

USA Swimming
1999/2000 Officials Re-Certification Test

The USA Swimming Officials Committee is pleased that you wish to re-new your certification as a USA Swimming official. Tests are provided in each of the following areas of re-certification:

Timer
Stroke and Turn Judge
Starter
Referee
Administrative
Clerk of Course
Timing Judge

Directions: Each test is in a multiple choice/true-false format and is composed of 5 to 25 questions. The questions are based on the *1999 USA Swimming Rules and Regulations* published by USA Swimming, Inc. (ISSN 0742-7808). As was the case as when you joined USA Swimming, Inc. as a non-athlete (official) member in your LSC, you will receive by mail a copy of the *Rules and Regulations*. Study the technical rules carefully in answering the questions on each test.

There is a single best choice for each question. You will be required to cite the Glossary (if applicable) or all the appropriate articles and sub-paragraphs of the technical rules for each question. Review the technical rules thoroughly, since there may be more than one citation for each question. A sample question with the proper technical reference is given below:

ANSWER & TECHNICAL REFERENCE

- [1] From the beginning of the first arm stroke, the position of the body shall be kept:
- a. on the breast.
 - b. past vertical towards the breast.
 - c. in any position.

a. 101.1.2

Each LSC may determine how it wishes to use any or all of the sections in this test. The USA Swimming Officials Committee considers this test to be an educational tool that should be used to supplement or reinforce teaching points to be presented at officials clinics; consequently, it recommends this be administered as an "open book" exam. It also recommends against giving all sections of the test to all officials. Conversely, since they are responsible for everything that goes on at a meet, referees should take all sections of the test, not just the **Referee** section. Individuals who are re-certifying for a particular position other than referee should take the appropriate specialized section and any other sections - or specific questions from other sections - that would assist them in performing their job better (e.g., a clerk of course applicant might take the **Clerk of Course** section plus questions 8-13 inclusive from the **Administrative** section). The matrix at the end of this sheet indicates a recommended application of these test sections. If you are upgrading your certification you may take

the Re-Certification Tests for your previous level of certification but should take the entire test for the new level. (e.g., A starter wishing to become a referee may take the Re-Certification tests for **Timer**, **S&T** and **Starter** but should take the entire **Ref** and **Admin Ref** tests.) There is no difference between the original and the Re-Certification Tests for **Clerk of Course** and **Timing Judge**.

There is provided a separate answer page on which you are to record your letter answers and technical references. Please retain the test booklet with your answers marked on it for your reference and return the completed answer page only, in accordance with your LSC's instructions, to your LSC's Officials Chairperson (or his designee) who will let you know the results. The Officials Committee extends to you the best of luck and hopes that your volunteer service to USA Swimming will continue to be both enjoyable and rewarding.

Recommended Application of the Re-Certification Tests

Certifying Position	Sections						
	Timer	S&T Judge	Starter	Ref	Administrative	CofC	TJ
Referee	R	R	R	R	R	x	x
Starter	R	R	R		q #s 8-13 incl.	x	x
Timing Judge	R					x	x
S&T Judge	R	R					
Clerk of Course					q #s 8-13 incl.	x	
Timer	R						

x = entire original test
R= re-certification test

q = question #s from that section in addition to those from the position's primary section of the test

Officials Committee-1999/2000

Effective: May 15, 1999

Ltr 2

USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000
Timer

Multiple Choice/True-False

Answer & Technical Reference

[1] The Head Lane Timer shall:

- a. determine that the proper swimmer is in his lane.
- b. determine that relay swimmers are swimming in the order listed on the timer's card.
- c. neither of the above.
- d. both a & b.

[2] The number of timers required for each competitor when automatic or semiautomatic equipment is not available is:

- a. one.
- b. two or three.
- c. no less than three.

[3] A lane timer may operate:

- a. a manual watch or button only.
- b. a manual watch and a button.
- c. two buttons.

[4] At the start, a timer should start the watch:

- a. at the instant of observing the visual starting signal.
- b. preferably at the instant of sound.
- c. either of the above.

[5] After the start of a relay heat, the Head Lane Timer shall change, on the lane timer's card, the first name and last name, the age and order of any relay swimmer whom a coach substitutes.

- a. True.
- b. False.

[6] The Lane Timer's position at the finish is:

- a. at the side of the pool.
- b. directly over the assigned lane.
- c. behind the block of the assigned lane.

Effective: May 15, 1999

Timer 1

USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000
Timer

- [7] Whenever semi-automatic or manual timing is used, if all three buttons or watch times disagree, the official time is:
- a. the average of all three watches or buttons.
 - b. the time of the intermediate watch or button.
 - c. the average of the two closest watches or buttons.
-

- [8] When automatic timing equipment is used, lane timers consider the backstroke finished:
- a. only when the swimmer contacts the touch pad.
 - b. when any part of the swimmer touches the wall.
-

- [9] When three watches on a lane are the primary timing system, the official time is:
- a. the time of two watches that agree.
 - b. The average of all three watches.
 - c. the average of the fastest two watches.
-

- [10] When the times from only two watches are available, the official time is:
- a. the slower of the two watches.
 - b. the faster of the two watches.
 - c. the average of the two watches.
-

Effective: May 15, 1999

Timer 2

**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000
Stroke and Turn Judge**

Multiple Choice/True-False

Answer & Technical Reference

BREASTSTROKE

[1] If the hands recover over the water, the following part of the body must be under the water:

- a. the hands.
- b. the arms.
- c. the elbows.

[2] After the start and each turn, a downward butterfly kick is permitted:

- a. once.
- b. twice.
- c. at any time.
- d. never.

[3] At the turns and the finish, it is permissible for the head to be below the water surface after the final arm pull and prior to the touch:

- a. only in an incomplete stroke cycle.
- b. only in a complete stroke cycle.
- c. provided it breaks the surface of the water during any part of the last complete or incomplete cycle preceding the touch.

[4] At the turns and the finish, it is permissible for a shoulder to be dropped after the final arm pull and prior to the touch:

- a. to streamline the body for the turn.
- b. in National Championships only.
- c. in meets other than National Championships.
- d. in all USA Swimming competition.

[5] At the finish, the hands must touch simultaneously while the body is:

- a. on the breast.
- b. past the vertical toward the breast.
- c. in any position.

USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000
Stroke and Turn Judge

BUTTERFLY

[6] From the beginning of the first arm pull, the position of the body shall be:

- a. on the breast, shoulders in line with water surface.
 - b. shoulders past the vertical towards the breast.
 - c. in any position.
-

[7] At the turns and the finish, while the body is on the breast, both hands must touch simultaneously:

- a. only at the water surface.
 - b. only above the water surface.
 - c. at, above, or below the water surface.
-

[8] At the turns and the finish, it is permissible for a shoulder to be dropped after the final arm pull and prior to the touch:

- a. only in yard events.
 - b. only in meter events.
 - c. in either yard or meter events.
 - d. never.
-

BACKSTROKE

[9] If, after a legal start, a swimmer curls his toes over the lip of the gutter, he should be disqualified by:

- a. the Starter.
 - b. the Stroke and Turn Judge.
 - c. the Head Lane Timer.
 - d. no one.
-

[10] During the turn, if the shoulders turn past vertical, the swimmer:

- a. may take two arm pulls to reach the wall.
 - b. may take only one continuous single or continuous simultaneous double arm pull to execute the turn.
 - c. must make a freestyle flip turn.
-

**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000
Stroke and Turn Judge**

BACKSTROKE (Cont.)

[11] During the turn, if the shoulders turn past vertical, the swimmer:

- a. may glide to get into position prior to initiating an arm pull.
 - b. may complete the arm pull and then kick independently to initiate the turning action.
 - c. must be past the backstroke flags.
 - d. shall not kick or make an arm pull independent of the continuous turning action.
-

[12] If, after turning past vertical toward the breast to make a turn, a swimmer somersaults and fails to touch the wall with part of his body but returns to the back and resumes swimming the backstroke properly, the swimmer:

- a. may swim back to the wall and touch without being disqualified.
 - b. may scull backwards until the feet touch the wall and is not disqualified.
 - c. is disqualified.
-

[13] When finishing, the swimmer:

- a. must touch the wall while on the back.
 - b. must turn past vertical after passing the backstroke flags and prior to the touch.
 - c. may be fully submerged after passing the backstroke flags provided he stays on the back.
-

FREESTYLE

[14] If a swimmer elects to swim the butterfly in an individual freestyle event, he or she:

- a. may alter the stroke at any time during the race.
 - b. must do so for the entire length of the race.
 - c. must do so for one complete length of the pool.
-

**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000
Stroke and Turn Judge**

FREESTYLE (Cont.)

[15] If a swimmer misses a touch on a turn and, before touching at the opposite end of the pool, swims back to the wall and touches, he or she is:

- a. disqualified.
- b. legal.
- c. disqualified if he or she swims past the backstroke flags.

[16] A swimmer may stop, rest, walk, or push off of the pool bottom.

- a. True.
- b. False.

INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

[17] When changing from one stroke to another in the Individual Medley, the swimmer's turns shall conform to the:

- a. turn rules for the stroke just completed.
- b. finish rules for the stroke just completed.
- c. freestyle rules.

RELAY EVENTS

[18] In the freestyle leg of the medley relay, a swimmer may use:

- a. crawl stroke only.
- b. any stroke(s) other than breaststroke, butterfly, or backstroke.
- c. any stroke(s) the swimmer chooses.

[19] In relay races, any team member may remain in the water as long as he/she wants.

- a. True.
- b. False.

USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000
Stroke and Turn Judge GENERAL

[20] For judging swimmers with physical disabilities, a judge should:

- a. judge, in accordance with USA Swimming rules, any part of the body that is used.
- b. not judge a part of the body that cannot be used.
- c. base judgment on actual rule, not the swimmer's technique.
- d. all of the above.

[21] It shall be permissible for a swimmer to be completely submerged for a distance of not more than 15 M (16.4 yds) after the start and each turn at which time the head must have broken the surface in:

- a. butterfly.
- b. backstroke.
- c. freestyle.
- d. all of the above.

[22] Grasping a lane line to assist forward motion is permitted:

- a. in freestyle events.
- b. in backstroke events.
- c. anytime.
- d. never.

[23] If a Stroke and Turn Judge fails to raise a hand overhead with open palm upon observing an infraction in an individual event, there shall be no disqualification.

- a. True.
- b. False.

[24] Except for a distance of 15 M (16.4 yds.) at the start and each turn some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water in:

- a. freestyle.
- b. backstroke.
- c. butterfly.
- d. all of the above.

[25] A swimmer must start and finish the race in the same lane.

- a. True.
- b. False.
