



NOC LSC/OC LIAISON TASK FORCE MARCH 2025





Welcome & Congratulations

You are now the Chair of the Official's
Committee in your LSC!

Now what?

Welcome to OC 101





USA Swimming Official's Mission Statement

To conduct programs to recruit, educate, train and certify a diverse team of USA Swimming officials to provide the highest quality and consistent officiating for athletes at all levels of swimming.





National Officials Committee (NOC)

- Chair (Dana Covington)
- Athlete (Nick Berryman, Hannah Cousins, Colin Gibson, Dylan Nelsen)
- Communications (Kevin Hogan)
- Education (Jason Johnson)
- Evaluations & Training (Trish Martin)
- Open Water (Mike Murphy)
- LSC OC Liaison (Curtis Myers)
- Online Testing (Jack Swanson)
- National Certifications, OTS & OQMs (Marianne Walling)





LSC & the National Official's Committee (NOC)

- As a new OC, what are your responsibilities?
- How do you engage with the NOC?
- Who is the right person to ask when you have a question?
- Contact the LSC OC Liaison (Curtis Myers)





Not all Official Committees are created equally

- Governing documents establish your role & responsibilities
- Some of you were elected, some of you were selected, you all might have different terms
- Do you have a budget? For what?
- Do you have an official's committee? How often do they meet? What do they do?





Not all Official Committees are created equally

- Typically, LSC Officials Committee duties include:
 - Certification and recertification
 - On-deck mentoring
 - Preparing for OQMs
 - Assignments or suggestions of officials for championship meets
 - Budgeting
 - Succession planning





Other important contacts

Notifications

Macie McNichols Director, National Events at USA Swimming

(mmcnichols@usaswimming.org) – to update email lists and website

Curtis Myers (National Officials Committee LSC Liaison (ic-clearly@sbcglobal.net))

Your Zone Officials' Chair

Discuss the role with the past LSC Officials Chair(s)

Experience is a valuable resource

Never hesitate to ask questions

Collaborate with the other BOD leadership members and plan for the needs of your LSC





Using your officials' committee

- **Build a collaborative team**
 - Delegation
 - Brainstorming
 - Utilize networking
- **Athlete representative**
 - Reflective of the LSC
 - Insightful
 - Willingness to engage





Certifications & Recertifications

- Using OTS, review officials' certification and recertification
 - New LSC certifications
 - Reviewing expirations
 - Updating recertifications





Kathy Fish

Official

Member ID: B31F35A6B2A049

My Member Cards

(Click to view card)

Official

Good Standing

Messages

New Errors in 2024 FG NMST/BMHG October Invite 01/28/2025

[VIEW](#)

My Family

[Add Family Member](#)

No Family Members

My Account

[General Info](#)

[Contacts](#)

[Photos](#)

[Groups](#)

My Payments

USAS Receipt Number	Stripe Receipt Number	Transaction Date	Amount	
662821	1515-2928	09/10/2024	\$75.00	VIEW
345138	1670-1288	09/05/2023	\$75.00	VIEW
40700	1053-6580	09/21/2022	\$75.00	VIEW



OTS Navigation: Where do I find that?

- National Certifications, OTS & OQMs (Marianne Walling)
- OTS & Evaluations Entry Guide





Progression & National Certification

- Using OTS for officials' skill development and progression
 - Discussing opportunities to expand skills
 - N2 and N3 Evaluations and Certifications





OQMs: Who, what, how?

- LSC Officials Committee Chairs are responsible for submitting the Official Qualifying Meet (OQM) request form to the NOC for approval
 - This includes any Sectional/Zone meets hosted in your LSC.
- Things to consider before applying
- Application
- OQM Task force (Marianne Walling) will respond with issues, questions, and/or approval





N2 Mentors & Evaluators in your LSC

- LSC OCs are responsible for developing N2 Evaluators in your LSC
- [Evaluator appointment guidelines](#)
- Evaluations & Training (Trish Martin)





Nominating N3 Mentors & Evaluators

- LSC OCs are in charge of nominating N3i and N3f evaluators to the NOC
- Nominations are reviewed once per quarter, but you can nominate at any time
- [Evaluator appointment guidelines](#)
- Evaluations & Training (Trish Martin)





Official Excellence Award Nominations

- LSC OCs are responsible for nominations for Officials Excellent Award
- <https://www.usaswimming.org/officials/popular-resources/recognition-incentive-programs>
- Nominations are accepted anytime; the NOC votes at the end of April
- Nominations must be turned in by April 1
- <https://fs22.formsite.com/usaswimming/jyawv9bjjo/index.html>
- LSC OC Liaison (Curtis Myers)





Quarterly Calls

- Attend LSC OC quarterly calls hosted by the NOC
- Usually, the first Wednesday of each quarter (January, April, July, & October) unless that falls on a Holiday
- Webinars, important information, and Q & A sessions are all part of the calls





Answering Questions on Rules & Interpretations

- You'll get questions from officials and coaches in your LSC about current USA Swimming rules and regulations; your officials should come to you
- Know current interpretations by NOC and Rules and Regulation Committee
- If you don't know the answer, then YOU should reach out to:
 - Rules and Regs Chair - Taylor Rogers - usasrulesandregs@gmail.com
- LSC OC Liaison (Curtis Myers)





LSC OC Best Practices

- Plan a “SwimPosium” for your officials or add official sessions to your SwimPosium
- Hold a “Zoom” seminar at the beginning of each season to go over new rules, procedures, and general ‘state of the LSC’
- Succession planning: Have you trained your replacement? More than one?
- Monthly “To Do” Lists
- Monthly topics to be covered in emails/newsletters





LSC OC Best Practices

- Championship meet planning for MRs and ARs: Learn from the process for national meets
- How are you and your committee going to grow members of referees, starters, & administrative officials?
- How are Meet Referees, Admin Referees, Team Leads and officials chosen for your LSC-sponsored meets?





LSC OC Best Practices

- Does your LSC actively participate and support National Officials Certification?
- Does your LSC sponsor officials attending National level meets? Do you have a budget?
- How are you communicating with your officials in your LSC – New rules, applications to officiate, opportunities to expand skills
- Offer officiating seminars – Meet Referee Best Practices, Administrative Referee Best Practices, Chief Judge at a Championship meet, etc.
- Crucial Conversations – don't let inappropriate situations continue repetitively or bad situations fester





LSC and Your Zone

- Who is your Zone's Official Chair – introduce yourself to them
 - If you don't know who your Zone Officials Chair is – see <https://www.usaswimming.org/officials/getting-started/lsc-officials-chairs>
- Each Zone is different!
- In general, the Zone OC selects the Meet Referee, Admin Referee, and potentially the TLCJ for Sectional and Zone Meets
 - They may ask your input as to who is ready to take on these roles from your LSC.





National Meets and National Meet Team selection

- Understand how assigned teams are selected for National Meets – so you can support officials who are interested in officiating National Meets.
- Selection criteria is outlined here: [National Meet Selection Criteria](#)
- How National Meet Referees select their teams: [National Meet Referee Team Selection Guidelines](#)



Questions?

