



## StreamLine:

MARYLAND SWIMMING'S OFFICIALS NEWSLETTER

### A NOTE FROM THE OFFICIALS CHAIR:



Greetings! I would like to welcome you back to the 2015-2016 swim season and to our inaugural newsletter. As September rolls in I always get excited to get back to the deck and this year should be an amazing one for our sport as we roll into the Rio Olympics next summer!

Clear and more consistent communication is just one of the initiatives that I have asked our officials committee to take on this year and what better way to start than with this newsletter. A big thanks to our Communications committee for putting this together. In addition to better communications, we will be working on upgrading the training and certification process, a review and update of the Maryland Swimming rules and regs, and as always a part of our mission, ensuring that all Maryland Officials serve the athletes in a fair, respectful and professional manner.

I hope that you are planning on attending our annual clinic next Saturday so that you have the chance to reconnect with each other after the summer break and catch up on the latest swimming news. We have a special presenter coming to the clinic Bob Matlack, Hy-Tek Operations for USA Swimming. Bob is the Meet Manager operator at all our National championship meets as well as support services for Hytek Ltd. Please make every effort to attend.

I am honored and excited to be your voice to the Maryland Swimming board and invite you to keep the lines of communication flowing both ways. I hope to see each of you at the clinic next week or on a pool deck soon.



### UPDATES:

This year's clinic is Sept 12, 2015 at the JCC in Owings Mills

Ben and Esther Rosenbloom JCC  
on the Weinberg Campus  
3506 Gwynnbrook Avenue  
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Hope to see you there! Remember you need one clinic at your highest position every year to stay certified!

How many Officials are needed at a National Championship Meet? Consider applying for Junior Nationals in [Atlanta, GA \(EAST\)](#) or [Austin, TX \(WEST\)](#) or [Area Pro Series - Minneapolis](#) in December.  
(Click on the meet name to apply).



Congrats to Maryland's Officials who officiated a very HOT deck in San Antonio for Junior and Senior Nationals  
In August!



#### Junior Nationals:

Bill Dougherty, Betsy Coe  
Rich McMillen, Penny Branman

#### Senior Nationals:

John Lee, Linda Sue Lottes, Steve Lottes



## RULES and REGS:

During the short and long course seasons, I will be posting new regulations, clarifications of rules and interpretation of a rules as presented by USA Swimming as well as situations for your consideration. Our goal is to do the best we can to implement any changes regarding the rules consistently from meet-to-meet. We also want each meet referee to receive our full support so that when unusual situations happen (and you know they do occur), the meet referee will have the resources to make a sound decision. As with any decision, we want to be "swimmer friendly." We will be looking for every reason to give the athlete a chance to swim. In Maryland swimming and from the voices of many other officials from other LSC's, we are known as an LSC that has developed a very effective training and mentoring program. Our approach is to "grow" highly qualified and "professional" officials. Each official deserves our best all of the time. Each official should feel that they are making a contribution to the success of the meet. Our collective efforts are for our kids and for our coaches who spend countless hours developing not only a better swimmer, but they are developing character, citizenship and teamwork for life.

Thanks, Steve Lottes, Rules and Regs Chair



## YOU MAKE THE CALL:

In a 9-10 100-yard breaststroke event, a swimmer completes 50 yards and, thinking that the race is over, pushes back from the wall to read the scoreboard. At this point, realizing that the race is only halfway over, the swimmer returns to the wall, then pushes off on the breast and completes the required distance in good form. What, if any, call should be made?



## FROM THE ATHLETES WE SERVE:

Dear Officials:

Thank you so much for all of your hard work, commitment, and service. We hope you love the sport as much as we love swimming; thanks for being the backbone of all of our meets. Without your help, meets would not be able to run, let alone as smoothly as they currently do. You also make sure that all of us are safe both in and out of the water. We are sorry that we walk in front of you sometimes while you're doing your job, but we really appreciate your dedication to the sport. Keep up the amazing work!

Sincerely, Alison Hu, Athlete Representative, Maryland LSC



## UPCOMING meets (WITH LINKS):

NAAC Open Water Splash	September 12, 2015	<a href="mailto:wdougherty63@gmail.com">wdougherty63@gmail.com</a>
RAC Columbus Day Meet	October 2, 2015	<a href="#">Officials Sign Up Link</a>
ASC All Freestyle Meet	October 9, 2015	<a href="mailto:dkarr29@gmail.com">dkarr29@gmail.com</a>
CBAC Fall Warm Up Meet	October 16, 2015	<a href="#">Officials Sign Up Link</a>
CAA Mid Distance Meet	October 24, 2015	<a href="#">Officials Sign Up Link</a>
ASC Mid Distance Meet	October 24, 2014	<a href="mailto:dkarr29@gmail.com">dkarr29@gmail.com</a>
NBAC Festival	October 30, 2015	<a href="#">Officials Sign Up Link</a>



## YOU MAKE THE CALL (ANSWER):

Recommended Resolution: The swimmer left the wall, probably on the back, and then returned to the wall before resuming the stroke. One violation that could be called would be that the swimmer was not on the breast when leaving the wall. Additional violations could include the arm stroke not being simultaneous depending on what was observed by the judge. Applicable Rules: 101.2.4, 101.2.2



## TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION:

Want to test your knowledge or review the rules for each stroke? NEW training videos online! Click [HERE](#)

### **Athlete Protection Training renewals:**

As each of you is aware, we as non-athlete members of USA Swimming are responsible to maintain current background checks and should be trained in the area of Athlete Protection. The Safe Sport committee has just released the current training for those renewing their Athlete Protection Training (APT). USA Swimming Safe Sport is excited to announce the release of the Athlete Protection Training Renewal Course!

- It is a brand new, 30-minute, scenario based course
- It will be required of all renewing non-athlete members when their current APT certification expires
- For members whose APT certification expires in 2015, the deadline to renew is 12/31/15
- The requirement will be good for 24 months from 12/31/15
- If you don't know when your APT certification expires, check your Deck Pass.

The course is available now at [www.usaswimming.org/apt](http://www.usaswimming.org/apt). Fill in your first & last name and birth date and follow the prompts. You will be redirected to Praesidium's site. The name of the course is "Athlete Protection Training Renewal Course". Select the course and complete it all the way through to the quiz. SWIMS will update your member record. Email [safesport@usaswimming.org](mailto:safesport@usaswimming.org) or [mvail@usaswimming.org](mailto:mvail@usaswimming.org) if you have questions.

### **Current Training and Recertification Clinics:**

All training clinics may be found on the Officials page ([Link here](#)) of Maryland Swimming.. At this time we are preparing not only for the Annual Clinic to be held September 12, but also an Open Water Clinic the same day.. Please check periodically for updated clinics.

### **Bi-Annual Testing**

Maryland Swimming is one of the only LSC's that has not required officials to take the online test for their position on an ongoing basis. After significant discussion, the Officials Committee has decided that effective with the end of the swim season in 2016, ALL officials must take and complete successfully the online test for the highest position achieved. One area under discussion will be for Starters, in that they may be required to complete both the Starter and Stroke and Turn tests. All Referees will take and complete both the Deck Referee and the

Administrative Referee test. All Stroke and Turn Officials will take the stroke and turn test. A final decision is pending for the Administrative Officials, but a final determination should be issued shortly. All Maryland Officials have strived for excellence on the pool deck and being current with the rules is an essential ingredient in that endeavor. As a result, this practice will only enhance the professionalism of our officials.

Thanks, Jamie Cahn, Training and Certification Chair



## NEED SOME NEW OFFICIATING CLOTHES?

---

Click [HERE](#) to order from our new vender. Order before October 3, 2015! Clothing will be distributed as soon as received. Pick up locations will be announced.



## Need a CLINIC?

Click [HERE](#) to find a clinic. (All Clinics are listed on the left side of the page.)



## More news?

The Communications Committee is committed to making sure you stay informed! We worked many hours to set up this issue but it won't be the last you see-- we promise! Our plan is for you to hear from us in a full version every other month (Sept, Nov, Jan, March, May, July and again in Sept) with an "update" in between each issue. We plan for our full versions to look very similar to this newsletter. Updates will be shorter and will include meet links and applicable emails and any important information that you will need as you officiate meets.

Please let us know if there is information you need that you are not getting in these issues! We aim to please!  
See you soon for some fun on the deck--  
Betsy Coe, Communications Chair  
Linda Sue Lottes, Newsletter Coordinator



## OFFICIALS COMMITTEE:

Peter LaGow, Officials Chair  
Jamie Cahn, Training and Certification Committee  
Betsy Coe, Communications Committee  
Steve Lottes, Rules and Regs Committee  
Rich McMillen, Administrative Committee  
Linda Sue Lottes, Newsletter Coordinator  
Holly Chabbott  
Tom Deboissiere  
Dale Doxtater