



OFFICIALS COMMITTEE
REPORT
July 22, 2026

Pacific Swimming Officials Committee Mission: To recruit, educate, train, certify, and mentor a diverse team of USA Swimming officials to provide the highest quality and consistent officiating for athletes at all levels of swimming.

Staff Announcements – A Pacific Swimming Blue Cap option is now available for purchase

Athlete Representative – Proposed an event limit for 15-18 year old athletes participating in Championship Meets. Referred to Age Group Committee for consideration.

Chair –

1. The USA Swimming app has been updated to be more useful for athletes and coaches. Additional updates are planned to improve efficiency for officials. For officials, green indicates good standing and red indicates not in good standing; the app also displays LSC and national certifications.
2. Recent rule changes were discussed and may not yet align with World Aquatics. The committee discussed submerged finishes in butterfly, freestyle, and backstroke at 5 meters or 5 yards. There are no protocol changes for judging the new rules. Athletes may not submerge, resurface, and then continue swimming; doing so is a disqualification for being submerged during the swim. Therapeutic tape was also discussed.
3. Annual Summit – LSC Officials Chairs will attend the USA Swimming Summit in September.
4. USA Swimming Hot Summer Nights, led by Clark Hammond, will focus this year on the meet referee role and DQ protests. Zones should submit names and email addresses to the Chair for reservations.
5. USA Swimming Facebook reminders – To register, officials must answer verification questions. Posts must be relevant; bullying and rule interpretations are not permitted. Rule interpretation questions must go through the LSC Officials Chair.
6. Revised 2026–2027 LSC Major Meet Schedule – Reduce corner teams.
December 4–6 Senior 2 has been changed to the Senior Open, hosted by PSL, pending approval.
Winter AG Champs update – Pool configuration was discussed.
7. October Officials Clinic – Presenters
Stroke & Turn – Mike Flegel
CJ – Kimber Guzik
Starter – Sarah Obbagy
Deck Referee – Trevor Gillis
Meet Referee – David Benjamin
Admin Official – Sachi Kuwano and Angela Cardenas
Hy-Tek – Charlie and Amy Gonzales

Colorado – Larry Rice, Jeff Rice, Leo Lin

Next meeting: Thursday, September 3, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.