

*"If I only had one day left on this earth, I'd spend it at a swim meet because they last forever!"*

Glenda Orth, Georgia Swimming Officials Chairperson, recently shared this sentiment; and, when you're sitting in the crowded bleacher seats at a swim meet, most any swim parent can identify with that feeling!

Georgia Swimming Officials who volunteer at home or away meets (anywhere throughout the United States) are well taken care of with up-to-date heat sheets (even when none are sold), free food in hospitality, free admission, an up-close view of the pool out of the crowded bleacher seats, and often free parking as well.

Are you able to write off any of your travel-related expenses for swimming? How much are you paying for that hotel room in Auburn, Augusta, Charlotte, and Raleigh ...? Do you put miles on your car traveling to swim meets? Have you paid for parking, tolls, hotel rooms, and even airfare in order to attend a swim meet? Georgia Swimming Officials are typically parent volunteers who are able to deduct their swim meet travel expenses when preparing their personal tax returns.

Georgia Swimming is the governing body for USA Swimming in our state. Dynamo is looking for volunteers interested in becoming certified as entry-level officials: either Stroke & Turn Judges, who evaluate swims; or Administrative Judges, who deal with swimmers' entries, timing equipment and scoring, working with Clerk of Course.

Clinics will be offered in Alpharetta on **Saturday, March 28** and **Sunday, March 29**. Advance Registration is required. Clinic pre-registration and payment must be received as soon as possible to secure a space in the class as well as to review advance materials if needed (*NOTE TO SELF*: mark the calendar to respond by March 1 to not miss this opportunity).

For those interested in certification as a **Stroke/Turn Judge**, we're now able to offer you the choice of whether you'd like to do some advance preparation and have a shorter class (2 hours) or just show up for the 4-1/2 hour format with no advance preparation. The **Stroke/Turn Express Clinic** will be offered on **Saturday, March 28 from 9-11am**. The **Stroke/Turn No Advance Prep Clinic** (4-1/2 hour format) will be offered from **10am-2:30pm on Sunday, March 29**.

The **Administrative Judge Clinic** will be offered on **Saturday, March 28 from 9am-1pm** in Alpharetta. If your calendar is already booked on March 28 so that you're unable to participate with your Dynamo friends, an Administrative Judge Clinic will also be offered on **Saturday, March 14 from 9am-1pm** at Mountainview Aquatic Center in Marietta.

Not only does officiating fulfill your volunteer commitment at Dynamo, the time spent is satisfying and yields great friends and experiences. We have a great group of officials with Georgia Swimming at Dynamo. We'd love to have you join us!

**If you have interest to learn more about this opportunity, contact Dynamo parent Julie Allen ([allen.julie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:allen.julie@sbcglobal.net)). Don't delay in expressing your interest to participate. Volunteers from other teams will also have the opportunity to register and spaces are limited.**