

2013 Convention and HOD Report

Safe Sport

- Overview of Safe Sport Chair Role
- Quick page – www.usaswimming.org/protect
- Appropriate reporting vs. false allegations
- Expectations of Safe Sport
- Resources available – athlete, parent and non-athlete trainings available, handbook
- Club policies
- Peer to peer abuse is growing – 300% increase in reporting – bathroom, unsupervised time
- Inappropriate interactions – bullying, hazing, sexual behavior
- Define expectations, educate, monitor, respond
- Acceptable: side hug, high 5, pat on shoulder, hand shake
- Unacceptable : wrestling, tickling, kissing, frontal hug, hands in paockets, hitting, spanking, massaging, grabbing, pushing, lap sitting, laying down together
- Topics to discuss with athletes: hands to self at all times
- Topics with parents: 0 tolerance policy
- Monitor interactions – identify high risk, group dynamics, question, warning signs – respond quickly
- Athlete Training – good as group – meant for 12 & over athletes, allow 1 hour, ask parents for permission, separate boys and girls, no personal stories in group – but listen to athletes, no stupid questions, include coaches as observers, leave time for discussion, know and use local resources, feedback and evaluate

Safety Training for Swim Coaches

- Everyone must take online portion OR do full course with instructor
- In water skills – allow 3 hours (review – less than and hour)
- Online course plus valid approved lifeguard certification must be presented together
- Earliest expiration date of the 2 certs will be the expiration date in database
- Must plan ahead to do this course – don't wait!
- See usaswimming.org for info – plus Metro website

Registration

- No athlete registration cards from Metro – bag tags being sent by USA Swimming – no team or LSC on card – allows for transfers! Be sure the athlete addresses are correct!
- USE CLUB PORTALS – all your info is in there!!!! It is live!!!
- New Club Application has been updated for 2014
- Foundations of Coaching 101 for new coaches – before their registration is complete
- Foundations of Coaching 201 and Rules and Regulations before they register for 2nd time!

- Certifications must be up-to-date and in database or coaches cannot be on deck - this includes Background, Athlete Protection and CPR and Safety Training
- Athlete Protection Training will be yearly now – but good for calendar year – all were updated to reflect a Dec 31 expiration date – please redo before then – they are good until Dec. 2014
- Please be sure your email addresses are correct – Metro will be sending out email blasts to clubs and coaches with important information as it comes available.
- Be sure club information is all correct on club application
- Please be sure to fill out credit card info – we are switching credit card companies so all stored info will not be retained.
- When registering swimmers – please include pdf list of registrants so it can be verified.
- Busy time of year – please be patient when requesting anything!!

Sanctions

- Remember meets that were bid on should already have meet notice and sanction application in. They are due 30 days after the bid meeting. Too many teams asking for sanctions at last minute
- Time Trials – need meet director and meet referee and application form
- Please use template for all meet announcements – that way you don't need to make corrections
- Meet info needs to be posted on web site!

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Fleckenstein