

USMS Convention — Kansas City, Missouri 2015

Committee Name:	USMS Officials Committee	Session #:	1
Committee Chair:	Edward Saltzman	Vice Chair:	Pat Baker
Minutes recorded by:	Mary Pohlmann	Date/time of meeting:	October 1, 2015 10:00AM-11:15AM

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. None

Motions Passed:

1. **MSA** - Approved meeting minutes from last committee meeting.

Number of committee members present: 14	Absent: 3	Number of other delegates present: 34
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Edward Saltzman, Pat Baker, Mary Pohlmann, Teri White, John King, Sandi Rousseau, Tom Cox, Brian Albright, Jeff Sargent, David Diehl, Alina de Armas, Michael Moore, Kathy Casey, Chris McGiffin		
Committee Members Absent: Al Ness, Herb Schwab, Marilyn Fink		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at . **10:00AM**

1. Introductions
2. **MSA** meeting minutes from the Officials Committee's last meeting (09/27/15) – Conference Call
3. Review of Spring and Summer USMS Nationals:
Spring – San Antonio, TX – 32 Officials worked 203 sessions = 812 Hours – Meet Referee – Jackie Allender (OR)
Summer – Geneva, OH – 23 Officials worked 146 sessions = 584 Hours – Meet Referee – Pat Baker (FL)
4. Already working with the 2016 USMS National Meet Referees on developing their “Officials Application” to get an early start on the recruiting process.
 - A. Greensboro, NC - April 28 – May 1, 2016 Tom Cox – Trish Martin
 - B. Gresham, Oregon - August 17 - 21, 2016 Jackie Allender
5. Review the 2016 Preliminary Budget Request – More funding was added to our budget to assist next year's hosts to subsidize travel costs of officials. (\$4000-4500 per championship, plus miscellaneous budget items).
6. Review work done by two sub committees:
Recruiting Sub Committee – A) To confirm and quantify the need for an in-house USMS Officials Certification process by surveying the LMSC Presidents and Officials Chairs to determine the level of difficulty they are having finding officials to work their LMSC masters meets. Forty responses were received from different 35 LMSC's. Our findings indicated there was a problem and in some cases it was significant enough to impact the LMSC's ability to provide meets for their membership.
 - B) The task force created a list of suggestions for recruiting officials and reached out to the LMSC's with the most dire needs.
Certification Sub Committee – A) The Certification task force spent significant time and effort developing a set of certification “Standards and Requirements” for each position (Stroke & Turn), Starter, Referee) to cover both “Cross-Over” and “Initial” certifications.
 - B) The Certification task force has delivered a proto-type, online training course which can be used for the training and certification of USMS entry level (Stroke & Turn) new officials. An attempt

was made to demonstrate the training package during the meeting. Unfortunately, the demonstration ran into some problems due to WiFi difficulties in the meeting room. Enough of the program was demonstrated to give the attendees a sense of the ease of use and the enhanced added feature of embedded stroke video.

7. Reviewed the recently released FINA clarification of Freestyle during the Individual Medley and Medley Relay.
8. The use of the Backstroke ledge during National Championships was discussed, with additional clarification coming from Kathy Casey of Rules.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. Assign Officials Committee Liaisons for the 2016 USMS Spring and Summer Nationals.
2. Update the USMS Officials Committee Stipend document to reflect increased funding for 2016.
3. Add additional embedded video to the USMS Officials Certification training to better illustrate the differences in USMS stroke rules.
4. Develop the certification test for the initial USMS Stroke and Turn position in conjunction with the Rules committee.
5. Develop the “Cross-over” tests for the S&T, Starter, and Referee positions in conjunction with the Rules committee.
6. Develop the framework for the training / certification course for new USMS Starters and Referees.
7. Work with the USMS IT department to identify an online home for the USMS Officials certification program.
8. Develop an interim tracking system to serve as the backend for tracking USMS Officials.
9. Assign an Officials Committee training coordinator to oversee the program and track officials.
10. Update the USMS vs. USA Rule Difference card for 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at. **11:15AM**
