

November 15, 2017

TO: Southern California Swimming
House of Delegates

FROM: Stacy Smith
SCS Admin Vice Chair & Operational Risk

RE: ANNUAL REPORT

This year of transition has been a continuous challenge and learning process. Meet sanctioning is a complicated system, requiring constant networking with the committee planning chairs, the committee officials chairs, the host teams, the meet admins and referees. For those who criticize the process is inefficient, I would love to hear your ideas on how to improve it. Assisting with solutions for oversubscribed meets, registration problems, disagreements, and conflicts of interest have become daily adventures in patience.

Operational Risk

Thank you to the Meet Referees, officials and coaches for making meet warm ups a safer environment by splitting warm up sessions and assigning teams. Three point entries should be enforced at all meet warm ups and taught to all athletes in their home practice location. The goal for 2018 is to implement a meet pool marshal training/certification program.

Reports of Occurrence have increased significantly, due primarily to coaches and officials learning the reporting system. Reports range from head strikes in the pool, bee stings, dryland accidents, to a baseball coming over wall into a pool area, hitting a person at a meet. Concussion information and education continues to be updated with current medical guidelines and procedures, to be used from the time of the initial injury through the steps to “return to play” or to practice and competition. The difficulty is the follow up in making sure the swimmer’s coach and parents do not permit the athlete back in practice or to attend another meet, without the qualified physician clearing them.

Expect updated and additional requirements for the Safety Training for Swim Coaches certification for 2018. Be sure to research the USA Swimming Market Place website for many insurance programs available for groups, coaches and teams.

Respectfully submitted.

Stacy Smith