

## 2019 – January 16 SCS HOD Official Committee Report

Leanne Colvin / Omar de Armas / Scot Ranslem

Changing to the new DQ codes was discussed, but it was decided to keep using the old DQ codes for now. Consistency in the codes was the primary conversation and preference.

Omar commented that he had a conversation with Jim Holcomb where there is the possibility that USA might change to a more consistent coding, when their supply was finished.

Omar is going to contact Hytek and see if he can have them make a change so that the DQ codes are not changed every time there is an update to Hytek which forces Admins to correct the file every time there is an update..

All officials that were registered, had an up-to-date APT and background, were certified for the 2019 year on 1/1/19. There were 85 officials that were not certified, primarily due to missing registration. An email was sent to those that were not registered.

The officials committee is working on a revised certification process and are preparing a new guideline for re-certification and new certifications. We are also working to address the Senior Referee position. We are discussing removing that designation and using those that were Senior Meet Referees as evaluators.

An email was sent out introducing the new officials committee.

The committee is discussing various options for clinics next year. We're looking at possibly using WebEx or Go to Meeting as possible methods for conducting various meetings and clinics throughout the year. We are going to work towards making them meaningful, concise, and more convenient.

We will be scheduling a WebEx type meeting for Meet Referees and possibly Administrative Referee in February. We want to move towards a greater consistency, so that regardless of what deck you are on, the rules are applied in a consistent manner. More information to follow on this meeting.

We are working on a communication about handling swimmers, coaches, and officials in a similar manner in regards to injuries and concussions that occur on deck. And we are addressing guidelines when someone needs to use something to assist them in walking on deck (i.e. crutches, cane, scooter, etc.).

From the LSC Officials Chairs Quarterly Conference Call - January 2, 2019

Any swimmer that says they have any type of exemption for swimsuits should possess a letter from the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Chair (Clark Hammond)

15 Meter Mark – Needs to be a marker on the side of the pool – both sides – reasoning is to make us better at making that call. If there is an “L” shape pool and the far side would be at the deep end, we need to find create ways to “overcome” and “adapt.” This rule is not in effect yet, but is coming very quickly, so we should all start ensuring the facilities we use are aware of the change and make the changes needed.

ProSwim Series applications to Officials will be or are posted on the USA Swimming website. Anyone interested in working these meets, need to keep an eye on the USA Swimming website and apply as soon as possible. These meets are likely to fill all the officiating slots and some will be rejected.

Zone workshops are in Denver and Chicago, both in May – May 9 – 11 in Denver Southern/Western and May 17-19 in Chicago for Northern and Eastern – more information to come from USA on who we are asked to send to these workshops.

Official's Chair workshop is from June 21-23. Location to be determined

Referee Workshop will be in the fall – sometime in the fall after convention

There have been many questions related to the relationship between AO and AR and when they are needed. They are also looking at the relationship between the different levels of Meet Referees and the level of "dry" side experience they have or should have to be a Meet Referee.

There was a discussion on the fact that all Meet Referees at larger higher level meets, are all also certified Administrative Referees. Many LSC across the country make it a requirement that all Meet Referees be certified ARs. This is something that is not required at this time by USA Swimming, but something that should be looked at as a work in progress. Many LSCs are looking at what should be put in place, such as an administrative certification prior to someone being certified at the Meet Referee level.

Improvements that have been seen with the new designations of AO and AR...

Better and more consistent data

- It's clear that there is an official seeing what is going on
- In many cases the AO is running Hytek and using order of finish and other resources
- Relay names are being more consistently loaded – AO has helped greatly here – We still have relays coming in with no names, so Meet Referees please make a point of trying to improve in this area
- Lane malfunction rule change seems to have made the reconciliation process easier\*

\*For NCAA meets, they are going to change their rule book to be in line with USA Swimming's rule about the Lane Malfunction change.

The topic of AO and Administrative knowledge is one we have debated for a long time in SCS and is a topic the SCS Officials Executive Committee has discussed and will continue to work on this year.

The next conference call will be in April and we will pass along the information provided, when it takes place.

The Executive Officials Committee plans on a routine of meetings every other month, but will meet when necessary to address any pressing issues as we move into our new position.

End of report