

# THE LONG WHISTLE

Illinois Swimming Officials Association



## It's Almost Time...

### ISOA Award Nominations

Nominations for ISOA's annual awards, Official of the Year, Most Improved and Rookie of the Year are due by **FEBRUARY 1**. *That is only a few days away.* You spend time on the deck with these individuals and know who is deserving of this peer recognition. Take a few minutes NOW - do not delay, it will be too late in a couple of days and send a note with your nomination and your rationale to any of the members of the Awards Committee.

**Jim Katula** [jim\\_katula@yahoo.com](mailto:jim_katula@yahoo.com)

**Nancy Myer** [bmyer4723@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bmyer4723@sbcglobal.net)

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### ISOA Annual Meeting and Officer Nominations

Elections will be held for Secretary and Vice President of ISOA at our February Meeting. This year's February meeting will be held at 8:30 AM on Saturday February 29 in conjunction with the IHSA Swimming and Diving Championship Meet at Evanston Township High School. Although nominations will be accepted from the floor (pending approval of the person being nominated) the Nomination Committee is soliciting candidates for the two open offices. Please forward your nominations (self-nominations are accepted) to any member of the Nomination Committee:

**Skip Yates** [smesyates@aol.com](mailto:smesyates@aol.com)

**Brian Smith** [bsmith1108@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsmith1108@sbcglobal.net)

**Mike Hutton** [mdhutton@ameritech.net](mailto:mdhutton@ameritech.net)

## **ISOA Annual Meeting (cont...)**

If you wish to attend the ISOA Annual Meeting but are not able to volunteer at the State Meet, please contact Steve Fedota before February 26 so arrangements can be made for your admittance to the building.

## **Congratulations to IHSA Officials of the Year:**

Earlier this month the Illinois High School Association Named Officials of the Year for 22 sports. ISOA is proud that two of our members are among this year's elite officials recognized by the IHSA!

### **Warren Holton (Freeport) – Boys Swimming & Diving**

### **Kevin McMurray (Willow Springs) – Girls Swimming & Diving**

Warren & Kevin will receive recognition and awards at the annual IHSA Official's Conference. This year's Conference will be held in Bloomington on July 10 & 11. In addition to Official of the Year, service awards for various milestones from 15 through 60 years are awarded at the conference. The conference also makes available a full day of instruction, training and development for the more than 12,000 licensed officials in the IHSA system. Contact IHSA for more information about the conference.

## **Arbiter Update**

With many schools (and the IHSA) now utilizing Arbiter, if you haven't already created your Arbiter account you probably want to have an account set up. If you have been paid through the Arbiter system (especially if you have received more than \$600 last year), Arbiter should have produced a Form 1099-Misc that you will need as you prepare your income tax return for 2019. You should have recently received an email from Arbiter that your 1099 is available to print on-line. Income reported on a Form 1099 is reported to the Internal Revenue Service by the organization that issues the form.

## **New State Championship Venue for Next Year?**

IHSA is exploring venues for the State Swimming & Diving Championships for the next three years (beginning next year). The bid specifications are posted on the

IHSA website. Bids are due by February 28, 2020. There is a strong possibility that we may be officiating at a new venue for next year's championship meets.

## Continuing Education...

### **Officiating Situation:**

Pleasant Valley (PV) and Strong School (SS) are in a dual meet (non-championship format) in a six-lane pool. At the beginning of the 200 yard medley relay, the Referee calls the competitors to the blocks with a series of short whistles. Swimmers assemble behind lanes 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. As the swimmers assemble, a 6<sup>th</sup> swimmer (from SS) approaches the PV swimmer behind lane 2, and the PV swimmer behind lane 2 steps back from the immediate area; with the SS swimmer taking the original PV swimmer's place. *(There is a diving board standard between lanes 2 and 3.)* The Referee sounds a long whistle and the swimmer's mount blocks 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. After the swimmers mount their respective blocks and are situated, the Referee turns the start over to the Starter.

Using the microphone to issue the "Take your mark" command, the Starter experiences problems with the audio quality (feedback, broken connections, etc.) so as not to keep the swimmers on the blocks while the issue is corrected the swimmers are ordered to "Step down." All swimmers step down without incident.

The audio problem is corrected in less than a minute and the Referee issues a long whistle to have the swimmers mount the blocks. At this time swimmers mount the blocks; including the PV swimmer who had originally lined up behind lane 2 and stepped back for the original long whistle. This swimmer mounts the starting block in lane 3.

What should the Referee / Starter do in this situation? *(Answers next month)*

### **Recheck your rules...**

You know that **if** the third swimmer in the 400 Freestyle relay enters the water when the 2<sup>nd</sup> swimmer is making their 50 yard turn the team is disqualified ... but EXACTLY why? What rules govern this situation? *(More next month)*