

**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.

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[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.

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[3] A lane timer may operate:

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

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[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.

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[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.

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[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.

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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.

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

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

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[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.

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[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.

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[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.

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**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.

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

- a. True.
- b. False.

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**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.

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**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.

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

- a. True.
- b. False.

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**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.

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[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.

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

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

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[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.

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[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.

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

- a. True.
- b. False.

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**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000  
Starter**

Multiple Choice/True-False

Answer & Technical Reference

**ALL STARTS.**

- [1] A swimmer who fails to appear at the starting block for the initial start of the race shall:
- a. be permitted to swim if there is no false start.
  - b. be charged with one false start.
  - c. not be permitted to swim (disqualified).

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- [2] On receiving clearance from the Referee, the Starter directs swimmers to step on the blocks. Swimmers shall step onto the starting platform or blocks and, prior to "take your mark," must have both feet the same distance from the front.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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- [3] In the forward start the swimmer may grab:
- a. the forward edge of the starting block.
  - b. the sides of the starting block.
  - c. no part of the starting block.
  - d. any of the above.

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- [4] When the starting signal is given in a forward start the swimmer must have:
- a. at least one foot at the front of the block.
  - b. at least one foot in the middle of the block.
  - c. both feet at the front of the block.

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- [5] Before the starting signal is given, the Starter, with the concurrence of the Referee, may disqualify a swimmer who delays the start by deliberately entering the water.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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- [6] If a swimmer elects to swim backstroke in a freestyle event he/she must:
- a. do a backstroke start in the water.
  - b. do a forward start from the block or platform.
  - c. do a forward start in the water.
  - d. none of the above.

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**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000  
Starter**

- [7] The Recall Starter sees a false start and activates the recall signal. The swimmer is disqualified for the false start only if the Referee or designated Assistant Referee observed and confirmed the violation.
- a. True.
  - b. False.
- 

**STARTING SWIMMERS WITH DISABILITIES**

- [8] With the Referee's concurrence, swimmers with physical disabilities need not take a step forward on the blocks in the forward start
- a. True.
  - b. False.
- 

- [9] The proper hand signal to indicate "Take your mark" to a deaf or hearing impaired swimmer is:
- a. raise your hand directly overhead.
  - b. move arm from a position directly overhead to shoulder level.
  - c. move arm from shoulder level down to the side of the body.
  - d. with your hand directly overhead, rotate the arm in a tight circular motion.
- 

- [10] When there is a deaf or hard of hearing swimmer in a heat the Starter shall:
- a. do nothing different.
  - b. advise the field that there is a deaf or hard of hearing swimmer in the heat.
  - c. advise the swimmers of the location of the strobe.
-

**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000**  
**Clerk of Course**

Men's 400-meter Freestyle

A. Vendt, Erik	3:52.49	R. Justice, Sean	3:58.36
B. Younghouse, Jon	3:53.06	S. Siciliano, Tim	3:58.50
C. Taner, Ugur	3:55;58	T. Neligan, Brendan	3:58.58
D. Thompson, Chris	3:55.69	U. Potts, Andy	3:58.75
E. Lewis, Nat	3:55.72	V. Leonard, Mark	3:58.86
F. Warkentin, Mark	3:55.81	W. Donnelly, Eric	3:58.86
G. Malchow, Tom	3:56.02	X. Martin, Tim	3:59.58
H. Ramirez, Austin	3:56.47	Y. Neebe, Steven	3:59.95
I. Messner, Adam	3:56.68	Z. VanPool, Ron	4:00.10
J. Painter, Tyler	3:56.90	AA. Sawatzki, Matt	4:00.13
K. Keller, Klete	3:57.30	AB. Davison, James	4:00.24
L. Sirringhaus, Denis	3:57.32	AC. deFrabrique, Yann	4:00.42
M. Irvin, Reeve	3:57.39	AD. Malchak, Mike	4:00.94
N. Mull, Cameron	3:57.70	AE. Hart, Don	4:27.57(y)
O. Dolan, Tom	3:57.80	AF. Caisse, Kris	4:27.72(y)
P. Hartzel, David	3:57.94	AG. Lunsford, Pat	4:28.08(y)
Q. Hooper, Matt	3:58.04	AH. Godsman, Eric	4:28.10(y)

Technical References:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_                      2) \_\_\_\_\_                      3) \_\_\_\_\_  
4) \_\_\_\_\_                      5) \_\_\_\_\_

**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000  
Administrative - Questions 8-13 only**

[8] With the Referee's permission heats of a pre-seeded event may be consolidated.  
a. True.            b. False.

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[9] In a 6-lane pool, eight swimmers in a timed final event must be seeded:  
a. two in the first heat and six in the second heat.  
b. three in the first heat and five in the second heat.  
c. four in each heat.

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[10] In events with more than one heat, a minimum of three swimmers shall be seeded into any preliminary heat, but due to scratches only one may actually swim.  
a. True.            b. False.

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[11] The time achieved by a swimmer in a swim-off shall be the official time used in seeding that swimmer in finals.  
a. True.            b. False.

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[12] If two swimmers who qualify for finals have the same preliminary qualifying times, their lanes are assigned by:  
a. draw.  
b. registration date.  
c. age.  
d. none of the above.

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[13] If all swimmers in a swim-off are disqualified, a lane or lanes must be left open during finals.  
a. True.            b. False.

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**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000**  
**Timing Judge**

Multiple Choice/True-False

Answer & Technical Reference

- [1] The Timing Judge shall:
- a. determine the official order of finish.
  - b. only look at watch times when there is no pad or button times on a lane.
  - c. notify the referee when a time obtained by the primary timing system cannot be used as the official time.
  - d. all of the above.

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- [2] When the primary timing system consists solely of watches, a backup system must still be provided for all competitors to determine the official time.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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- [3] The following official decides whether or not there is a malfunction of the primary timing system:
- a. Timing Equipment Operator.
  - b. Timing Judge.
  - c. Chief Timer.
  - d. Referee.

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- [4] In a timed finals meet, when official times in different heats are identical to the 100<sup>th</sup>s, the final order of finish shall be determined by:
- a. a swim-off.
  - b. place judges.
  - c. declaring a tie.
  - d. flipping a coin.

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- [5] If the primary timing system is either automatic or semi-automatic but is started late, it may be used to determine the order of finish.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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- [6] The official time cannot be determined if only one watch or button time is available.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000**  
**Timing Judge**

[7] The Timing Judge should check for a possible primary timing system error when:

- a. an official reports a late or missed touch.
- b. there is more than .20 second difference between the primary system time and the backup times.
- c. both primary and secondary times are exactly the same, to the 100<sup>ths</sup>, on any lane.

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[8] Judging shall only be used to change the order of finish if:

- a. the swimmers competed in the same heat.
- b. times obtained from properly operating automatic timing equipment are not available.
- c. both place judges determine a different relative order of finish and make a written record.
- d. all of the above.

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[9] When automatic equipment is used and two swimmers tie to the 100<sup>th</sup> of a second, the 1000<sup>ths</sup> may be used to break a tie.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[10] When automatic equipment is used that reports times to 1000<sup>ths</sup>, the final digit is dropped and the time recorded to 100<sup>ths</sup>.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[11] The correction factor applied to the primary times when a malfunction equally affects an entire heat is the simple average of the total time difference between the primary times and the valid back-up times of each swimmer in a heat.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[12] When automatic equipment is used, a potential malfunction exists if there is a difference of 0.30 seconds or more between the primary and secondary times for any lane.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/2000**  
**Timing Judge**

[13] When a malfunction in the primary system is confirmed for a single lane, the secondary time is used as the official time.  
 a. True.            b. False.

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[14] Fill in the official times, noting the lane malfunction.

Primary System - Automatic  
 Secondary system - Semi-automatic, 3-buttons  
 Tertiary system - Manual, one watch

LANE	PRIMARY PAD TIME	BUTTON A	BUTTON B	BUTTON C	WATCH TIME	PAD MINUS MIDDLE BUTTON	OFFICIAL TIME
1	53.75	53.79	53.65	53.48	53.55		
2	54.19	54.03	54.08	54.01	54.00		
3	54.29*	53.49	53.46	53.47	53.45		
4	53.35	53.28	53.25	53.20	53.17		
5	52.92	52.83	52.78	52.68	52.74		
6	52.95	52.90	52.87	52.91	52.85		
7	54.10	53.96	53.81	53.91	53.85		
8	54.12	54.04	54.02	53.97	53.94		

**USA Swimming Officials Re-Certification Test 1999/200**  
**Timing Judge**

[15] Fill in the official times and placement for a heat malfunction in the following situation:

Primary System - Automatic (late manual start confirmed)  
 Secondary system - Semi-automatic, 3-buttons (button times invalid)  
 Tertiary system - Manual, one watch

LANE	PRIMARY PAD TIME	WATCH TIME	WATCH TIMES LESS PAD TIME	HEAT ADJUST-MENT	OFFIC. TIME	ORDER OF FINISH
1	54.80	57.89				
2	54.13	57.20				
3	50.86	53.96				
4	51.68	54.80				
5	52.02	55.08				
6	53.00	56.08				
7	53.46	56.51				
8	54.00	57.04				