



**Officials Committee Meeting**

**September 12, 2023**

6:00 p.m. MT/8:00 p.m. ET

**USA Swimming Mission:** USA Swimming is the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming. We administer competitive swimming in accordance with the Olympic & Amateur Sports Act. We provide programs and services for our members, supporters, affiliates and the interested public. We value these members of the swimming community, and the staff and volunteers who serve them. We are committed to excellence and the improvement of our sport. We are committed to providing a safe and positive environment for all members.

**Officials Committee Mission:** To conduct programs to recruit, educate, train and certify a diverse team of USA Swimming officials to provide the highest quality and consistent officiating for athletes at all levels of swimming.

**USA Swimming Priority Results:**

1. USA Swimmers achieve sustained competitive success at the Olympic Games and other high-level international competitions.
2. Members have and use resources for sustainable success.
3. There is growth in swimming participation and interest.
4. USA Swimming is recognized as the “Best in Class” National Governing Body.

**Type of Meeting:** Bi-Annual Committee Meeting – September 2023

**Meet Facilitator(s):** Matt Wilson (Chair) and Anne Lawley (Committee Member)

**Minutes:** Macie McNichols (Staff Liaison)

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Matt Wilson (Chair), Dana Covington, Jason Johnson, Anne Lawley, Curtis Myers, Derek Paul, Kathleen Scandary, Judy Sharkey, Jack Swanson, Jay Thomas, Marianne Walling, Hannah Cousins

**Staff:** Dean Ekeren, Brendan Hansen, Tim Hinchey, Macie McNichols

**Not Present:** Mike Murphy, Dylan Nelsen, Evan Steffey, Kate Uerling

**MINUTES**

- I. **Call to Order:** Matt Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT).
- II. **September 2023 NOC Meeting Agenda – Approved.**
- III. **January 2023 Minutes – Amended. Amended minutes approved.**
- IV. **USA Swimming Updates**
  - a. Staff and Headquarters Update (*Macie McNichols*)
    - 2024 National Meet Applications and National Events Calendar posted.
  - b. Rules & Regs – 2023 HoD update (*Derek Paul*)
    - 10 proposed legislation items (Review of R1-10)

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- 24 housekeeping items.

c. Updates from Zone Officials Chairs (*Genny Kimbel, Mike Davis, Steve Marchitelli, Traci Johnson*)

V. **Committee Business – Review of 2023 Accomplishments and Goals for Remainder of Year**

Committee Member	Accomplishments	Goals
Matt Wilson (Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recap of 2023 Spring Workshop (LSC OC and New Refs.)</li> <li>• 2023 – 13 National Meets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing of 17 National Meets, including the 2024 U.S. Olympic Team Trials</li> </ul>
Kathleen Scandary (Coordinator, Program & Events)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International – ITOs named to AQUA List No. 22</li> <li>• National – Provided letters supporting drones at OW Events, use of UW Cameras at the US Open and Phillips 66 National Championships.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress towards standardization of education and certifications of officials training.</li> <li>• Referee education at 2023 Spring Workshops.</li> <li>• Assistance in selecting MR and key team members in collaborative manner with NOC Chair and Mentoring and Evaluation group to provide opportunities for advancement of N3 Evaluators.</li> </ul>
Jay Thomas (World Aquatics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recap of 2023 World Aquatics Competitions.</li> <li>• Noted changes to World Aquatics Constitution and impact for how rules are changed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Kids Initiative</li> <li>• Pathway to Paris</li> <li>• Prototype of new AQUA starting block introduced in Fukuoka.</li> </ul>
Dana Covington (Mentoring & Evaluation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarterly Meetings: N3i Evaluator Advancements (26); N3f Evaluator Advancements (29)</li> <li>• Evaluate the Evaluator: Feedback sent bi-annually.</li> <li>• June audit of N3 Evaluators</li> <li>• Communication with LSC OCs of Officials who need items to advance as National Evaluators\</li> <li>• Recertification Templates for all positions</li> <li>• Evaluator-Mentor/MR Worlds Colliding Training &amp; Webinar</li> <li>• 2023 Spring Workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revamp the Evaluate the Evaluator</li> <li>• Mentor Training</li> </ul>
Curtis Myers (LSC Development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOC liaison to LSC OCs</li> <li>• Disseminated NOC information to the LSC OCs.</li> <li>• Returned information from LSC Officials Chairs to NOC members.</li> <li>• Assisted with 2023 Spring Workshop.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey results from Workshop to be sent to Chair and P&amp;E Coordinator.</li> <li>• Continue communication flow between NOC and LSC OCs.</li> </ul>
Jason Johnson (Education)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist members of the NOC with presentations and use of technology.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop Starter video.</li> <li>• Re-writing the <i>Officials Briefing</i> document to reflect new rule changes as of Dec. 2022.</li> </ul>
Marianne Walling (OTS & Certification)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OTS and OQM Update. Changed review for approval of meets based on available information. 176 OQMs applied for, 171 approved.</li> <li>• National Certification Review. Developed interim plan for review of application to advance and recertify.</li> <li>• Mentor Report Assistance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued discussions with USA Swimming regarding OTS.</li> <li>• Focus on LSC OCs ease of use.</li> <li>• Reporting. Development of National Certification area of OTS.</li> <li>• Workflow of OQM requests within OTS.</li> <li>• National (N3) Mentor Support</li> </ul>

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<p>Jack Swanson (Online Testing)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed and piloted new certification and recertification tests in the Canvas online testing platform.</li> <li>In process of working with USA Swimming Staff to ensure reporting capacity for online tests for LSC Officials' Chairs.</li> <li>Reviewed and updated questions affected by rules changes made by the USA Swimming HoD and AQUA.</li> <li>Reviewed and updated questions that were answered incorrectly by over 25% of test takers.</li> <li>Reviewed and updated situation/resolution document based on rule changes made by USA Swimming HoD and AQUA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work with USA Swimming Staff to refine process for yearly updates to the Officials tests.</li> <li>Begin initial review of questions to update after the 2023 USA Swimming HoD.</li> <li>Finalize review of questions after review of 2024 USA Swimming Rulebook.</li> <li>Work with Staff to improve reports.</li> <li>Update USA Swimming Situation and Resolutions documents as appropriate after the 2023 USA Swimming HoD.</li> </ul>
<p>Anne Lawley (Publication and Communications)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transitioned Swimming World content from bi-monthly in print to quarterly digital content.</li> <li>Officials' website cleanup: corrected and updated posted material.</li> <li>Produced bi-monthly <i>Officials Newsletter</i>.</li> <li>Award Officials Excellence Winner (even months).</li> <li>Moderate Quarterly LSC Officials Calls.</li> <li>Produce <i>Swimming World</i> Article.</li> <li>Compile data for Officials Excellence Award.</li> <li>Moderate and post to Officials' FB Group.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderate or put together officials training materials.</li> </ul>
<p>Mike Murphy (Open Water)*</p> <p><i>*In absentia, via Matt Wilson</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assisted LSC OCs with OW Clinics and provided input for 2023 OW Nationals.</li> <li>Two new Referees added to OW AQUA List.</li> <li>U.S. sent four OW Referees to a required school in March 2023 to allow for international competition attendance.</li> </ul>	
<p>Judy Sharkey (YMCA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YMCA ran two national competitions in 2023 (SCY and LCM).</li> <li>Invited USA Swimming officials to attend, several attended.</li> <li>Invitation again for 2024.</li> <li>YMCA Testing revamped. Worked with Jack Swanson to update YMCA questions to match USA Swimming.</li> </ul>	
<p>Athlete Representatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates.</li> </ul>	

- VI. **Other Business** – Kathleen Scandary & Jamie Cahn
  - a. Named Meet Referee for the 2024 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Swimming.
  - b. Selection of Assigned Team for 2024 U.S. Olympic Team Trials.
  - c. ST Officials will be selected and notified by November 2023.
- VII. **Next Meeting:** LSC Officials Chairs Quarterly Call | Wednesday, October 4, 2023 (via Zoom)

**Adjournment – 7:10 p.m. Mountain Time (MT)**