

OKI Minutes
OCTOBER 18, 2008

- Attendees: Claudia Multer, Richard Wachs, Julie O'Neill, Becky Oakes, Sandy Searcy NFHS, Mark Hesse, Wayne Burrows, Carol Zaleski, Bruce Stratton, Pat Lunsford, Kathy Casey
- REPORT ON BEIJING BY CAROL ZALESKI – Carol shared the Dara Torres story, the aura of Michael Phelps, and the support of China – Beijing had prepared well for the event – there were fireworks all over city – It appeared that the entire population was in support of the event
- Underwater cameras – FINA and USA Swimming have been experimenting with underwater cameras at USA National Championships, World Championships, and at the Olympics – they will be used in Rome for World Championships – they will not be used to initiate calls – they will be used to substantiate calls or over rule calls – TV will not have access to underwater cameras – In Beijing they had 24 cameras in place – if there was a possible DQ in a lane they would ask the video room for verification – if verified then DQ was accepted
- BRIEF HISTORY OF HOW RULES ARE CHANGED IN EACH NGB –
We do this each year so any new members will be informed. The descriptions are not included in the minutes as they are posted on the website. www.ourkidsinitiative.org
 - NCAA –
 - ASCA –
 - NFHS – challenges in the near future -how to include those with disabilities, produce officials hand book
 - Backstroke start toes underwater- discuss rationale – former lawsuit -
 - The jewelry rule will probably not go away
 - Update on rule changes for this year
 - NFHS adopted stationary instead of motionless on the start
 - From Carol – pool depth – there is a Councilman study on pool depths – hopefully, it will be available in the next 6 months
 - Paralympics – run by international (IPC) rules –
 - NISCA –
 - YMCA –
 - Masters –
 - USA Swimming –
 - FINA --
- BRIEF UPDATE OF RULE CHANGES FOR 2008-2009
 - Study of LZR suits – Paralympics is interested because LZR suits made a significant difference to the athletes – all agreed that a study is needed to judge

what effect the suits had on performance – now we have individual LSC's making rules to govern the suits. – USA swimming did rule on the use of the suits for 12 and under.

- UPDATES FOR SPREADSHEETS – submit corrections within the next two weeks to Pat (by November 1)
- RELAY TAKEOFF PAD INFORMATION – Each manufacturer is different – Most governing bodies are using the pads and using guidelines that are in the rule books
- AREAS STILL DIFFERENT –
BACKSTROKE TURN – Carol indicated that it will probably not be a topic of conversation for FINA
NCAA NO RECALL – The vote to adopt this year was a little closer than the last year.
NFHS JEWELRY RULE – The rule as it is now is pretty lenient. The swimmer can be warned
- POOL MEASUREMENT DATABASE – We are hoping to have a database of pools that have been measured. USA swimming is still working on creating database – USMS has created a database – any pool with a bulkhead must be measured for pool records. Some require that each lane be measured and some just require measurement of the lane in which the record was broken.
- Official's certifications – NFHS has difficulty getting enough certified officials – A suggestion was made that a module could be added to USA swimming clinics for NFHS certification. Pat is going to pursue that with USA swimming.
- Paralympics – before 2004 Paralympics used FINA officials – In 2005 they started building an officials certification – Each Paralympic meet must have a technical advisor – They have put an officials certification in place – In 2006 about a dozen officials received IPC designation – In early 2007 they began domestic officials training – It was suggested that this could also be a module available through USA Swimming –
- The group voted to meet again next year. --- Pat will check with Carol Zaleski on availability. There was no definite decision on whether the spring meeting or the fall meeting works better.

Meeting adjourned

Claudia Multer, Secretary