



OFFICIALS BULLETIN – December 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE OCRC CHAIR – Suzanne Paulins

As we head into the holiday season, I want to wish all officials and their families a very Happy Holiday and a wonderful start to the New Year! Your contribution to the sport, and most importantly to our swimmers, is greatly appreciated.

E-LEARNING CLINICS

The Introduction to Swimming Officiating Clinic, Safety Marshal Clinic and Chief Timer Clinic continue to be available to be taken online. The clinics can be found [here](#). We expect to have the Clerk of Course available as an e-learning clinic in January.

PARA-SWIMMING OFFICIATING

A Para-Swimming official's clinic will be offered again in April in advance of the 2019 Western Canadian Championships in Saskatoon. Registration information will be shared in the February officials bulletin. For officials attending Westerns in Saskatoon, please save the date and time, Wednesday April 15th from 8am to 2pm, to attend the clinic.

CANADIAN OPEN WATER SWIMMING TRIALS

Swimming Canada will be hosting the Canadian Open Water Swimming Trials in the Cayman Islands, April 25 & 26, 2020. A 5km event will be added to the program taking place on Sunday April 26th, with the 10km event taking place on Saturday. The meet package is now being finalized and will be available [here](#) in the coming weeks. If you are interested in officiating at the Open Water Trials, please confirm your availability by emailing spaulins@swimming.ca and your information will be passed along to the National Meet Referee.

OCRC WORKING GROUPS

National Officials Progression: Following the development of the National Officials Progression last year, the working group has spent the last year reviewing and updating the National Meet Referee and National Meet Director roles and responsibilities. The updates were approved and finalized by the OCRC during the November OCRC meeting. These documents will be shared upon translation in the new year. We will now be looking to develop roles and responsibilities for the National Meet Entry and Results Coordinator and Para Technical Advisor/Para Meet Referee.

Level 4/5 National Evaluation Tools: Over the past year this working group has been developing a tool/resource to assist Level 5 officials conducting Referee Assessments and Evaluations, in an effort to provide consistency across the country. This PowerPoint presentation may be used by Provincial Sections as they train new evaluators on what makes for a successful assessment or evaluation. This resource will be shared upon translation in the new year.

International Nominations/Assignments: This key group is responsible for the review and recommendation of officials for international assignments and international appointments. The criteria and nomination information for UANA List #4 was recently shared by the UANA committee. After consultation by the committee and validation from the Provincial Section, we are pleased to announce the following nominations for UANA List #4, which will be effective from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023. This list coincides with the Pan Am Games cycle. Congratulations to the following officials on their nominations:



Referees: Larry Chrobot, BC; Peter Garagan, MB, and Sheila Nelson, BC

Starters: Ron Riley, ON and Susan Wog, MB

Nominations for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo have been confirmed. Congratulations to Rob Filion, ON for his nomination to the Olympic Games and to Sheila Guenther, SK, and Sandra Rousseau, ON for nomination to the 2020 Paralympic Games.

SWIMWEAR EXEMPTIONS

With the 2019/20 season underway, we wish to remind you that Swimming Canada general rule CGR 5.2.2 stipulates that referees shall grant an exemption to swimwear coverage rules, when so requested, as long as the swimwear is compliant with the guidelines in CGR 5.2.2, CGR 5.2.3 & CGR 5.2.4 (copied below for your convenience). This also includes the use of a separate garment worn underneath the swimsuit.

Swimming Canada is an inclusive organization and welcomes full participation of all individuals in our programs and activities, irrespective of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, family status or disability. Swimwear exceptions granted under CGR 5.2.x are an important component of encouraging participation in the sport of swimming and will ensure that equity, diversity and inclusion are at the forefront in our sanctioned competitions.

CGR 5.2.2 In competitions that are not National Level, Trials, or Selection meets, the Referee shall exempt swimwear from compliance with the GR 5 Swimwear rule for a participating swimmer, where an exemption is requested for medical or religious reasons, and the fabric of the swimwear is a permeable open mesh textile and would not reasonably be seen to be creating a technical advantage. Such an exemption would only be granted for the swimsuit coverage requirements. Such an exemption may be granted for a) a swimsuit that covers more of the body, such as modesty swimwear, or b) the use of a separate garment worn underneath a regular swimsuit.

CGR 5.2.3 Swimwear not listed on the FINA website is permissible at all Club/Provincial meets, (see FINA BL 8.6). However, the swimwear fabric must be of a permeable open mesh textile material. Such swimwear includes training or 'drag' suits, modesty swimwear, as well as religious cover-ups.

CGR 5.2.4 A swimsuit that covers more of the body than stated in FINA BL 8.3 such as modesty swimwear or religious cover-ups, or the use of a separate garment worn underneath a regular swimsuit, is also permitted providing the fabric is permeable open mesh textile material and does not give the swimmer an advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance. Swimwear for National level, Swimming Canada Team Selection meets or Swimming Canada National Competitions, must adhere to the FINA Rule. (ex: Trials competitions or events deemed to be National Team Selection competitions based on the meet handbook). Provincial Sections may also enforce FINA level suits only for certain level Provincial meets as specified by the Provincial Section.

LEVEL V OFFICIALS

Congratulations to the following new Level 5 Official, certified since October 2019:

Frederic Planque, QC

Janene Cheung, MB

Guy Quirion, QC

Any questions regarding information found in this bulletin may be directed to questions@swimming.ca