

**Subject:** Officials Newsletter: Letter from New Officials' Chairs

**From:** USA Swimming <officials@usaswimming.org>

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USA Swimming Officials Newsletter | December 2018



## OFFICIALS NEWSLETTER

### Thoughts from the Chair

*Kathleen Scandary, Chair, USA Swimming National Officials' Committee*

I am writing this as I finish contemplating the list of items that still need to make it into the suitcase for China and the 2018 FINA Short Course World Championships.

I first want to say that I am humbled by the confidence that others have in me to do this job well. My officiating career spans 25 years, including six years as Colorado Swimming Officials' Chair. My first national meet was Juniors in Irvine over a decade ago. This is where I first met the Officials' Chairs, Dan McAllen and Joel Black. Since that time, there have been other big shoes I will have to fill with the likes of Jim Sheehan, Clark Hammond and Jim Holcomb. I feel like I am walking the great hall of fame!



My hope is that I am seen as approachable and as one who likes to use a committee of folks to arrive at decisions. Much is happening at USA Swimming, and I see my role being within a bigger process of evolution, creating even more of a reason to reach out for ideas to continue the development of a positive culture of officiating. I believe that this will, in turn, serve our athletes and their coaches well.

Oh, great... our flight to Beijing is delayed!

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### From the Rules Chair

*Clark Hammond, Chair, USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee*

Well, it has been about 90 days into this new position. I want to invite everyone to make suggestions as to how we can provide a better competitive swimming environment for our athletes as well as the volunteers. If you have a suggestion as to an administrative rule that ought to be modified or changed, please let us know. These generally are the rules found in Articles 202 thru 205. If you have any suggestions regarding changes to the technical rules (blue pages), please send them to us. Even though we follow the FINA rules, you never know when someone might make a suggestion that we ought to pass along to FINA. In closing, thank you for all of the hours you spend making sure our athletes and coaches have the opportunity to pursue their dreams. Send any thoughts to

me at [ruleregs@gmail.com](mailto:ruleregs@gmail.com).

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### **Officials' Excellence Award December 2018**

*Bill Repass, Connecticut Swimming*

Bill Repass has been a member of the Connecticut Swimming officiating community since 1989. Bill has officiated at every level in Connecticut, is a member of the LSC's Officials' Committee, and has served as the Chair of the Committee. Bill has worked at all levels of meets, from local meets up to National Championships, including the 2009 US Open, 2010 Winter National Championships, and the 2013 Phillips 66 National Championships, as well as international meets such as the 2010 Pan Pacific Swimming Championships.



Bill serves as a national evaluator and devotes a great deal of time to mentoring officials of all levels. On any deck, with all of his experience, Bill serves as a true mentor who is there to work with the team in any way he can to help raise the level of every official. Bill is eager to field questions from officials and is exceptional at putting newer officials at ease, so that they can learn from his experiences. Officials who work with Bill not only gain knowledge, but rather insight into ways to improve their officiating, as well as ways to take what they have learned back to their clubs and mentor others.

Bill has a true passion for swimming and for helping to raise the level of the sport by doing all he can to work with and mentor others. Bill is an outstanding member of the officiating community and we are lucky to have him on our team.

**Congratulations, Bill!**

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**REMINDER: The USA Swimming office will be closed starting Dec. 21 and will reopen Jan. 2.**

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