

9/18/18

Hi Parents and other interested parties,

You have an interest in swimming.

You may or may not be a former swimmer.

You have a child who has also become a swimmer.

You should know that for all the work that your swimmers spend on swimming, one reward is when they attend meets and swim for times. To validate times, the meet needs to have officials that are sanctioned and current. So meets need officials to run correctly. The Walla Walla Swim Club needs more officials to operate as part of inland Empire Swimming (our region).

Becoming a Stroke and Turn official is a first step to endless opportunities to officiate at all levels for meets throughout the country. Officiating is interesting, useful, and vital to keeping swim meets functioning. You will be appreciated, respected, and certainly get the best view on most swims. So why not give it a try?

I am inviting you to learn more about becoming a USA certified Official. Come to one of these meetings, or reach out and let me know you are interested and we will talk later on:

**Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 6 – 7pm** at Whitman Skybox ( You may watch on deck at the meet on Saturday in Moses Lake and gain deck time).

**Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:30 – 11:30am** at Whitman (you may also be on deck during the high school meet at noon if desired- good practice though does not count as deck time).

Certification Requirements:

- On-line Stroke and Turn Certification test.(80% min) [Online Testing Instructions](#) (open book)
- On-Deck Training Time – 9 hours of deck time at a sanctioned meet- over at least 5 sessions and 2 meets.
- USA Non-Athlete Registration: see attached file (renewed each year) This needs to be completed and submitted before you are able to complete the other testing.
- Background check: [USA Swimming Background Check](#) (renewed every 2 years)
- Athlete Protection training: [Athlete Protection Training](#) (renewed every 2 years)

Helpful

- Officiating videos: <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/umfqu> (You may need to sign up to access). There are other videos on YouTube.

The Club is paid for providing officials and running the meets for the high school (boys and girls home meets). Last year we earned \$3,200 from those meets. The club also pays Whitman College for using the pool, and in exchange for a lower fee, the club puts on all Whitman swim meets. All told there are an average of 11-14 meets that WWSC needs to provide officials for.

If you have questions, please reach out and ask Karen Watson, Charity Yaw or myself.  
I look forward to seeing you on deck,

Holly Howard  
509-301-1859 c  
HollyTHoward@gmail.com