

VSI Officials Committee Meeting

October 1, 2006

Summary and Action Items

Attending: Kevin Hogan, Cathy Rudolph, Mike Willard, George Smith, David Strider, Avis Aheron, Wally Hunt, Mary Turner, Tom Elliott, Tom Colasurdo, George Homewood

Not attending: Pat Donohue, Charles Cockrell, Jr.

1. *Officials Chair report:*

- a. *General remarks* – Much progress has been made in the past three years in terms of adding to and updating our training and certification material. Finishing up the training requirements for Administrative Referee and advanced certification at the administrative positions will be the next emphasis.
- b. *Committee structure* – Skip Gaskill (Co-Chair, Northern District) and John Thompson (National Certifications) have stepped down from the committee, although both will remain active officials. The committee extends its thanks for their past service. *Action item:* Kevin Hogan to make new appointments.
- c. *Referee recertification* – Discussion took place as to the large number of Referees in need of a recertification clinic who have not signed up for the clinic this weekend. Our current recertification requirements allow for recertification tests to be used in place of attending a clinic so that remains an option. Many of the things to be covered at the clinic are not, however, things that taking the recertification tests will necessarily cover. Future discussion is needed as to whether or not to make clinic attendance a requirement, or whether or not other options can be added. *Action item:* Kevin Hogan to start general discussion prior to next committee meeting and place on agenda.
- d. *SC Age Group Champs* – The short course Age Group Championship meet was originally scheduled to take place at Hargrave, but the pool is not available and the meet is being moved to an as of yet unknown date and location. The desire of the Age Group Committee is for the meet to be run in two simultaneous courses at the same facility or at two neighboring facilities. Concern was expressed over the ability to staff this meet. Once the meet date/location is decided we will need to begin planning. This may require tapping selected individuals well ahead of time to ensure that they will be available for the meet. *Action item:* Kevin Hogan to assign Referees once meet date/location is known.
- e. *Supplies* - Certification cards, officials patches, apprenticeship records, relay take-off slips, time-in-grade pins were distributed.

2. *District Chair Reports*

- a. Clinics have begun and are planned in all the districts.
 - b. Marty Martinez (NOVA) was recommended and approved for Referee training.
3. *Swimposium update* – Tom Elliott reported that plans for the Swimposium are coming along nicely. There are about 40 individuals signed up at this point, with about equal numbers signing up for the wet deck vs dry deck portion in the afternoon.
 4. *Officials Database* –Tom Colasurdo has cleaned up the database and it should be reasonably accurate at this point. Everyone is encouraged to provide Tom with the needed trainee, certification, and recertification information to keep it complete and up-to-date. If certification dates are not given Tom will use the e-mail receipt date as we need an anniversary date for some functions (service pins, certification at V1/N1).

5. *Name Tags* - Cathy Rudolph reported that there are about 70 blanks left. Co-chairs were encouraged to get the names of officials needing badges to Cathy as soon as possible. We will need to order new blanks and this will provide us with an opportunity to design new name tags. There have been requests for magnetic backed nametags rather than pin backed. If anyone can design a logo for the badge it should be sent to Cathy to see if it can be affordably done. *Action item:* Cathy Rudolph to have nametags made from current blanks and to investigate purchasing new blanks.
6. *Administrative Referee* – Mary Turner volunteered to head up a group to define what elements of “national level” administrative refereeing we want to bring into Senior Champs and to then define the requirements for certifying our Referees at the N1 level. *Action item:* Mary Turner to complete. The goal is to have this done by December 15, 2006.
7. *Advanced Certifications* – Need to define and put in place criteria for advanced certification at TEO, Timing Judge, and Recorder. *Action items:* Tom Colasurdo to handle Timing Judge; Kevin Hogan to handle Timing Equipment Operator and Recorder. The goal is to have this done by December 15, 2006.
8. *Timing Equipment Operator Certification* – The increasing use of Daktronics timing systems is making the certification at TEO somewhat confusing as not everyone is using CTS anymore. Discussion to place as to the need to cross-train on both platforms vs. certification on one or the other. It was decided that the simplest approach is to certify both DTS and CTS operators. Training requirements will remain the same with four sessions on a system generally being the minimum required. Once certified on a particular system TEOs can be encouraged to certify in the second system if both are used in their district. *Action items:* Tom Colasurdo to see if an additional column can be added to the roster so that both CTS and DTS can be listed. Kevin Hogan to remove TEO from the certification and replace with CTS and DTS next year. Also, update certification requirements to reflect this change.
9. *HS Swimming* – George Homewood is now the Swim and Dive Interpreter for VHSL. He encouraged everyone to help with officials clinics for HS swimming and to let him know if you can help. District chairs may also send out the S&D test plus rulebook (after receiving payment) to VSI certified officials not wishing to attend a clinic. Clinic attendance is only required to act as a Referee or to officiate at championship level meets.
10. *National Certification* – Need to define criteria & application process for travel money. *Action item:* Kevin Hogan to define by December 15, 2006.
11. *Mentorship and Leadership Development* – Kevin Hogan encouraged everyone to try a one-on-one mentorship with our training officials were training officials would be paired with a veteran official, generally from the same club. The mentor would answer questions, encourage training at meets, introduce the trainee at meets, etc. With only about 50% of our clinic attendees actually certifying there may be room for improvement in getting individuals through the certification process.

Brief discussion also took place as to trying to give our up-and-coming officials more experience at championship level meets so as to develop leadership potential for the coming years.