

# New Referee Training

Mountain Hi Swim League

2018 Season

# Stroke Briefing

- ▶ Butterfly
  - ▶ Backstroke
  - ▶ Breaststroke
  - ▶ Freestyle
  - ▶ IM
- 

# Two Kinds of Referee

- ▶ Meet Referee
  - ▶ Deck Referee
  
  - ▶ Strongly recommend keeping the two separate
- 

# The Meet Referee

»» Duties and Responsibilities

# Overview

- ▶ Ensures safety during the meet
  - Pool environment
  - Weather
- ▶ Facilitates fair competition
  - Partners with officials, scoring and clerk of course
- ▶ Prepares officials for the meet
  - Checks equipment
  - Performs a stroke briefing
  - Sets the deck
- ▶ Addresses questions from coaches and parent delegates
- ▶ Handles any protests

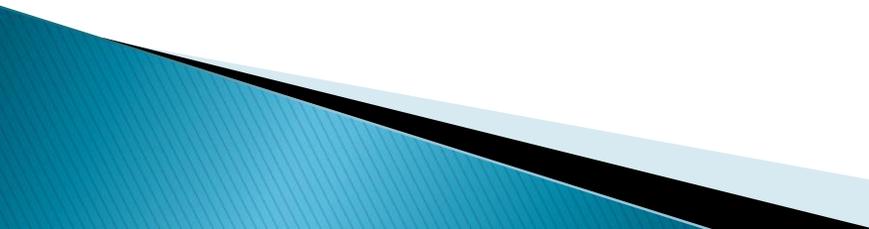
# Meet Morning

- ▶ Preparation is key
- ▶ Bring your Meet Referee binder
  - Forms and documents provided on the Website
    - [mhsl.org](http://mhsl.org) -> Documents->Meet Referee
- ▶ Ensure equipment is ready
  - Starting system is charged and working
  - Radios are charged and set to the proper channel
- ▶ Review timelines and heat sheet
  - Look for opportunities to combine
- ▶ Prepare forms for the meet
  - Relay take off slips
  - Order of Finish log
- ▶ Obtain heat sheets for all officials

# Meet Morning, Continued

- ▶ Put your radios, clipboards, DQ slips and pencils out for officials
- ▶ Ask the announcer to communicate the officials and timers meetings
- ▶ Check for proper course setup
  - Are the blocks secure and in place (Starter responsibility)
  - Backstroke flags are in the correct position
  - Recall rope is ready
- ▶ Run the officials meeting
  - Check that all officials working the deck have the proper league certification
  - Perform a stroke briefing
  - Assign jurisdiction (3 or 4 lanes,  $\frac{1}{2}$  the pool)
  - Set your deck positions and rotation
- ▶ Instruct your starter or head timer to run the Timers meeting
- ▶ Talk briefly with coaches from both teams
  - Introduce yourself and your role
  - Encourage them to come to you with any issues prior to a protest
- ▶ Ensure your scribes understand their duties
- ▶ Start on time!

# Running the Meet

- ▶ Ensure the meet runs as smoothly as possible
  - ▶ Engage with the Coaches
  - ▶ Seek an amicable resolution to a disputed call
    - You can often resolve issues without a formal protest
    - You have the authority to overturn a call
    - If a DQ slip is incorrectly written, then rewrite
    - If anything seems out of place, overturn the call
    - If a formal protest is filed, run the protest as described in the P&Ps
  - ▶ Help resolve technical issues
    - Bad radios
  - ▶ Communicate with the heating area
    - Combine heats whenever possible
  - ▶ Communicate with the Scoring table
    - Help them resolve timing and scoring issues
    - Remember, a swimmer should never have to re-swim because of a clerical error
- 

# Safety During the Meet

- ▶ Watch for potential safety concerns
    - If you see something that may be unsafe, address it
  - ▶ Monitor the weather
    - Lightning, extremely cold temperatures
    - Determine if the meet needs to be delayed or cancelled
      - Include the coaches and Parent Delegates in the discussion
      - Once the meet has started, you have the final say
  - ▶ Accidents
    - Ensure the swimmer or spectator gets the necessary medical attention
    - Fill out a Report of Occurrence
- 

# After the Meet

- ▶ Thank all the officials
  - ▶ Check on the status of scoring
    - There may be outstanding issues
    - Ensure everyone you need remains
  - ▶ Solicit feedback from coaches and officials
    - How did the meet run?
    - What improvements could we make?
  - ▶ Strive to improve
- 

# The Deck Referee

»» Duties and Responsibilities

# Overview

- ▶ Sets the pace for the meet
  - ▶ Watches the water
  - ▶ Reviews calls from the Stroke and Turn officials
  - ▶ Observes all starts in conjunction with the starter
  - ▶ Ensures DQs are correctly recorded by the Scribes
- 

# Whistle Protocol

- ▶ Short whistles
  - Recommend 4 to 7
  - Suggest blowing when last swimmer is at the backstroke flags approaching the finish
- ▶ Long whistle
  - Blow at completion of the swim
  - Signals the next swimmers to step on the blocks
- ▶ Second long whistle
  - Applies only to Backstroke
  - Blow when swimmers are surfacing and returning to the wall

# Jurisdiction

- ▶ The Deck Referee turns over jurisdiction to the Starter by extending their arm from the shoulder
  - Arm should appear in the peripheral view of the starter
- ▶ Referee watches the start
  - Dual-confirm any possible false starts
  - Ask for a recall if an unfair start observed
- ▶ Once the race has begun, the Deck Referee again has jurisdiction over the entire pool

# During the Meet

- ▶ Watch the S&T officials
  - As swimmers transition from one jurisdiction to another, ensure they are watching
  - If a call is made, you should see their hand raised while the swimmer is in their jurisdiction or just leaving
- ▶ Be alert for anything out of place
  - If a swimmer swims in the wrong heat, make a note of it
  - Denote no-shows on your heat sheet
- ▶ Calls in a 6 and Under event
  - You must witness the infraction
  - Sign the DQ slip
- ▶ Always be fair and impartial
  - Ensure your S&T officials are doing the same
  - If you have an official that only appears makes calls against one team, inform your Meet Ref
  - If you have an official that is out-calling all other officials by a significant amount, inform you Meet Ref to see if the deck can be balanced better
- ▶ Communicate the heat in the water, especially when there are changes

# Sources of Infractions

- ▶ The Deck Referee addresses all possible disqualifications
- ▶ Calls come from four sources:
  - Stroke and Turn
    - This is the majority of what occurs
  - The Starter
    - False starts
  - Relay Take-Off judges
    - Typically called in or brought to you by another official
  - Yourself
    - Use sparingly
    - Only make a call if it could have been seen clearly anywhere on the deck

# Processing Calls

- ▶ Listen to the calls made by the S&T officials
  - Write down notes of what you hear
  - Make sure you have a clear picture of what happened
  - Ask follow-up questions to clarify
- ▶ When ready, use the following to confirm the call:
  - Event X, Heat Y, Lane Z
  - [Repeat the infraction as defined on the DQ slip]
  - That call is Accepted (or Not Accepted)
  - The official's name
  - Please write it up
- ▶ Here is what I typically say:
  - “Event 23, heat 3, lane 1. Not on back off the wall after turn 1 called by [official's name] is accepted. Please write that up.”
- ▶ After accepting a call
  - Circle the swimmer on you heat sheet
  - Supplement your notes as needed
  - Confirm the scribe writes the DQ slip properly when able

# Best Practices

## ▶ Ask Questions

- S&T calls one-hand touch at turn of breaststroke
  - Ask which hand touched
  - Where was the other?
  - If they cannot answer confidently, don't accept the call
- S&T calls no touch at the turn on freestyle
  - How far they were from the wall
  - If it was 6" or more, you're probably good
  - If they say less than an inch or can't say for sure, you may question that call

## ▶ Remember, you are the last line of defense for the swimmer

- Benefit of the doubt always goes to the swimmer

Thank You for  
Volunteering

