



Committee Recap Report Officials Committee January - March 2026

Terms of Reference for the Officials Committee can be found [here](#).

Committee Members

Chair	Carrie Matheson
Members	Jon Govier (OCRC rep) Glenn Greig (VIR) Edmund Cheung (LMR) Jessica Jenson (LMR) Chris Wakelin (LMR) Ian Johnstone (TH-OK) Aysha Haines (KOOT) Kerim Ozcan (NE) Marilyn King (NW)

Committee Meeting times	January 13 th February 10 th March 10 th
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1. Systems, Tech, & Track Logistics (REMS & LMS)

The committee focused on streamlining administrative tracking for officials and clinic records across platforms:

- **Clinic Tracking via Deck Log:** Officials can leverage the deck log feature to track conducted clinics (e.g., recording an Inspector of Turns clinic as "Online" under position "Other" with mentor details).
- **Backdated Clinics:** Any past clinics that need retroactive entry must be added specifically through the LMS.
- **Registration & Roster:** Carrie is tasked with identifying unattached officials to see if they are active or inactive. The committee emphasized that registration is crucial due to insurance and liability requirements.
- **System Reporting:** The committee noted that REMS features a reporting function allowing Club Officials Administrators (COAs) to generate lists of officials alongside their completed clinics.

2. Mentorship & Official Evaluations

Supporting and advancing officials through structural pathways remains a major priority:

- **Mentor Assignments:** Regional Officials Directors (RODs) are reviewing OneDrive lists to resolve missing mentor names. They will either report names to Carrie or reach out to help un-mentored officials find one.
- **Development Goals:** The committee aims to keep officials actively engaged and seasoned with deck experience, emphasizing that they shouldn't be rushed through positions but rather get outside their own home pools to broaden their learning.
- **Recent and Upcoming Level IV / V Evaluations:**
 - **Min Ying:** Informal Level IV evaluation at the PSW Invite.
 - **Jocelyn Chang:** Formal Level IV evaluation at the PSW Invite.
 - **Miranda McNamara:** Formal Level IV evaluation at SKSC Divisionals.
 - **Shirley Lim:** Formal Level IV evaluation at CDSC Divisionals.
 - **Yusula Choe:** Formal Level V evaluation at Winter Provincials.
- **Evaluation Process Standardization:** Because slight differences exist in the Referee Evaluation forms across different provinces, the committee discussed creating a sub-committee to review and update the process and documentation.

3. Rule Applications & Meet Procedures

Several adjustments and clarifications regarding domestic and international rules were reviewed:

- **Misconduct Rules:** No changes are being implemented for the current season. Officials will continue issuing warnings for the time being.
- **Backstroke Ledge Compliancy:** For Divisionals and Provincials, judges will actively observe swimmers' toes. If the toes are not touching the touchpad/wall in compliance, judges will instruct the swimmer to correct it rather than instantly issuing an infraction ("talk - no hand, no relax, no delay"). No warnings were penalizing swimmers previously if toes missed the pad.
- **Open Water & Distance Events:** Relay events have been added to Open Water competitions. Additionally, introducing bells at the 400-meter mark met with resistance from some coaches.
- **Level V Referee Support:** The committee introduced having an official stationed at the Admin desk to specifically support coaches facing potential protests.
- **Divisional Relay Eligibility Dispute:** The committee reviewed a breakdown in the relay process where a team with a Provincial-level time swam at Divisionals and was subsequently disqualified. The committee noted that the meet package footnote was unclear on the repercussions; moving forward, this needs its own distinct, full-sized bullet point explicitly stating that an ineligible relay should be *removed* entirely prior to the race, not DQ'ed after the fact.

4. Para & Masters Swimming Integration

- **Para Domestic Training:** The committee is moving into its second year of Para Domestic training. There is a push to move these to virtual offerings spread across a couple of online sessions to keep costs down. Carrie is also investigating a potential in-person clinic right before the Mel Zajac meet.
- **Para Rules in Masters Meets:** There is currently no dedicated Para category in Masters swimming. The committee is reviewing Masters rules wording and plans to mandate in all meet packages that World Para Swimming (WPS) rules apply to identify para-swimmers regardless of the meet type.

- **International Track (Para Approved "+"):** Sanctioned para meets looking to use times for international entries require an International Technical Official (ITO) on-site. Carrie is confirming Swim BC's currently approved meets with Swimming Canada, checking specifically on Winter Provincials and the Best of the West meet.

5. Grants, Awards, & Upcoming Symposiums

- **National Meet Travel Grants:** The committee is restructuring requirements, adding that grant recipients must act as a Mentor for BC officials. They aim to secure grant amounts by December annually.
- **Awards Criteria:** Marilyn, Glenn, and Ian are potentially forming a subcommittee to review and update the current Awards Criteria before sending it out to the wider committee.
- **September 2026 Symposium:** Planning is underway for a symposium mid-to-late September 2026.
 - *Theme:* "What's Next".
 - *Focus:* Focus areas will include understanding international officiating paths (gaining meet access) and navigating mentorships that are stalling.
 - *Logistics:* Options include an in-person event in the Lower Mainland Region (LMR), a virtual half-day, or livestreaming. Aysha is exploring the technological execution ("how").

Ongoing & Future Action Items

- **OCRC Updates:** John/Jon is tracking the OCRC's review of the newest World Aquatics rules. The committee is also aiming to establish standardized Jury of Appeal training to create consistency across the country.
- **Website & Resource Development:** Organizers are restructuring online resources into distinct "buckets," including Mentor Info, Meet Referee Resources, and a "Now What?" guide for new referees post-clinic.
- **Newsletter Communications:** Carrie is responsible for distributing regular newsletters. Recent and upcoming topics include:
 - Canadian record procedures (especially Para)
 - National Travel Grant Applications
 - Dalhousie survey
 - Sign-ups for major meets: Mel Zajac (timers/IT), Masters Provincials, Divisionals, and the Best of the West fest.