

USMS Officials Committee 2021-22

Committee Name:	Officials Committee	Session #:	8
Committee Chair:	Teri White	Vice Chair:	Michael Abegg
Minutes recorded by:	Teri White	Date/time of meeting:	11/9/2022 6:00 PM MDT

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

Motions Passed:

1.

Number of committee members present: 8	Absent: 5	Number of other delegates present: 2
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Teri White, Chair; Jerrilynn Bayless; Emily Cook; Omar De Armas; Michael Moore, Alina De Armas, John King, Mark Marshfield; Robin Smith, EC; Onshalee Promchitmart, Ex.		
Committee Members Absent: Mike Abegg, Vice Chair; David Diehl; Judy Gillies; Lisa Phillips, and Jeff Sargent.		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 MDT. Minutes of 10/4/2022, reviewed with one change. Approved as amended.

Old Business

1. **Officials Certification program:** 374 TOTAL, 193 Starters, 76 Referees. Teri commented that a large number of new certification requests have come in the past two weeks, 10 in total and 22 in total since Sept 1.
2. **National Championship Meets:**
 - a. **2023 Spring Championships 4/27-30 Irvine** – Teri is the Meet Referee, Application to Officiate is up and open and 21 applications so far. We need to recruit hard for this meet as it's the High School season in Southern CA and many of their officials are already committed. The meet will run in two separate pools, probably a Men's and Women's. The pools are divided by a huge cement bleacher and can't see each other. We need experienced officials to keep this running smoothly.
 - b. **2023 Summer Nationals – Sarasota 8/2-6** – Ed Saltzman is the Meet Referee, Scott Rabalais is the Admin Referee. Application to Officiate is up and open, 13 applications to date.
 - c. **FINA World Masters 8/2-11/2023 Kyushu Japan.** Teri is still working on the Application, but hoping to send out next week. We only want certified USMS Referees to apply and will require working at one or more USMS National Championship to be eligible. This is a Masters World Championships and official(s) representing USMS must be certified by us and work our decks.
 - d. **College Club Swimming** – College Club National Championship 3/31-4/1 at Ohio State. Officials, Teri reminded that some Travel funds are available for the National Championship meet.

3. **Excellence in Officiating Award:** No updates.
4. **Website:** Discussion deferred as Mike A was not present.
5. **Administrative Official:** Mark developed and emailed two documents for review: Proposed Admin Official Qualification Path and a USMS Admin Official Self-Training Guide. Good discussion on documents and what level we need to aim this for. Where do they get Meet Manager? Potomac Valley has agreed to let us use their training materials and adapt them for USMS. Mark is starting to think about the USMS Supplemental test for this, Alina agreed to name the key areas unique to Masters that we need to cover. This will be an ongoing project.

New Business:

1. Teri suggests its time to review 103.3.2 :

“Starters and stroke and turn judges shall be certified in said capacities by a USMS-approved certifying body, as defined by the USMS Officials Committee. However, uncertified officials may perform the duties of such positions if they receive training in the specified duties of their positions and are under the direct supervision of a certified official.”

Teri believes it is time to take this out and require ALL officials at *USMS Sanctioned meets* to be certified by USMS or an approved certifying body in the positions they are working. Our certification program is 5 years old and has over 300 officials, and certification can be received within a couple of days. We are to think about this for discussion at our next meeting. Teri will send out a questionnaire to LMSC Officials Chairs and Sanction Chairs to see how different LMSC's handle stroke and turn official, and how many are actually “certified”.

Teri will also start working on the revised wording for 103.3.2 so we have plenty of time to fine-tune. She will draft and send to Michael Moore for first edits.

2. Teri shared that its official, Michael Abegg will be Chair for the Officials Committee in 2022/23 and Teri will be Vice-Chair. It's important in volunteer organizations to allow opportunities for new leadership. Additionally, USMS wants to implement term limits for Committee Chair positions to encourage volunteerism. Teri thanked everyone for their support the past years while she has been Chair, it was a lot more enjoyable (and work!) than she had expected and she's thankful for the opportunity.
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Next meeting Wednesday Not determined – Committee does not meet in December and new Committee will set first meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned at 6.46 PM MDT
