USMS Officials Committee Conference Call Meeting Minutes July 10, 2011

The Officials Committee meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM EDT by Chair Charlie Cockrell.

Members present: Pat Baker, Kathy Casey, Dave Diehl, Marilyn Fink, Judy Gillies, Clark Hammond, Caroline Lambert, Fred Pigott, Sandi Rousseau, and Ed Saltzman.

Unable to attend: Lee Carlson, Sandy Drake, Steve Goldman, Leon Kief, Charlie Kohnken, Eric Nordlund, and Mary Pohlmann.

1. Approval of Minutes

MSA to approve the minutes from the 12-12-10 conference call meeting as distributed.

MSA to approve the minutes from the 4-10-11 conference call meeting with the following corrections:

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Auburn (LC)

Applications to officiate have gone out. Clark Hammond will serve as Meet Referee, and hopes to draw in officials from Georgia as well as Alabama to work the meet.

Automatic splits will be submitted for official time consideration.

For future national meets, taken meet host, meet and administrative referees, Championship Committee, and Officials Committee need to be involved in discussions to determine whether or not automatic splits will be submitted for official time consideration. (It was subsequently decided that automatic splits will become a condition of future meet contracts.)

The meet will be designated an OQM for USA-S officials.

Mesa & Auburn

\$1800 has been budgeted by the Officials Committee for each National Championship Mmeet Director to discretionarily use to provide for travel expenses of officials from outside the meet area and whose expenses are not funded by the meet host. The Meet Referee will forward a list of the officials receiving stipends to the Officials Chair, who will approve the reimbursements upon receipt of the appropriate paperwork from the officials and then forward such approvals to the National Office for payment. Meet hosts should submit request(s) for reimbursement to Charlie C.

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2. Nationals Preparation

Auburn (2011 LC)

Clark reported there are 689 entries. Approximately 10-11 officials have committed, including experienced starters & deck referees. A few more officials have been picked up in the last few days, and a few more could still be used.

The meet will be a USA-S observed swims meet.

Greensboro (2012 SC)

Joel Black, Meet Referee, was unable to join the meeting with a report. Per Charlie C., the key leadership team is set with Don Gilchrist as Meet Director, Herb Schwab as Administrative Referee, Pat Baker as Head Starter, a chief judge from North Carolina Swimming, and a local host coordinator who indicates he has a good number of local officials available.

Omaha (2012 LC)

Per Charlie C., Jacki Allendar has committed to serving as Meet Referee and Herb Schwab as Administrative Referee. Tom Boak has accepted a paid position to serve as Meet Director, since Mark Gill has resigned from USMS. E-mails will be sent to area officials and others to save the dates (July 5-8, 2012) to work the meet.

3. Budget Request

Charlie C.'s proposed 2012 budget request includes the same level of funding for National Championship meet officials as in previous years, with no increase for the Omaha LC meet. The consensus was that this meet should be funded just as all others have been, and if funds in excess of \$1800 from the Officials Committee are needed, they should be factored into USMS's budget as host of the meet (FYI, \$7500 has been budgeted for the leadership team for this meet).

4. Convention Plans/Schedule

The Officials Committee is tentatively scheduled to meet on Thursday morning at 9:45 AM. Workshops are scheduled for two different days, and Charlie C. proposed that Ed & Pat facilitate the Friday workshop for officials and Mary & Judy the Saturday one.

Charlie C. will ask Mary to review the updated "Officiating Masters Swimming" to ensure that the summary of administrative rules is clear and that the document conforms to the USMS style guide.

Kathy will forward to Charlie C. her comments/recommendations for the two documents "Recommended Pre-Meet Briefing Notes for Referees at USMS Sanctioned Meets" and "Officiating Masters Swimming."

5. Certification Update

Per Caroline, Pacific Masters has initiated a tracking program for officials, but hasn't yet put together any clinics or started training anyone.

Officials certification tests will hopefully be finalized by convention and be available for use. Charlie C. will review Kathy's comments on the Starter's Test.

To entice prospective new officials, it was suggested that the convention workshop could be advertised as fulfilling the clinic requirement for officials training, after which the individual would just need to take an exam before starting on-deck training.

6. Roundtable

Dual sanctioned meets are now taking place in Ohio. They seem to be working well

Next Meeting

The next conference call meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2011, at 8:00 PM EST, to finalize the agenda and make final preparations for convention.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM EDT.

Marilyn Fink Acting Secretary