

MSOA Executive Board
Minutes - January 20, 2013
Waterville Boys/Girls Club

In attendance: Duffy Akerley, Sara Rushton, Tom Riker, Scott Morrison, Barry Cohen, Mary Thompson, Jerry Crouter, Eric Noftall, Chris Branch, Sandy Zimmerman

Chris Branch, President, called the meeting to order at 9:35.

I. Secretary's Report. The minutes of the November 18, 2012 meeting were approved.

II. Old Business

A. 2013 High School State Meet Update. Bulkhead will be in place at Orono. Tuesday Girls A is set with officials. Chris is close to finishing the assignments for Boys A. Girls and Boys B is set.

B. Peer Review Sheets have been distributed and returns are coming in.

C. Website - the site has more material and is getting better.

D. MPA Observed Swim Procedure. Maine Swimming has the procedure. Maine Swimming will submit list of swimmers for observed swims 24 hours in advance of Championship Meet and names of US Officials. No more than 2 US Swim Officials are required.

E. Clinics - Evaluations raised issues about diving curriculum for officials who do not do diving.

III. New Business

A. MPA Negotiations. New contract has been negotiated. We need to include a question on the personal information sheet at clinics about felony convictions. Contract will now incorporate extra fees based on number of heats, not number of teams. MPA had no concerns about swim officials. Fees will increase slightly next year. For State Meets, contract may change fee rates to increase rate for referee, who does a lot of pre-meet work. On line scheduling system will be considered based upon a few requests by ADs that MSOA use the system. Concern about how payment will be included for additional heats, and there is a \$6 cost per official. We may consider a pilot program with one or two chapters.

B. Season to date.

1. Some referees have not been using proper whistle start procedure.

2. Some concerns about taking order of finish off the board.

3. At least one instance of an improper application of cap rule where cap with design was ruled illegal - not a logo. Swimmers cannot wear a cap of a school of which the swimmer is not a member.

4. One meet, horn wasn't working, so whistle start with activation of starting button. Whistle delay on one event, one swimmer went on flash, DQ issue with swimmer leaving on flash. Protocol is to have console person start the timer, rather than using the button.

5. Continuing problems with meet management and operation of Hy-Tek by certain schools. Referees should look at final results to make sure there are no absurd times.

6. Sports bras are permitted as are athletic supporters - not a second suit.

7. 15 meter rule problems. S&T official should be positioned at 15 meter mark at least for the start (except in breaststroke). Referee can't make call from start end unless the swimmer is well beyond the mark.

8. Dual confirmation is recommended. When not used on relay pickups, the official raises hand as soon as the violation is observed.

9. Jewelry rule confusion. It is still a warning, not a DQ like a cap violation.

10. Cross-over turn from back to breast is legal as long as the swimmer does not go past 90 degrees with the shoulder.

11. On backstroke turn, can kick into wall without "initiating" the turn.

12. Breaststroke at turn or finish, if swimmer does a kick, then separates hands, can do another kick - not a violation of the stroke cycle because "small" arm stroke is permitted.

IV. Next Meeting will be March 10 at 9:30 in Waterville.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.