



April 10, 2019

Eastern Zone Officials Chair Report

Meet Referee Recognition

The Meet Referees for the spring 2018 meets are listed below. Congratulations to all on their outstanding performances!

2019 Speedo Sectionals Long Course

March 28-31, 2019

Buffalo, NY

Meet Referee: Rich Nolan

2019 Speedo Sectionals Region 1 (North)

March 28-31, 2019

Ithaca, NY

Meet Referee: Tim Husson

2019 Speedo Sectionals Region 2 (South)

March 28-31, 2019

Christiansburg, VA

Meet Referee: Jack Neill

2019 Short Course Age Group Championship

April 3-6, 2019

Webster, NY

Meet Referee: Pam Starke-Reed

Meet Referee Reports are attached.

Thank you,

Bob Menck



Meet Report

2019 Eastern Zone North Region Speedo Sectionals
Mar 28-31, 2019, Ithaca, NY

Meet Referee: Tim Husson (PV)
Administrative Referee: Nancy Wargo (CT)
Head Starter: Lisa Vetterlein (PN)
Team Lead Chief Judge: Kelly Rowell (PV)
National Evaluator: Jamie Cahn (MD)
Meet Directors: Morgan Harrington and Courtney Christ (Syracuse Chargers)

No. of Teams: 107
No. of Athletes: 789 (149 relay-only)
No. of Splashes: 3506 (437 relays)
No. of Time Trials: 513

No. of Officials: 44
No. of National Evaluations: 14

No. of EZ Speedo Sectionals Records: 8
No. of Junior Nationals Cuts: 5
No. of Futures Cuts: 13 Individual + 30 Relays

Facility & Meet Host

The pool at the Ithaca College Athletics and Events Center was perfect for this meet. It provided nine lanes for competition with ample warm up/warm down space. There was ample deck space for the athletes and coaches.

The host club, Syracuse Chargers, did a fine job of preparing for the meet and supporting the officials in running the meet. The officials had a large, private space to spread out and hold their meetings. The hospitality was good and the meet hosts helped ensure that officials stuck on deck had food when they got off.

The Myrtha Backstroke Ledges provided a bit of a challenge, but the host club and facility personnel helped with the placing and removal of the ledges to help the process. Starting off a bulkhead can be a logistical challenge, especially with the number of swimmers during a relay event. The officials and meet staff implemented a one-way flow on and off the bulkhead during relays that eased the process. The flow worked well and was implemented for all events for the rest of the weekend. Adequate marshals were positioned to ensure that the flow worked and there was little impact on timelines.

Competition

The numbers listed above show that it was a high level of competition. Because there were more than 600 swimmers entered in individual events, there was a D Final in each event. Timelines for both prelims and finals were reasonable. Even with time trials, there was adequate down time each day before finals.



Moving the W 1000 Freestyle from Sunday to Saturday worked. The distance sessions on both Saturday and Sunday were short enough to give athletes, coaches, officials and meet staff a good break on both days. Coaches' comments about this change were all positive.

The modification of the "Sunday Relay Rule" to make the default swimming in prelims helped, but there were still some clubs that wanted to switch after the events were seeded. Fortunately, we had the available lanes to accommodate these requests.

Time Trials

Every swimmer that wanted a time trial was accommodated. The time trials sign-up process was smooth and efficient. It was decided to run all time trials as mixed gender events seeded by entry times. This made seeding and running the time trials more efficient.

Allowing three time trials per swimmer was well received. 65 athletes took advantage of this change to swim three time trials during the meet.

Officials

Officials from nine different LSCs worked the meet. Staffing was adequate for all sessions. Fourteen national evaluations at the N2 or N3 level were completed during the meet.

Conclusion

It was a well-run meet by the officials and meet staff. Coaches' comments about the meet were mostly positive. I heartily endorse this facility and meet host for future Speedo Sectionals meets.

Tim Husson
Meet Referee



**2019 Eastern Zone Southern Region Sectional
Christiansburg Aquatic Center
Christiansburg, VA
March 28-31, 2019**

Leadership Team:

Meet Directors: John Stanley & Bill Beecher
Meet Referee: Jack Neill
Administrative Referee: Bryan Wallin
Team Lead Chief Judge: Dan Demers
Head Starter: Ellen Colket
Facility Manager: Nate Destree

Meet Statistics:

Number of Teams: 76 Number of Athletes:
584 Individual Event Athletes
76 Relay-Only Athletes
Number of Splashes: 2458
Prelim Scratch Rate:
Individual Events – 4%
Relays – 5%

Officials:

Number of Officials: 46
Number of National Evaluations: 16

Comments:

The meet was a manageable size with 660 total athletes (including relay-only swimmers); the facility had sufficient space to accommodate the participants adequately and safely. Ten lanes were used for all events, both Prelims and Finals, resulting in very reasonable timelines. Since there were fewer than 600 individual-event athletes, only 3 heats of Finals were contested in the evening sessions. Air quality was acceptable most days; it had noticeably deteriorated by Sunday, when two athletes had to be treated by EMT for breathing issues. One huge plus for the facility is that the EMT was onsite throughout the meet. Another plus was the Facility Manager and his staff, who were consistently knowledgeable, attentive, cheerful, and accommodating.

Virginia Swimming and the host club, H2Okie Swimming, did an excellent job managing and running the meet. Volunteers were ample—although the obligatory calls to recruit timers were necessary at several sessions. Hospitality was punctual and plentiful, although some coaches and officials hoped for more variety. A very popular addition was an Athletes' Hospitality area, which garnered **many** positive comments. Coaches and athletes expressed disappointment that awards were not available during awards ceremonies.



The General Meeting was well-attended and collegial.

With 46 officials from 7 different LSCs, the deck was very well-staffed. 16 officials underwent formal evaluation under the National Certification Program. Our Lead Evaluator, Pat Lunsford (Ohio Swimming), our Chief Judges, and other lead officials did an outstanding job mentoring and supporting their colleagues who so generously volunteered their time and expertise. The Eastern Zone is fortunate to have so many dedicated and knowledgeable officials who work to make these meets a success. Special note must be made of the extraordinary Admin team who worked behind the scenes to ensure accuracy in entries, seeding, results, etc.

As usual at these meets, Time Trials were very popular. The host LSC appointed a separate Referee for the Time Trials, which made registration, seeding, and running of TTs efficient and painless. This appointment should be considered for future meets.

Several coaches had questions regarding the order of events—most commonly, why were the 200 Free and 500 Free scheduled for the same day? Certainly the Eastern Zone Technical Committee will be reviewing the order of events in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Meet Referee for this meet!

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Neill

Team Scores – Women

1 Nation's Capital Swim Club	NCAP-PV	589.5
2 Delaware Swim Team	DST-MA	436
3 Monocacy Aquatic Club	MAC-MD	309
3 757 Swim	757-VA	309

Team Scores – Men

1 Nation's Capital Swim Club	NCAP-PV	729
2 Enfinity Aquatic Club	EAC-NC	381
3 Monocacy Aquatic Club	MAC-MD	315

Team Scores – Combined

1 Nation's Capital Swim Club	NCAP-PV	1318.5
2 Monocacy Aquatic Club	MAC-MD	624
3 Delaware Swim Team	DST-MA	596



Meet Referee's Report 2019 Eastern Zone Short Course Championship Meet

Dates: April 3-6, 2019
Location: Webster Aquatic Center
Webster-Schroeder High School
Webster, NY

Meet Directors: Randy Naccarella
Marci Callan

Meet Referee: Pam Starke-Reed
Admin. Referee: Tim Husson
Head Starter: Brooks Howard
Team Lead CJ: Kelly Rowell

Number of Teams: 216
Number of Athletes: 815
Number of Officials: 42
Evaluations: 10

Number of DQs: 42 the majority of these were false starts
Number of: NS: 55 DFS: 14 SCR: 147

This was the second year of the new format for this Eastern Zone Meet. Most participants were well familiar with the changed format. This year the meet was expanded to a 4th day by scheduling several distance and relay events for the Wednesday evening session. There were no unexpected issues and the well-prepared management and officials team facilitated a smooth-running meet. One unusual situation was having to two incidents of injured officials prior to the events in two (2) of sessions. Both officials slipped and fell on deck. The first official bruised his knee and left the deck for a day but returned to work his scheduled final session of the meet. The other official was able to work her session despite the fall.

Size: At 815 Athletes, the meet was a good size plenty of space for the teams and easy flow around the deck. Swimmers had no trouble getting to the blocks on time. This Athlete count allowed us to conduct Prelims and Finals in one, ten (10) lane Pool.

Timelines: Timelines were extremely reasonable, at 2.5 - 3 hour sessions every day for prelims and finals. The Timed Finals for the 10 & under sessions ran approximately 1.5 hours. There were no issue of any sessions running into the warm up times for the next session. Finals did not include awards presentations; however, the 10& U Timed finals sessions did include awards for all the events.



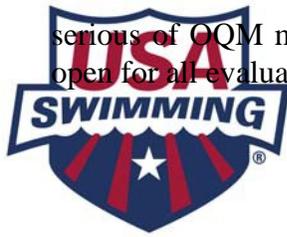
Officials: 42 Officials worked at least one Session of the Meet. 10 Officials received a total of 10 N2, N3 Final/Recertification Evaluations, plus two Educational Evaluations. Our Evaluators, Jack Dowling from North Texas Swimming and Brooks Howard of Niagara Swimming did an outstanding job mentoring those receiving Evaluations as well as the other Officials on Deck. Both were also excellent sounding boards for the Meet Referee as situations developed during the Meet.

Meet Management: Niagara Swimming and the 2 host Meet Directors, Marci Callan and Randy Naccaralla, did an outstanding job running the Meet. Timers (2/lane) were signed up ahead of the meet, only one or two prelims/times finals sessions required an announcement to recruit timers; in every session 2 timer/lane were maintained. For the finals sessions the host clubs provided timers. The facility staff gave full instruction to timers at each briefing on the dolphin handling the dolphin watches. The meet directors handled the recording and submitting (to facility/school and USA Swimming) the previously mentioned "incidents" with the 2 officials.

Facility: This was an excellent facility for a championship meet. With the size of the meet there appeared to be enough space for the teams on deck, the warm up were quite adequate with no bunching or crowding. We opened 2 sprint and pace lanes but eventually had to open 2 additional sprint lanes during prelims to accommodate the swimmers. During the first prelims session the lane 2 fin became loose and was immediately fixed by the facilities staff with a barely detectable delay. Hospitality was well-stocked and well received. The Meet Directors had an excellent system allowing only credentialed individuals on deck thus providing the required safety for swimmers as well as eliminating concerns for capacity on deck.

Observations/Suggestions:

1. Add some specifics into the meet announcement — for example, the beginning of warm-up times were stated in the meet announcement but not ending time. Coaches were constantly asking when the warm-up periods. I would also suggest that the meet announcement provide for Distance Swimmers entered in the Saturday Events the option to swim in the morning as opposed to Finals. Currently the only way a distance swimmer can 'force' their entry into the early Session is by entering at the Time Standard/Cut and by definition that does not provide the same competition.
2. When applying for the OQM sanction the host Officials Chair should be aware that only the prelims and finals sessions for the 11 & Overs will count for this designation. An additional Sanction should be requested for the middle U sessions, so all officials can get credit for working those sessions as well. IN looking at the evaluations requested there was only 1 request that required the presence of our lead evaluator which is certified to do all evaluations of evaluations. As this is the last meet of a



serious of OQM meets some thought should be given to whether this meet should be open for all evaluation's levels. Although it was extremely

3. beneficial for all officials who had the opportunity to meet and talk with our Lead Evaluator, Jack Dowling, even if they were not being evaluated I wonder if it was the best use of his time as all but one evaluation could have been handled but the other officials working the meet. If the meet is going to have the Full N2 and N3 evaluations available perhaps we need to do better job at getting the officials to request evaluations. I will follow up with Jack to get his thoughts.
4. The Officials Briefings took place in Hospitality. Coaches were asked to refrain from entering during the briefings which cause a little disappointment food and meet sheets were not accessible. Marci set up another smaller room with some of the food and meet sheets during the briefing times which did satisfy the coaches that should be implemented again if the officials briefings are to be held in Hospitality at future meets.

I want to thank you very much to affording me this opportunity to serve as Meet Referee of the 2019 Eastern Zone Short Course Championship Meet. I truly enjoyed the challenge and gained invaluable experience. I endeavored meet the expectations of a Championship Meet Referee; if I did not please let me know how I can improve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pam Starke Reed".

Pam Starke Reed,
Meet Referee