

## Swim Meet Officiating

Swim meets are an essential part of the sport of swimming allowing athletes to test their skill and reach their swimming goals. Swimming officials implement the technical and administrative rules of swimming and ensure the competition is fair for all athletes.

In New Brunswick, swim meet officials are volunteers including swim parents, family members, and individuals dedicated to the sport of swimming. To qualify as an upper level official, individuals are certified by Swimming Canada, attend clinics, and receive on-deck training. The FAST swim club holds a number of on-deck training sessions and clinics throughout the swim season. Contact [fastmeetofficials@gmail.com](mailto:fastmeetofficials@gmail.com) for more information.

FAST, like most swim clubs in Canada, heavily relies on our swim families to participate as officials in order to attend and host consistent and fair racing opportunities.

## How to Become a Swim Official

In order to volunteer on deck as an official at a sanctioned swim meet, Swimming Canada requires that individuals are registered. There are two ways for a new volunteer who is aged 14 years or older to register:

1. You may sign up to attend officiating clinics – Introduction to Swimming Officiating and Safety Marshal – which are offered by various swim clubs throughout the season. These clinics are usually offered together. Once you complete these clinics, sign a consent form for the collection and use of specific personal information (PIPEDA form), and agreeing to abide by Swimming NB's Code of Conduct, you may be certified as a Level 1 official.
2. Alternatively, you may take the first two clinics (outlined in #1) online through the Swimming Canada education system. In order to take these clinics online please email FAST's Officials Coordinator asking to be registered with swimming Canada and you will be sent login details for the education system.

As a Level 1 Certified Official you can now start volunteering during sanctioned Swim Meets.

## Higher Level Positions

Once you have gained on-deck experience and feel comfortable, you should request a Deck Evaluation. Before the start of a sanctioned swim meet session with a minimum duration of 2 hours, sign-up for a deck evaluation in the Meet Official's room. You may or may not get specific feedback, but the Session Referee will usually sign off on any evaluations and the Meet Manager should ensure these evaluations are sent to the team Meets & Officials Coordinator. However, it is advisable to ensure the FAST Meets & Officials coordinator is informed of your successful evaluation so they can update your records on the Swimming Canada registration records. You can also log your whenever you officiate on this Officials Account.

Once you have two successful deck evaluations, the next clinic to take is the Inspector of Turns and Judge of Stroke (also known as Stroke & Turn Judge). This allows you to begin to volunteer as a Chief Timekeeper and/or a Stroke & Turns Judge.

**We encourage you to not stop there!**

[Swimming Canada Officiating Resources](#)