

Welcome to the Official's Home Page!!
Officials are Honored
For
Giving Their Greatest Gift, their TIME!!

Sierra Nevada Swimming Officials Newsletter

December 1, 2015



*to become an official for
USA Swimming*

Five Reasons to Become
an Official

**You'll be working with the greatest
group of volunteers in all sports.
You'll be close to the action. The
bleachers aren't comfortable anyway!
High satisfaction; low pay.
It's a great way to meet future
Olympians — unless you already
have one in your home
Great food in hospitality, and you
can't beat the price!**



Sierra Nevada Swimming Name Tag's Anybody?

All name tags will now be purchased by you by going onto the Hasty Awards web site, that is written below, and then filling in the needed information, like your name, mailing address, where the name tag will be shipped, your credit card information and the "in hands" date. When the information is entered properly, you will submit your order. You will use a credit card and the name tag will be mailed to you when completed. Please allow two to three weeks for delivery.

Copy and paste the link below onto your browser:

<http://www.hastyawards.com/sports/swimming/nametags/nametag-sierra-nevada.html>

The name tags will be mailed to you, when they are completed by Hasty Awards.

All name tags now are made with the new Sierra Nevada Swimming Miner Pin.



The cost of one name tag is \$5.95, which includes shipping and handling.

If you want to phone directly and not use the Hasty Awards web site method to order you name tag, please dial (800) 448-7714 or (785) 242-5297

BUYING A WHITE POLO SHIRT

FROM LAND'S END

THE ONE TIME SETUP FEE HAS BEEN PAID

YOU WILL PAY FOR:

THE PRICE OF THE POLO SHIRT - mine was \$29.95, less 20% because of a sale, but check for promotions, sales and different types of polo shirts.

THE LOGO APPLICATION - each shirt will be charged \$8.95 for embroidery.

PLUS SHIPPING AND HANDLING

PLUS TAX

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

GET A LANDS' END CATALOG AND PICK OUT THE SHIRT, SIZE AND COLOR.

CALL LANDS' END BUSINESS OUTFITTERS AT 1-800-663-2193

PHONE ONLY Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, CST.

ASK TO PURCHASE A POLO SHIRT WITH THE Logo Number: 1146603W



**Sierra Nevada Swimming
Annual Awards Banquet**

With guest speaker:

2012 Olympic Gold Medalist

Alyssa Anderson

(Former SMST swimmer and 3-time SN Female Swimmer of the Year)

When: Sunday, January 3, 2016

Time: 5:00pm – 8:00pm (dinner served at 5:30pm)

**Where: Arden Hills Resort Club & Spa
1220 Arden Hills Lane
Sacramento, CA 95864**

**Cost: \$18 per person (no walk-ins allowed)
Limited to 300 maximum – MUST PRE-REGISTER!**

RSVP: By Monday, December 28, 2015 (must be postmarked)

**Send to: Denna Culpepper – SNS Awards Banquet
5350 Whitehaven Way
Antelope, CA 95843
Checks payable to Sierra Nevada Swimming**

Awards & Recognition given to the following for 2014-2015:

**Male & Female Swimmer of the Year, SN Top 3 Age Group
National Top 10 Ranking, SN Record Breakers
Age Group Program & Senior Coach of the Year
Coaches, Officials and Volunteers!**

If you did not receive an email message from Denna Culpepper about this special awards night, please contact her for further information and the registration form.

<dennac@snswimming.org>

“Reasons Your Swimmer May Have Been Disqualified”

FREESTYLE - This is the hardest stroke to be disqualified in, because there are no real stroke rules. Still it happens.

1. Failing to touch the wall on the turn in a multi-lap race.
2. Pulling the lane line to gain advantage.
3. Standing on the bottom and pushing off the bottom to continue swimming. (Standing is legal, but pushing off isn't—to avoid a DQ, a swimmer who has stood on the bottom would have to FLOAT back to the surface and start swimming without pushing forward off the bottom.)

BACKSTROKE - Similar to rules for freestyle, except athletes have to stay on their backs (with the exception of turns in multi-lap races.)

1. Rolling onto the stomach before completing a one-lap race, or on the finish of a multi-lap race, is a DQ. (This is defined as turning past the vertical—if you are flat on your back, you can't roll more than 90 degrees, or you are more on your stomach than on your back.)
2. THE TURN—This is tricky, but the rule is that swimmers can roll to their stomachs, take one stroke (with one arm pull down, not two) and, IN ONE COMPLETED MOTION, do a freestyle flip turn and then push off the wall on their back. The “one complete motion” part of the rule is fairly objective, unfortunately, and some judges give much more leeway on this than others. A guideline? If swimmers roll over, take their one

allotted stroke and then have to kick into the wall for some distance before they turn, they are probably in danger of a DQ.

3. On the start, the swimmer must surface no more than 15 yards from the starting wall (for older swimmers who do lots of underwater butterfly kicking at the start of a race.)

BUTTERFLY

1. One big problem for most young swimmers is the touch on turns and on the finish—both hands must touch simultaneously, although they do NOT have to be on the same plane. On the finish, the hands can simultaneously touch at different depths.
2. The feet have to kick together. They can be separated slightly, but they have to stay that way. If the feet start crossing, it's no longer a butterfly kick, it's a flutter kick—and it's a DQ.
3. Swimmers can start a race with a series of butterfly kicks under or above the water.
4. Some young swimmers get DQ'd for an underwater recovery—you can't pull down and then recover your arms for the next stroke under the water. If you do, you're essentially doing breaststroke, not butterfly.
5. Swimmers that do not have both their arms moving simultaneously are in danger of a DQ.

BREASTSTROKE - This is the most challenging stroke to get right.

1. The biggest problem for young swimmers is the kick—both feet have to be turned OUT in a whip-kick style. Lots of young swimmers turn out one foot, but not the other. This ends up

being a scissors kick, which is illegal.

2. The second big problem for young swimmers is the touch on turns and on the finish—but hands must touch simultaneously. Both arms must be simultaneous.

3. After the start and each turn, at any time prior to the first breaststroke kick a single butterfly kick is permitted. Multiple underwater strokes result in a DQ, because the swimmer's head must be above the surface of the water at some point during each stroke cycle. (In other words, swimmers can't go underwater for two or more strokes at a time, during the start sequence or during the race).

4. Except on the start pull-down, swimmers cannot pull beyond the waistline or hips.

5. A stroke cycle has to be completed. If a swimmer is close to the wall, takes an arms-only quick stroke but doesn't kick, that's a DQ. (Advice—swimmers should GLIDE to the finish instead of trying to sneak in a quick stroke right at the wall).

INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

1. All the stroke rules apply during that segment of the race.

2. On turns, swimmers must complete each stroke the way they would complete a race doing that stroke. In other words, the butterfly to backstroke turn must incorporate a butterfly FINISH, and then a transition to backstroke that puts the swimmer on his back for that leg of the race. The sometimes-tricky one is backstroke to breaststroke. Swimmers must complete the backstroke leg on their backs, but some swimmers then execute a kind of backward flip turn and push off into breaststroke.

RELAYS

1. All relevant stroke rules apply while swimmers are in the water.
2. Relay starts require the swimmer on the blocks to have some part of his/her body still TOUCHING THE BLOCKS when the swimmer in the water touches the wall.

STARTS

1. Swimmers must come to a STATIONARY POSITION before the race begins. Rocking, rolling, leaning, etc..., must CEASE, or the starter can hold the race. Failure to come to a stationary position in a prompt manner can result in swimmers being charged with a false start.

General

1. More than 1 swimmer in lane.
2. Start interference by coach/parent/swimmer, especially with relays when multiple people are near blocks, "DO NOT TOUCH" swimmer on blocks.
3. Early take off.
4. Wrong stroke.
5. Finish in wrong lane.
6. Missed wall/ no touch.

**Getting "DQ'd" doesn't mean
you get to go to Dairy Queen!**

To insure fairness in the competition, swim meets are governed by trained officials (many started out as parents, just like you).

They are charged with the job of enforcing the rules laid out by USA Swimming and FINA. Officials hate having to “DQ” a swimmer, but they understand that their efforts not only insure a fair “playing field” for everyone, but it actually *helps* our young athletes learn the sport, too. Every swimmer involved in the sport for any length of time has been “DQed”, even at the national and international (Olympic) levels. It is important that parents respect the training and knowledge of the officials and support swimmers by encouraging them to talk to their coaches and work hard in the week following an event where they were “DQ'd”. By taking this approach, you are teaching your swimmer that meets and practices are learning experiences and more importantly, one they can overcome. Sometimes getting DQ'd is the one thing that helps the swimmer realize they are in fact needing to concentrate more in practice or that the coach is telling them things because they matter. Reinforce to your swimmers that getting DQ'd is part of the learning process; everyone gets “DQ'd” sometimes. With effort, being coachable, and attending practices consistently, they WILL get better!

DQ = 'Don't Quit'!

MORE THAN YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT SWIMMING DISQUALIFICATIONS

by Rick Madge Coach of the Mighty Tritons Swim Team in Ontario

Disqualifications are an essential part of swimming. It's there lurking in the background of every race in every meet. But what's the real purpose of disqualifications?

It might not be what you think. Disqualifications are not there to punish cheaters. The purpose of a disqualification is to prohibit certain movements or actions which have the **potential** to give that person an unfair advantage. It's important to realize this distinction, because it goes to the heart of why the rules are the way they are.

Let's face it. There have always been people who will take any rule and see if they can bend or break it to their advantage, sometimes in surprisingly innovative ways. Just look at the impact of underwater dolphin kick in the 80s, or underwater breaststroke in the 50s. If a faster way can be found, inside or outside of the rules, somebody is going to try it.

This means that it's FINA's job to come up with rules that not only address existing ways of gaining an advantage, but also anticipate any potential ways of gaining an advantage. And that's how and why they shape the rules. The backstroke turn rule is a perfect example of this, as you'll see later in this post.

FINA creates a new set of rules every 4 years, and then add extraordinary rule changes whenever they feels the need.

Not-So-Short History of Disqualifications and Other Shenanigans

by Rick Madge Coach of the Mighty Tritons Swim Team in Ontario

388 BCE Eupolus of Thessaly is the first recorded cheater that I could find. He was found to have bribed boxers in the 98th Olympiad in roughly 388 BCE. Bribing competitors was a serious issue back then. Cheaters were fined, with the proceeds going to fund the creation of bronze statues of Zeus. The cheaters offenses were inscribed into the statues, to be seen by everyone.

1844 First attempt to DQ swimmers that I could find was an 1844 competition in London. Two Native Americans were invited, with Flying Gull easily winning the 130 feet competition in 30 seconds using a basic front crawl with flutter kick, and Tobacco getting 2nd. The British swimmers were using a heads-up breaststroke style. The British press wanted the Native American style of swimming to be disallowed as it was "barbaric" and "un-European". The British continued to ignore this front crawl stroke for another 29 years.

1896 Spirodon Belokas of Greece rode the first part of the Olympic marathon in a carriage, then got out and finished 3rd. He was caught and became the first DQ of the modern Olympics.

1907 Annette Kellerman gets arrested for indecent exposure during her Underwater Ballerina shows. The problem was her suit showed off her arms, legs and neck.

1908 400m running winner John Carpenter of US was DQ'd in the final for blocking British Wyndham Halswelle. The final was to be rerun with Halswelle and 2 other Americans, but both Americans boycotted the final in protest. Halswelle ran the final alone, and only a gold medal was awarded.

1956 This is the first record of an Olympic swimming DQ that I could find, and it was a doozy. Swimmers had discovered that breaking the surface of the water slows you down, and that for breaststroke, underwater was faster. However, the confusing rules of the day included a general prohibition against swimming underwater, except after a dive or turn. 6 of the competitors chose to swim lengthy periods underwater, surface, and then go back under again. These competitors were all disqualified. However, the winner, Masaru Furukawa of Japan swam 45m underwater before surfacing on each of the first 3 lengths, and 25 m underwater on the last length. But once he surfaced, he stayed on the surface.

1964 Australian swimmer star Dawn Fraser was banned from swimming for 10 years for climbing the flagpole at the emperor's palace at the 1960 games in Tokyo to steal the flag.

1968 Swedish pentathlete Hans-Grunner Lilgenwall became the first person to be DQ'd for testing positive for drug use (excessive alcohol) at an Olympics. Interesting and somewhat suspicious as 1928 marked the first ban against doping. Something tells me they just weren't looking that closely at athletes for the intervening 40 years, even if proper testing wasn't really available.

2004 One of the biggest non-DQs in Olympic history happened at the 2004 Olympics. Kosuke Kitajima of Japan clearly performed one, and some say two, big underwater dolphin kicks in his 100 m Breaststroke victory. This was magnified when the broadcasters showed the highly evident kicks on tv. He had been documented doing the exact same thing at the World Championships the year before, so officials should have been prepared for it. And here's where it became very evident that stroke and turn officials can't catch cheaters in the middle lanes. As a result, FINA instituted a rule change in 2005 allowing one underwater butterfly kick during the pullout phase. But what followed was even more incredible. American backstroker Aaron Peirsol was highly critical of FINA and Kitajima for his underwater kicks, and complained very publicly. 4 days later, Peirsol was DQd after winning the 200 m Backstroke for turning onto his stomach too early before a turn. 20 minutes later, the DQ was appropriately overturned, with FINA saying the wording of the disqualification was inadequate. But many thought his temporary DQ was payback for his vocal criticisms of Kitajima and FINA.

2008 Swedish Greco-Roman wrestler Ara Abrahamian wins the bronze medal in Beijing, but in the middle of medal ceremony, and in protest over the outcome of his match, drops the medal on the mat and walks off. He was then disqualified and stripped of his medal for insulting the athletes and the Olympics.

2013 American Kevin Cordes leaves the block 0.04 seconds before Matt Grevers touches the wall in the 4x100 Medley Relay at the World Championships. FINA rules allow a swimmer to

leave up to 0.03 seconds early in order to allow for any errors in the electronics associated with the sensors on the starting blocks. The US Team was disqualified for a 0.01 second infraction.

Common Causes for DQs

by Rick Madge Coach of the Mighty Tritons Swim Team in Ontario

At elite levels, there is really only 1 common cause for disqualification: early relay exchange. To give you an idea of how prevalent this is, in the last 4 Olympics alone, 14 relay teams have been DQ'd for early relay exchange. This is about 2.5% of all relays swims during that time.

False starts are easily the next most common source of DQs for the elite, and even this is exceptionally rare. Probably the best known example of this is Ian Thorpe's false start disqualification in the Australian Trials for the 2004 Olympics. He was so good that he probably could have won if he had been behind the blocks chatting with the timers when the race started. But that momentary loss of concentration cost him. Or it almost did. The Trials winner later relinquished his Olympic spot to Thorpe, and was paid A\$130,000 in the process by a third party.

In all honesty, false starts at big meets now are almost always overturned, with the country delegation usually appealing on the basis of crowd noise. At 2012 Olympics alone, false starts by three big stars (Sun Yang, Park Tae-Hwan and Breeja Larson) were all overturned following intense pressure by delegations.

DQs by inexperienced swimmers in lower level meets are a completely different story. Here swimmers get DQs for breaking just about any of the rules, with the primary ones probably being backstroke turns and breaststroke / butterfly turns. Politics almost never plays a role here, with the DQs largely being accepted by everyone, and used to enforce legal stroke movements.

SIERRA NEVADA SWIMMING LSC BOARD MEETING

Please plan to attend this LSC Board Meeting and get involved!

Meeting Date: January 26, 2016

Time: 7:00 PM

Quarterly Meeting: Third meeting of the 2016 Swimming Year

Hosted by: Sierra Nevada Swimming

Location: **Mike Shellito Indoor Pool**
10210 Fairway Drive
Roseville CA 95678

Google Directions:
<http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&rlz=&q=10210+Fairway+Drive+%09%09%09%09+Roseville+CA+%C2%A095678&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x809b21eebfff01b:0x21418f190250e36a,10210+Fairway+Dr,+Roseville,+CA+95678&gl=us&daddr=10210%20Fairway%20Dr,%20Roseville,%20CA%2095678&sa=X&ei=MpxHUNWICJHSiAL-yoHYDw&ved=0CCIQwwUwAA>

Contact Information: Denna Culpepper <dennac@snswimming.org>

Remember: Silence is consent!!

**IF YOUR TEAM WOULD LIKE TO HOST A
STROKE AND TURN CLINIC FOR THE 2016
SWIMMING YEAR PLEASE CONTACT**

BILL ROSE AT:
[<cbrose@omsoft.com>](mailto:cbrose@omsoft.com)

The new 2016 swimming year started on September 1st, and Stroke and Turn Clinics have been offered at many places, throughout our LSC. There is an “Athlete Protection Training” online program and a Criminal Background Check, that will be required for all first time non-athlete volunteers, Officials and Coaches, before your 2016 USA Swimming membership becomes valid.

After the 2016 USA Swimming Convention, there were many of the yearly required clinics offered. At this time, many clubs are trying to figure when to offer just such a clinic for their Officials, who have not attended a clinic yet for this swimming year.

REMEMBER, when we host clinics in your neighborhood, attend this yearly required clinic. Don't wait for us to come back, we might not be able

to come back a second time.

ALL Officials have to attend a yearly clinics!!

Future Administrative Official Clinics on the Calendar

There are ZERO 2016 Admin Official Clinics on the calendar.

Future Stroke and Turn Clinics on the Calendar

There is ONE 2016 Stroke and Turn Clinics on the calendar.

Clinic #1

What: 2016 Stroke & Turn Clinic

For Who: **All certified Officials or new parents wanting to be professional swimming Officials**

Where: Davis, California

Location: Brady Family Building

23 Russell Blvd.
Davis, CA 95616

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon

When: Saturday, January 9, 2016

Directions: Driving on I-80 W, toward San Francisco, take I-80 W to 72B for Richards Blvd N toward downtown in Davis. Follow Richards Blvd, 1st Street and B Street to Russell Blvd. Merge onto Richards Blvd. Continue straight to stay on Richards Blvd. Richards Blvd turns left and becomes 1st Street. Turn right onto B Street. Turn left onto Russell Blvd. Destination will be on the right.

Google Directions:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/%27%27/23+Russell+Blvd,+Davis,+CA+95616/@38.5465379,-121.7478911,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x808529a097b65e9f:0x9690f44d89b6c7fb!2m2!1d-121.7457453!2d38.5465379>

If you need further directions, e-mail Miriam Fisk at miriamfisk@sbcglobal.net

The online test is an every other year requirement.

**FOR THE 2016 USA SWIMMING YEAR,
THERE ARE 28 STROKE AND TURN JUDGES WHO NEEDS TO
COMPLETE THE STROKE AND TURN/TIMER RE-
CERTIFICATION TEST!! IN ADDITION THERE ARE
7 REFEREES WHO HAVE TO COMPLETE THEIR REFEREE
RE-CERTIFICATION TESTS. THERE ARE ALSO 5 CERTIFIED
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS WHO HAVE TO COMPLETE
THEIR RE-CERTIFICATION AO TEST**

**The 2015 Rulebook will be the only book used for ALL the online
tests, until April 15, 2016!!**

The 2015 Rulebook can be downloaded from the USA Swimming web site if you like, but in most cases you do not need the whole Rulebook for your test. The Rules and Regulations is one book that can be seen on the web site, in it's entirety, for free. The Rulebook can be found on the USA Swimming web site by going to the home page of the USA Swimming web site, then click on [About](#) (at the top) , then click on [Rules & Regulations](#) and finally click under [USA Swimming Rulebook](#).

REMEMBER PAST CERTIFIED OFFICIALS

After you have attended your 2016 Swimming Clinic, you will receive a message from me reminding you about taking an online test if this is your year to take the re-certification test. This is one of the requirements to complete in order to be certified to work the deck after January 1, 2016.

TAKE YOUR 2016 ONLINE TESTS NOW

Using the 2015 Rules and Regulations.

Officials: When taking your on-line tests, please...

TAKING THE ON-LINE SWIMMING TESTS

<http://www.usaswimming.org>

1. Once you are on the USA Swimming web site, look for "**Sign In**" at the top of the web

page and then click on **Sign In**.

2. Fill in the information needed to become a member and then click on **Log In**. This step is only done the first time you sign-in on the USA Swimming web site.

3. When you return to the USA Swimming web page, click on **MEMBER RESOURCES** at the top of the web page.

4. Look for **Officials** in the middle of the web page, then click on **Testing & Certification**.

5. You will now get a page that has in the center of the page a statement which says, **“INSTRUCTIONS TO ‘SIGN IN’ TO TAKE THE OFFICIALS TESTS.”** You have two choices: to click on [this link](#) to create an account or to click [this link](#) to be automatically redirected to the Online Test Sign-in page. Look for the button, saying **START THE TEST** at the bottom of this screen. On my screen the blue changes to red.

6. Pick the test you want to take by selecting a test to start. Click on **Select A Test** and drag your mouse until the test you want is highlighted. In the center of the page, you will find **“Select A Test.”** Make sure your pick is the correct one, there are 32 tests to choose. In most cases, your test will either be a Certification test or a Re- Certification test. You will then click on the **“Start Test”** button, but it will go to your personal history page. Make any necessary changes and click **“Save Information & Proceed to Test.”** If no changes are necessary, then you will still click on the **“Save Information & Proceed to Test”** button at the bottom of the page.

7. Now click on **Start Test** button.

You now have 2 choices: **Choice one** is to click on **“Print Blank Version of Test.”** You will print a version of the test, so you can study at your leisure and mark up your printed version of the test with the correct answers, which can be found in your current Rulebook. When you click on this choice, you will get a PDF copy of the test. You have to go one step further to print the test and that is to look for the small icon of a printer in the top left hand corner of the PDF document. **Choice two** is to click on **“Next.”** If you now click on **“Next,”** you will see the first question of your test. If you don't have time to finish the whole test, one question at a time, make sure you click on **“Save and Restart Later.”** The web site will remember which test you have chosen **only** if you have clicked on **“Save and Restart Later”**.

I have heard that if you answer just the first question before you click on **“Save and Restart Later”** and then **Logoff**, you will be assured of returning to this same test the next time you have more time to spend completing the test. The tests, in most cases, have the questions in the same order, but the answers will be randomized. In just a few of the tests, some of the questions are randomized also.

Looking at the first question, answer the multiple-choice answer. When completed with the first question, click on the “**Next**” button. If you have to stop for some reason and start later, click on the “**Save & Restart Later**” button.

8. Click **Logoff** at the top of the web page, if you want to take the test off line first.

9. Take the test off line at your leisure by using the printed version of your test.

10. When you are ready to fill-in the blanks, you will need to login on the USA Swimming web site where you will be on the USA Swimming [Home page](#), then you will click on [Member Resources](#), then go to [Officials](#), where you will click on [Testing & Certification](#) and now go to [Online Officials Test](#). You should see **CHOOSE A TEST TO START** at the bottom of the page. Click on this. This is your personal page listing the tests you have taken or signed up to take. What you are looking for is the **Prior Test List**. When you find the test that needs to be taken, click on “**Resume**.” You will notice the time and date when the test was saved. You will also see places to click, such as **Resume, Delete, Print Blank Test** or **Print Answer Sheet**. By clicking on **Resume**, you will be able to put your correct answers to the test that was saved and waiting for it's answers. When you resume your test at a later date, the system will take you to the first question. If you want to go to where you left off, type in the number of the question that you want to start with, in the little box and click on the “**Go**” button. It will take you directly to the first question in need of an answer. **You might want to check and make sure the answers are in the order that they are listed on your printed test. If you didn't save and restart later correctly, most of the time the questions will be in the same order, but the multiple choice answers might be randomized. Double check your choices.**

Now you can continue to answer the questions in the same fashion.

11. **Please check and make sure you have answered all the answers correctly.**

When you get to the last question on the test, you can double check by clicking on the “**Previous**” button. If you click on the “**Save & Restart Later**” button, you may want to double check later.

12. When you have **double-checked** your answers, submit for grading by clicking on the “**End Test/Submit for Grading**” button. If you click on the “**End Test/Submit for Grading**” button, you will be finished with this test and receive a grade. Before your test will be graded, another window will show up on your computer screen, when it asks you if you are sure you want to end this test? Just click on **OK**. The LSC Officials Chair will receive the results at the same moment the test taker receives their score, which is seconds after the “**End Test/Submit for Grading**” button is clicked.

13. Remember: Haste makes waste or Measure twice and cut once. Once you have submitted your answers, it is too late for changes.

14. You will get immediate results as well as the LSC Officials' Chairperson. Now the screen that shows is your completed test results. You can review your results by clicking on "**Review Results**." Your computer will download a PDF copy of the test. You will have to retrieve it where downloads are found on your computer. If you click on "**Return to Test Selection**" you will return to the location where all of the tests you have taken are kept. This is the window where you selected the test to start this test taking process. You can review the test that was just taken by clicking on "**View**" which can be found on the right of the screen, on the same line as this most recent taken test.

Remember, each time you take another test, you will have to answer all the same information that was asked of you the first time, when you selected a test and started that test.

15. Click **Logoff** at the top of the web page when you are finished.

COMMON MISTAKES

DID YOU CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE MARKED YOUR RESPONSES ON THE SAME TEST THAT YOU DOWNLOADED?

WERE THE MULTIPLE CHOICE ANSWERS IN THE SAME SPOT AS THE TEST YOU DOWNLOADED?

YOU CAN GO BACK AND CHECK ANY QUESTION BY CLICKING ON "GO**" AFTER YOU INPUT THE NUMBER OF THE QUESTION YOU WANT TO CHECK.**

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE DOUBLE CHECKED YOUR RESPONSES BEFORE YOU CLICK ON SUBMIT!!

IF YOUR TEAM WOULD LIKE TO HOST A STROKE AND TURN CLINIC FOR THE NEW YEAR, PLEASE CONTACT

BILL ROSE AT:

[<cbrose@omsoft.com>](mailto:cbrose@omsoft.com)

ALL Officials have to attend a yearly clinic!!

Besides attending a clinic, paying your non-athlete fees, completing or renewing your Criminal Background Check and completing your Athlete Protection Training, there is another requirement for some of you, if this is your year!!

That requirement is taking your on-line re-certification test.

The 2015 Rules and Regulations are now in effect for all on-line tests.

Now

that you are certified, you may work other USA Swimming, LSC's or Sierra Nevada Swimming meets in **December of 2015**

Meet Date: December 5-6, 2015

Type of Meet: "Come In From The Cold" Invitational

Hosted by: Cosumnes River Aquatics

Location: Sacramento, CA

Where: Hoos Pool
Sacramento City College
3835 Freeport Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95822

Directions: Use the website below to look at a map of the area around Sacramento City College

http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&rlz=1G1GGLQ_ENUS264&q=sacramento+city+college+sacramento+ca&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=College++Glen,+Sacramento,+CA&gl=us&ei=FuL_TI2mDobQsAPBu8CvCw&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&sqi=2&ved=0CBYQ8gEwAA

Directions:

Sacramento City College, Directions to the pool: Driving on CA-99 south, take exit 297 for 12th Avenue. Keep right at the fork and follow signs for Sutterville Road. Turn right at 12th Avenue and continue onto Sutterville Road. Drive about a mile and turn right at the "Main Entrance" of Sacramento City College , just past Hughes Stadium. Follow road over speed bumps, into the student parking lot. Hoos Pool is within walking distance and close to the Applequist Athletic Field. There is a parking charge for using this parking lot.

Contact Information: Eddie Maximo
<coacheddie@craswimming.com>

Meet Date: December 11-13, 2015

Type of Meet: Davis Quad Meet Champs - Trials and Finals
DART, Clovis Swim Club, SMST and FRAC

Hosted by: DART

Location: Hoos Pool
Sacramento City College
3835 Freeport Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95822

Directions: Use the website below to look at a map of the area around Sacramento City College
http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&rlz=1G1GGLQ_ENUS264&q=sacramento+city+college+sacramento+ca&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=College++Glen,+Sacramento,+CA&gl=us&ei=FuL_TI2mDobQsAPBu8CvCw&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&sqi=2&ved=0CBYQ8gEwAA

Directions:
Sacramento City College, Directions to the pool: Driving on CA-99 south, take exit 297 for 12th Avenue. Keep right at the fork and follow signs for Sutterville Road. Turn right at 12th Avenue and continue onto Sutterville Road. Drive about a mile and turn right at the "Main Entrance" of Sacramento City College , just past Hughes Stadium. Follow road over speed bumps, into the student parking lot. Hoos Pool is within walking distance and close to the Applequist Athletic Field. There is a parking charge for using this parking lot.

Contact Information: Billy Doughty
(251) 648-3977
<swimdavis@yahoo.com>

Officials: Ask your questions!!

- changed December 1, 2015 -

Often Asked Questions by USA Swimming Officials

Thanks for keeping me up to date. I will be attending the Redding meet this weekend as my kids will be swimming it. Will I be able to use Saturday and Sunday as 2 of my 6 training sessions? Also, I currently don't have a white shirt or blue pants. Can I still train until I can obtain them. Was wondering if there was a official white shirt I needed to order.

You may work the meet in Redding without a white polo shirt or navy blue pants. There is no "official" white polo shirt, but you could buy one from Lands End. Check out one of the first articles in my November Newsletter, that I sent you yesterday, for the instructions on buying one of these shirts.

You mentioned at the clinic that we could shadow outside of the SN LSC but we need to be sure to get credit. What do we need to do when we do shadowing outside of our LSC. I plan on going to Napa this weekend for the Penguin Plunge.

When you first show up, please ask the Meet Referee or Head Stroke and Turn Judge, if you can shadow another S/T Judge. If they say yes, then just follow/shadow the person, who will be giving you training. When the session is over, make sure that you have your Sierra Nevada Training Slip initialed and dated by the Meet Referee, so you have a record of this training, since I don't get outside of our LSC Referee Meet Reports.

I don't understand. I just started my official training process last month so I am not sure how I am expected to complete all of the requirements by the end of the month. Hopefully, I am just confused and I am not required to complete everything within a 5 week period.

That message was for the folks who started this journey a year ago (swimming year 2015). You started in swimming year 2016 and still 14 months left in your USA Swimming membership. Hopefully this explains this completely

Where do I go for the online test?

also can please direct me to the video we saw at our training.

The Certification Stroke and Turn/Timer online test can be started by going to the USA Swimming website, then to Member Resources, then to Officials, then to Testing and Certification, then to Online Officials Test and then on the left hand side menu, please pick Online Officials Test. Just follow the INSTRUCTIONS TO SIGN IN TO TAKE THE OFFICIALS TEST. You will have to sign in and create an account the first time.

<http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=1514&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en>

Finally, If you would like to view your own "Training Stroke Video" you can go onto the USA Swimming website. Just click on the website below:

<http://usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2775&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en>

You can download and make yourself your own personal DVD copy of this training video, which is FREE to everyone.

Thank you for all the training and encouragement you have given me on becoming a Starter. I really enjoyed the experience. I noticed I am now a Trainee for Deck Referee. What written tests do I need to take for that position?

I listed you as a Trainee for Deck Referee in case you want to begin your Deck Referee training. You have to take the battery of tests, which include the Certification Admin Referee test, the Certification Timing Judge test, the Certification Referee test and the Certification Clerk of Course test. Other tests included in the "battery" of tests include the Certification Stroke and Turn/Timer test and the Certification Starter test. Since you just took the last two tests, you don't have to take them again.

I would hope that you continue to sign-up as a Starter so you can continue to practice and become the best you can be as a Starter.

In order to begin your on deck Deck Referee training, the battery of tests have to be completed.

If I haven't sent you a Deck Referee Training Slip, one is attached. You can use it when the battery of tests are completed.

I wanted to let you that I have now completed the Athlete Protection Coarse online. Does this mean that I can now start my shadow training this weekend in Redding? If so, what do I need to do to make sure I do this correctly. If there is paperwork I need, where do I get it? Do I now need to get the proper clothes for training? Sorry for all the questions, I just want to make sure I do this correctly.

If you completed the APT this morning, the results should appear after midnight tonight on the USA Swimming website and if so, I can send you your 2016 Certification Card.

You now have the Certification Stroke and Turn/Timer test to take and the six deck training sessions to complete.

We would be honored to have you start your deck training in Redding this weekend. You will sign in, at the Starters table and say that you are a Trainee. The Meet Referee will assign you to a certified official to give you training during the session. I will attach the Sierra Nevada Training Slip for your use. There was one attached to the Welcome Message I sent you earlier.

It would be nice if you wore the proper attire, but is not mandatory until you become certified. A white polo shirt is worn over navy blue pants and white tennis shoes.

If you want to start the online test, you can. Just remember to use the 2015 Rulebook.

I just completed the application for the criminal background check and paid. I also just passed the APT. I'm going to be at the Redding meet this weekend. Am I allowed to get a shift or two of training sessions in or do I have to wait till the check is completed?

I hope you enjoy the meet in Redding with great weather and fast swims.

It will take several days for the processing of your Criminal Background Check to be complete. It is usually three to five days. If you did your APT today, it will appear on the USA Swimming website at midnight tonight.

I have sent Bill Fisher and Dana Covington a list of everyone who has been to a 2016 clinic this swimming year, so your name will appear as someone in training. You will be able to receive training because you will be under the supervision of a certified Official.

Just remember to have the Meet Referee initial and date your Sierra Nevada Swimming Training Slip, because they will not be able to enter the sessions worked until your BGC and APT are completed and showing on the USA Swimming website. They will have to go back later and enter your sessions, so please remind them of that fact.

Also, please sign-in as a Trainee, so they will have a record of you working what ever session you plan to work. You will have a second record with your initialed and dated SN Training Slip.

I will attach a SN Training Slip in case you forget to bring one along that was attached to this original Welcoming email message.

I have completed the training and have received the response for my background check. Should I forward a copy to you or do you automatically receive it?

First, I have not received the results for your Certification Stroke and Turn/Timer online test or a copy of your Sierra Nevada Swimming Training Slip, showing that you have completed your six deck training sessions.

I have just looked and confirmed that you have completed your Athlete Protection Training, which will expire on 12/31/2017.

As for the Criminal Background Check, the USA Swimming website does not show that you have passed the check yet and if you just received the notice today, USA Swimming usually updates the results from this independent company at midnight on the day that the results are received. I will check tomorrow to see if your CBC results show up.

So, there are a couple of items for you to complete before your training is completed finished.

I hope you don't mind but I was wondering if you could give me some advice and information regarding the Olympic Trials this summer. I would love the opportunity to work as an official for the meet and would like to find out what the application process entails and when they start taking applications. I've looked all over USA Swimming's website and can only find limited information. I want to book a flight and hotel but I am hesitant because I don't know what my chances are for being selected. I have my N3 certification and I am confident in my officiating knowledge and ability. Mostly, I love the sport of swimming and feel that this is a wonderful opportunity to work on deck for a competition that only comes along every four years.

That is a wonderful question and I wonder myself even after being picked for the last four Olympic Trials.

I have heard that the invitations to work this meet will be coming out after Christmas and will be given to the Officials who have been selected.

There is NO application and the Officials selected will have been chosen by the Meet Referee, the Vice President of Program Operations and the National Officials Chairman.

I have heard also and know for a fact that the first thing that this Committee of three looks at is how active the Official is in working National Championship meets and then goes down the list of other items.

So, to make a long story short, I am waiting myself for an invitation and would be "honored" to receive one, but it is not guaranteed.

Would you please define for me or point to the website where it defines what backstroke is? The glossary defines what it means to be "on the back" but not what "backstroke" actually means.

Just because a swimmer is on his back pushing off the wall during a turn, should it be called backstroke?

For example, if a swimmer decides to swim the "corkscrew" style during the freestyle leg of the individual medley, would you define that as having swum backstroke?

This is a very good question and the answer (interpretation from FINA and USA Swimming) has not been received by all the Coaches, swimmers and Officials yet.

The interpretation from FINA, USA Swimming and NFHS is all the same. If a swimmer leaves the wall during the start or turn of the freestyle leg of the IM, on the back, then it is a disqualification. If the swimmer has left the wall and is on their back, they are in violation of the interpretation and rule.

Since there is no kick or stroke required for the backstroke and the only requirement for

backstroke is being on the back, then it has been interpreted that if you are on your back at the start or after you have left the wall at a turn in the freestyle of the IM, you are in violation.

The definition of the backstroke is being on the back, hence, being on the back after leaving the wall on the start or turn of the freestyle, in the IM is considered doing the backstroke for more than one-fourth of the race. Not really knowing what "corkscrew" style was I had to look it up on google. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8f3QDHhRUs>

After watching this youtube it is **very definitely** in violation of not doing freestyle, but doing half of the race backstroke.

What I mentioned in my previous message, with just turning on your back and not doing any kicks or strokes in the freestyle portion of the IM is in violation of the interpretation and the rule.

One more question and I am sorry I cannot seem to find the e-mail you sent out long ago about being submerged at the finish of the backstroke. since those wordings are no longer found in the new rules, how does that affect the swimmers now? Is it completely illegal if swimmers are observed to be submerged at the finish?

At the finish of the backstroke, the swimmer can be completely submerged by the previous interpretation and rule we used on the backstroke finish. Nothing has changed as far as the interpretation we have used, except for taking out the wording about being submerged at the finish. This is true in high school swimming also.

What is stated in technical rule, 101.4.2, is, "Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it is permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and after each turn." 101.4.4 is the technical rule for the finish of the backstroke. It is stated as, "Upon the finish of the race, the swimmer must touch the wall while on the back."

I don't even look at the kick, so I don't know even if they kick. The kick is something that we don't look at during the backstroke event. All we are concerned with is if they are swimming on their back and if they touch the wall while on the back at the finish. I don't look at the kick at anytime during the stroke, because there is no rule governing the kick. All we need to look for is whether the swimmer is on their back throughout the swim and at the finish for sure.

So, when the swimmer is coming to the wall for the finish and when your eyes are no longer looking at the whole body, but going from the feet to the legs, then to the waist, and finally to the shoulders at the finish touch, you can't be sure what the rest of the body is doing. There could be a toenail sticking up out of the water. That is why we don't judge the swimmer at the finish for being completely submerged or not submerged. Once your eyes leave the whole body, in getting ready to judge the swimmer at the finish, the time your eyes leave the whole body until the touch, is considered part of the finish. The only thing we are to judge at the finish is if they are on their back at the finish. That should be your only focus.

If you were sure that the swimmer was submerged before the finish, like out at the backstroke flags, before your eyes have left the whole body and are moving to the legs, to the waist and finally to the shoulders, the disqualification at that point would be "re-submerged" on the new DQ Slips, because the swimmer has re-submerged after the 15 meter mark.

Just a little background in our rules. We copy FINA rules, but they are written in French. We have to translate each of FINA's rules to get what appears in our USA Swimming Rulebook, so sometimes it might appear to be not what is written in French, but we have good interpretations on what is meant by our Rules and Regulations Committee.

Can you please clarify something for myself and some fellow volunteers. Some of us are under the assumption that the clinic can be done next spring early summer even if we got clear this past summer. Others think we have to take another S&T clinic before 2016. I did notice one clinic is set for 2016 in January. I apologize, I know you've shared this info. but can you spell it out as blatantly as possible so one set of us knows we are right. I will then forward the info to those involved to ensure we are set for next summer.

The swimming year is kind of confusing, but they all begin on September 1st of one year and ends 16 months later on December 31st. For example, the swimming year of 2015 began on September 1, 2014 and will end on December 31, 2015.

The swimming year of 2016 began on September 1, 2015 and will end on December 31, 2016. There are four months of overlap.

The Background check expires two years, from the month you first sign-up for the Background Check. When you reach the time to renew, you need to renew either that month or the next month, but not longer than 30 days after it expires or you have to pay the original price of the Background Check and not the less expensive renewal price.

The FREE Athlete Protection Training is good for two years and expires like the swimming year, at the end of the year. If you need to renew your APT now and you do renew, it will expire on 12/31/2017. If you take it for the first time today, as a soon-to-be "new" member of USA Swimming might do, it will expire on 12/31/2017 also. If you notice, it is like the swimming year, but good for two years and not for one.

When taking the online tests, I use September 1st to September 1st as the swimming year. If someone takes the test now, in November of 2015, it counts for the swimming year of 2016. On September of 2016, if someone took an online test, it would count for the swimming year of 2017, since the swimming year of 2017 begins on September 2016. The testing requirement is good for two years. If you took the required test in the 2015 swimming year, you don't have to take the test again, unless you want to for review, until the swimming year of 2017. Confusing, huh?

So, to answer your question simply, anyone who is an Official for 2015 and has not gone to

any of the 2016 clinics beginning in October of 2015 (last month), you will not be a member of USA Swimming for 2016, unless you attend a required yearly clinic, pay your USA Swimming membership fee and complete any of the three other requirements that might be needing to be renewed.

If you have not attended a 2016 clinic to become a USA Swimming non-athlete Official member, then please plan to attend the traditionally annual Davis Clinic on the Saturday, January 9, 2016. There might be some other clinics further north in the beginning months of 2016, but right now, there are not any scheduled. If that changes, you will get any announcements on my mailing list messages.

How come we don't swim that meet that looks like fun and it's close to home?

You will have to ask your Team Coaches why they are not attending. Usually Coaches pick the meets that they want their swimmers to attend.

Who should I reach out to if I am available on Saturday for on deck training?

Some meets all you have to do is show up before the Official's Briefing, in this case, 30 minutes before the start of the session and sign-in to work as a Trainee. Some meets like Officials Qualifying Meets, where there is an Evaluator, mentoring and evaluating Officials, the briefing is an hour before the session begins and you do have to apply to work the meet.

For the Gobbler Classic, you don't have to apply to work, but just show up, sign-in and get training. You could introduce yourself to the Meet Referee, Jeff Jones. He will be the one who will sign off on your Sierra Nevada Swimming Training Slip, when your session is completed.

Do the vests and or jackets need to be white?

If I was planning to use the vest or jacket as part of my officiating attire, I would purchase this attire in white.

Thank you for the update. I have completed both the starter and stroke and turn re-certification tests. I see that you added the protocols for training as a deck ref - thank you very much but at this stage, I would rather focus on getting my N3 in stroke and turn. My 15 year old son has less than a second to drop in his 50 free in order to qualify for Junior Nationals - I would like to work that meet when he qualifies.

You have been busy with taking the required S/T test and the Starter test as review. You still had one more year on the Starter test, but now both tests expire in two years.

As for taking your deck journey to being becoming an LSC Deck Referee or heading in the direction of N3 Stroke and Turn Judge, they are really two different journeys. You can work on your LSC Deck Referee training as you are waiting to attend an Officials Qualifying Meet. We only have two OQM's a year, the Summer Sanders Meet and the LSC Long Course Champs (the Bill Rose Classic).

LSC Deck Referee:

Take the battery of online tests (Clerk of Course, Admin Referee, Timing Judge and Referee)
Complete six deck training sessions as a Deck Referee in training.

N3 Stroke and Turn Judge:

One (1) satisfactory evaluation as an N3 Stroke and Turn Judge
Participation in at least 12 sessions in a minimum of 4 LSC Meets over the past 24 months
Work at least 4 sessions as an official (an position) at each of 2 Officials Qualifying Meets in the 24 months prior to applying for advancement
Continuing Education, Mentoring and Training
One (1) year as an active N2 Stroke and Turn Judge or N2 Deck Referee prior to applying for advancement

I attended a 2016 clinic in October. Do I have to attend another?

No, the clinic in October was the yearly required clinic for you. The swimming year begins on September 1st of each year and ends 16 months later on December 31st of the next year. You are good for the required yearly clinic for the swimming year of 2016.

Only question is the online test. Does it need to be taken by 12/31/15 or 2 yrs from last time I took it?

I just checked and you took the Certification - Stroke & Turn/Timer test on March 29, 2014 6:44:48 PM PDT, which is in the swimming year of 2014.

I run the tests from September 1st to September 1st, so it is easier for me to keep track of. So, anytime a test is taken from say, September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, it will count for swimming year 2016.

Since you want to get certified for 2016, you can take the Re-Certification - Stroke & Turn/Timer now, but it will have to be done by 12/31/2015 or you will not be certified beyond December 31, 2015.

You need to take the Re-Certification - Stroke & Turn/Timer, which is half the size of the Certification test. Also, you will get a chance to see how much easier it is to take the tests now that Part 2 has been removed.

**SWIMMING SITUATIONS
- changed December 1, 2015 -**

1. At a scored trials and finals meet, the Meet Director (without advising the Referees) permits a 15 year old to swim in the preliminary heat of the comparable 13-14 event since an error had been made in processing the meet entries and heat sheets had been prepared that way. The intent was to then move the time to the 15-18 event before the results were announced and

the finals seeded. Unfortunately, the Meet Director forgot to do so and it turns out the time is fast enough for the athlete to make finals as a 15-18 year old, but not as a 13-14 year-old, so the swimmer's name is not announced and the swimmer and coach are unaware that the event switch has not occurred. The mistake is discovered just prior to the finals session. Who should swim in the finals heat? What implications does the decision have for scoring of the meet? Did the Meet Director handle this properly? How else might the problem have been handled?

Recommended Resolution: If the situation is not specifically covered by the meet information then it is the referee's decision. The Meet Director should have conferred with the Referee prior to the initial placement of the swimmer into this heat. The decision may have implications for team or individual scoring of points for this meet. Ideally the 15-year-old who should have actually qualified to swim in finals should be allowed to do so. The other affected swimmers and their coaches should be notified of the change. A swimmer should not be penalized for administrative mistakes.

Applicable Rules: 102.11.1, 102.7.3, 102.7.1, 102.7.2, 102.9

2. On the last day at a major championship meet where time trials are scheduled to commence at the end of preliminaries each day, time trials will only consist of five (5) heats that should only take 10 minutes to contest. The preliminary session concludes with several heats of the 1500- yard freestyle. A Coach approaches the Referee and asks if time trials could be run before the 1500-yard freestyle heats thereby allowing the time trial swimmers to not wait around for 60 minutes before they swim. How should the Referee respond?

Recommended Resolution: The time trials should be run at the end of the session as stated in the Meet Announcement. The Referee would need to have written change delivered to each affected swimmer and/or their Coach in order to change the time or date of an event.

Applicable Rules: 102.7.1, 102.7.3

3. A swimmer acts in an inappropriate manner during finals (offensive language that is overheard by many people after being informed of a DQ.) The swimmer is informed by the Referee that he is barred from the remainder of the meet as a result of his outburst. The Coach of the athlete protests the decision and a Meet Jury is convened in the middle of finals. The Jury calls for the Meet Officials who observed the alleged behavior to give first-hand testimony. The meet is stopped for several minutes, impacting swimmers who had warmed up with the expectation of swimming in the next few minutes. Was the situation handled appropriately? How could it have been handled differently?

Recommended Resolution: The Referee has the discretion to impose a penalty for unsportsmanlike behavior. The Meet Jury has the ability to speak with the involved parties in order to clarify the situation. If it is possible to have one Official at a time meet with the Jury (substituting another official) such that the meet is not disrupted. The Referee may have been able to avoid this if he had conferred with the coach proactively prior to his final

imposition of disqualification although this would depend on the circumstances at the time.

Applicable Rules: 102.22.3, 102.23.2, 102.23.3

4. After the consolation final of the third event on the last (Sunday) evening of an LSC-wide championship meet, a violent electrical storm arrives and one hour later shows no signs of abating. The Facility Manager announces that the pool is closed for the night. Monday is a school day and workday; some teams are 200 miles and more from their homes. What should/can be done?

Recommended Resolution: It is at the discretion of the Meet Referee to postpone a meet and, with approval of the Meet Committee, may cancel or reschedule a meet for unusual or severe weather. A decision to cancel shall be final. The meet may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Meet Referee, the Meet Committee and, in this case, the LSC. However, the Meet Referee must call a meeting of the Coaches to advise all of them about the final decision.

Applicable Rules: 102.7.4 B, 102.7.4 C

5. Several minutes after the Administrative Referee informed a Coach that his swimmer was disqualified in the 200 IM for a one hand touch at the end of the breaststroke, the Coach approaches the Deck Referee and asks if she is sure of the heat and lane because his swimmer is adamant that he did not commit the infraction. The Referee follows up with the Turn Judge and he indicates that he is sure of the heat and lane since the other lane over which he had jurisdiction was empty. The Referee relates this to the Coach and swimmer. The swimmer states that the Turn Judge was wrong since one of his long time rivals was swimming in the lane. The Referee checks with the table and finds that indeed there was a swimmer in the lane. What should occur at this point? Subsequently the Turn Judge states that he did not mean to indicate the lane was entirely devoid of a swimmer, just that the swimmer he disqualified was so far ahead of the other swimmer that he was able to give that swimmer his complete attention, as if the lane were empty?

Recommended Resolution: The Referee should discuss the situation again with the Turn Judge to make sure the Judge saw the correct lane and heat and what his observation of the turn was. If the Referee feels that the Turn Judge made the correct call in the correct lane then the call should be sustained.

Applicable Rules: 101.2.4, 102.11.1

TAKING THE ON-LINE TESTS

- changed December 1, 2015 -

The examples this month appear on the 2016 Certification Administration Official test, which will now be answered with the 2015 Rulebook. Check out the new look for the way that the questions are listed. You will notice that there are no Part 2 questions.

1. Time Trial events may be held in conjunction with what kind of competition if all information about the conduct of the Time Trials is included in the Meet Announcement as sanctioned or approved by the LSC? **1531.5**

- A. Sanctioned competition.
- B. Observed competition.
- C. Approved competition.
- D. All of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.1.5 for the correct answer.

2. Which Official receives and reviews the automatic and/or semi-automatic timing results from the Timing Equipment Operator and compares the primary timing results with the back-up timing results to determine their validity? **1445.6**

- A. The Administrative Official.
- B. The Meet Director.
- C. The Referee.
- D. The Clerk of Course.

Hint: Please review reference 102.14.2C(1) for the correct answer.

3. Which Official receives the times recorded by the Head Lane Timer from the Chief Timer and the order of finish data from the Place Judges and uses that data to the extent needed to determine the official time for each swimmer? **1446.6**

- A. The Referee.
- B. The Clerk of Course.
- C. The Meet Director.
- D. The Administrative Official.

Hint: Please review reference 102.14.2C(2) for the correct answer.

4. The Administrative Official shall be responsible to the Referee for the supervision of which of the following? **1448.6**

- A. The entry and registration process and the Clerk of Course and other administrative personnel.
- B. The Chief Judges.
- C. The Stroke and Turn Judges.
- D. The Lane Timers.

Hint: Please review references 102.14.1A, 102.14.1B and 102.14.1E for the correct answer.

5. An official time can be achieved only in USA Swimming sanctioned or USA Swimming approved competition, or in an observed swim in accordance with all applicable rules. During what part of this competition can this official time be achieved? **1541.4**

- A. In a lead-off leg of a relay.
- B. In any heat.
- C. In a swim-off.
- D. In a time trial or record attempt.
- E. In any of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.24.1A(1) for the correct answer.

6. What is the responsibility of an Administrative Official? **248.12**

- A. Determine the official order of finish.
- B. Only look at watch times when there is no pad or button times on a lane.
- C. Unless otherwise directed, notify the Referee whenever a time obtained by the primary timing system cannot be used as the Official Time.
- D. All of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.14.2C(3) for the correct answer.

7. Who shall be responsible to the Referee for determination of official time by reviewing the automatic and/or semiautomatic timing results to determine their validity? **571.13**

- A. The Recorder.
- B. The Administrative Official.

- C. The Head Lane Timer.
- D. The Chief Timer.

Hint: Please review reference 102.14.2C(1) for the correct answer.

8. What is the role of the Marshal at swimming meets? **493.12**

- A. The Marshal shall wear identifying attire and enforce warm-up procedures and maintain order in the swimming venue.
- B. The Marshal shall have full authority to warn or order to cease and desist, and, with the concurrence of the Referee, to remove, or have removed from the swimming venue anyone behaving in an unsafe manner or using profane or abusive language.
- C. The Marshal shall have full authority, to warn or order to cease and desist, and, with the concurrence of the Referee, to remove, or have removed from the swimming venue anyone whose actions are disrupting the orderly conduct of the meet.
- D. All of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.19 for the correct answer.

9. What is the procedure for handling a protested race? **484.9**

- A. The points scored shall not be allocated.
- B. The affected awards shall not be given.
- C. The official results of the event shall not be announced.
- D. All of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.23.6 for the correct answer.

10. What kind of records can only be established when timed by an automatic timing system, a backup camera system or a semi-automatic system if the automatic system fails?
1454.4

- A. LSC Records.
- B. National Age Group Records.
- C. World, American and U.S. Open Records.
- D. Zone Records.

Hint: Please review reference 102.24.1C(1) for the correct answer.

1. The correct answer is “D” for the multiple choice answer.
2. The correct answer is “A” for the multiple choice answer.
3. The correct answer is “D” for the multiple choice answer.
4. The correct answer is “A” for the multiple choice answer.
5. The correct answer is “E” for the multiple choice answer.
6. The correct answer is “C” for the multiple choice answer.
7. The correct answer is “B” for the multiple choice answer.
8. The correct answer is “D” for the multiple choice answer.
9. The correct answer is “D” for the multiple choice answer.
10. The correct answer is “C” for the multiple choice answer.

If you have any questions that you would like to ask, just e-mail Bill Rose at: <cbrose@omsoft.com>