

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FLORIDA SWIMMING OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE

APRIL 8, 2014

The meeting was conducted via teleconference. It was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by Committee Chairman Stephen Plapp. Also present were:

Mark Davis, Vice Chair  
Roger Deary, Area 1 Representative  
Bart Smith, Area 2 Representative  
Thomas McCaleb, Area 4 Representative  
Deborah Landis, Area 5 Representative  
Judi Wojcik, Area 6 Representative  
Jeff Breault, Area 1 Assistant Representative  
Thomas Tiedt

Not Present: Kay Caldwell, Area 3 Representative

Chairman Plapp advised the participants that the meeting was being recorded and that Jeff Breault would be preparing the minutes of the meeting.

There being no old business to cover Plapp requested that the meet referees of the recently concluded championships provide a brief summary of their meets:

## Senior Championships

Roger Deary stated that the meet was very successful and noted the excellent turnout of officials. He lauded Ellen Johnson, his chief judge for her efforts in coordinating the turnout. He also complimented the host team on its efforts to take care of the officials.

Based on an issue that arose during the meet he strongly urged that in the future the meet information letter specify when the mile is to be swum.

## Florida Age Group Championships

Mark Davis stated that the meet went well and lauded the efforts of his chief judge Chris Wojcik, his administrative referee, Mark McCaw, and the national evaluator, Pat Baker. Based on an issue that arose in printing heat sheets he recommended that in the future distance events be pre-seeded or the cutoff time for positive check-in be moved to the previous day or moved up an additional half hour before the session begins.

## All Star Meet

Bart Smith stated the meet was very competitive and exciting. He lauded the host team and facility and noted the good interaction between the Florida Swimming and Florida Gold Coast officials.

Chairman Plapp next brought up the main order of business of the meeting. He expressed his desire to address the concerns of the committee members over provisions in the proposed Policies & Procedures (POP). Each committee member was asked to express their opinions on the revisions and possible compromise positions.

## Roger Deary, Area 1

- Deary is in favor of counting sessions worked instead of time periods to satisfy prerequisites for commencement of apprenticeships. He pointed out that one such example in the POP now uses a combination of time and sessions in determining when a certified SR can begin apprenticing for DR.
- He also suggested that the phrase "sign off" as it relates to area representative's approval of apprenticeship documents be changed to "verification of apprenticeship documents and approval by the area representative". This would require more due diligence on the part of the area rep before approving the certification of an official.

## Bart Smith, Area 2

- He accepts the certification requirements set forth in the proposed POP for ST and SR.
- He prefers that the current standards for DR remain in place. However he is willing to accept 10 sessions worked as a SR as a prerequisite in place of the 5 currently in the proposed POP.
- He prefers that the current standards for MR also remain in place. However he is willing to accept a compromise between the apprenticeship prerequisite of 10 sessions worked as a SR as specified in the proposed POP and the 15 sessions currently required.

## Thomas McCaleb, Area 4

- He raised a question about the phrase "completion of Graduation Review Outline" used in the certification sections of the proposed POP for SR, DR, and MR. Plapp concurred noting that the guideline is part of the ST Clinic Packet and is not part of any other position's certification documentation. He instructed Deary to remove the language.
- He opposes requiring MR to work any sessions as a MR as part of their recertification process. He noted that in his area there are not enough meets for his MR to comply with

this requirement. Instead, he suggested that MR be required to work sessions at lower level positions (SR, DR) and 1 session as Mr. Plapp concurred stating that this requirement will be modified.

- He objected to any time requirement being imposed as a prerequisite to starting an apprenticeship. This applies to any position covered by the POP.

#### Deborah Landis, Area 5

- Landis accepts the proposed requirements for ST as set out in the POP.
- She prefers that ST work more hours on deck before beginning their apprenticeship for SR. She would accept 12 sessions/3 meets as a prerequisite in lieu of the 10 sessions/2 meets in the proposed POP. She does not believe a specific time period on deck is necessary as a prerequisite.
- She prefers that SR spend at least 1 year on deck and work 10 sessions/4 meets as an SR before they begin their apprenticeship for DR. She also wants to keep the current apprenticeship requirement of 25 hours on deck.
- She prefers that DR work a minimum of 13 sessions/3 meets as a DR before beginning their apprenticeship for MR. She agreed with Judi Wojcik's proposal that some of those sessions be worked as ST.
- She raised a concern about the POP specifying which test an official has to take in order to recertify. Plapp and Deary concurred and proposed to change the language so the exact test is no longer enumerated.

#### Judi Wojcik, Area 6

- She accepts the certification requirements set forth in the proposed POP for Stroke and Turn and Starter.
- She prefers that ST work 12 sessions/3 meets as ST before they begin their apprenticeship for SR.
- She prefers to keep the existing prerequisites (15 sessions/5 meets) for DR. She suggested that the DR work some of those sessions as ST.
- She prefers to keep the existing prerequisites (15 sessions/5 meets) for MR. In lieu of those standards she believes Florida Swimming should adopt the practice of other LSC's is creating levels of experience at each position.

- She agrees that MR should not be required to work multiple sessions as MR in order to recertify at that position. She added that MR should spend more time on deck as ST during their recertification process.

Plapp stated that Deary will incorporate new language into the proposed POP. He is unsure when the full committee will vote on it suggesting that may happen at the next annual meeting in October.

Additional business discussed:

#### New Disqualification Report

Mark Davis advised that the new Disqualification Report has been distributed and should now be used at the meets.

#### Temporary Non-athlete registration

Mark Davis stated that the new non-athlete temporary registration membership had been submitted to the BOD for approval. Plapp and Deary stated that once approved the registration will allow newly recruited officials to take the clinic and begin their apprenticeship without having to pay any of the fees normally associated with registration. The form serves to inform the insurance company of those on deck, help keep track of the recruits on OTS, and help the area rep maintain contact with the recruits. Until approval, however, the current procedures remain in place. A question is being addressed to the BOD as to why the BOD has to approve the form.

#### Recertification

Plapp stated that recertification will be conducted at the Florida Swimming championships this summer. He and Mark Davis will also travel to the areas to assist with the recertification of those officials unable to attend the championship clinics. This may occur at the area championships. The final opportunity to take the clinic will occur at the Gator Meet in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.