

Stroke & Turn Judge On-Deck Training Guide



MINNESOTA
SWIMMING

Overview

The on-deck training of a Stroke & Turn Judge, often called “shadowing”, is critical to preparing a trainee to become successful official. This guide outlines a progressive set of on-deck activities. These are a guide and should be adapted to the need of the trainee.

All Sessions

Determine what activities the official has already done and still needs to do. Each session should build on the trainee’s previous training.

- Check on the trainee’s progress towards obtaining a USA Swimming non-athlete membership.
- Ask if the trainee has taken or started the online test. By session 3 stress the importance of completing the test.

Try to do a quick debrief after the session to answer questions and give directions on next steps.

Session 1

The first session should focus on the basics of officiating.

- Signing in and attending the officials meeting.
- Dress - white top and khaki bottom. Note, this is not required; it’s just preferred.
- Observation:
 - Protocol - review the various ways we position officials.
 - Jurisdiction - what part of the race we cover.
 - Observation - techniques we use to observe the swimmers.
- Technical stroke rules. During each stroke block (block of events with the same stroke) the mentor should recite all the various rules for that stroke.

Session 2

- Try to assign the trainee to different positions including relay take-off.
- Technical stroke rules. The mentor recites and reviews the rules for each stroke.

Session 3

- Technical stroke rules. Trainee recites and reviews the rules for each stroke.
- Introduce the DQ slip.

Session 4 & 5

- Technical stroke rules. Trainee recites and reviews the rules for each stroke.
- Have the trainee fill out the DQ slip for the official.