

# DECK CONTROL

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# WARM-UP SAFETY

- Are there Marshalls or Lifeguards present? And do they know what they are looking for while watching the pool? The Facility? The Swimmers? The Spectators?
- Are there other personnel necessary to be at the facility? Pool Maintenance Staff, Fire Marshalls?
- Where is your Meet Safety Chair? Visible or multi-tasking?
- Coaches on deck supervising the swimmers?
- Is there an invigilator present during warm-ups?
- How do the swimmers enter the water? Feet First Jumping, Diving? Or 3-Point Entry Method?
- Do you designate separate lanes for 10 & under swimmers when they are in the same session as 11 & older swimmers?

# WARM UP PROCEDURES

- Warm-Up Procedures and schedule must be posted throughout the pool area, announced on a regular basis before and during warm-up, and are to be monitored jointly by the Meet Director and the Meet Referee.
- A complete schedule of lanes and times for all warm-up procedures which must be adhered to at all times.
- All USA Swimming athlete members shall be under the supervision of a USA Swimming member coach.

# Meet Marshall Guidelines:

- Meet Marshalls should be in direct supervision of the pool at all times during warm-ups.
  - Arrive 15 to 30 minutes prior to warm-up (or another designated time) to: meet with the Meet Referee, get identifying attire, get your assignment.
  - Locate the first aid station including: First Aid kit, spinal backboard, rescue implements, AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and the Emergency Action Plan (EAP). –
  - EAP should list important phone numbers, protocol for getting help, name or position of the person on deck who is responsible for activating the EAP. - If there isn't one, discuss with the Meet Referee. Determine where YOU fit into the EAP.

- To help provide a safe environment:
- **Enforce the warm-up and warm-down rules**
  - **NO DIVING**
  - Feet first entry - except in one way sprint lanes (controlled warm-up only).
  - No Backstroke starts except in a controlled one way sprint lane. (They are dives.)
  - No socializing in warm-up/warm-down lanes. Swimming only.
  - Remind swimmers that running, horse play, whipping towels, etc. are dangerous and must be stopped. Remind all that glass is not allowed on deck or in the locker rooms.

- Report any unsafe areas on the deck to the Meet Referee
  - including: loose wires, slippery areas, loose blocks, too many swimmers in a lane, and any other things you consider dangerous.
  - Periodically walk through hallways, seeding area, etc., and, with another adult of your gender, your gender locker rooms.
  - Arrange for “two adult” walk-throughs of the other gender locker rooms.
  - Stop any shaving
- Inform Meet Referee and Meet Management.
  - Blood on the deck or a bleeding swimmer?
  - Immediately notify the Referee and first aid staff.
  - Help cordon off the bloody area until it is properly cleaned.

- Monitor the warm down area throughout the meet. Unauthorized people on Deck? In the venue?
- Watch for inappropriate camera use in locker rooms & in or around the venue. Immediately Inform the Meet Manager or Meet Referee.
- Pay attention to the meet.
- Do not leave the area without the approval of the meet referee.
- Remember: Safety is the Primary Concern.
- Be firm! But not a Tyrant.

# CREDENTIALS - INDOOR AND OUTDOOR

- Check all USA Member Cards or Deck Passes for current dates for each of the required items, not just registration year.
- Expiration Dates may be different.
- Set up a designated area for all coaches and officials to be checked each day.
- Have Coaches sign the “Coaches Sign In Sheet”. This needs to be done each session that the coach/coaches are working. And every coach representing a team must sign and show credentials at every session.



# LOCKER ROOM MONITORING POLICY

- **Purpose** - The following guidelines are designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas
- **Facilities** – The following is a description of our practice and competition facilities to allow athletes and their families to plan their use:
  - Specify the space available for athletes and spectators and officials/coaches to use.
    - No locker room facilities – Swimmers come dressed for practice or meet.

- A changing area that will be shared with the general public.
- A changing area and locker room dedicated to our swimmers.
- **Monitoring – General Policy Considerations:**
  - Coaches and staff make every effort to recognize when an athlete goes into the locker room or changing area during practice and competition. If they do not return in a timely fashion check on their whereabouts

- Discourage parents from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. It should only be a same sex parent and parents should let the coach or administrator know in advance. This is also the case for any athlete requiring assistance due to a disability
- Notification of the facilities policy on locker room monitoring may be the following:
  - We conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas before athletes arrive, post [staff, coach, parent, other adult] directly outside of the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use and leave the doors open only when adequate privacy is still possible.

- Notification of the facilities policy on locker room monitoring may be the following:
  - While we do not post [staff, coach, parent, other adult] inside or at the doors of the locker rooms and changing areas, we do make occasional sweeps of these areas. [Staff, coach, parent, other adult] conduct these sweeps, with women checking on female locker rooms, and men checking on male locker rooms.

# USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER MOBILE RECORDING DEVICES

- Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras increase the risk for different forms of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas.
- The USA Swimming Athlete Protection Policies prohibit the use of such devices in the locker room or other changing area:
- **Article 305.3 Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone camera, is not allowed in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms.**

# QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS IN GROUPS

1. How do you communicate Safety Information to Clubs/Members in your LSC?
2. How does your LSC ensure that only current member coaches are on deck at swim meets? Practice?
3. What procedures does your LSC use to ensure the safety of the athletes, coaches, officials on a pool deck? Before? - During? - After?  
(designated areas, identify obstacles, etc.)