

<b>Committee Name:</b>	USMS Officials Committee	<b>Session #:</b>	1	<b>Report #:</b>	1
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Edward Saltzman	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Pat Baker		
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Marilyn Fink	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	August 18, 2013 via Conference Call		

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**Motions Passed:**

- 1.

<b>Number of committee members present:</b>	12	<b>Absent:</b>	6	<b>Number of other delegates present:</b>	0
<b>Committee members present:</b> Edward Saltzman (Chair), Pat Baker (Vice Chair), Brian Albright, Marilyn Fink, Steve Goldman, Sean Murphy, Al Ness, Fred Pigott, Mary Pohlmann, David Diehl (Executive Committee-VP of Programs), Kathrine Casey (Ex Officio-Rules), and Sandi Rousseau (Ex Officio-Championship)					
<b>Members/others absent:</b> Charlie Cockrell, John King, Caroline Lambert, Ed Stranc, Jr., Laura Hamel (Ex Officio-Staff), and Clark Hammond (Ex Officio-USA Swimming)					

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The Officials Committee meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM EST by Chair Ed Saltzman.

**1. National Championships**

- A. Summer Nationals at Mission Viejo went well. There was good officials coverage on deck, and shift changes were frequent. On the distance day, a new approach was tried that worked well – the day was split into 2 shifts, with one team of officials working AMs and another working PMs. Walk-on officials helped fill the gaps. Many evaluations were performed.

**2. How do we solve the problem of getting officials to work local USMS meets?**

- A. Staffing of USMS meets with officials is becoming problematic in some regions of the country, due to diminishing numbers of USMS officials available, unavailability of USA-S officials who are working an increased number of USA-S meets, expenses incurred by officials for travel/lodging/meals when working a meet away from their home base, etc.

USA-S is also experiencing difficulty with staffing local meets.

While the Officials Committee is unable to resolve each issue, the following comments and suggestions may provide options for LMSCs to consider:

- train coaches to become USMS officials
- encourage Masters teams to bond with and support officials
- pay officials to work meets (rates currently being paid in various LMSCs include \$25/day for dual/local meets and \$100/day for state meets; \$75/day for any meet; nothing for local meets and \$?? for bigger state meets)
- reimburse officials for travel/lodging/meals
- add a dollar or two to meet entry fees for officials subsidies
- have USMS underwrite traveling teams of officials

- attempt to line up a Meet Referee far in advance, so he/she is already committed if later asked to work another meet; this Meet Referee may also be able to pull in additional personnel through connections/networking
  - tap into the pool of high school/college meet officials to see if any seasoned/in-training officials are available to work Masters meets
- B.** The USMS training program that has been developed is almost ready to roll out. The committee is uncertain as to whether there is a need to do so to help the LMSCs, or whether piggybacking on to the USA-S officials training program would be more efficient. Ed will pose the question on the discussion forum to see what input he receives, so the committee has additional information to consider.
- C.** The previous item of creating a database of Masters-friendly officials continues.
- D.** The suggestion was made that USMS poll the LMSCs regarding the availability of/access to officials, in order to get a snapshot of what locales are having difficulties.

The next Officials Committee meeting will be at convention on Thursday, September 12, 2013, from 10:15–11:30 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM EST.

Marilyn Fink  
Acting Secretary

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