



## Officials Chair Report

### Niagara LSC Spring House of Delegates Meeting

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

#### OTS

1. If it isn't in the OTS, it didn't happen.
2. If you have not visited the new website, please do so! It had a little bit of a rough start, but it's really working now.
3. If you are on your phone (Google or iPhone) the deck pass app it still only shows Membership Info, but if you bookmark the "DECK PASS" page of the website Certifications show up also.
4. Referees, or Designated Sign In PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE check certification cards to validate expiration date before each session of a meet. There are still occurrences of Officials being on deck with expired certifications, background checks, or APTs. This is a problem because the Official is no longer a member of USA Swimming once either of those has expired. If this happens, the swims made can be invalid.
5. I have created a form fill for those referee's that cannot "create a meet" that makes life easier for everyone. If you have not received an e-mail version which can be auto filled, send me a note.

#### Out and About

The following Niagara Officials stepped, or will be stepping, outside of the home court:

Jamie Ferris attended the Officials Workshop in Phoenix last October and returned home with several ideas and new information.

Jim Stromski, Jean Lalomia and Brooks Howard attended the "We are Mentors" workshop in Chicago in October. Very valuable guidance for observation, coaching, mentoring was learned.

Fred Leff officiated at Junior Nationals in Minneapolis, MN in August.

Brooks Howard officiated at the US Open in Minneapolis, MN in August.

June Mundt (UN), Jean Lalomia (SHAQ), and Matty Matuszewski (TTSC) officiated at the Winter Nationals in Columbus, OH in December.

## **Official Certification and USA Membership**

There seems to always be concerns with the difference between Non-Athlete Membership and Officials Certification. Just a reminder that all of the expiration dates are important and must be up to date

As a certified Official, you need to be aware of these so that your USA Swimming membership AND officiating certifications to make sure you do not lapse. What you need to know:

Official's Certifications expire on 12/31 of the year of your renewal.

Non-Athlete Membership's expire on 12/31 every year.

Background check (BGC) and Athlete Protection Training (APT) vary on an individual basis.

All of the dates are shown on the card that gets sent out of the OTS, and on the Deck Pass page of USA Swimming when you are logged in.

## **Our Numbers**

The number of certified Niagara LSC Officials is 284.

The average team has a 5.23% ratio of athletes to officials and is the minimum level any team should strive to achieve. As of this month, 21 teams exceed this target, and 50 teams are "below average" with 21 of those teams not having any officials.

On the National Level we currently have:

39 N2 and 22 N3 Stroke and Turns

21 N2 and 2 N3 CJs

20 N2 and 4 N3 Starters

6 N2 and 5 N3 Referees

## **Movin' On Up!**

Congrats to the following NEW N2 and N3 advancements since September 2016:

Mike Burgess (HAWK) N3 S&T, N2 CJ, and N2 Starter.

Dan Crist (VICT) N2 Deck Referee

Brooks Howard (FAST) N3 CJ

Rick Kidder (HAST) N2 Starter

Roy Kim (FAST) N2 S&T

Diane Kottakis (TTSC) N3 S&T

Meghan MacBlane (METS) N2 S&T

Khadjia Moultais (UN) N2 S&T

Brian Sherry (FAST) N2 S&T

Joanna Sokolowski (WEBS) N3 S&T

Jeff Ulatowski (FAST) N2 S&T

Wendy Ulatowski (FAST) N2 S&T

Rick Warner (METS) N2 S&T

## **Niagara LSC HOD Meeting Items for Discussion**

Recruitment and Retention of new officials

Requirements for advancing to Starter and Referee

Transition of YMCA Officials to USA Swimming

Team App across the LSC

Formalization of the Officials Committee

Referees and OTS requirements

Recognition of Officials

Budget...and how should Officials Budget be allocated

Clinics, when, where, how often?

Mentoring and National Level Advancement (when and why)