



Referee Committee

Minutes of Meeting

April 1, 2015

Telephone Conference

Attendance:

Referee Committee:

Tom Fuller – Co-Chair

Chris Lang – Co-Chair

Ruth Macnamara – Vice Chair, Secretary

John Musial – Regional Coordinator

Marcus McElhenney – Athlete Representative

USRowing:

John Wik – Director of Referee Programs

Chris Lang called the meeting to order at 8pm and welcomed everyone.

John Wik – Director of Referee Programs

Referee College

1. Basic College
 - a. Two Basic Colleges were held in January and February 2015 in Sarasota
 - b. Both sessions were conducted in the classroom and “on the water” training
 - c. 39 Asst Referees attended
 - d. Attendees rotated through 18 different stations
 - e. Sarasota County Rowing (scholastics) volunteered
 - f. Reviews from the Attendees were excellent
2. Advanced Chief College
 - a. Proposed to hold two in fall 2015; one in Chula Vista and one at the Convention in Philadelphia
 - b. Classroom format
 - c. Cover advanced topics
 - d. Instructors are currently being identified
3. Training Materials
 - a. Training materials will be developed from the colleges.

NCAA Grant

USRowing has been receiving grants from the NCAA since 2012. The amount of the grant has gone up each year. The NCAA grant was originated to help offset the cost of training USRowing Referees. It continues to be used in that capacity. The NCAA recognizes the value in raising the training standards nationally.

ACTION: John Wik is working on the 2015 proposal.

Budget – January 2015 and Q1

General

- Recruitment efforts across the country - Total of 160 new candidates in the RDS
- Drones – USRowing has received concerned calls and emails about Drones. Several venues have banned drones. USRowing is working on a policy regarding drones and will consider survey responses from referees and coaches.
- Duals and Tri meets –
 - a. Not necessary to have a specific number of referees.
 - b. Do not require USRowing registration to have insurance coverage as long as all participating organizations are Member Organizations of USRowing.
 - c. Do not have to follow USRowing Rules.
 - d. John Wik will make changes to Referee Procedure Manual and Safety Checklist to reflect this.
- Stipends – USRowing has instituted a policy to issue 1099s to those who receive stipends in excess of \$600/year for non-receipted expenses.

IOP Referee Standards Working Group – Ruth Macnamara

- Reviewed language approved at the December Referee Committee Meeting;
- Reviewed the work of the Sub Committee;
 - o Working group has broken the scope of the project down into two phases. Initial phase (immediate) bring the IOP current with three items currently in use as standards: 65 age limit; SafeSport; and Background checks. Second phase for 2016 – comprehensive review of the IOP in regards to Referee Standards.
- Committee unanimously approved the working group’s product.
- ACTION: Ruth will insert new language into the IOP and send to John Wik for posting. The working group will pick back up in July for the second phase to be delivered in 2016.

Regional Coordinator Update – John Musial

- Very busy time of year for all Regional Coordinators. Recruiting efforts are ongoing.
- Spring Clinics have been conducted in all regions.
- Coordinators met 3 weeks ago.
- Coordinators will have a monthly standing meeting going forward.
 - o Latest topics: dual and tri meets; emeritus pins; recognition certificates.
 - o ACTION – John Wik indicated that Certificates have been mailed recently.
 - o Sub Committee looking at Structure of National Championships from the referee’s point of view – how much staffing is needed? Will have a report shortly.
- Create a job description for the Regional Coordinator Rep to the Committee

- ACTION: John Musial will begin creating a job description for this position he currently holds.

Additional Items –

- John Musial – Concern for safety when the combined air / water temp is 90 degrees or lower. Everyone is excited to be back on the water and racing but they need to come up with a safety plan in terms of minimum air and water temps. Action – John Musial will contact Safety Committee and others who might already have a plan in place to bring back to the Committee for review.
- The Referee Committee agreed to have monthly meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Macnamara
Vice Chair, Secretary
USRowing Referee Committee
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