Officials Committee
House of Delegates Report
October 21, 2026

- **State of Officials**: The number of certified officials in our LSC grew to nearly 600, the second-highest total in USA Swimming. Our officials supported more than 200 swim meets, including block party, high school, NCAA, western zone, and national level meets. The Officials Committee remains committed to supporting our athletes and coaches to advance competitive swimming.

- **2026 Pacific Swimming Officials Clinic/Convention:** On October 17th, the Officials Committee held its annual in-person clinic in Pleasant Hill, CA, with approximately 230 officials in attendance. Guest Speakers Kent Yoshiwara (Disability, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion), Veronica Hernandez (PC Vice Chair). Courses included: Advanced Stroke and Turn, Chief Judge, Starter, Administrative Official, Deck Referee, Meet Referee, Hy-Tek Meet Manager, and Colorado Timing.

- **2026 Zone Officials of the Year**: Every year, each of the 5 zones within Pacific Swimming recognizes an official who has stood out and contributed to the success of zone awarded meets. These individuals are recognized for their personal sacrifice, dedication, and commitment to the sport of swimming. The 2026 swim season Zone Officials of the year recipients are: Zone 1 South (**Heidi Unger**), Zone 1 North (**Manus J-Cheng**), Zone 2 (**Lisa Kaplan**), Zone 3 (**Allison Dove**), and Zone 4 (**Time Russell**).

- **2026 LSC Official Chair Recognition Award:** It is important to recognize an official that has demonstrated a positive officiating role model throughout the year, not only supporting zone meets but LSC major meets. This individual is always willing to volunteer at any meet at any capacity, never asking for assigned role. They worked hard and always have a pleasant smile on their face. This year's recipient is **Barbarie Gonzalez.**

- **2026 George Cleveland Award**: This award historically has been given to a legacy official who embodies the spirit of George in officiating, mentorship, volunteerism, and kindness. This year's recipient is **David Benjamin.**

















