

Minutes of the Illinois Swimming Officials' Association Regular Meeting
Saturday, February 24, 2024. FMC Natatorium, Westmont, Illinois

Call to Order: 8:30am. In attendance were President Todd Gray, Vice-President Gwen VanSteen, Treasurer Fred Gafrick, Secretary Jim Katula and approximately 35 members of the Association. Absent was Member-At-Large Steve Fedota.

Minutes from previous meeting: It was moved by Dennis Yard (second Chuck Ytzen) that the minutes be approved as posted on the ISOA web site. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Membership currently stands at 77 paid-in-full members. The account balance was \$3,093.60 at the time of the last meeting. The income since the last meeting was \$80. Expenses for web site maintenance, fees and awards totaled \$617.86. That brings our current balance, as of February 23, 2024, to \$2,555.74. A motion was made by Dennis Yard (second Skip Yates) to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Remarks from Kraig Garber: IHSA Assistant Executive Director Kraig Garber addressed the membership. He shared his appreciation for all the members of the Association that give of their time to work the State Meet. He stressed the importance of not only recruiting new officials but figuring out how we can retain these officials. Currently, the average career for an official is around three years.

President's Report:

Old business

Elections: Mike Hutton was asked to explain the process for the election of new officers for the positions of Vice-President and Secretary.

1. Todd Gray announced the nominees for Vice-President as Jim Katula and Gwen VanSteen. He then opened the floor for nominations from the floor for the office of Vice-President.
2. Todd Gray announced the nominees for Secretary as Susan Mariottini, Cari Kauffman, and Eric Langer. He then opened the floor for nominations for the office of Secretary.
3. Receiving no nominations from the floor for either office, the nominations were closed. Members were informed that the voting will take place during the week following the State Meet.

Awards

Rookie of the Year: Amy Breyers

Most Improved: Steve Robinson and Diane Ramoska

Official of the Year: Fred Gafrick

Romsted-Drumm Award to be presented at the All-State Banquet: Patt Chase

Comments from the floor:

1. Skip Yates asked if there was anything that could be done to get officials to work in different areas with different people. His request was made because many people

- complain regularly that they do not get to work with other members. It was explained that this is really an issue for the assignors to work on.
2. President Todd Gray talked briefly about a test review session that he would like to offer to the members in the future. He said that, after talking with Mike Hutton, that the session would probably be formatted more like a clinic than the session offered by other officials in the past.
 3. Kevin Crom wanted to know what is being done to retain officials. As a new official, it is hard to break into the ranks of a working official because the assignors do not give them meets. The Association should work more closely with the Assignors to get the newer officials some meets because they can't be expected to go an entire season without working a meet.
 4. Eric Langer suggested making flyers and a renovation of the ISOA logo.

Adjournment: Skip Yates made a motion (second by Gerry Cassioppi) to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried.