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The Newsletter

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Communicates with the Swimming Officials of:
Georgia Swimming Inc.

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Glenda Orth

Swimming Official's Committee Chair

Georgia Swimming's mission is to provide a program designed to encourage Georgia athletes to pursue opportunities available through competitive swimming and to educate organizations of the benefits of Georgia Swimming.

Georgia Swimming's vision is to increase opportunity, recognition and growth in competitive swimming.

NOTE FROM GLENDA - 2011 OFFICIALS CHAIRS MEETING - JUNE 17-18, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

It was a very informative weekend. Most of the LSC's were represented either by the Chair or a designee. A lot of new faces!

Rules and Interpretations: Not much new here, other than it is now a rule that you must have an administrative referee/official for every meet. The administrative official does not need to be a referee, can be a clerk of course, but does report to the meet referee.

Open Water: Talked a bit about the Fran Crippen tragedy and what new guidelines have been implemented. A lot more is coming.

Mentoring, Training, and Advancement: All LSC's are having the same problem....how do we get and keep officials? No one had a good answer. Mostly it was to keep everyone happy – try some gift cards for visiting officials, gas cards for out of towners, stuff like that. There was agreement on mentoring. Pick someone from your LSC and “follow” their progress throughout their “career”. Talk with them, ask if they would like to move up the ladder; help them through the N2/N3 certification process. In other words, just be a friend! Advancement – mostly up to the individual, but if they're interested, have information readily available along with guidance from someone who's been there.

Officials Tracking System (OTS): Once again, a “hot topic”. There are still some LSC's that are not using the system....thanks to Bruce Adams and Doug Kintz, we aren't one of them! There were some complaints about reports that can't be generated or are even offered. We were assured that the money's in the budget and we should be seeing more and more available soon.

General: Georgia is the only LSC that is tracking DQ's! When I was asked about it, several of the others wanted a clone of Rob....nope! Of course, they want more information which I'll get out to them later. All in all, they thought it was a GREAT idea!

GEORGIA SWIMMING NEWS

SAVE THE DATE: The 2011 Georgia LSC Fall Meeting is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, September 24-25, at Unicoi State Park in Helen, GA. All are invited! See how the LSC works, join in at the Officials' Committee Meeting, learn what has got our Athletes interest, participate at the Age Group or Senior Meetings, find out what Technical Planning is all about (or visit the nearby Alpine Village of Helen Georgia, or view beautiful Anna Ruby Falls or whatever). Of note: Officials' Committee Meeting will be Saturday Morning. Georgia Swimming House of Delegates Meeting is Sunday morning. Hope to see you there!

Minutes from 4/17/11 Officials' Committee Meeting:

<http://www.gaswim.org/boarddocs/OFFICIALS%20April%202011.pdf>

Minutes from 4/18/11 House of Delegates Meeting:

<http://www.gaswim.org/boarddocs/HOD%20MINUTES%202011%20SPRING.pdf>

UPCOMING OFFICIALS' QUALIFYING MEETS

Following is a listing of local, not so local, and national meets that are remaining in 2011:

Richard Quick Invitational	6/23-25	Auburn, AL	MR: Dave Smith, davesmith4@cox.net
SZ Sr LC Sectional Champs	7/14-17	Athens, GA	MR: John Wilson, johnwilson@pjfweb.com
GA Sr State Champs	7/21-23	Atlanta, GA	MR: David Furlong/Tim Schoeff, atlfurlong@gmail.com
SZ AG LC Sectional Champs	7/26-31	Cary, NC	MR: Wayne Shulby, wayne.a.shulby@gsk.com
LC National Champs	8/2-6	Palo Alto, CA	
USMS LC National Champs	8/3-6	Auburn, AL	MR: Clark Hammond, hamm5690@bellsouth.net
LC Jr National Champs	8/8-12	Palo Alto, CA	
LC Winter National Champs	12/1-3	Atlanta, GA	applications due no later than 8/26/11
SC Jr National Champs	12/8-11	Austin, TX	applications due no later than 8/26/11

Contact Glenda at glenda.orth@comcast.net for more information.

NEW AND IMPROVED

Congratulations to the following officials who have advanced to a new certification level:

Referee:	Allen Dennis	(ASL)	Jonathan Lu	(ABSC)
	Steve Drew	(SA)	Tim Troutman	(ASL)
	Terry Graff	(GIST)		
Starter:	Jane Brannan	(TWS)	Mark Schwab	(DYNA)
	Matti Koski	(DYNA)	Deb Skinner	(HURR)
	John Meadows	(ASL)		

And to the following **NEW** officials have been certified in Georgia Swimming in 2011:

Administrator:	Bonnie Buell	(DYNA)	Molly Flint	(GCAT)
	Sophia Chu	(DYNA)		
Stroke & Turn:	Brian Beckman	(SA)	Lisa Hichkad	(SMAC)
	Jill Brinkman	(GOLD)	Mark Hogue	(ASL)
	Melinda Camus	(ABSC)	Jennifer Holbrook	(HRST)
	Caroline Clark	(ASL)	Brandon Jessee	(CCAC)
	Karen Couillard	(DYNA)	Tanya Klekot	(GSAS)
	Kevin Couillard	(DYNA)	Mitch Mashburn	(CCAC)
	Jason Driver	(CBF)	Kristen Schlegel	(ASL)
	Glynn Dyer	(GAS)	Tracy Taylor	(SMAC)
	Scott Earwood	(ASL)	Geneva Visser	(ABSC)
	John Harrison	(DYNA)	Clarice Wasmuth	(DYNA)

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN ADVANCING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Check out the Georgia Swimming Certification and Re-Certification Procedures approved April 16, 2011:

<http://gaofficials.webexone.com/r.asp?a=5&id=138188>

2011 OFFICIALS TRAINING CLINICS SCHEDULE

Here is a rundown of the training clinics currently anticipated for the remainder of this year. Others may be added as required by interest.

REFEREE and STARTER:

Bi-annually, April & September, in conjunction with the LSC HOD meeting
September 24, 2011, Unicoi State Park, Helen GA

April 14 or 21, 2012, Location TBD

STROKE & TURN JUDGE:

Home School Program (HSP)

Open schedule based on participant's completion of HSP

Conducted at swim meet that participant is attending

Mega Clinics (No Pre-Study Required, 5-day advance pre-registration required to assure training material availability)

Tri-annually (October, February, June*), Minimum 5 attendees.

July 16, 2011, AG LC Championship, Augusta, GA

October 1, 2011, Location TBD

February 25, 2012, AG SC Championship, Atlanta, GA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL/CLERK OF COURSE:

Quarterly (March, June, September, December*), Minimum 5 attendees

September 10, 2011, Location TBD

December 11, 2011, Location TBD

March 17, 2012, Location TBD

AUTOMATIC TIMING EQUIPMENT OPERATOR:

Open schedule depending on interest.

Conducted at swim meet that participant and trainer are attending.

Contact Rob at h2oref@bellsouth.net for more information.

SITUATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS – submitted by Edward Saltzman

MEMO: To Georgia Swimming Referees and Starters

SUBJECT: Swimmer Recovery Guideline

At the Fall LSC meeting, September 26-27, 2009 the coaches asked that the officials try to maintain a 20 minute "space" between age/gender events. In other words from the beginning of one event to the beginning of the subsequent same age/gender event we try to maintain a 20 minute "recovery time" period.

*For larger invitational type meets this should not present any problems. At smaller meets, such as dual meets, pentathlons or specialty meets this could be problematic. My suggestion at these meets is to discuss with coaches beforehand to determine if the 20 minutes will apply at that meet. Getting the time line well before the start of the meet will be a plus also. This should be administered on a meet by meet basis and as it was stated – **"this is only a guideline" This will be applicable to all meets regardless of the age of swimmers involved.***

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

Glenda

Last Modified on Thursday, October 29, 2009 11:44 AM EDT by Rob Schreer

Created on Wednesday, October 07, 2009 9:10 PM EDT by Rob Schreer

Above is the document that was posted on the Georgia Swimming Web Page. I cannot stress enough that these are "**Guidelines**" and not rules. They should be applied at all meets where feasible, without severely impacting the timeline. Special caution should be observed when applying this to a multi session / day meet to avoid possible overlapping of sessions. A dialogue should take place in the coaches meeting prior to the meet. When timelines do not permit application of this guideline, dialogue with coaches of impacted swimmers can help swimmers anticipate quick turnarounds and avoid missing events.

Process for application – Prior to the session, the Head Starter should review the meet program and look for swimmers who repeat in multiple events. These reoccurring swimmer's events should then be compared to the session timeline to determine the interval between swims. If the interval is close to, or exceeds 20 minutes, no action is required. If there is insufficient recovery time; small breaks should be considered in strategic points

along the timeline. Never split an event. Always take into consideration the flow of the meet. Any planned breaks should be communicated to the coaches prior to the start of the session. The breaks should be announced in advance so that swimmers can adjust their pre-race activities.

Another option to taking breaks – have the Referee “**PACE**” the meet. Allow swimmers time to exit the pool. Adjust the point at which you initiate the four short whistles.

Use common sense.....

This is my interpretation and does not reflect official Policy of Georgia Swimming or the Georgia Officials Committee.

YMCA LONG COURSE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HOSTED AT GEORGIA TECH **JULY 25-29**

After 11 years at the University of Maryland, the YMCA National Swimming and Diving [Advisory Committee](#) has selected Georgia Tech to be the new home for its LC Nationals. This meet brings together over 1,200 top YMCA swimmers and their families from all over the country for a week of great swimming, good friendship and fun for all. The meet is interesting from an official's point of view as it employees chase starts from both ends of the pool, giving the officials some unique challenges.

Meet Referee Ed Miller (NJ), Deck Referees Joel Black (NC) and Eddie Hughes (SC) and Meet Chief Judge Jim O’Neill (NJ) are among the many dual certified YMCA/USA-S officials who will be on deck for the meet and they would certainly welcome the help of some local officials. While the meet will attract YMCA officials from all across the country, the YMCA does not have a significant presence in swimming and officiating in Georgia, and help from local YMCA and USA-S officials is needed and welcomed.

Meet shirts for prelims will be provided, to be worn along with white shorts as the uniform. The uniform for finals is long white pants and a white official’s shirt with your YMCA or USA-S patch on the left sleeve. A Level II Officials clinic will be offered on Monday, July 25th if any officials work with a YMCA team and would like to become YMCA certified. Experienced USA-S officials go directly to Level II; they do not have to become Level I officials first. This is part of the overall coordination agreement worked out a few years ago between YMCA and USA-S. For more information, the Meet Handbook and the invitation and application to officiate at the meet can be found at the following link: <http://www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org/2011LC/>

“I SAW THIS AT A MEET”

From an “old guy” on deck, Dave Landis: An issue that we as Officials seem to take for granted but is critical to any swim meet is SAFETY. Safety of the facility, safety of the equipment, safety in the actions and behavior of the swimmers and of the attendees of the competition. We all do a commendable job of our assignments on deck when it comes to the actual meet, but we need to remember that SAFETY is really our #1 priority.

A couple of short examples:

1. Had a meet recently at an outdoor venue, older facility, with a rusted piece of steel protruding on the deck from a lifeguard stand. Was not able to remove this obstruction, so we used duct tape to wrap this and put a safety cone in front of this. Had no issue with the safety of this temporary solution during the two-day meet.
2. We need to continue to remind the timers that they should use TWO HANDS in those cases where our younger swimmers need assistance in exiting the pool. NO one hand arm-pulls please. Give them two hands and help them "walk up the wall" to exit the pool.

DID YOU KNOW?

USA Swimming reported the following membership demographics in 2010:.

<http://www.usaswimming.org/Rainbow/Documents/db2b00db-8156-44c3-8364-e2b4fd3e0b0d/Statistics-2010.pdf>

Officials:

Georgia: 305 (non-athlete official dues paid, includes uncertified apprentices, non-renewing officials for 2011)

USA Swimming: 12,380 (41.3% female, 58.7% male)

LSC with greatest total: Indiana (732).

Year-Round Athletes:

Georgia: 7435

USA Swimming: 286,900 (57.3% female, 42.7% male)

LSC with greatest total: Southern California (17,969)

Average age of year-round athlete = 12-1/2

Average age of Georgia Swimming Officials = 47.6 years

Here is a rundown of our headcount as of June, 2011:

<u>QUALIFICATIONS</u>	<u>OFFICIALS at LEVEL</u>
Administrator	41
Stroke & Turn Judge	111
Starter	30
Administrative Referee	46
ATO	9
Trainer	
TOTAL	237

IDEAS? COMMENTS? SUGGESTIONS?

Great! We want to hear from you! Send an e-mail with your ideas, comments, suggestions, articles and whatever you think may be of interest to the other officials in Georgia to Julie Allen, editor-in-chief at:

GeorgiaSwimmingOfficialsNews@gmail.com

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO BRUCE ADAMS FOR HIS DESIGN OF THE NEWSLETTER BANNER!

GEORGIA SWIMMING OFFICIALS COMMITTEE:

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