

Minutes of the Illinois Swimming Officials' Association Meeting

Saturday, November 15, 2025

FMC Natatorium, Westmont, Illinois

Call to Order at 8:30am:

- Vice-president Gwen VanSteen called the meeting to order, as President Patti Flesher had not yet arrived.
- Those in attendance included Vice-president Gwen VanSteen, Secretary Susan Mariottini, Treasurer Steve Fedota, Member-at-large Steve Robinson, and approximately 35-40 members of the Association.

March 2025 Meeting Minutes:

- The minutes were posted on the ISOA website and were sent to all members along with the meeting announcement and agenda via email.
- Dennis Yard moved that the minutes be approved as posted.
- Skip Yates seconded the motion.
- The motion was carried without discussion.

Treasurer's Report—Steve Fedota:

- Steve Fedota announced that the ISOA now has non-profit status. The next step involves filing with the IRS.
- A proposed by-law change (especially Article 8-Disbandment) must pass in order to continue with this process. In early October the members were given an opportunity for a first reading. We received a few comments which were addressed. A second reading was not necessary. A motion is already on the floor to vote on these changes.
- We voted, with the results: all "ayes" and no "nays." The motion carried.
- Collecting dues for 2025-26 had been delayed until the bank account transfer and non-profit status were in place.
- Dues are **\$10** for 2025-26. Steve will send a form to the members for membership information. Dues can be paid by cash, check or Zelle.

IHSA Report—Kraig Garber, IHSA Assistant Executive Director:

- Kraig Garber addressed the membership. He thanked us for volunteering at this State meet. He recognized that several first-time State volunteers were present.
- This is the 50th Girls' State meet. There is a great (summarized) article on the IHSA website by Matt Troha entitled "IHSA Girls Swimming and Diving State Finals Celebrates 50 years in 2025."
- The awards presentations will be different this year. They will be under the scoreboard during each of the breaks instead of after each event.

President's Report—Patti Flesher:

- Patti expressed her appreciation to the Board, to Eric Langer for taking over the ISOA website, to Fred Gafrick and Mike Hutton for their years of dedication and involvement, and to everyone for their patience during this transition.
- There was a suggestion for the creation of an officials' manual that includes our responsibilities at meets, new official training, maps/parking/entrances and nuances of working at various schools. Patti mentioned that this type of "training" is still a priority and will be addressed.

Website Manager—Eric Langer:

- Eric requested that we send him photos to post of officials working at meets.
- He also wants us to consider what we might want on the website, such as school information, membership sign-up. Please contact Eric with any suggestions.

New Business:

- It was proposed to change the name of one of our annual awards to honor Charlie McCarthy, possibly the Rookie of the Year award or the Most Improved. There was some discussion about this. Email Patti with any other comments.
- The Officer Nomination Committee needs two members to volunteer to work with a standing officer. Skip Yates and Jim Katula volunteered for this committee.
- The ISOA Annual Awards Committee needs two members to volunteer to work with a standing officer. Perry Korbakis and Kathy McWhorter volunteered for this committee.

Adjournment at 9:15am:

- Jim Katula made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Tom Strunk seconded the motion.
- The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mariottini
ISOA Secretary