

2009-2010 VHSL SWIM & DIVE RULES CLINICS

PAYMENT: The certification fee is \$29.00 and is paid at the clinic for all seeking officials' certification. The certification fee includes VHSL registration, insurance and a rule book. There is no charge for coaches or guests attending clinics, but they receive no rules book or test materials. (Schools were sent two rules books.) If part of an officials association in Northern Virginia or in South Hampton Roads, registration is handled through the association and there may be additional association fees.

USA SWIMMING OFFICIALS: USA Swimming certified stroke & turn, starter and referee officials will be recognized to officiate at all levels of VHSL meets by registering and obtaining a NFHS 2009-2010 Swim/Dive Rules Book from the Virginia Swimming or Potomac Valley Swimming Officials Chair. These officials are **not** certified VHSL officials, but are recognized. These officials may serve in any position for **swimming**; diving judges and diving referees must be VHSL certified.

TEST: VHSL Referee, Starter, Stroke & Turn and Diving officials are required to complete and pass test. Officials must score 80% to be fully certified to officiate at district, region, or state championship meets. The test is taken on-line—log in at <http://exams.nfhs.org>. The exam will be open from 1 November 2009 to 16 January 2010. Late fees apply to exams taken after 16 January 2010.

TRAINING CLINIC: Clinic participants will not be fully trained when they leave the clinic. Each participant is responsible for completing their certification education by studying and learning the rules contained in the Rules Book and by working meets. On-the-job training is by far the best.

RULES: Coaches must review to ensure understanding. Officials learn them when taking the open-book test. The clinic PowerPoint and handouts provide a review of common violations and rule changes from last year.

UNIFORM FOR OFFICIALS: White tops, navy bottoms, white shoes and socks, VHSL patch. Certification card should be carried.

VHSL WEBSITE: http://www.vhsl.org/athletics/swimming_and_diving_boys contains information and forms to use as an official. The clinic PowerPoint can be downloaded from this site as well.