

ROCHESTER/MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED SWIM OFFICIALS, INC

MINUTES: From the General Membership Meeting, Wednesday, February 28, 2024. The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Caveglia at 6:02 pm at the Webster Aquatic Center (WAC), Webster.

ATTENDANCE:

In Person: Alef, Austin, Bellis, Camman, Caveglia, Chapman, Cudzilo, Danner, Elliott, Fregosi, Hanley, Hucko, Kennedy, J. Natti, Nolan, Ocque, Ritter, Stanish, Stepanek, Vahey, Wallace, Weaver, Wilson-Colley.

Zoom: Adams, Booth, Byrnes, Critelli, Curtis, Frew, Kenney, Kotalik, Litwak, Liegey, Mancuso, Norton, Quinn, Rexinger, St. Rose, Yunker

Excused: Krystan, Michael,

Absent: Finear, Magiera, L. Natti, Pierce, Rossi,

PAST MINUTES: The motion to accept the General Meeting Minutes from the November 15, 2023, General Membership Meeting was put forth by Frank Stanish and seconded by Kristen Nolan. The motion was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Sarah's tenure as President will end July 1, 2024.
- b. The Executive Committee is working to clarifying expectations concerning member attendance for meetings/trainings; penalties for missing may be assessed.
- c. Changes to assigning: Section V to take over with a designated person. The process will become electronic for availability, turns-ins, etc. Kathy Hoyt of Section V is the contact. Schools may start reporting income for tax purposes.
- d. The bylaws will be updated to reflect new changes from this and the last meeting. Information will be sent via email to the general membership prior to the start of the new year.
- e. The training for the new year will begin in early August once school calendars are published in early May and once we have dates from Section V.

USBC: Nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sent out by Tom Hanley. Motion to approve report put forth by Karen Ocque and seconded by Everett Bellis.

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SPORTSMANSHIP REPORT: Honeoye Fall/Lima High School was the Boys' Season recipient and was awarded at Sectionals at the WAC in February, 2024.

During the course of the swim season, if you see anything outstanding, good or bad, please email Tom Hanley, cthanley@rochester.rr.com.

Tom Hanley has been the Sportsman chair and would like to step down. We are looking for a replacement for Tom.

ASSIGNING REPORT:

Karen Ocque is the assigner.

The Genesee Region is hosting MODIFIED meets until the end of March 2024.

ARBITER PAY AND SECTIONALS: Neither Sarah nor Karen are in charge of Arbiter for Section V payment. A list is submitted to Section V. If you did not get paid for Sectionals, please contact Kathy Hoyt at Kathy.hoyt@wflboces.org.

BOYS HIGH SCHOOL STATE MEET:

The Boys' High School State Meet was held at Ithaca College, Ithaca, on March 1 and 2, 2024. Tom Hanley was our representative to the meet.

MEET SITUATIONS/RULES:

1. There is no 15 meter rule in Breaststroke.
2. Divers may use tape, braces and wrist guards without a physician note.
In order to be taped, swimmers must have a note from a legal medical professional.
Any other accommodation such as braces, casts, much compression tape must be Sate-approved.
3. **SITUATION:** During the 400m/500yd freestyle, the referee observes the individual serving as the counter in one of the lanes (a) showing the numbers in descending order, (b) showing the numbers in ascending order, (c) is using their cell phone as a stopwatch and conveying the time observed to the swimmer. **RULING:** (a) and (b) correct procedure, (c) incorrect procedure. **COMMENT:** The use of any device other than the lap-counting system is not permitted (2.7.6).

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4. **SITUATION:** The home team for a meet has: (a) a pace clock mounted on the pool wall. After the medley relay, the visiting coach observes that the pace clock is running. He makes a request to have the pace clock shut off. The referee denies the visiting coach's request, (b) a large round pace clock is placed where the side wall meets the end wall. The visiting coach requests that the pace clock be shut off and removed from its location. The referee grants the request of the visiting coach. **RULING:** Both are correct procedures. **COMMENT:** The Rules Book neither permits nor prevents the use of pace clocks. As the referee is responsible for making decisions on matters not specially covered in the rules, both of the aforementioned scenarios are acceptable (4.1.5)
5. **SITUATION:** Just prior to the 500 freestyle, a coach who has a competitor in that event places colorful armbands on both arms. As the race begins, the coach begins to pace their swimmer back and forth along the pool deck. The referee tells the coach to immediately remove the arm bands and stop pacing the swimmer. **RULING:** Incorrect procedure. **COMMENT:** The choice of attire worn by the coach is that of the coach. In addition, if there is nothing in our rules book that prohibits a coach from pacing a swimmer. **NOTE:** If the referee believes that the pacing back and forth along the pool deck interferes with meet officials in the performance of their duties, they may tell the coach to halt what they are doing.
6. **SITUATION:** Just after the start of the 500 freestyle, the referee notices the coach, who is wearing colorful armbands, begins to pace their swimmer in the event. The coach tells the referee what he is doing is legal and the referee should retract their insistence that the arm bands be removed and that they, the coach, should be permitted to continue what they are doing. The referee reiterates their instructions to the coach to cease and desist with what they have been doing. The referee then proceeds to assume their responsibilities during the race. The coach becomes belligerent and starts to harass and harangue the referee and another official who has come over to diffuse the situation. The referee then tells the coach they are disqualified from the meet and to return to the designated team area. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** The conduct of the coach was unacceptable. No team personnel shall display unsporting conduct by trying to influence or show disgust with officials' decisions. Furthermore, a coach should never interfere with meet officials in the performance of their duties.
7. **SITUATION:** A meet referee notices during a warm-up that a competitor is wearing both a female suit and a male suit. The referee goes to the coach of the swimmer wearing the two suits and reminds them that the attire of the swimmer wearing the two suits is

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unacceptable and may not be worn during competition. The coach advises the referee that the swimmer wearing the two suits is a transgender athlete and they feel more comfortable by wearing the two suits. The coach then requests that the individual be permitted to wear the two suits in competition. The referee denies the request.

RULING: Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** The coach of the transgender athlete, as well as the school district of that youngster, has abrogated their responsibilities to the student athlete. They should have contacted and requested a Special Accommodation Waiver from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association regarding the wearing of two suits by a transgender student. If granted, such a waiver would have permitted a student athlete to wear two suits in competition (3.3.2 and 3.3.4a).

For any rules interpretations questions, please call/contact John Natti at 585-330-0499 or e-mail at John.Natti@gmail.com

STAFFING: We are fully staffed for the moment.

EVALAUTIONS: The evaluation forms are located in Google Drive under **General Membership Documents**. Please print your own forms and have them available for every meet.

Each official will prepare their own evaluation forms for each meet. If three officials are working the meet, please prepare 2 forms. If two officials are working the meet, please prepare one.

Evaluations for Boys' Season were turned into Scott Stepanek at this meeting.

UNIFORMS: Navy blue shorts, skirts and skorts may be worn in the 2024-25 season.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed Bylaw Amendments changes, to take effect on July 1, 2024:

Voting on Proposed Amendments for the February 28, 2024, meeting:

1. Allow the past president to become part of the Executive Committee. *Outcome:* Passed
2. Stagger Executive Committee elections in an alternating manner. Vote for president and Secretary one year and Vice President and Treasure in the next year. *Outcome:* Passed.

ELECTIONS: Patrick Byrne was elected President for a 2-year term and Kristen Nolan was elected Secretary for a two-year term. The two Vice-President and the one Treasure offices will be up for election in 2025 as per the newly passed bylaw regarding staggered elections.

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Sarah Caveglia will remain as Past President as per the newly passed proposal.

50-50 RAFFLE: \$128 was raised. \$64 for the raffle: \$32, \$16 and \$16.

NEXT MEETING: TBD.

ADJOURN: The motion to adjourn the meeting was put forth by John Natti and seconded by Frank Stanish. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Liegey, Secretary

Ptricia312@gmail.com

March 15, 2024