions
 - Wet side positions – e.g. referee (certified, watches outside the boat), recorder (administrative support person)
 - Dry side positions (non-certified) – e.g. fingernail/toenail inspection, numbering, and sign-in processes; clerk of course
 - Concern for Safe Sport given contact with swimmers
- Potomac Open Water Swimming (POWS) – research and development of open water swimming within PVS
- Wave One – Open water swim program that occurs every Thursday night at National Harbor (practice, non-sanctioned)
- Discussion about certification vs. training; consensus that we should begin with training before moving to certification
- Open Water meet in Potomac Valley on September 14th – will hopefully be staffed by both in and out of LSC officials and include mentoring

Decision

- Officials Committee supports training of OW Officials; once there is interest from swimmers and officials for formal certification, committee will develop program

Follow-up

- K. Thiel to develop Open Water section on PVS website and advertise meets

• Information from the House of Delegates Meeting

Discussion

- New General Chair, Bill Marlin, beginning in September
- New Senior Chair is Brad Bowser
- PVS now has over 11,000 athletes; 4th largest with respect to number of athletes, smallest in geography
- John Ertter is moving to Georgia – will continue to function as executive director and controller for the time being until PVS transitions to someone else

• Official's Qualifying Meet Fall 2013

Discussion

- Consensus to seek approval to designate 2013 Tom Dolan Invitational as an OQM
- Jack will work on finding evaluator for this meet.
- B. Ship asked the Committee to consider designating 14 & Under Junior Olympic Championships as an N2 OQM

• Stroke and Turn Judge Certification Process

Discussion

- Mike Bush submitted a written proposal "On Deck Training" for Stroke

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and Turn Judge Certification

Decision

Follow-up

- Proposal discussed briefly
- Mike will distribute electronically to Official's Committee
- Committee members to review proposal and provide feedback to Mike

• **Certification following Summer League Clinic attendance**

Discussion

Follow-up

- L Gerlach has received blue cards from summer league clinic attendees but has not received all sign-in sheets
- Summer League Clinic sign-in sheets need to be submitted to L Gerlach

• **Proposed Changes to Officials National Meet Educational Stipend**

Discussion

Follow-up

- Policy for reimbursement to officials is determined by PVS board, but board will likely follow a reasonable recommendation from the Officials Committee
- Proposal for reimbursement
 - Includes list of meets
 - Eliminate zones and sectionals as reimbursable meets
 - Include all national championship level competition meets, including Grand Prix series
 - Limit reimbursement to two meets per year per official
- Bob Vincent will review history of reimbursements and report back to the committee.

- After Bob has reported, committee will review information and amend proposal if needed

• **Other**

Discussion

- E Jester reports that in several states referees cannot work without concussion training
- As per discussion at previous meeting, Tim Husson has produced reusable credentials for apprentice officials; he is distributing them to clubs
- T Husson has reminded HOD that PVS has a requirement for marshals; when there are marshals, they often aren't doing the job they should be doing; we need to do better at spreading the word about marshaling and function
- Reminder to not overreact regarding Arena swimsuits; there are only 3 illegal Arena swimsuits.
- Bob Vincent will be Meet Referee for Super Sectionals in Buffalo this summer, Tim Husson will be Administrative Referee, and Steed Edwards will be Team Lead CJ; evaluations will be available for all N3 positions.

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- **Next Meeting**

Decision TBD by the next Official's Committee Chairperson

Meeting Adjourned at 21:15

Respectfully submitted by
Barbara Ship
Officials Committee Member