



## **OFFICIALS BULLETIN – December 2020**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE OCRC CHAIR – Suzanne Paulins**

As we come to the end of a very challenging 2020, I want to wish everyone a very Happy Holiday season. The last nine months have seen so much of our lives change. As officials we have been off the deck and not involved with our sport in the same way we have been in the past. I am hopeful that we will find ourselves back on the deck in 2021, as things improve and our lives return to a little bit of normalcy. I don't think things will go back to exactly as they were and that is okay. This time has given us space to consider how we work and what we can do differently. We are adaptable and want to see our swimmers compete in a safe and fair environment. I sincerely thank you for your contribution to the sport, to your clubs and to the provincial sections you work within. It will take us all working together to continue moving things forward. I look forward to seeing you on the deck in 2021.

### **E-LEARNING CLINICS**

The Clerk of Course Clinic is now available as an eLearning module and can be found on the Learning Management System. The Introduction to Swimming Officiating Clinic, Safety Marshal Clinic and Chief Timer Clinic continue to be available to be taken online. The clinics can be found [here](#).

### **CANADIAN OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC SWIMMING TRIALS**

An update was provided by Swimming Canada on the Olympic and Paralympic Swimming Trials in April. You can find the news story [here](#). From an officiating perspective, we will also be adapting to the announced format. As a qualifying event for the Olympics and Paralympics, FINA and WPS referees and starters must be used. When considering the other officials' positions on deck, recruitment will focus on Ontario officials, to limit travel from across the country.

Officials wishing to work at a national event will be encouraged to consider officiating at the 2021 Canadian Junior and Senior Swimming Championships July 26 to August 2, held in Calgary, Alberta.

### **OCRC WORKING GROUP**

Return to Competition and Officials Development in year of Covid-19: Over the past six months this working group first looked at creating Best Practices and Recommendations for Officials in returning to competition. This document was shared with the provincial sections to adapt to the individual realities found across the country. Currently underway is the creation of another Best Practices and Recommendations document to help support the provinces in officials' development during the 2020/21 season. Focus of this document will center around officials' clinics, deck sign-offs for certification, referee assessments, referee evaluations and general suggestions to keep officials engaged and motivated through this very different season.

Any questions regarding information found in this bulletin may be directed to [questions@swimming.ca](mailto:questions@swimming.ca)