

SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS COMING UP

In just a couple weeks the summer championships will begin at different venues around Florida Swimming. This year, all three championships will be Officials' Qualifying Meets for national certification. The SZS Sectional meet and Senior Championships will offer N3 certification for those officials interested in pursuing that certification level. For the first time FLAGS will offer an opportunity for N2 certification, which is the beginning level for national certification. FLAGS will also be a training ground for some of the more experienced N2 and N3-certified officials to learn how to be mentors and perform the evaluations. If you are interested in attaining your N2 or N3 certification at any of these meets, please visit the Officials Page on the Florida Swimming website, where you'll find the "Request for Evaluation" forms for each meet. Please send that completed form to the official indicated on the top of those forms. And, as is customary, if you will be volunteering at any of the championship meets, please email the meet referee and/or chief judge know you're willing to help out. **Please also let them know how many **meets and sessions** you have worked at your highest level of certification.

SZS Sectionals	July 7-10	O'Connell Center, UF, Gainesville
Meet Referee Matt Wilson		mpwilson1205@gmail.com
Chief Judge Sue Talwar		talwarsue@aol.com
FLAGS	July 14-17	YMCA Aquatic Center, I-Drive, Orlando
Meet Referee Bob Griffiths		griffiths.bob@verizon.net
Chief Judge Braam Pretorius		apretorius@cfl.rr.com
Sr. Champs	July 21-24	Indian River St. College, Ft. Pierce
Meet Referee Bart Smith		bls9714@yahoo.com
Chief Judge Judi Wojcik		cjwojcik@gmail.com

There's another championship meet taking place in August that could certainly use your volunteer help. The SZ Senior meet is taking place in Orlando at the YMCA Aquatic Center from Aug. 2-6. Robert Thompson is the Meet Referee and would appreciate your volunteer help. Please email him at robertnayr@att.net to indicate which sessions you are available to help.

OFFICIALS' POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

BIG THANKS to Matt Wilson from Swim Florida who has researched and helped to develop the Officials' portion of the Florida Swimming Policies and Procedures. The Officials portion of the P&P manual is now posted on the Officials' page of the FL Swimming website. This new manual will help to answer many of the questions involving the operations of the Officials' Committee and the procedures by which we operate. Please direct any comments or questions to me at mhellervikbing@hotmail.com.

HIGH SCHOOL OFFICIATING – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Registration for officials interested in participating in the 2011 FHSA Swimming & Diving season will be opening THIS TUESDAY, July 5, 2011 and staying open until August 5th. There will also be late registration available (for an additional \$10 late fee) from August 6th - September 20th. The online rules presentation will take place from July 28 to August 12. The CLOSED book online rules exams for swimming will be available from September 1-12, 2011. Please do not take the

Open Book exam, as it doesn't count towards your high school officiating certification. It is only a courtesy test to help you familiarize yourself with the high school rules.

Also, please remember, all officials interested in officiating at the State Finals meet, or serving as meet referee for District or Region meets will be required to register, watch the online rules video presentation, and take the CLOSED BOOK online test.

For more information, please visit <http://www.fhsaa.org/officials>

The one question that always arises involves the fingerprinting of contest officials as part of the Jessica Lunsford Act. The FHSAA does not require that procedure, however, the county school board in your area may require it. Please contact the school board offices in the counties where you serve as an official for more information.

US AQUATIC SPORTS CONVENTION

This year the annual USA Swimming Convention will take place in Jacksonville, Florida from Tuesday, September 13 to Saturday, September 18 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront. The Aquatic Sports Convention also includes the annual meetings for USA Masters Swimming, USA Diving, USA Synchronized Swimming, among others. The convention offers a great opportunity for anyone interested get a little more familiar with the operations of USA Swimming. For more information on the convention schedule, please visit this page on the USA Swimming website:

<http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=1528>.

At the top of the page, you can view all the rule change proposals that have been submitted to the Rules & Regulations Committee. Many of those proposals will be discussed during the Rules & Regs committee meetings. To view the schedule of meetings, scroll further down the page where you'll see Convention Schedule. You may want to consider attending the Officials Committee Workshop, Open Water Seminar or the Officials' Burning Issues meetings.

FLORIDA SWIMMING ANNUAL MEETINGS – HYTEK INSTRUCTION

This year's annual meetings are being held in conjunction with a Swimposium for both coaches and officials. In response to great demand and frequent requests from both officials and coaches, the officiating portion of the Swimposium will deal with the proper operation of HyTek's Meet Manager scoring system. Jay Thomas from FL Gold Coast will be leading the instruction. Jay is a member of USA Swimming's Times & Recognition Cmte. and Rules & Regs. Cmte., and has been helping to re-write the timing rules that you have seen in this current 2011 rule book. As many of you know, Jay also handles all the seeding and results for the FHSAA District, Region and State Finals. This is a perfect opportunity to get all teams, meet referees and scoring personnel "on the same page," and scoring meets correctly. This will be a hands-on learning opportunity, so space (and electricity!) may be limited. Preliminary plans have this meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 1st at 9am. In order to gauge interest and space requirements, please send me an email if you are planning to attend.

WELCOME TO NEW OFFICIALS!

As you can tell, clinic instructors have certainly been busy. We thank them for their efforts getting new officials on the pool decks in Florida. And, WELCOME to all the new officials and those who have put their time and energy, and tested their knowledge by moving up to a new level of certification. CONGRATULATIONS!

CERTIFIED

S&T Judge

Patti Craddock

Aracelis Guzman

Tony Tatti

Karen Davidson

Dave Nesper

Susan Nesper
Richard Williams
Victoria Adu

Kent Rockaway
Tricia Mercer
Rob Katz

Eric Shapiro
Virginia Craft
Jan De Nijs

John Fox
Dawn Bloom

Ken Walker
Diane Hoppey

Starter

Sam Borgert

JoAnn Wesley

Bob Goodlet

Matt Gapinski

Bill Wall

Deck Referee

Mike Rossi

Tom Tiedt

Meet Referee

Jim Hirschberger

Ellen Johnson

APPRENTICES

S&T Judge

Lori McCloud
Mark Arnold
Ed Stuart

Tammy Stevens
David Wright
Daniel Mullan

Tim Sinclair
Cindy Lucier
Tony Troiano

Ronan O'Donohoe
Robert Wadhams
Richard Johnson

Ginny Craft
Joe Glennon

Starter

Mike Brewer
Susie Holmes

Richard Stephens
Art Davis

Nina Kannatt

Chris Robitaille

Sean Brennan

Deck Referee

Doug Garthwait

Tim Jacobson

Meet Referee

Pam Wilson