

# MAKING AN OFF DECK IMPACT: THE WHY AND HOW

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## **MHA**

### **EDUCATION**

FIRM GRASP OF RULES & REGULATIONS

AT THE FOREFRONT OF CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS

GIVES YOUR SWIMMERS
 THE BEST OPPORTUNITY TO
 CHASE THEIR DREAMS

### **ADVOCACY**

- PROVIDES FORUM TO SPEAK UP FOR THE WELL-BEING AND BEST INTEREST OF YOUR ATHLETES
- "IF YOU SIT ON YOUR HANDS, YOU HAVE NO BITCH"

### **PROFESSIONALISM**

- WHO SHOULD BE GUIDING THE FUTURE OF THE SPORT?
- "IF YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO TAKE CHARGE OF BUILDING YOUR OWN PLAYGROUND, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY PLACE TO PLAY."



## WHERE TO START

- WHAT INSPIRES YOU?
  - VDVOCACAS
  - EDUCATION?
  - GOVERNANCE?
  - NETWORKING?
- LOCAL MEETINGS
  - LSC AND AREA MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS OPEN
- EDUCATION & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
  - LOCAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL CLINICS
  - ASCA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

# 10 KEYS TO FINDING YOUR OFF-DECK VOICE

# 1. DO YOUR HOMEWORK

IDEAS ARE GREAT...INFORMED IDEAS ARE IMPACTFUL



## 2. LISTEN BEFORE YOU SPEAK

SPEND TIME OBSERVING AND LEARNING THE POLITICAL PROCESS BEFORE JUMPING IN WITH BOTH FEET.

# 3. TAKE THE TIME TO BUILD ALLIANCES/RELATIONSHIPS

EVEN (MAYBE MOST IMPORTANTLY) WITH PEOPLE YOU MAY NOT ALWAYS SEE EYE TO EYE WITH.

## 4. FIND WHERE YOU FIT

SOME PEOPLE ARE NATURAL INNOVATORS, OTHERS ARE BORN IMPLEMENTERS.

# 5. MAKE TIMELINESS A PRIORITY

COMMON SENSE THAT IS SHOCKINGLY UNCOMMON.

PROMPT RESPONSE GOES A LONG WAY.



## 6. OWN UP TO YOUR MISTAKES

MESSING UP IS INEVITABLE. ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR SCREW-UPS AND FIX THEM THE NEXT TIME AROUND.



## 7. IF YOU DON'T KNOW, ASK!

THERE ARE ALMOST ALWAYS PEOPLE WITH MORE EXPERIENCE WILLING
TO HELP.



## 8. KEEP EDUCATING YOURSELF

STAY AHEAD OF THE CURVE. KEEP YOURSELF CURRENT ON CONSTANTLY EVOLVING RULES AND PROCEDURES.



## 9. ORGANIZE

FIND A SYSTEM THAT MAKES SENSE FOR YOU. PRIORITIZING TASKS ALWAYS HELPS.



## 10. BE NICE!

FEEDBACK IS FREQUENTLY OF THE "I DON'T LIKE WHAT YOU'RE DOING"
VARIETY. IT'S NOT PERSONAL.