

Virginia Swimming, Inc.
Board of Director's Meeting
April 28, 2019
Officials Committee Report

1. Information about available on-line concussion awareness training has been sent out to all officials in the LSC. Both CDC and NFHS sites were referenced. If they opt to take the courses, also advised to send a copy of their course completion certificates to the business office and it will be recorded in SWIMs, viewed in Deck Pass
2. We had 49 officials work 2019 SC Age Group Championships with 10 of those officials completing a national certification or recertification. We had 52 officials work 2019 SC Senior Championships with 17 of those officials completing a national certification or recertification. By the numbers, both meets were well-staffed and there were no issues with either meets.
3. At EZ Southern Region Sectionals, we had 49 officials work the meet. Of those 13 were Virginia officials. We were very fortunate to have Pat Lunsford, Bob Menck and Jack Neill as our National Evaluators. Bob and Jack wore two hats at this meet as Jack was also the Meet Referee and Bob assisted the Admin Team. Overall, another successful meet!
4. Meet Referee for Senior LC Championship is Georg Fuhs & AGC LC Championship is John Squires.
5. The LSC Officials Committee is in process of developing a succession plan. The pipeline training is to serve as MR for districts, regionals, then LC AGC, SC AGC, LC Senior and SC Senior. This will help develop our younger referees with a sustainable process.
6. We are tracking officials that have starting training versus completed. Intend to hold a Team Chair clinic during Swimposium to educate them on the process and their role on keeping tabs with their trainees. Our ratio for a volunteer who starts training as an official to one who completes training has consistently been in the 50% range.
7. Received a request from Charlie Cockrell, USMS Chair of Rules Committee, about the possibility of USMS apprentice officials training at USA meets. USMS has started their own Official training program and since there are more USA-S swim meets than Masters, this may be an alternate training strategy for USMS to

promote their initiative. Charlie is going to look into the requirements and agreements that are in place between USA-S and USMS to ensure there is a clear roadmap for this process. I will keep the Board updated as I receive more information from Charlie.

8. Two proposals for VSI policies:

- a. Concerning #5 above, request the VSI Board to review is reimbursing or paying for a hotel room for Meet Referee at VSI Championship meets.

Discussion:

It seems a bit odd to the several members of the LSC Official Committee, that VSI will not pay for a hotel room for a Meet Referee when they have a swimmer in the meet. We are asking a volunteer to work at least seven sessions, who is one of the first, and last to leave the pool, organize the officials and run a championship meet with not much in return other than a polo shirt. This is currently viewed as an impediment to our philosophy for a succession plan noted above. As Officials Chair, I request this policy be reviewed and revised by the Board to compensate the hotel room for MRs working Championship meets, whether or not they have athletes participating in the meet.

- b. Proposal for Official meet staffing: I suggest adding language in our P&P to include a team hosting a meet shall be able to staff the admin table and at a minimum of 4 stroke and turn per session. Suggest this become effective in 2020.

Discussion:

We have had several meets this year and past years where teams have hosted meets and do not have adequate officials to help staff the meet. In turn, visiting teams and unattached officials are asked to step up and staff the meet. Teams have to realize that when they host meets, their volunteers should ensure the meet is well staffed. Not only with concessions, marshals and timers, but also with officials.

Sincerely,

Dan Demers

VSI Officials Chair

