

2023 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — Hybrid

Committee Name: Officials	Session #: 1
Committee Chair: Michael Abegg	Vice Chair: Teri White
Minutes recorded by: Chris Ottati	Date/time of meeting: August 15, 5:30 pm PDT

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. None.

Motions Passed:

1. Emily Cook moved that we no longer follow the unofficial policy of excluding committee members from being considered for the USMS Officials award. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Number of committee members present: 12	Absent: 2	Number of other delegates present: 11
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Michael Abegg, Chris Ottati, Jerrilynn Bayless, Emily Cook, Omar de Armas, David Diehl, Robert Duguay, John King, Mark Marshfield, Alina Perez de Armas, Robin Smith (ex-officio)		
Committee Members Absent: Judy Gillies, Teri White		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm PDT by Mike Abegg.

1. The 7/3/23 minutes were not presented for approval. We will approve them by email along with the minutes from this meeting.
2. Old Business
 - a. Officials Certification program status: we have 424 certified officials; 235 starters; 102 referees. The program has really grown since its inception.
 - b. Championship meet reports for 2023
 - i. Summer LC Championships 8/2-8/6. No official reports yet. Ed Saltzman was the meet referee and he said the meet went well, but the days were very long. We had 41 officials: 24 USA of which 16 were also USMS; 17 USMS officials. 26 Officials were from the Florida LMSC. There were 46 DQs. Mike thanked all the officials for their hard work. He mentioned that we need to work on a process so that we don't wear our officials out at these meets.
 - ii. WA World Masters 8/2 – 8/11. Teri White was the lone official not from Japan. She was not on the call and will report later. Mark updated us some of the stats: 7000 athletes; 31 countries; 33 World records; 132 Championship records; 159 DQs.
 - c. USMS Officials Award: Prior (unofficial) policy was to not consider committee members for this award. Emily proposed that we no longer adhere to this policy and instead consider committee members and non-committee members for this award. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
 - d. USMS Officials Website: We take active ownership of our part of the website and continue to review and update as necessary.
 - e. Administrative Officials Certification process. Mark, Anna, and Chris have volunteered to work on this. We need to figure out what it is that we want for the qualification. We will prioritize this for our next meeting.
 - f. Nametag order. Mike has some that weren't handed out in Florida. There have been 269 name tags since 2018.
 - g. Testmoz test site update. This is the site we use to do our USMS officials-specific exams. We need to review the questions. Mostly our questions deal with the differences between our rules and USA/NCAA/YMCA/High School.
3. New Business
 - a. Annual Meeting (September, Houston). Chris, John and Omar will be attending in person.
 - b. Relay 2023 (October, Houston). Chris, John, Mike, Mark, and Rob will be attending in person.
 - c. In-person officiating clinic. Mike was asked about this at LC champs in Sarasota and Florida LMSC is working hard to set something up. He got a very positive response. Details and challenges will need to be explored.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. Policy Handbook. We should look at collecting the things we think could be listed in a policy handbook for reference.
2. Update Training/Certification materials
3. 2024 Nationals (Indianapolis and Mission Viejo)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 pm PDT
