



OFFICIALS BULLETIN – December 2017

Thank you to those officials who were able to join us in Toronto for the National Officials Symposium. We had representation from every province which contributed to great conversations and perspectives shared during the roundtable discussions. The discussions and information shared by the participants represented the perspectives of those in attendance and in the coming months the OCRC will review all the comments to work toward addressing the various topics covered. There were no right or wrong answers during the roundtables, simply perspectives of the many who were able to participate.

MESSAGE FROM THE OCRC CHAIR – Suzanne Paulins

The Terms of Reference for the OCRC committee were recently reviewed and updated by the CEO of Swimming Canada. The Swimming Canada staff position of Senior Manager, Domestic Operations has been named the Chair of the OCRC. Bill Hogan will continue on as Vice-Chair and provide the invaluable support, knowledge and perspective gained over his many years of officiating and mentoring officials across the country. The new Terms of Reference can be found [HERE](#).

I would like to thank all the members of the OCRC who have contributed their time over the last two years, their engagement and participation on the committee has been greatly appreciated. The new committee will be confirmed over the month of December, effective January 1, 2018, and will continue to have representation from across the country.

NATIONAL OFFICIALS SYMPOSIUM

The National Officials Symposium was held on November 4/5th in Toronto where we welcomed over 50 officials from across the country.

The agenda included the FINA/Canadian rulebook updates shared by Bill Hogan and included a walkthrough of all the changes rule by rule that have been implemented by FINA and also the upcoming changes to the Canadian rules.

Three roundtable discussion sessions were held, where the group was separated into 4 smaller discussion groups. Each group received one question to discuss per roundtable session. The perspective of each individual was captured and shared with the larger group.

In January, the OCRC will review the roundtable discussion notes and prioritize next steps and begin to build out solutions to help provide more consistency to officiating across the country.

To end the Symposium, an International Panel was held, where a group of 9 International officials shared their experiences.

The Ken Filippelli Award of Excellence in Officiating was also presented at the Symposium. Bill Hogan shared the history of the award and stories about Flip Filippelli, which provided a great opportunity for us all to understand where and why this award was created.

The winner of the 2017 Ken Filippelli Award of Excellence in Officiating: Maggie Middleton.
Congratulations Maggie!!



FINA OPEN WATER SCHOOL – DECLARATION OF INTEREST

FINA has confirmed that any official looking to be nominated to FINA Open Water lists must participate in a FINA Open Water School in order to be nominated. Swimming Canada has created a Declaration of Interest application form to be completed by any official wishing to be considered for the FINA Open Water School. The Declaration of Interest form can be found [HERE](#).

Swimming Canada just received confirmation that we have been approved to host a FINA Open Water School, April 28-29, 2018 in Montreal, Quebec. Swimming Canada will use the Declaration of Interest in order to nominate officials to take part in the FINA Open Water School the end of April.

FINA & CANADIAN RULEBOOK

The FINA & Canadian Rulebook has been completed and is now in translation. We expect to have the final version translated by mid-December, following which it will be available online as a soft copy. The printed versions will be available for purchase in early January 2018.

RULE INTERPRETATIONS

As shared through the September 2017 Memorandum on the new FINA and Canadian rules, new Canadian rules were added surrounding swim suits. The memorandum can be found [HERE](#).

CGR 5.2.3 Swimwear not listed on the FINA website is permissible at all Club/Provincial meets, (see FINA BL 8.6). However, the swimwear fabric must be of a permeable open mesh textile material. Such swimwear includes training or 'drag' suits, modesty swimwear, as well as religious cover-ups.

Officials are encouraged to use a “common sense” approach when considering swimwear. Training suits that are made of a permeable open mesh textile material are permitted in Club/Provincial meets, this would include the tie-back training suits many female swimmers are wearing.

E-LEARNING LAUNCH

As shared through the October 2017 Officials Bulletin, we hoped to have the first e-learning clinics available in October, however ongoing technical glitches have resulted in a longer than anticipated delay. We are working very hard with our service providers to have the issues resolved and we will launch the clinics as soon as we can.

PARA-SWIMMING TRAINING:

As shared through the October Officials Bulletin, more and more meets have para-swimming integrated events and this includes our national meets. In an effort to ensure we have trained para-swimming officials, Swimming Canada will be organizing para-swimming officials’ clinics as part of the National meets through April and July 2018. The para-swimming clinics will be offered on the day before the meet starts (same day as the technical meeting) in Montreal at the Canadian Swimming Championships, Victoria at the Western Canadian Championships and Windsor at the Eastern Canadian



Championships. If you are travelling in to these competitions, please try to plan on attending the para-swimming clinics. More details will be provided regarding registration in the next bulletin.

All level 5 officials are also encouraged to take the IPC Introduction to Para Sport, found [HERE](#) and the World Para Swimming Technical Officials on-line para-swimming clinic, found [HERE](#). There is a cost of €53.50 for the WPS Technical Officials on-line clinic.

CANADIAN RECORD APPLICATIONS

A new application form has been created to allow for online Canadian Record applications. The online form and the instructions can be found on the Swimming Canada website [HERE](#). Applications can still be made using the PDF form and mailed in or emailed to natloffice@swimming.ca.

LEVEL V OFFICIALS

Congratulations to a new Level V official:

William Morrison, NB

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM A SWIM REFEREE

An interesting article written by Tom McCallum on leadership lessons from a swim Referee. I encourage you to have a read through, it highlights some important key factors and considerations for the referee, that really do set the tone of the meet. "...the secret is to **BE** more, and **DO** less". You can find the article [HERE](#).