

Referees' Clinic



January 16, 2025

Certification Requirements

REFEREE (Minimum Age 19)	
Education & Training	<p>Member of USA Swimming.</p> <p>Certified Stroke & Turn.</p> <p>Certified Administrative Official.</p> <p>Certified Starter.</p> <p>Attend Referee Clinic training.</p> <p>Pass USA Swimming Referee certification test.</p> <p>Apprentice as a Referee for at least four (4) Training Sessions total over two (2) meets with two (2) Trainers.</p> <p>Satisfactory performance.</p>
Evaluation Certification	<p>& Apprenticeship signed off by a Certifier.</p> <p>Must complete certification within one year from date of Clinic.</p> <p>May officiate in any Referee role at any meet, except that in meets classified as USA Swimming Championships (as defined by 102.10.5), this certification may not meet the requirements of serving as the required Administrative Referee.</p>
Recertification every 3 years	<p>Worked sixteen (16) Sessions, within a three (3) year period, at least eight (8) Sessions in any Referee position.</p> <p>Pass USA Swimming Referee recertification test every three (3) years.</p> <p>Attend Clinic (recommend Referee) every three (3) years.</p> <p>Satisfactory performance.</p>
Comment	<p>Once a person is certified as a Referee, they are encouraged to participate in as many meets as they can to gain experience and knowledge. This will allow those running meets to have greater confidence in their ability to be a referee at meets of various levels.</p>

**Updated:
February, 2024**

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing near a swimming pool. The man on the right is holding a clipboard and a pen, and they appear to be in conversation. The background shows a swimming pool with lane lines and a blurred crowd of spectators.

**Attributes of
a Successful
Referee**

A Successful Referee is

Knowledgeable

USA Swimming Rules & Regulations

Official Interpretations

Published Situations & Resolutions

PVS Policies & Procedures Manual

Meet Announcement



A Successful Referee

Delegates

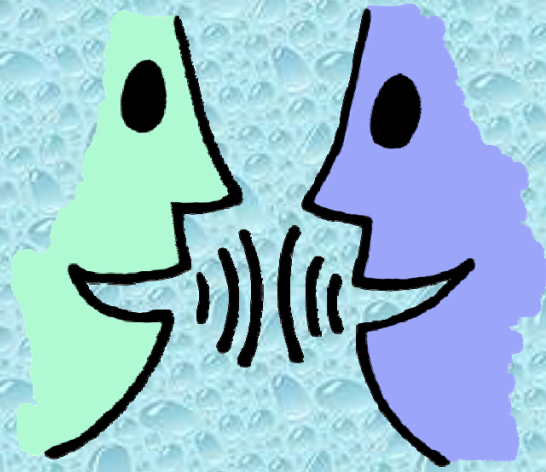
**You don't have to solve every problem on your own.
There are competent, well-trained officials on deck.
Use them.**



A Successful Referee

Communicates

**Especially important when working
with people with whom you're
not familiar.**



A Successful Referee is

Calm

A session frequently takes on the personality of the Referee.



A Successful Referee is

Proactive

**If you prevent a problem from occurring,
you don't have to fix it later!**



A Successful Referee is

Alert

Have all swimmers finished?

Are the officials in position?

Is the timing system re-set?



A Successful Referee is a

Team Player

**If you have your teammates' backs
they'll have yours.**



A Successful Referee is

Confident

**Grounded in a knowledge of the rules
and real world experience.**



A Successful Referee is

Approachable

Friendly, collegial, and helpful to coaches, swimmers, and other officials.



A Successful Referee

Multi-tasks

How do you prioritize when everything's important?



A Successful Referee is

Interpersonally Skilled

**Able to lead without
being overbearing.**



A Successful Referee is

Fair

**All decisions made according to the
spirit and letter of the rules.**



A Successful Referee is

Professional

**The highest standard in appearance,
performance, demeanor.**

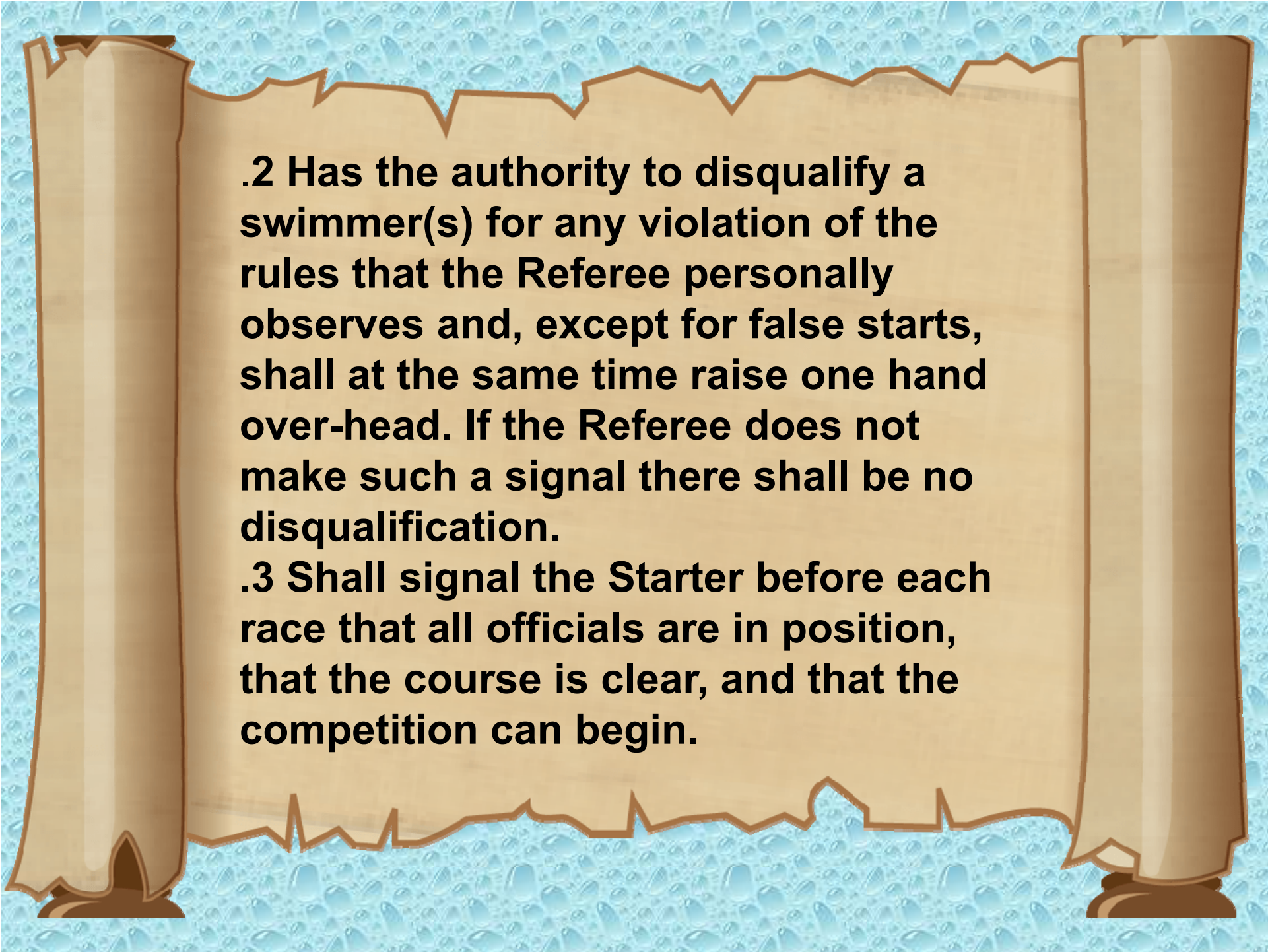


The image shows two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is holding a clipboard and a pen, appearing to be in conversation with the man on the left. The background is a blurred indoor pool setting with lane lines and spectators. Overlaid on the image is the text 'What the Rulebook says' in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right.

**What the
Rulebook
says**

102.11 REFEREE

.1 Shall have full authority over all officials and shall assign and instruct them; shall enforce all applicable rules and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the meet, the final settlement of which is not otherwise assigned by said rules; can overrule any meet official on a point of rule interpretation, or on a judgment decision pertaining to an action which the Referee has personally observed.

A scroll with a brown, aged appearance is unrolled against a background of light blue water with many small bubbles. The scroll is held by two wooden rollers on the left and right sides. The text on the scroll is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

.2 Has the authority to disqualify a swimmer(s) for any violation of the rules that the Referee personally observes and, except for false starts, shall at the same time raise one hand over-head. If the Referee does not make such a signal there shall be no disqualification.

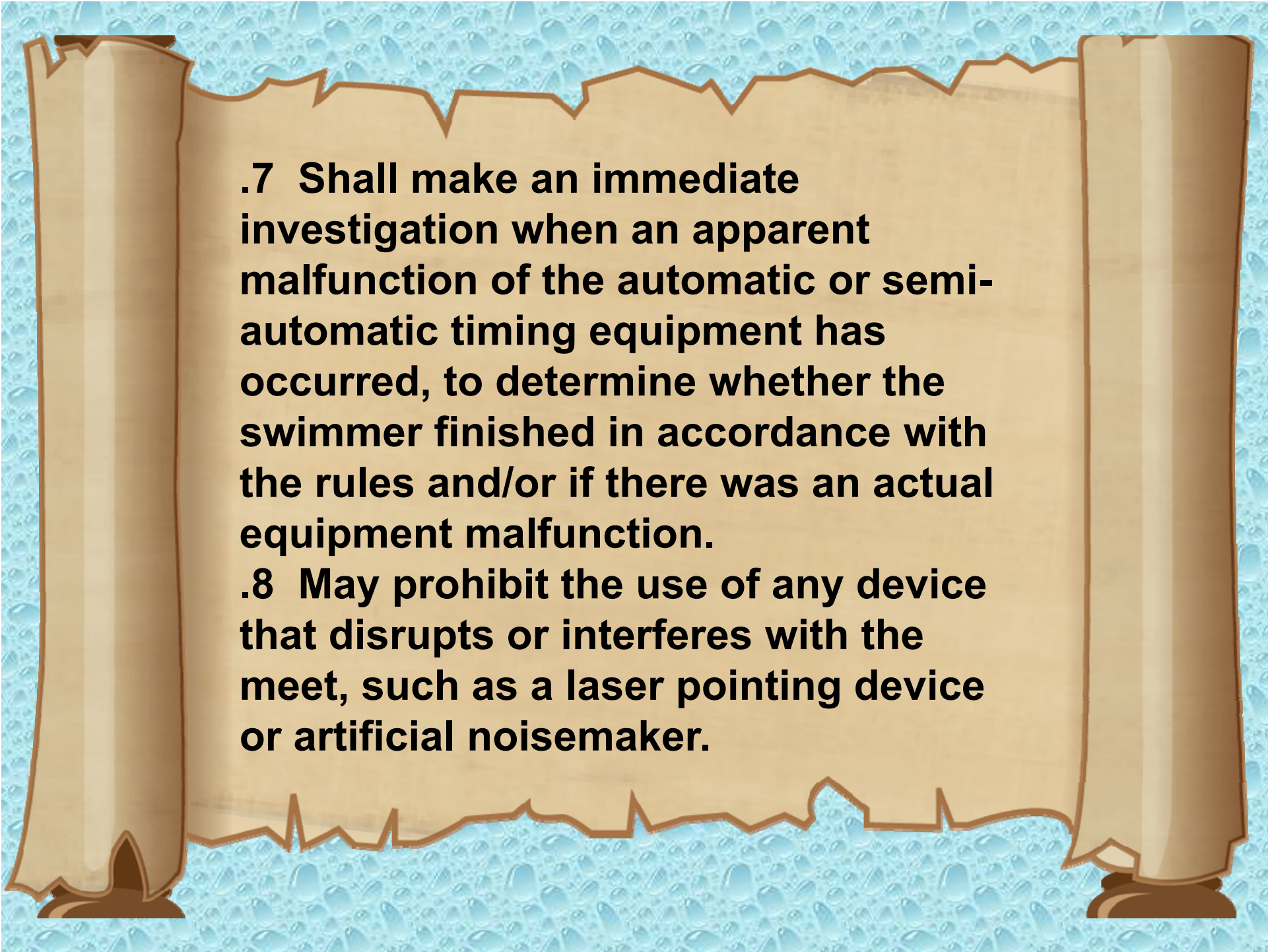
.3 Shall signal the Starter before each race that all officials are in position, that the course is clear, and that the competition can begin.



.4 Shall assign marshals with specific instructions.

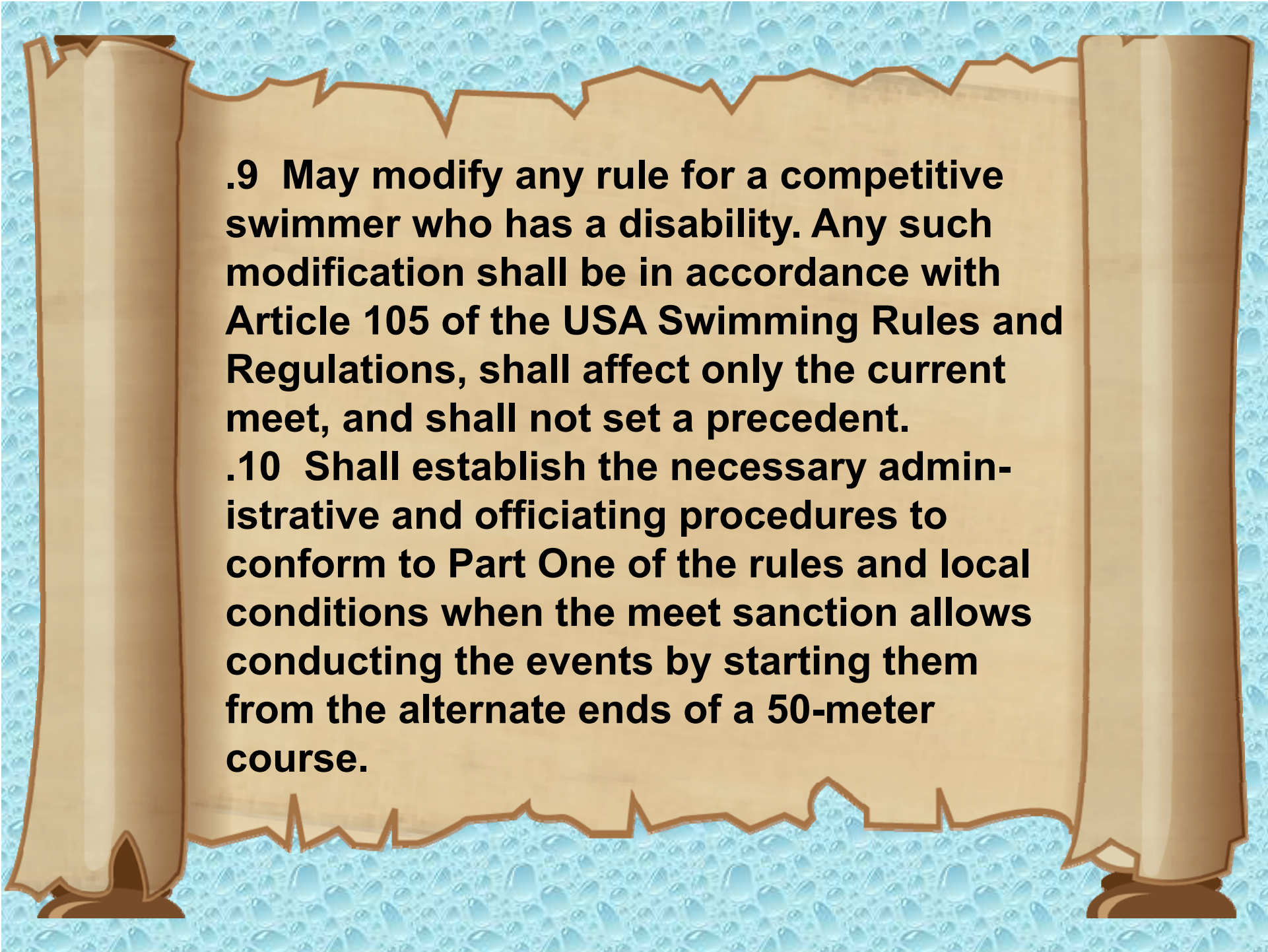
.5 Shall give a decision on any point where the opinions of the judges differ; and shall have authority to intercede in a competition at any stage, to ensure that the appropriate racing conditions are observed.

.6 For LSC and local records only, may assign three (3) additional official timers on request to record a record attempt at initial distances in accordance with 102.24 and Article 104.

A scroll with a brown, textured surface is unrolled against a background of light blue bubbles. The scroll is held by two wooden rollers on the left and right sides. The text on the scroll is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

.7 Shall make an immediate investigation when an apparent malfunction of the automatic or semi-automatic timing equipment has occurred, to determine whether the swimmer finished in accordance with the rules and/or if there was an actual equipment malfunction.

.8 May prohibit the use of any device that disrupts or interferes with the meet, such as a laser pointing device or artificial noisemaker.

A scroll with text on a blue bubbly background. The scroll is unrolled, showing two columns of text. The background is a light blue color with a pattern of small, dark blue bubbles. The scroll is a light brown color with a darker brown outline. The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

.9 May modify any rule for a competitive swimmer who has a disability. Any such modification shall be in accordance with Article 105 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, shall affect only the current meet, and shall not set a precedent.

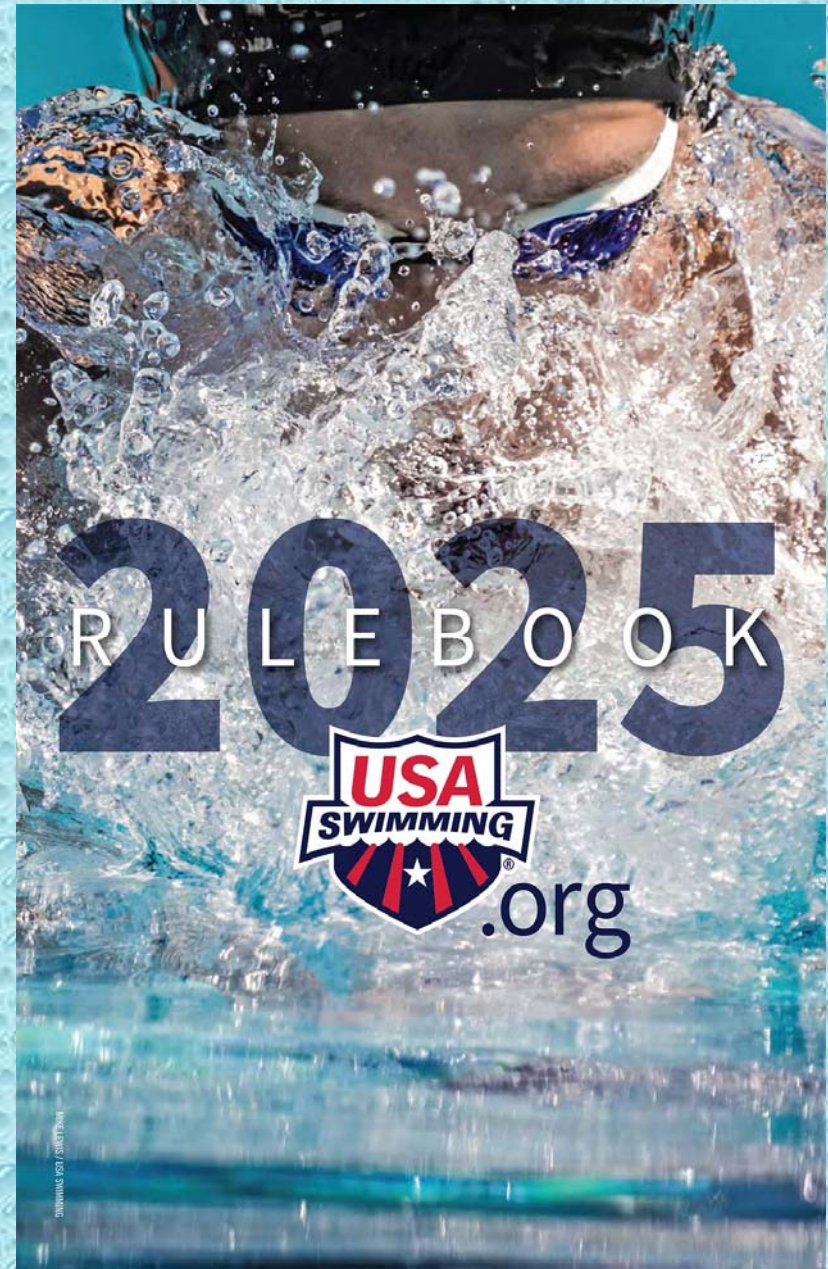
.10 Shall establish the necessary administrative and officiating procedures to conform to Part One of the rules and local conditions when the meet sanction allows conducting the events by starting them from the alternate ends of a 50-meter course.

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is wearing a headset and holding a clipboard. The background shows a pool with lane lines and a person on a raised platform. The text 'Prior to the Meet' is overlaid in large, bold, blue letters.

**Prior to
the Meet**

Prior to the Meet

**Review current
*USA Swimming
Rules and
Regulations.***



Prior to the Meet

Review the Meet Announcement.

Pay special attention to warm-up procedures, positive check-in events, any fastest-to-slowest events, any breaks in between events, etc.



2024 NCAP Invitational

December 12-15, 2024

Sanction # PVI-25-40



MEET DIRECTORS Karyn McCannon (716-868-6611) kmccannon@nationscapitalswimming.com Tom Ugast	MEET REFEREE Bob Vincent RDV@vwi.com Application to Officiate	ENTRY CHAIR Karyn McCannon kmccannon@nationscapitalswimming.com
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SANCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held under the sanction of USA Swimming through Potomac Valley Swimming: PVI-25-40. In granting this sanction it is understood and agreed that USA Swimming, Potomac Valley Swimming, Nation's Capital Swim Club and the University of Maryland Eppley Recreation Center shall be held free and harmless from any and all liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of this event. 																																													
FACILITY	<p align="center">University of Maryland College Park Campus College Park, MD 20740 (301) 226-4400</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The competition pool at the University of Maryland is 50m x 25yd with two moveable bulkheads. Preliminary and Timed Finals competition will be held on two 25yd courses. The shallow course runs wall to bulkhead and is 8' deep at the starting end and 10'6" deep at the turning end. The deep course runs from bulkhead to wall and is 10'6" deep at the starting end and 14' deep at the turning end. Finals events will be held on the shallow course (wall to bulkhead). Eight lanes of continuous warm down will be available. Meet hosts shall ensure the required course dimensions. 																																													
ENTRY DEADLINE	<p align="center">Friday November 22nd, 2024 at 7:00pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. It is anticipated that this event will be fully entered. <p>IMPORTANT: The above date is the deadline for clubs to submit their entries to the Meet Director. Therefore, clubs usually set an earlier deadline to receive entries from their swimmers. Check with your club for this information.</p>																																													
SCHEDULE	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>TENTATIVE</th> <th>Warm Ups</th> <th>Events</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">Thursday, December 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Distance Events</td> <td>4:30 – 5:30 PM</td> <td>5:35 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Friday, December 13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13-14/Open Prelims</td> <td>7:15 – 8:25 AM</td> <td>8:30 AM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11-12 Prelims/ 10&Under Timed Finals</td> <td>12:15 – 1:30 PM</td> <td>1:35 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finals Session</td> <td>4:40 – 5:35 PM</td> <td>5:45 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Saturday, December 14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13-14/Open Prelims</td> <td>7:15 – 8:25 AM</td> <td>8:30 AM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11-12 Prelims/ 10&Under Timed Finals</td> <td>1:00 – 1:55 PM</td> <td>2:00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finals Session</td> <td>4:40 – 5:35 PM</td> <td>5:45 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Sunday, December 15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13-14/Open Prelims</td> <td>7:15 – 8:25 AM</td> <td>8:30 AM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11-12 Prelims/ 10&Under Timed Finals</td> <td>1:00 – 1:55 PM</td> <td>2:00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finals Session</td> <td>4:30 – 5:25 PM</td> <td>5:30 PM</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two courses will be used during the Thursday session, 13 & Over preliminary sessions and the 11-12/ 10 & Under sessions. Athletes should consider this when selecting events. Meet Director reserves the right to adjust times/sessions after entries are received. Timelines will be posted when available. 	TENTATIVE	Warm Ups	Events	Thursday, December 12			Distance Events	4:30 – 5:30 PM	5:35 PM	Friday, December 13			13-14/Open Prelims	7:15 – 8:25 AM	8:30 AM	11-12 Prelims/ 10&Under Timed Finals	12:15 – 1:30 PM	1:35 PM	Finals Session	4:40 – 5:35 PM	5:45 PM	Saturday, December 14			13-14/Open Prelims	7:15 – 8:25 AM	8:30 AM	11-12 Prelims/ 10&Under Timed Finals	1:00 – 1:55 PM	2:00 PM	Finals Session	4:40 – 5:35 PM	5:45 PM	Sunday, December 15			13-14/Open Prelims	7:15 – 8:25 AM	8:30 AM	11-12 Prelims/ 10&Under Timed Finals	1:00 – 1:55 PM	2:00 PM	Finals Session	4:30 – 5:25 PM	5:30 PM
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Prior to the Meet

If you're not familiar with radio use . . .

Review “Radios at PVS Meets”

[https://www.pvswim.org/official/training/
2013-09_Radios_at_PVS_Meets.pdf](https://www.pvswim.org/official/training/2013-09_Radios_at_PVS_Meets.pdf)



Prior to the Meet

What should I bring to the meet?

- **Pens, pencils**
- **Clipboard**
- **Whistle (and an extra one, just in case)**
- **Headset**
- **Rulebook**
- **Meet Announcement**
- **A measuring device**
- **Bell (if program includes distance events)**



Prior to the Meet



Double-check your uniform—remember, you're the role model for the other officials.

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is wearing a headset and holding a clipboard. The background shows a pool with lane lines and a person on a raised platform. A large blue text overlay reads "Upon Arrival".

Upon Arrival

Upon Arrival at the Meet

Arrive at the venue at least 20 minutes prior to the beginning of warm-ups.

Review the list of meet officials and make sure all critical positions are filled.

**Review information from prior sessions;
any issues?**



Upon Arrival at the Meet

How are warm-ups being handled?

Open warm-ups – any swimmer may warm-up in any lane; at some point, specific lanes are restricted as sprint lanes (one-way, dive from block) or pace lanes.

Assigned Lanes – clubs are assigned specific lanes; coach can decide when to restrict an assigned lane for one-way sprints.



Upon Arrival at the Meet

Verify that necessary forms (sign-in sheets for officials, DQ slips, re-seed forms, relay take-off slips, etc.) are on hand.

USA Swimming DISQUALIFICATION REPORT

EVENT# _____ HEAT _____ LANE _____

SWIMMER _____ TEAM _____

BUTTERFLY START _____ SWIM _____ TURN _____ FINISH _____
 KICK: ALTERNATING(1A) _____ BREAST(1B) _____ SCISSORS(1C) _____
 ARMS: NON-SIMULTANEOUS(1E) _____ UNDERWATER RECOVERY(1F) _____
 TOUCH: ONE HAND(1J) _____ NOT SEPARATED(1K) _____
 NON-SIMULTANEOUS(1L) _____ NO TOUCH(1M) _____
 NOT TOWARD THE BREAST OFF WALL(1N) _____
 HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15m(1P) _____ RE-SUBMERGED(1R) _____
 OTHER(1T): _____

BACKSTROKE START _____ SWIM _____ TURN _____ FINISH _____
 NO TOUCH AT TURN(2A)# _____
 PAST VERTICAL AT TURN:
 DELAY INITIATION ARM PULL(2B) _____ DELAY INITIATING TURN(2C) _____
 MULTIPLE STROKES(2D) _____
 TOES OVER LIP OF GUTTER AFTER THE START(2E) _____
 HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15m(2F) _____ RE-SUBMERGED(2G) _____
 NOT ON BACK OFF WALL(2H) _____
 SHOULDERS PAST VERTICAL TOWARDS THE BREAST(2L) _____
 OTHER(2T): _____

BREASTSTROKE START _____ SWIM _____ TURN _____ FINISH _____
 KICK: ALTERNATING(3A) _____ BUTTERFLY(3B) _____ SCISSORS(3C) _____
 ARMS: PAST HIPLINE(3D) _____ NON-SIMULTANEOUS(3E) _____
 ELBOWS RECOVERED OVER WATER(3H) _____
 TOUCH: ONE HAND(3J) _____ NOT SEPARATED(3K) _____
 NON-SIMULTANEOUS(3L) _____ NO TOUCH(3M) _____
 NOT TOWARD THE BREAST OFF WALL(3N) _____
 CYCLE: DOUBLE PULLS/KICKS(3S) _____ KICK BEFORE PULL(3P) _____
 HEAD NOT UP BEFORE HANDS TURN INWARD(3R) _____
 OTHER(3T): _____

FREESTYLE
 NO TOUCH AT TURN(4A)# _____
 HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15m(4B) _____ RE-SUBMERGED(4C) _____

INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
 STROKE INFRACTIONS(5A)# _____ OUT OF SEQUENCE(5B) _____
 FOURTH DISTANCE SWIM IN STYLE OF PREVIOUS STROKE _____

ARTICLE 105 _____

RELAYS
 STROKE INFRACTIONS: (6A-D)# _____ SWIMMER # _____
 EARLY TAKE OFF SWIMMER(6F-H) # _____
 CHANGED ORDER(6L); SWIMMER _____ STROKE _____
 OTHER(6T): _____

MISCELLANEOUS
 FALSE START(7A) _____ DECLARED FALSE START(7B) _____
 DID NOT FINISH(7C) _____ DELAY OF MEET(7D) _____
 OTHER(7T): _____

JUDGE: _____ CJ: _____
(print name clearly) (initial)

REFEREE: _____
(print name clearly)

NOTIFIED: _____ SWIMMER _____ COACH _____

rev. (1/24) **DESK/REFEREE**

USA Swimming
Relay Take Off Judge
 EVENT# _____ HEAT# _____
 (Circle one: SIDE or LANE)
 Swimmer Number

Lane 1	2	3	4
Lane 2	2	3	4
Lane 3	2	3	4
Lane 4	2	3	4
Lane 5	2	3	4
Lane 6	2	3	4
Lane 7	2	3	4
Lane 8	2	3	4

Signature _____

REFEREE RESEED FORM - PVS

For combined/reseeded heats, complete form and give to head judge to ensure correct times are recorded.

ATHLETE'S NAME _____ **MEET ID** _____ **CLUB** _____

FROM _____ **EVENT#** _____ **HEAT#** _____ **LANE#** _____

TO _____ **EVENT#** _____ **HEAT#** _____ **LANE#** _____

DECK SEED PLACED IN EVENT# _____ / **HEAT#** _____ / **LANE #** _____



Upon Arrival at the Meet

Inspect the physical setup: starting blocks secure, lane numbering (ideally right to left as the swimmers face the course; starting number), lane lines, height and distance of backstroke flags, deck markings needed to judge the 15-meters mark, water depth, location of extra starting system, etc.



Upon Arrival at the Meet

Confirm with Meet Referee

- 1. How the meet will be run (dive over starts, clear the pool, etc.)**
- 2. Timing of whistles**
- 3. How coaches/swimmers will be notified of DQs, etc.**
- 4. If a swimmer misses his/her event, will reseeds be allowed—even for positive check-in events?
Under what circumstances will reseed be allowed?
If reseeds will be allowed, who will determine who can or cannot be reseeded?**



Upon Arrival at the Meet

Coordinate with the Admin Official:

- 1. Procedures to close out events.**
- 2. Procedures to communicate empty lanes.**
- 3. Procedures for potential swim-offs (Prelims / Finals meets).**



Upon Arrival at the Meet

Coordinate with the Starter:

- 1. Confirm his/her preferred location for forward and back starts.**
- 2. Review “possible false start” procedure.**
- 3. Discuss accommodations for any swimmers with a disability, if necessary.**



Upon Arrival at the Meet

Coordinate with Announcer (if one is assigned)

- 1. Discuss procedures.**
- 2. For Finals, determine whether swimmers will be introduced prior to the start or while in the water.**



Upon Arrival at the Meet

Make sure the briefing starts early enough that it will be finished at least 10 minutes prior to the beginning of the session.

If there is no CJ, the Deck Referee delivers the briefing.



Upon Arrival at the Meet

If you're delivering the briefing . . .

- **At a typical PVS meet, it's not necessary to brief strokes from memory, but avoid merely reading them verbatim.**
- **Try to make eye contact with the officials.**
- **Be complete, but don't embellish.**
- **Answer questions, but don't get bogged down in trivia and improbable scenarios.**
- **If you have apprentices, make them feel comfortable.**
- **Keep an eye on the clock.**

Upon Arrival at the Meet

What NOT to say in the briefing . . .

1. “Does anybody know if this is a guttered pool?”
Look at the pool before the briefing.
2. “Raise your hand 3 to 5 seconds.”
USA-S training documents say to raise hand until it’s recognized.
3. “The first question I’ll ask is ‘Which lane?’.”
You don’t need to warn people. Just do it.

Upon Arrival at the Meet

**Get the session started on time.
A prompt start is a sign of respect for the
swimmers, coaches, officials, spectators.**



A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is holding a clipboard and looking at the man on the left. The background shows a swimming pool with lane lines and a person on a platform in the distance. The text 'During the Meet' is overlaid in a large, bold, blue font.

**During
the Meet**

During the Meet

The Whistle Signals



**Short series of whistles
inviting the swimmers to get ready.**

**Forward start: Long whistle indicates they should
take and maintain their positions on the block, on
the deck, or in the water.**

**Back start: 1st long whistle indicates swimmers
should immediately enter the water.**

**2nd long whistle indicates they should return to
starting position without undue delay (blown when
heads of all swimmers break surface).**

During the Meet

When all swimmers are safely on the blocks (or for Backstroke, when all swimmers have returned to the wall), turn the heat over to the Starter with an outstretched arm.



During the Meet

After the swimmers enter the pool,

- **Look back at start end judges.**
- **Scan the scoreboard (if in line of sight) to ensure the clock is running.**



During the Meet

Watch the swimmers, the officials, the pool, the entire venue.

Referee's position is based on the best place to observe the competition. Some Referees prefer to move a few meters down the course, if the pool design allows it.

Never turn your back to the pool while a heat is in the water.



During the Meet

Note the start time (if it's the first heat of an event), empty lanes, as well as disqualifications on the heat sheet.

Inform Admin of empty lanes, if requested.

2024 MD LSC Senior Champs - 2/22/2024 to 2/25/2024
Meet Program - Session 4: Saturday February 24, 2024 - Prelims

9:38

Event 20 Boys 200 Yard Butterfly

Lane	Name	Age	Team	Seed Time
Heat 1 of 8 Prelims				
1	Kabenge, Stanley K	16	Jcc Swimming-MD	2:11.99
2	Fukui, Yoshi E DFS	17	Jcc Swimming-MD	2:10.98
3	Meledick, Ryan J	15	Bayside Aquatics-MD	2:10.91
4	Hernandez, Julian S	15	Annapolis Swim Club-MD	2:10.59
5	Book, Tyson W	15	North Baltimore-MD	2:10.89
6	Puttlitz, Charlie J	16	Annapolis Swim Club-MD	2:10.97
7	Lu, James C	16	Eagle Swim Team-MD	2:11.29
8	McKnight, Caden R	17	Spy Swim Team-MD	2:17.71
Heat 2 of 8 Prelims				
1	Weir, Nathan P	15	Frederick Area Swim Team-MD	2:10.37
2	McQuaid, Liam H	16	North Baltimore-MD	2:10.08
3	Moran, Jared A	15	Annapolis Swim Club-MD	2:09.65
4	Goldstein, Ben A NS	15	Loyola Blakefield Aquatics-MD	2:09.21
5	Lynch, Henry M	15	Cardinal and Gold Aquatics-MD	2:09.33
6	Navarra, Niall J	17	North Baltimore-MD	2:09.71
7	Tetrault, Caden J	17	Annapolis Swim Club-MD	2:10.33
8	Herman, Holden O DFS	15	Meadowbrook Swim Team-MD	2:10.52
Heat 3 of 8 Prelims				
1	Smith, Jordan P	16	Bayside Aquatics-MD	2:09.17
2	Rager, Julian C	16	YCM-MD	2:08.16
③	Von Wachter, Caleb G FS	16	Eagle Swim Team-MD	2:06.66
4	Villagomez, Jacob C	15	North Baltimore-MD	2:06.41
5	Telewoda, Joseph A	16	North Baltimore-MD	2:06.53
6	Lind, Matthew F	16	North Baltimore-MD	2:07.19
7	Winn, Cody R	15	Naval Academy Aquatic Club-MD	2:08.96
8	Reed, Bennett C	15	Annapolis Swim Club-MD	2:09.20
Heat 4 of 8 Prelims				
1	Hu, Jeffrey DFS	15	North Baltimore-MD	2:06.17
2	Molina, Alan Y	17	Naval Academy Aquatic Club-MD	2:05.27
3	Shahani, Rahul L	15	Eagle Swim Team-MD	2:05.09
4	Hoy, Connor W	17	CAA-MD	2:03.24
5	Tiffin, Connor T	18	Eagle Swim Team-MD	2:03.45
6	Porter, Billy J	16	Eagle Swim Team-MD	2:05.23
7	Kelley, Riordan E	15	Sprc Stingrays-MD	2:05.91
8	Lazaga-Lucila, Gabriel	15	CAA-MD	2:06.27

During the Meet

False Starts

- **Mark your heat sheet without being obvious.**
- **Remember: Starter initiates the process.**
- **Both must agree.**
- **Should be a minimum of discussion.**



During the Meet

Be aware of the timeline

Round	Event	Entries	Heats	Starts at	
Prelims	13 Women 11-12 50 Butterfly	51	6	09:00 AM	_____
Prelims	14 Men 11-12 50 Butterfly	43	5	09:05 AM	_____
Prelims	15 Women 13-14 100 Butterfly	12	2	09:09 AM	_____
Prelims	16 Men 13-14 100 Butterfly	12	2	09:11 AM	_____
Prelims	17 Women 15-18 100 Butterfly	20	3	09:14 AM	_____
Prelims	18 Men 15-18 100 Butterfly	13	2	09:17 AM	_____
	Break: 5 Minutes:				
Prelims	19 Women 11-12 50 Breaststroke	45	5	09:25 AM	_____
Prelims	20 Men 11-12 50 Breaststroke	44	5	09:29 AM	_____
Prelims	21 Women 13-14 100 Breaststroke	27	3	09:33 AM	_____
Prelims	22 Men 13-14 100 Breaststroke	20	2	09:37 AM	_____
Prelims	23 Women 15-18 100 Breaststroke	5	1	09:40 AM	_____
Prelims	24 Men 15-18 100 Breaststroke	19	2	09:41 AM	_____
	Break: 5 Minutes:				
Prelims	25 Women 11-12 100 Freestyle	41	5	09:49 AM	_____
Prelims	26 Men 11-12 100 Freestyle	56	6	09:55 AM	_____
Prelims	27 Women 13-14 200 Freestyle	12	2	10:03 AM	_____
Prelims	28 Men 13-14 200 Freestyle	14	2	10:07 AM	_____
Prelims	29 Women 15-18 200 Freestyle	18	2	10:11 AM	_____
Prelims	30 Men 15-18 200 Freestyle	7	1	10:16 AM	_____
Prelims	31 Women 11-12 200 IM	41	5	10:18 AM	_____
Prelims	32 Men 11-12 200 IM	39	4	10:31 AM	_____
Prelims	33 Women 13-14 400 IM	8	1 u	10:42 AM	_____
Prelims	34 Men 13-14 400 IM	8	1 u	10:47 AM	_____
Prelims	35 Women 15-18 400 IM	9	1 u	10:51 AM	_____

But don't be a slave to it.

During the Meet

Be on the look out for judges' raised hands, then be ready for CJ's radio call.

If you can't "see" the violation in your mind's eye, it's perfectly OK to ask for more details.



During the Meet

Vetting the Call

Determining the viability of the Judge's call



Questions to ask the Judge:

- ✓ Which lane?
- ✓ What did you see?
- ✓ Are there any aspects that need more details or further clarification?
- ✓ Reiterate heat and lane one more time.

Questions to ask yourself:

- ✓ Is the call within the judge's jurisdiction?
- ✓ Were the swimmer's actions a violation of the rules?
- ✓ Does the judge appear confident of what he/she observed?

Be aware of any signs of equivocation or doubt (“I think . . .”; “I’m pretty sure . . .”; “Maybe . . .”).

During the Meet

When the initial call comes in, make note of it on your heat sheet.

When the fully vetted call comes in, note a brief description of the violation.

ational - 12/12/2024 to 12/15/2024
on #8 - Sunday Prelims 13&O

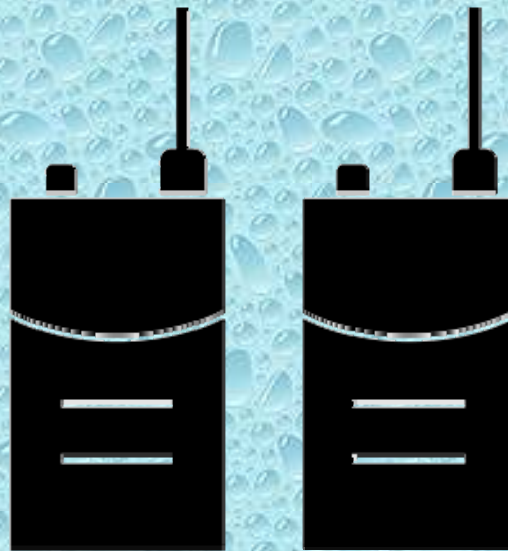
9:20

Event 101 Women 200 Yard Backstroke

Lane	Name	Age	Team	Seed Time
Heat 1 of 4 Prelims				
1	Zalalutdinov, Darya	17	RMSC/MLK	2:31.69 YB
2	Wang, Christine	15	RMSC/GISC	2:19.56 YB
3	Gendron, Karina	18	DST	2:16.53 YB
4	Gao, Elizabeth	17	RMSC/ROCK	2:16.47 YB
5	Krupinski, Grace <i>NS</i>	17	ASA	2:14.83
6	Martinez, Denise	17	RMSC/ROCK	2:15.86 YB
7	McCarty, Jacqueline	16	RMSC/ROCK	2:16.51 YB
8	Rykaczewski, Reagan	15	DST	2:17.36 YB
9	Sha, Anabel	16	RMSC/ROCK	2:20.20 YB
10				
Heat 2 of 4 Prelims				
1	Salvatore, Isabelle	18	DSA	2:14.74
2	Ochs, Lia	15	PAAC	2:11.84
③	Lake, Alice <i>DQ</i>	16	RAC <i>DIT - #3</i>	2:09.63
4	Dean, Skylar	17	RMSC/OSC	2:06.91
5	Watkins, Celia	16	RMSC/GISC	2:03.60
6	Strucko, Lydia <i>DFS</i>	15	PAAC	2:05.18
7	Mitchum, Anna	17	RMSC/ROCK	2:07.83
8	Chen, Elizabeth	15	RMSC/ROCK	2:10.26
9	Evans, Tegan	16	PAAC	2:12.89
10	Katz, Ariana	16	RMSC/GISC	2:14.81
Heat 3 of 4 Prelims				
1	Henry, Paige	16	RMSC/KSAC	2:13.77
2	Steves, Madeleine	16	FISH	2:11.65
3	Cai, Anika	15	RMSC/ROCK	2:08.49

During the Meet


Repeat the call back to the CJ, verifying event, heat, lane information, and whether you accept the disqualification or need more information. Extended conversations should be taken offline and not broadcast on the radio.



During the Meet

Review DQ slips very closely. Slips should fully describe the disqualification and be written in accordance with the rule.

Double check the event number, heat, and lane as well as the athlete's name to make sure it's correct.

 **DISQUALIFICATION REPORT**

EVENT# 25 HEAT 4 LANE 8

SWIMMER Lauren Order TEAM REM

BUTTERFLY START ___ SWIM ___ TURN ___ FINISH ___
KICK: ALTERNATING(1A) ___ BREAST(1B) ___ SCISSORS(1C) ___
ARMS: NON-SIMULTANEOUS(1E) ___ UNDERWATER RECOVERY(1F) ___
TOUCH: ONE HAND(1J) ___ NOT SEPARATED(1K) ___
NON-SIMULTANEOUS(1L) ___ NO TOUCH(1M) ___
NOT TOWARD THE BREAST OFF WALL(1N) ___
HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15m(1P) ___ RE-SUBMERGED(1R) ___
OTHER(1T): _____

BACKSTROKE START ___ SWIM ___ TURN ___ FINISH ___
NO TOUCH AT TURN(2A)# _____
PAST VERTICAL AT TURN: _____
DELAY INITIATION ARM PULL(2b) ___ DELAY INITIATING TURN(2c) ___
MULTIPLE STROKES(2D) _____
TOES OVER LIP OF GUTTER AFTER THE START(2E) _____
HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15m(2F) ___ RE-SUBMERGED(2g) ___
NOT ON BACK OFF WALL(2H) ___
SHOULDERS PAST VERTICAL TOWARDS THE BREAST(2L) ___
OTHER(2T): _____

BREASTSTROKE START ___ SWIM X TURN ___ FINISH ___
KICK: ALTERNATING(3A) ___ BUTTERFLY(3B) ___ SCISSORS(3C) X
ARMS: PAST HIGHLINE(3D) ___ NON-SIMULTANEOUS(3E) ___
ELBOWS RECOVERED OVER WATER(3H) ___
TOUCH: ONE HAND(3J) ___ NOT SEPARATED(3k) ___
NON-SIMULTANEOUS(3L) ___ NO TOUCH(3M) ___
NOT TOWARD THE BREAST OFF WALL(3N) ___
CYCLE: DOUBLE PULLS/KICKS(3s) ___ KICK BEFORE PULL(3P) ___
HEAD NOT UP BEFORE HANDS TURN INWARD(3R) ___
OTHER(3T): _____

FREESTYLE
NO TOUCH AT TURN(4A)# _____
HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15m(4b) ___ RE-SUBMERGED(4C) ___

INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
STROKE INFRACTION(S) (5A)# _____ OUT OF SEQUENCE(5B) ___
FOURTH DISTANCE SWUM IN STYLE OF PREVIOUS STROKE _____

ARTICLE 105 _____

RELAYS
STROKE INFRACTIONS: (6A-D)# _____ SWIMMER # _____
EARLY TAKE OFF SWIMMER(6F-H) # _____
CHANGED ORDER(6L): SWIMMER ___ STROKE ___
OTHER(6T): _____

MISCELLANEOUS
FALSE START(7A) ___ DECLARED FALSE START(7B) ___
DID NOT FINISH(7C) ___ DELAY OF MEET(7D) ___
OTHER(7T): _____

JUDGE: Rick O'Shea CJ: JN
(print name clearly) (initial)

REFEREE: Barb Dwyer
(print name clearly)

NOTIFIED: _____ SWIMMER _____ COACH _____

rev. (1/24) **DESK/REFEREE**

During the Meet

Avoid overruling your officials when possible, but overturn a call if a clear error has been made or if the official cannot adequately explain a call.



The benefit of the doubt goes to the swimmer.

The benefit of the doubt goes to the swimmer.

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During the Meet

Be careful of setting precedents with early decisions.

Take your time to review all pertinent information before making a decision.

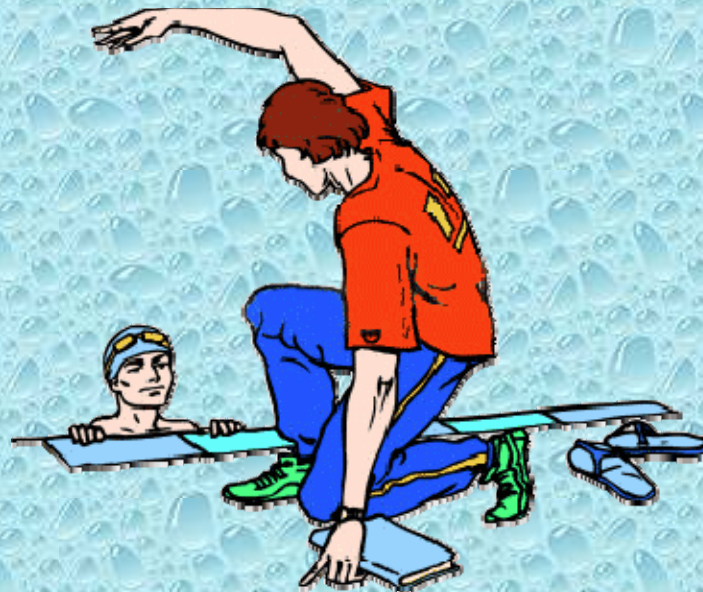
Don't be afraid to seek the advice and opinion of others.



During the Meet

Expect coaches to be passionate advocates for their swimmers, but also expect them to be respectful.

Listen to what the coach has to say and take it seriously. Often all the coach needs is additional information. But, if necessary, investigate further and seek additional information from the official who made the call.



During the Meet

If warranted, the DQ can be overturned.

If not warranted, clearly explain your reasoning to the coach.



During the Meet

A formal protest can be made if the coach is not satisfied.

Protests against the judgment decisions of starters, stroke, turn, place and relay take-off judges can only be considered by the Referee, and the Referee's decision shall be final.



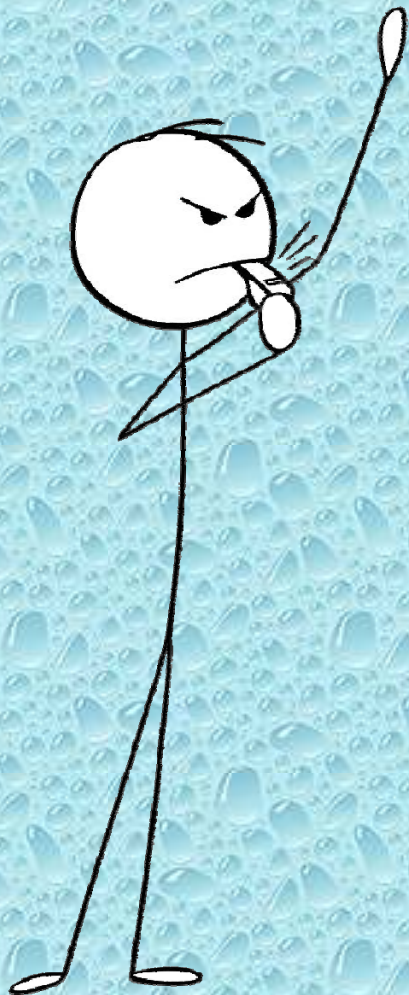
During the Meet

Rule 102.13.2 gives the Referee authority to disqualify a swimmer for any violation personally observed by the Referee.

Calls made under this authority should be extremely rare, as they can result in an unbalanced deck.



During the Meet



If such a call is made, it should be for an obvious violation that can be seen from anywhere on the deck.

During the Meet

Close out events as per the instructions of the Meet Referee or the Admin Official (sometimes done verbally, sometimes done on the heat sheet).

Note the number of no shows, disqualifications, declared false starts, reseeds/deck seeds.

Event Close Out								
NS		DQ		DFS		Deck Changes		DR Initials

In Prelims/Finals meets, check with the AO to see if any ties need to be resolved.

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is wearing a headset and holding a clipboard. The background shows a large indoor pool with lane markers and a blurred crowd. The text 'After the session' is overlaid in a large, bold, blue font.

After the session

After the Session

Thank officials, volunteers.

Remain at least 10-15 minutes to answer any questions and to be sure that no protest is being made.

Meet with apprentice officials, answer questions.



What's New in the 2025 Rulebook?

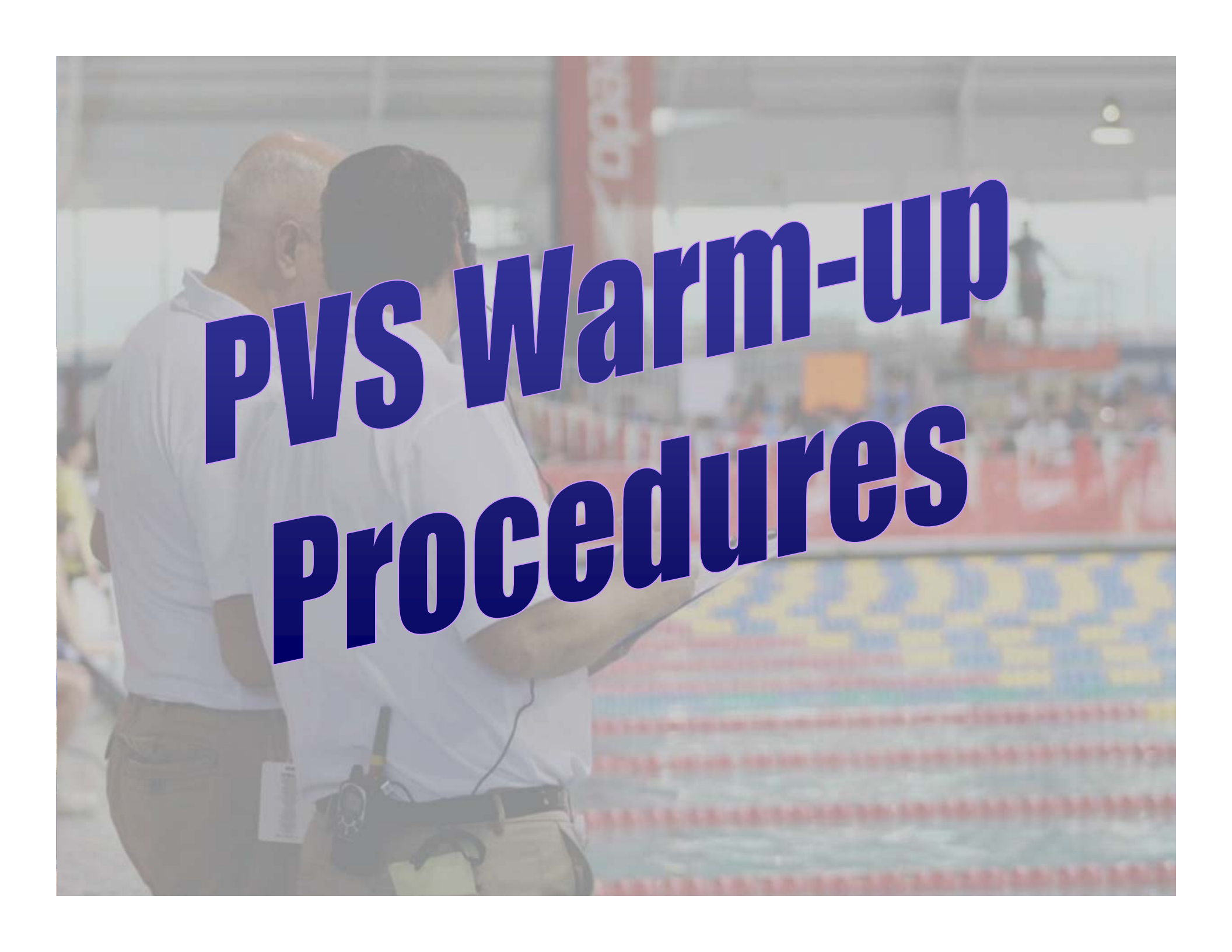


A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is holding a clipboard and looking at the man on the left. They appear to be referees or officials. The background shows a swimming pool with lane lines and a blurred crowd of spectators. The text 'The Meet Referee' is overlaid in a large, bold, blue font.

The Meet Referee

The Meet Referee

- Serves as overall Team Leader.
- Has overall responsibility for the conduct of the meet.
- May assist host team's Officials Chair in recruiting and assigning officials for the meet; verifies that all officials are appropriately registered and certified.
- Reviews entries and timelines; recommends solutions if there are any problems.
- Ensures consistency from session to session.
- Serves as chief safety officer.
- Helps to ensure MAAPP compliance.
- Conducts coaches meetings, if necessary.
- Enforces meet procedures and decorum.
- Handles meet issues.
- Determines deck protocol, optimal deployment of deck officials.
- Provides break for Deck Referee, Starter, CJs, if needed.
- Explains disqualifications to coaches.
- Helps resolve timing issues.
- Ensures that staffing information is entered into OTS.

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is holding a clipboard and looking at the man on the left. The pool has colorful lane lines (red, yellow, blue, green) and a person is visible in the water in the background. The text 'PVS Warm-up Procedures' is overlaid in large, bold, blue letters.

PVS Warm-up Procedures

The Meet Referee

Potomac Valley endorses two specific warm-up formats:

Assigned Warmups

- **Teams are assigned to specific lanes, for specified periods of time, in proportion to the number of their entries.**
- **During assigned warm-ups, each team may conduct their own warm-up routine provided that a certified USA Swimming coach is stationed at the starting block of each lane assigned to the team, and that coach assumes the duties of a Marshal in supervising the warm-up in that lane.**



The Meet Referee

Open Warmups

- **Warm-ups where there are no team lane assignments and lanes are designated for a specific activity for a specified period of time.**
- **Invigilators and marshals shall supervise all warm-up periods. Coaches shall not permit their athletes to enter the pool until the marshals have declared the pool open for warm-up. No entry is permitted across lanes, from the poolside, or from the non-start end of the pool, under any circumstances.**
- **Invigilators / marshals shall clear the lane of all swimmers before opening the lane for sprinting. All sprint lanes are one-way only and the swimmer must exit at the opposite end of the pool.**

The Meet Referee

Open Warmups

- **During open warm-ups, periods are divided equally between general and specific programs. The first half of the warm-up will be dedicated to general warm-up and the last half of the warm-up will be dedicated to specific warm-up. During the general warm-up, no pace work or sprinting will be permitted. During the specific warm-up, the outside lanes will be designated as pace lanes and lanes 2 & 7 of an eight-lane pool will be opened for sprinting in accordance with the procedures outlined previously.**
- **The use of kickboards, hand paddles, and similar training devices, are not permitted in open warm-ups.**



The background image shows two men in white polo shirts standing near a swimming pool. The man on the left is balding and has his back to the camera. The man on the right has dark hair and is wearing glasses, looking towards the first man. They appear to be in conversation. In the background, there is a swimming pool with lane lines and a blurred crowd of people. The text is overlaid on this scene.

**Athletes Requiring
Accommodations
and/or Modifications**

The Meet Referee

Swimmers with a Disability

USA Swimming Rules & Regulations grant the Referee the authority to modify the rules for the swimmer with a disability. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

Article 105.1.1



The Meet Referee

The Meet Referee's responsibilities include:

- 1. Determining if the requested accommodations and/or modifications are appropriate and can be met.**
- 2. Instructing the Deck Referee and Starter as to how the accommodations and/or modifications will be made for the swimmer with a disability.**
- 3. In communication with the remaining officiating crew, a Meet Referee may:**
 - a) Instruct them to observe and report ANY violation of the rules and vet the call against the approved modification(s) and apply Article 105 to overturn the call, or**
 - b) Share the specific modification(s) and instruct them to observe and report any violation except the approved modification(s).**

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is wearing a headset and holding a clipboard, while the man on the left looks on. The background shows a large indoor pool with lane markers and a person on a raised platform. The text 'Report of Occurrence' is overlaid in a large, bold, blue font.

Report of Occurrence

The Meet Referee

The Report of Occurrence shall be submitted by the coach, official or someone affiliated with the club/facility any time there is an accident or injury during any USA Swimming activities such as Sanctioned or Approved swim meets, swimming practices, contracted swim-a-thons or approved social events. The parent or injured party should NOT submit the form. The online form does require that certain sections, indicated by an asterisk, be completed before it can be submitted.

<https://fs22.formsite.com/usaswimming/form18/index.html>





USA Swimming Report of Occurrence

To be completed by coach / official / club or facility representative (not parent or injured party). PLEASE REFRAIN FROM USING PERSONAL NAMES IN THE ADDITIONAL DETAIL FIELDS. Indicate "athlete" or "swimmer" instead, as in "swimmer slipped and fell on pool deck" or "athlete's knee was injured."

INJURED PARTY INFORMATION

First Name (legal) *

Last Name (legal) *

Address *

City *

State *

Zip Code *

Contact Phone (include area code) *

E-mail

Gender * Male Female

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) *

Age at Time of Accident *

USA Swimming Member * Yes No

Is the injured athlete currently enrolled in Elite Athlete Health Insurance through the US Olympic Committee (N/A for non-athletes)? Yes No

LSC *

Name of Club (enter UN if unattached) *

USA Swimming ID (if known)

ACCIDENT INFORMATION

Date of Accident *

- Activity at Time of Injury *
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Meet - Competition | <input type="radio"/> Meet - Warm-up |
| <input type="radio"/> Meet - Warm Down | <input type="radio"/> Meet - Entering / Pool |
| <input type="radio"/> Meet - Watching / Observing | <input type="radio"/> Meet - Walking |
| <input type="radio"/> Practice - Entering / Exiting Pool | <input type="radio"/> Practice - Dry Land |
| <input type="radio"/> Practice - Other | <input type="radio"/> Swimjitsu - Entering / Exiting Pool |
| <input type="radio"/> Swimjitsu - Dry Land | <input type="radio"/> Swimjitsu - Other |
| <input type="radio"/> Other | |

ACCIDENT INFORMATION

Date of Accident * 📅

Activity at Time of Injury * Meet - Competition Meet - Warm-up
 Meet - Warm Down Meet - Entering / Pool
 Meet - Watching / Observing Meet - Walking
 Practice - Entering / Exiting Pool Practice - Dry Land
 Practice - Other Swimjitsu - Entering / Exiting Pool
 Swimjitsu - Dry Land Swimjitsu - Other
 Other

Where Accident Occurred * Water - Start End Water - Turn End
 Water - Side Water - Bottom
 Water - Lane Lines Bleachers - Athlete's
 Bleachers - Spectator's Deck
 Starting Blocks Locker Room
 Team Area Hallway
 Stairs Gym
 Outside Venue Other

Source of Injury * Slip / Trip / Fall Struck Against / Ran Into
 Lifting / Straining Insect Sting / Bite
 Foreign Body Air Quality
 Heat / Sun Other

Additional Details of Accident



FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name *

Address

City *

State *

Zip Code

Swim Club Responsible for the Pool

Pool Type * Indoor Outdoor

INJURY INFORMATION

- Body Part Injured *
- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Head - Top | <input type="checkbox"/> Head - Back | <input type="checkbox"/> Head - Side |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Head - Forehead | <input type="checkbox"/> Face - Eye | <input type="checkbox"/> Face - Ear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Face - Nose | <input type="checkbox"/> Face - Mouth / Teeth / Lips | <input type="checkbox"/> Face - Chin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Face - Cheek | <input type="checkbox"/> Neck | <input type="checkbox"/> Back |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chest / Stomach | <input type="checkbox"/> Arm / Wrist | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand / Finger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leg | <input type="checkbox"/> Knee | <input type="checkbox"/> Ankle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foot / Toe | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/> | |

- Symptom *
- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cut | <input type="checkbox"/> Bruise | <input type="checkbox"/> Sprain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concussion | <input type="checkbox"/> Unconsciousness | <input type="checkbox"/> Fracture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dislocation | <input type="checkbox"/> Swelling | <input type="checkbox"/> Scrape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of Breath | <input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting | <input type="checkbox"/> Burn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seizure | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/> | |

Additional Details of Injury ?

FIRST AID INFORMATION

- On-site Care Given * Yes No
- Care Refused by Injured * Yes No
- Parent / Guardian Notified * Yes No
- Taken to Hospital / Clinic * Yes No Unknown



**Officials Tracking
System - OTS**

The Meet Referee



The Meet Referee ensures that staffing information is entered into OTS.

Members	Education	Competition	Officials	Help
Officials				
My Official History				
<u>My OTS Meets</u>				
My OTS Evaluations				
National Certification Application				

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing near a swimming pool. The man on the right is wearing a headset and holding a clipboard. The background shows a large indoor pool with lane markers and a crowd of people. The text 'Situations & Resolutions' is overlaid in a large, bold, blue font.

Situations & Resolutions

A coach complains to the Referee that the Starter is “holding the swimmers too long” and asks that she be replaced. The Referee has been closely monitoring the starts, and considers the starts to be patient and fair.

How should this situation be handled?

A coach wants his swimmer to swim Backstroke during the 50 yard Freestyle, since the rule states, “In an event designated Freestyle, the swimmer may swim any style.” On the long whistle the swimmer enters the pool and assumes a backstroke start position. The Referee then hands the heat over to the Starter who starts the heat.

Is this the correct procedure?

During the 100 yard Backstroke, the Starter gives the “Take your marks,” command. The swimmer in lane 4 is having difficulty getting a starting position, so the Starter says “Relax, please.”

Is this the correct procedure?

In the 100 yard Butterfly, the Starter gives the “Take your marks,” command, and the swimmers become stationary. The swimmer in lane 1 leaves his stationary position prior to the starting signal. Upon realizing the early starting motion, the swimmer attempts to stop this motion, trying to remain on the block. The Starter gives the “Stand, please,” command, and the swimmer in lane 1 falls into the pool.

Is this a false start?

In the 200 yard Butterfly, a swimmer is past the flags, approaching the finish. He takes a stroke, recovers, and then dives for the wall with a powerful butterfly kick. As part of the dive, he submerges completely prior to touching the wall. The S&T Judge raises his hand to signal a violation for “fully submerged prior to the finish.”

Should the Referee accept the DQ?

A swimmer begins the Freestyle leg of the 200 Individual Medley by taking several Butterfly kicks. He is disqualified for swimming Butterfly during the Freestyle leg of the medley relay.

Is this a disqualification?

In the 50 yard Freestyle, the Starter recalls the heat because she saw a camera flash that may have disrupted the start. But six of the swimmers continue to swim and complete the 50 yards. The Referee offers all of the swimmers a re-swim and tells the six who completed the race that if they choose to swim again, the faster time of the two races will be recorded.

Is this the correct protocol?

A coach comes to the Referee and reports that one of his Breaststrokers sprained his ankle this week, and as a result is unable to turn out his foot in the kick. The coach declares that the swimmer should be treated as a disabled athlete for this meet and accommodation should be made, relieving the swimmer of the requirement for the feet to be turned out during the propulsive part of the kick.

Should the Referee make this accommodation?

Swimmer and coach approach the Referee during warm-up. The swimmer has a letter from her doctor (on official letterhead) authorizing her to compete using Kinesio tape for an injured shoulder.

Should the Referee allow the swimmer to compete with the taped shoulder?

Rules Interpretation, June 13, 2016:

Article 102.8.1E states in part, ...“Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee.”

Common sense should prevail. The following uses of tape are generally permitted in competition:

1. Wound protection and closure. Band-Aids, dressings, “Butterfly” type, etc. are normally permitted with no advanced notification to the Referee. When the tape to hold a dressing in place completely circles a major limb or the dressing is exceptionally large in size, advanced notification to the Referee is recommended.
2. Taping of fingers or toes. “Buddy Taping” no more than two (2) injured fingers or toes together should be permitted. Advanced notification to the Referee is recommended.
3. Tape to secure medical alert bracelets and pendants, religious objects, etc. should be permitted. Advanced notification to the Referee is recommended.
4. Tape to secure medical devices. Example – insulin pumps, ostomy bags, etc. should be permitted. Advanced notification to the Referee is required.

The following uses of tape are **not permitted** in competition – irrespective of whether a Doctor’s note has been presented.

1. Elastic Therapeutic Tape is never permitted.
2. Kinesio Taping is never permitted.
3. Any other taping intended to provide compression or support to muscles, ligaments, tendons or joints (except as stated above) is never permitted.



Jay Thomas

Chair, USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee

During the 100 yard Backstroke, the Starter gives the “Take your marks,” command. The swimmer in lane 3 clearly starts well before the starting signal, an obvious false start. The Starter does not approach the Referee with any observation of a false start, but the Referee raises his hand to disqualify the swimmer in lane 3 for a false start, knowing that the Referee “has the authority to disqualify a swimmer(s) for any violation of the rules that the Referee personally observes.”

Is this correct protocol?

At the 175 yard turn of the 200 yard Butterfly, a swimmer, realizing how tired he is, legally touches the wall with two hands, stops, stands on the bottom, and pushes off the wall on the breast a few seconds later. The S&T Judge raises her hand, citing 102.21.6: “Standing on the bottom during a Freestyle race shall not disqualify a swimmer . . . Standing on the bottom during any other stroke shall result in disqualification.”

Should the Referee accept this DQ?

A judge reports that, in the 100 Butterfly, a swimmer finishes the race by bumping his head on the wall and then a second or two thereafter touching with two hands. The judge raises his hand for a disqualification.

Should the Referee uphold this call?

In a heat of the 100 yard Breaststroke, the Starter gives the “Take your marks,” command. Several swimmers seem wobbly, so the Starter stands the heat. The swimmer in lane 4 steps completely off the block to the deck. The Starter recommends to the Referee that the swimmer be disqualified for delay of meet.

How should the Referee respond?

Seven swimmers step up for a heat of the 100 yard Butterfly. Lane 3 is empty. A few seconds after the starting signal is given and the heat is in the water, the swimmer seeded in Lane 3 jumps up on the block and dives into the water.

How should the Referee handle this?

For the Breaststroke, the rulebook says, “After the start and after each turn when the swimmer leaves the wall, the body shall be kept on the breast.” For the Butterfly, the rulebook says, “After the start and after each turn, the swimmer’s shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast.”

What’s the difference?

The S&T Judge raises his hand for a DQ, reporting that, at turn two of the 100 yard Freestyle, the swimmer did not touch the wall. The AO reports that the timing system has been working perfectly, and that it recorded a 50-yard split for this swimmer.

What should the Referee do?

An athlete with one arm significantly longer than the other is swimming the 100-yard Breaststroke. At the first turn, the judge signals a disqualification, reporting that the swimmer touched only with the longer arm. The other arm was at the swimmer's side.

Should the Referee accept the disqualification?

Three S&T Judges are positioned at each end of the 100 yard Breaststroke. In Heat 2, the judge having jurisdiction over lanes 6, 7, 8 disqualifies the swimmer in lane 6 for a scissors kick. Subsequent calls are made for the same violation by the same judge in heats 3, 4, and 6. This particular official has been a certified official for 8+ years.

What (if anything) should the Referee do?

A photograph of two men in white polo shirts standing by a swimming pool. The man on the right is wearing a headset and holding a clipboard with a pen, appearing to be taking notes. The man on the left is looking towards the pool. In the background, there are lane lines in the water and a blurred crowd of spectators. A large, bold, blue text overlay reads "questions?".

questions?



See You On Deck!