

KHSAA Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2015

The Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee met at the KHSAA office in Lexington on December 10, 2015. Members present were: Mike Zehnder, Jan Goff, Steve Embry, Dwight Chaffins, Bill Tingley, Jamie Palumbo, Dave Little, Wayne Krauss, Dee Dole, Jeff Hurley, Richard Dickman, Kent Waide and Susan Carey. KHSAA representatives present were Commissioner Julian Tackett, Associate Commissioner Butch Cope, Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry and Administrative Staff Support Jeanie Molloy.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bilberry followed by introductions of all attendees.

A review of the procedural items such as expense forms, committee membership updates and an overview of the agenda handouts was conducted.

Wayne Kraus spoke briefly about each region having the same number of officials, and there be consistency in number and amount paid of officials used as we move into 9 regions this year.

Jan Goff confirmed the following officials would be at regions: meet referee, starter, 3 stroke and turn judges at each end and a chief judge. There will be 5 dive officials.

The meet referees will be the following:

Region 1- Joe Thompson

Region 2- Mike Bell

Region 3- Doc Godfrey

Region 4 & 5- Jan Goff

Region 6 & 8- George Hubbard

Region 7-Mark Coors

Region 9-Paul Dole and Fuss Saulfield

There will not be an official at the 15 meter mark, unless the region has enough officials to do so. It is not mandated, but recommended. The starter, referee or chief judge must watch that area if one is not assigned.

Mr. Bilberry reminded everyone that all the information on officials' pay will be in the regional instructions.

The diving regionals will be combined this year. The combination will be determined on the total number of divers each region has.

Information of how to handle records as a result of the expansion of regions that pre-existed was provided by Mr. Tackett. In the past records have started from that date forward as from a records standpoint it is not statistically equal.

The discussion about bringing 40 swimmers to the state tournament instead of 32 and the schedule at U of L was brought up. There are concerns of keeping a steady pace throughout the prelims with that number of swimmers. As always there is the concern of the number of people inside the facility with respect to the Fire Marshall. The past few years the state meet has come close to being shut down because of the crowd size. As of now the number of swimmers remains at 32, that number is contingent on the cooperation of the University of Louisville and their schedule. Jan Goff reminded everyone that this is an inaugural year, going from 5 regions to 9 and improvements will be made as necessary.

Richard Dickman raised the question of going from 4 per team per event to 3. Steve Embry, who has been a member of the NFHS Swimming and Diving Committee for 3 years, stated that anytime anyone has suggestions for rules changes, they be submitted via the KHSAA, who will then submit them to the NFHS Committee at their annual meeting. Any suggestions are always discussed. If it could be worded correctly it could be requested and submitted that perhaps writing it as up to four swimmers versus just saying 4 swimmers. Susan Carey said that there is also the cost of running a regional meet. If you reduce it to 3 per team per region, then you also reduce the amount of people at the gate and revenue. Realizing there are many pros and cons to making the change and it could be a much larger discussion.

All sites and regional managers have been confirmed and are as follows: Region 1, Paducah, 2, Owensboro, 3, Elizabethtown, 4 and 5, Louisville, 6 and 8, Woodford County, 7, Northern Kentucky and 9, Barbourville. This information as well as contact information will be posted to the KHSAA website for your use. Bill Tingley will send out a template to all regional managers for the information and entries to be uploaded, submitted, and checked and will be ready for the meet. Emphasis on submitting the start times and the format for each session and whether the meet will run boys and girls combined or separately.

According to last year's feedback there was a request to order more awards such as neck ribbons and place ribbons, above the given 6 awards (3 medals and 3 ribbons). This will be granted due to the decrease in cost of the medals themselves. The information will be in the regional manager's instructions.

A future date for regional managers to meet will be set to discuss any questions they may have.

Several miscellaneous topics were discussed. Steve Embry as the official's representative on the NFHS Swimming and Diving Committee shared that Sandy Searcy is the new person responsible for swimming and diving on the committee. He also shared a few items that may be brought up at the annual meeting in March that he and Sandy discussed.

Last year there was a discussion of separating diving and swimming. Steve was quick to say that will not happen due to practical reasons, it was quickly disagreed upon by the Federation. The prevailing concern was that it would reduce participation in the sport of diving all together.

Penalty Provision at Championship meets will most likely be brought up again at this year's meeting. The rule will remain: if you miss an event at a championship meet, you are disqualified for the remainder of the meet.

There is a concern about suits appropriately covering the male and female and the question of allowing bikini's to be worn during warm ups.

At this point there are no issues of transgender participants. There was discussion that there could be in the near future. With such a complicated issue it was suggested that the NFHS Swimming and Diving Committee and the KHSAA should meet and discuss the matter. KHSAA has the participation issue addressed, but the uniform and locker room issues will need to be addressed separately.

The reporting of DQ's prior to the next heat is now mandated in the NCAA as well as USA Swimming at the championship level. There are thoughts that it may trickle down to the High School level.

No jewelry to be worn during competition.

During warm ups drag suits are allowed but not in competition.

Logos on second cap are allowed. Officials may only call what they are able to see.

Jamie Palumbo requested that the NFHS have separate diving questions for officials' qualifications. He felt there are very few diving specific questions on the exam.

As long as a tattoo is not offensive it is allowed. The referee can always request to have the tattoo covered up.

Only highlights will be livestreamed. There are hopes of a sponsorship in the near future would help that issue.

Mr. Bilberry spoke briefly about the Specials Needs Athletes and the partnership with Unified Sports as we try to increase participation of students. Keeping this in mind to help identify these student athletes.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.