

Current Deck Protocol at National Meets (will be used at Sectionals and Zones)

Officials are usually asked to fill the following positions:

1. Start end of pool: 3 positions—
 - Left chair (Watch/Button/Relay Take-Off);
 - Center chair (Recorder/Button/Bell);
 - Right chair (Turn & Finish Judge/Button)

Note: The duties per chair may change based on staffing levels
2. Turn end of pool: Turn Judge
3. Side of pool: Side Judge (15 Meter Judge (observe head breaking surface on free, back and butterfly; walk on breaststroke and butterfly).

Officials may also be asked to fill the following positions:

1. Chief Timer
2. Relief for any of above positions—relief may be handled as a team of 3 at start end.

When acting as stroke & turn judge, officials are expected to observe entire jurisdiction consistently (include open lanes). They should also maintain a clean look (hands free, leave heat sheets and pens in chair or out-of-sight). Do not carry unnecessary items on deck. Sit up straight, feet on deck.

Officials do not go to the pool edge, until their swimmer is near the official's jurisdiction, when swimmer leaves jurisdiction, official immediately returns to chair. If more than one lane is assigned, the official approaches the pool edge as the first swimmer enters their jurisdiction and sits when the last one leaves—in such situations, it is possible that the swimmers will become spread out such that it is not practical for the official to sit, however they should step back from the edge of the pool if no swimmers are within their jurisdiction.

At the morning session of the Officials briefing, the Chief Judges will brief the stroke that will be swum that day. Officials should be there **one hour** before the meet starts. At that meeting, officials will be asked if they will be working the evening session. (Do NOT say YES and then not show.) Generally officials work the same position in the evening that they did in the morning. Incidentally, getting to your sessions early enough to socialize really helps to get to know the other officials and can be a lot of fun.

Judges usually work the Right Chair only one day per meet. The Chief Judges will try to get everyone working at least four sessions into a Stroke or a Turn judging position at least once per meet. Volunteering to work at least some of the time trials is appreciated.

Officials who volunteer for a meet are expected at that meet; *if plans change*, let the meet officials know in advance. Extra credit is given to those who can work all the sessions. (Useful if an official is interested in working in Assigned positions at later meets. (Assigned positions are referee, starter, and chief judge.)

Incidentally, for most Juniors, there were almost always too few officials to staff the meet, as they would wish. Consequently, even if you didn't volunteer in advance, but brought your navy long pants (skirts), white shoes (white means all white or nearly so and without large and obvious logos), and a couple of white shirts, you were able volunteer at the time. Shorts were usually allowed for preliminary sessions, especially in summer. The Sectional meets that are replacing Juniors will probably also be short of officials, therefore we expect to follow the same procedures.

Current Stroke Protocol

(Also known as "Deck Aerobics")

Freestyle:

- Turn Judges move forward on turn or finish to edge of pool to observe touch
- Turn Judges observe from right side of lane with right foot forward to edge, hands behind back
- Turn Judge return to chair upon observing feet leaving the wall
- The team of three lane officials moves forward together at finish to press buttons
- For distance events, the official in *each* center chair keeps track of laps and then rings bell when swimmer has two lengths and five yards to go.

Backstroke:

- Turn Judges at start end (lanes 1&8) move to corners on referee's whistle, if so requested
- Turn Judges move forward on turn or finish to edge of pool to observe with right foot forward to edge, hands behind back
- Turn Judges observe from position on deck where incoming swimmer's shoulder position can best be seen.
- Turn Judges return to chair upon observing feet leaving wall
- The team of three lane officials moves forward together at finish to press buttons

Breaststroke:

- Turn Judges at start end stand to right of chair on referee's whistle
- Turn Judges move forward on start, turn or finish to edge of pool to observe
- Turn Judges observe from right side of lane with right foot forward to edge, hands behind back
- Turn Judges return to chair upon observing second pull
- The team of three lane officials moves forward together at finish to press buttons

Butterfly:

- Turn Judges at start end stand to right of chair on referee's whistle
- Turn Judges move forward on start, turn or finish to edge of pool to observe
- Turn Judges observe from right side of lane with right foot forward to edge, hands behind back
- Turn Judges return to chair upon observing first pull
- The team of three lane officials moves forward together at finish to press buttons