

Subject: Officials Newsletter: Another Day
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USA Swimming Officials Newsletter | March 2020



OFFICIALS NEWSLETTER

Another Day

Most of you spent the 29th of February at a swim meet while barely noticing anything unusual about the day as we volunteer to make it count for the athletes. Thank you for your commitment.

Last month, your National Officials Committee met for eight hours to discuss the year in the past and the one that lies before us. Based on results of the survey completed in December by your LSC Officials Chairs and those attending national meets, we were able to gauge how our work is perceived and what you would like to see for 2020. The overall opinions were positive, and the NOC was recognized for its efforts toward transparency and inclusion. Celebrating officials, improvements made to programs such as Mentoring and Evaluations and workshops, and promotion of succession planning were specifically highlighted. Suggested focus areas for the NOC this year were identified and center around the following: criteria for national meet selection, consistency in all that encompasses the role of an official from LSC to LSC, and education.

The committee members established the goals and pinpointed specific, measurable targets. We hope to gather information from the LSC Officials Chairs through questionnaires managed by the Zone Officials Chairs to address consistency across LSCs. Look for a new shift in the way Mentoring and Evaluations are performed. Last, but hardly least, be ready for an exciting championship season!

Kathleen Scandary
Chair, National Officials Committee

"Other" Members and OTS

As you know, as of January 15, 2020, officials are required to complete concussion protocol training (CPT). Thank you to those of you who have already completed this requirement.

We understand there are some people in your LSCs who are registered as "other" only (not coach or official) and those people perform administrative tasks in OTS such as setting up meets, entering officials into activities, etc. Members who are only registered as "other" do not have to complete the CPT requirement, however, they were being prevented from doing their work in OTS due to a glitch in the system. We have corrected this error and those registered as "other" only should be able to resume their activities.

Anyone registered as an official or coach will still have to complete CPT in order to access OTS.

National Meets - Application to Officiate

The applications to officiate for the Speedo Summer Championship meet and the Futures meets are posted on the [website](#). You must be logged in with your account to access them. They will close no earlier than 120 days out. Please consider applying for the Futures meets in particular. These are a great opportunity to get exposure to a national meet format.

From the Mentor and Evaluations Subcommittee

Please be sure you have reviewed this [resource](#) outlining what officials can expect regarding evaluation at the various levels of national meets. This will assist you with the current process for evaluation.

The Evaluator/Mentor subcommittee has approved: 40 new N3 evaluator positions since July 2019 and 16 new N3 evaluator positions were approved this past quarter.

Thank you for all the recommendations to support the National evaluation program.

Meet Juries - Part Two

Last issue, Rules Chairman Clark Hammond had outlined the who, what, when and how of forming and using a meet jury. In [this follow-up](#), he examines the protocols for using a meet jury at a national level meet (or a meet that uses national protocols).

Officials' Excellence Award January 2020

Eddie Mueller - South Dakota Swimming

Eddie Mueller has received the Official's Excellence Award for January. She consistently goes above and beyond for local club teams, college teams and the South Dakota LSC. She has shared her time and talent on deck at many national meets and has achieved national certification in all positions including N3 certification at Stroke & Turn, Chief Judge, and Deck Referee. She enthusiastically shares her knowledge and expertise with all officials and is always mentoring and taking time on deck to share bits of wisdom garnered from years of experience. Eddie serves as the meet referee for many clubs who do not have a referee on their team and would not be able to host a meet without her assistance. She has also served as the Meet Referee for both of South Dakota's short course and long course state championship meets for the past several years while newer referees continue to learn and gain experience. It is evident to all who meet her that she does all of this out of pure love for the sport of swimming. It is great to watch her enthusiasm and positivity radiate to the swimmers on deck, coaches and other officials. South Dakota is very fortunate to have such an excellent official in their LSC.



Congratulations Eddie and thank you for your service!

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