

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

Sierra Nevada Swimming Officials Newsletter

February 1, 2016



*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



Quarterly LSC Officials Chairs Meeting Information

Q1 2016 - Jeff Anderson

Every wonder why the officials of USA Swimming are so GREAT?? As with many things Communication. This monthly newsletter from Mr. Rose is one perfect example.

From the top, there is a Quarterly Conference Call between all the 59 LSC Officials Chairs across the nation. The purpose is to keep continuity between all the USAS swim meets. Any important changes or items that need to be discussed are brought to light to help keep everyone on the same page. The mission of this article is to disseminate the meeting information to all our Sierra Nevada officials. Hope you enjoy this first article.

Timing Resolution - At the House of Delegates meeting last October, one of the changes made by the Rules & Regulations Committee was to delete Rule 102.24.4D. This rule detailed the adjustment for the Timing System difference. (Differential Calculation). In conjunction, Rule 102.24.4E, now conforms to how FINA makes timing adjustments for a lane malfunction. (For 3 valid backup times (button or watches) the intermediate time is used. For 2 valid backup times, the average is used. If only 1 valid backup time is available, then that is the time that will be used.) As always, remember, the important word here is "valid". AR/AOs need to make sure backup times are accurate.

Starting May 1, 2016, the AR and AO will not take button/watch differentials into consideration when adjusting a lane time malfunction. One important note is that May 1st is on a Sunday. For meets that have started before and include May 1st, then stay with the old way of calculating differentials. Any meet starting on May 1st or afterwards, will not calculate timing system differentials.

Hy-Tek and Touchpad are working on software updates to adopt these changes. Sierra Nevada will try to put together a training course or at least get material out in March/April before this gets implemented. ***Masters, NCAA, and High School will still use differentials for calculating malfunction lane times.

As an AR or AO, you should always verify that the Colorado has the timing adjustments turned off. We never want the Colorado to adjust times. That is what we are for.

To see all the legislation adopted by USA Swimming at the House of Delegates, from the USAS website, go to the "About/ Rules & Regulations" link. On that page under the "Interpretations, Legislation & Bylaws" category, you will see the "2015 Legislation Adopted by the House of Delegates - October 3, 2015" pdf file.

Compression Tape - This is a very simple issue which seems to get clouded. Here it is "Compression tape is never to be allowed during USAS competition." That's it. All tape of any type is to be approved by the Meet Referee. There are two situations that are happening in other LSCs (because SN wouldn't do this). First, a swimmer brings a medical note that says they need to wear compression tape. This would be OK for NCAA and High School, but not USAS. Secondly, in the rule book, 102.8.1E states "Any kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee." This still does not over rule the USAS interpretation of "No compression tape". Deck Referees can still make knowledgeable decisions on tape used of wound closures.

Backstroke - "Lochte Rule" The Backstroke interpretation states that if the swimmer is towards their back after they leave the wall, then they are swimming backstroke. It was emphasized that we need to see the swimmer's feet have separation from the wall before we look to see the orientation of the swimmers shoulders. Then, we go with what we see at that point. We don't think back to what might have happened during the time your view was moving from the toes to the shoulder. And we don't wait for the first stroke to determine this position. This process should be used for all strokes where body position off the wall matters. The interpretation of how this pertains to Rule 101.5.2 can be found on the "Rules & Regulations" web page. Always remember our Golden Rule ... The swimmer always gets the benefit of doubt. This is especially true when watching multiple lanes.

For a swimmer that is towards their back after they leave the wall for the freestyle portion of the IM or MR, the DQ slip would be written up using Miscellaneous - Other (7T) "Swimming more than _ of the race in

the style of backstroke.”

Starting Block Wedge - Just a clarification that for USAS there is no stipulation of the wedge position during a relay when the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th swimmer leaves the blocks. There is a new NCAA Rule 1-3-8 which does not affect USAS.

As always, if you have a question, concern, or comment, please forward to Mr. Rose. If we are dealing with it in the Sierra Nevada LSC, then the odds are good that other LSCs have the same situation.

The 2015 Sierra Nevada Swimming Volunteer of the Year

Scott Sewell

The 2015 Phillips Petroleum Outstanding Service Award

Bill Fisher

The Outstanding Service Award was established in 1981 to recognize volunteers for their invaluable contribution to United States Swimming. The award, sponsored by the Phillips Petroleum Company, is presented annually to an honoree named by each of the 59 Local Swimming Committees. Selection criteria considers quality, level and years of volunteer service in elected or appointed positions from among the categories of administrator, official and coach.

United States Swimming and Phillips Petroleum Company take great pride in honoring the role of the volunteer as an important investment in the future of all swimming athletes and the growth of the programs they represent.

Volunteers have been the heart and strength of American swimming, and their special gifts of time, talent and devotion to local swimming programs make United States Swimming what it is today.

The 2015 Western Zone Volunteer of the Year Award

Jodi Votava

The Sam Uriu Award Winner for 2015

Our Sam Uriu Award Winner started swimming at age 7. She swam for her high school in Utah. She was a great backstroker and broke a lot of her high school's records. She has 3 children who all swim. Oldest is daughter Alex, who is also a backstroker, and her younger two, Jackson and Sam (Samantha) are also dedicated swimmers. Outside of swimming she is always actively involved with her children. Volunteering in their classrooms and helping out in any way that is needed. She began her officiating career early in the swimming year of 2014. After her training was completed, she worked 17 sessions the first year. She enjoyed it so much, she became a recruiter for her club and set up clinics, so her club, the Vacaville Swim Team, would never again have to ask for Officials. She worked a total of 27 sessions in the swimming year of 2015. Our Sam Uriu Award winner this year is Tanya Harris.

Who was Sam Uriu and what is the criteria for this award?

Sam Uriu, was one of the founding fathers of Sierra Nevada Swimming. For those that don't know, in the early 80's, a group of local volunteers, decided that they needed more representation for their buck from Pacific Swimming and decided to split away from Pacific Swimming and form their own LSC, called Sierra Nevada Swimming. Sam was one of the leaders of this group. He was a dedicated Official and mentor to many of us. He held the position of Officials Chair for many years. He died unexpectedly in 1995. Our first award winner was in 1996.

The criteria for the award would be that the award would be given each January at the awards banquet. To be eligible for the award the recipient could only have been a stroke and turn official, have attended a clinic during the year, have at least one year experience, must be certified as a stroke and turn official only, show a dedication to improvement, demonstrate a cooperative attitude, and be involved by working a minimum of 16 sessions.

Previous Sam Uriu Award Winners

1996 Sam Uriu Award Winner

Steve Moore of Woodland- 18 sessions

1997 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Patricia Newman of Davis- 20 sessions

1998 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Pat Risser of Woodland- 18 sessions

1999 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Linda Jansen of Davis - 24 sessions

2000 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Sue Traub of SMST - 26 sessions

2001 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Steve Shaffer of Davis - 31 sessions

2002 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Frank Beninsig of SMST- 35 sessions

2003 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Ted Curley of Davis - 31 sessions

2004 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Tara Simmons of CCA - 30 sessions

2005 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Roselyn Daneke of LODI - 39 sessions

2006 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Bob Hammond of CCA - 23 sessions

2007 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Kerry Halsed of Davis - 28 sessions

2008 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Mary Hickman of Davis - 29 sessions

2009 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Chris Westlake of CCA - 28 sessions

2010 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Dana Covington of AquaSol - 30 sessions

2011 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Richard Strohm of CCA - 37 sessions

2012 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Scott Sewell of AH - 34 sessions

2013 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Alison Turner of AH - 30 sessions

2014 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Elisa Reuter of DART - 38 sessions

2015 Sam Uriu Award Winner
Tanya Harris of VACA - 27 sessions

2015 Officials Committee

Award Winners

Steve Covington- He worked 44 Sierra Nevada AO sessions in 2015. He attended the 2015 Winter Nationals in Federal Way along with his wife Dana and helped the Time Trial Referee do Time Trial entries. Steve is an active volunteer because he likes being helpful while making sure that all times are accurate. This volunteer job has become a family affair along with his very active volunteering wife, Dana.

Mike Downs - Mike has worn many hats while being an active volunteer. He has work 5 sessions as a Meet Referee 6 sessions as an Admin Referee, 3 sessions as a Starter, 2 sessions as a Stroke and Turn Judge, 5 sessions as a Chief Judge and 3 sessions as an AO. Mike is active in the recruiting of Officials for his home club, the SMST. He sets up dates for the annual clinic that his club will host and then mentors these folks during the year. He even became an AO, when AO's were needed to get a meet sanctioned. He recently was a Chief Judge, where he gave the impression that he really enjoyed what he was doing, by giving the greatest gift he could to the swimmers, his time.

Charmaine Lee - Charmaine worked 13 sessions as a Stroke and Turn Judge in 2015. She is one of the Official coordinators for Vacaville Swim Team. With the help of Charmaine's leadership, Vacaville has enough Officials now to satisfy the SN Officials Rule and to show other potential parents, that it is fun to be of help on the pool deck at swimming meets, by making the pool fair and equitable for all swimmers.

Alex Ongaco - Brother Alex, worked 15 sessions as a Stroke and Turn Judge, 5 sessions as an AO and 14 sessions as a Meet Director. Alex is one of the most active people I know. He volunteers because his daughter Alissa swims, but he will work meets when she isn't in attendance. He has worked high school meets, just because we needed help. He became an AO, because there was a need and he wanted to help his Big Brother. He became his Club's Meet Director, after one of the true "legends" retired from this responsibility. Seeing him take over this Meet Director job, I know that he will be one of the "legends" himself when his career is completed.

John Richardson - In 2015, John worked 6 training sessions as Deck Referee. Once he became certified, he worked 24 sessions as a Deck Referee. He also worked 15 sessions as a Starter and 12 sessions as a Stroke and Turn Judge. John is doing this volunteer work for his grandson and all other swimmers. He even came and worked high school meets, because there is always a need for more volunteer help. It is very obvious to all who know John, that he has a very helpful natural about him. When his Grandson's Team, had a vacant position on the Board, he volunteered to become their Officials Coordinator.

Criteria for the Official Committee Awards

Several years ago, the Officials' Committee started recognizing people who have done outstanding things for the sport of

swimming and not necessarily officials or Sierra Nevada Board Members, in Sierra Nevada Swimming. The Recognition Awards began in 2000.

We were looking for Members of USA Swimming who were valuable and have done a service to the LSC and the team in their region. These people don't have to be just Officials. They could be Meet Directors, Board Members, or Sponsors for the sport of swimming in their local area. We received several nominations from people throughout the LSC. We believe that the listed individuals made a substantial contribution to their area and Sierra Nevada Swimming. We try to pick volunteers from each area of the LSC, not just the central area and the teams with the largest attendance.

Past Official Committee Award Winners

2000 Officials' Committee Award winners are:

Paul Reidl from the Central Valley Aquatics Swim Team

Ginny Day from the Woodland Swim Team

Deborah Stanley from the Vacaville Swim Team

Bruce Ajari from the Sparks Piranhas Swim Team

Sherry King from the Red Bluff Swim Team

Don Kessler from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team

2001 Officials' Committee Award winners are:

Del Brown from the Central Valley Aquatics Swim Team

Donna Henson from the Mount Shasta Swim Club

Pat Roche from the Redding Aqua Ducks Swim Team

Vic Kleiwer from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team

Bill Winchester from the Sierra Marlins Swim Team
Chris Nissen from the Arden Hills Swim Club
Bill Fisher from the Tuolumne County Aquatics Swim Team
Ken Price from the Woodland Swim Team
Jeff Corell from the Vacaville Swim Team

2002 Officials' Committee Award winners are:

Gerry Garrison from the Placerville Gold Aquatics Swim Team
Bob VanDerLinde from the Chico Aqua Jets Swim Club
Randy Scott from Sierra Nevada
Debbie Kleinhans from the Mt. Shasta Swim Team

2003 Officials' Committee Award winners are:

Ezra Eddie from the Penguin Swim Team
Stacey Kelly from the Redding Aqua Ducks Swim Team
Steve Schafer from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team
Bill Fisher from the Tuolumne County Aquatics Swim Team

2004 Officials' Committee Award winners are:

Bob and Lori Hammond from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team
John Griffin from the Lodi City Swim Team
Memo Mendoza from the Solano Athletic Sea Otters Swim Team
Carolyn Pendergrass from the Orland Otters Swim Team
Greg Tyler from the Redding Aqua Ducks Swim Team

2005 Officials' Committee Award winners are:

Roger Young from the Central Valley Aquatics Swim Team
Bill Misslin from the Redding Aqua Ducks Swim Team
Fred Stolp from the Durham Dolphins Swim Team
Kerry Halsted from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team
Bill Levin from the Spare Time Swim Club
Niffey Carmody from the Solano Athletic Sea Otters Swim Team

2006 Officials' Committee Award winners are:

Gary Anderson from the Chico Aqua Jets Swim Team
Carol Duty from the Woodland Swim Team
Carol Lee from the Penguin Swim Team
Roswita Norris from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team

Tom Parodi from the Vacaville Swim Team
Dave Riggert from the Vacaville Swim Team
Pat Risser from the Woodland Swim Team
John Struckmeyer from the Glen Oaks Swim League

2007 Officials' Committee Award Winners are:

Denna Culpepper from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team
Michael Arnold from the Tuolumne County Aquatics Swim Team
Charlotte Bohn from the Vacaville Swim Team
Julie Hunziker from the Redding Aqua Ducks Swim Team
Tracy Holzwarth from the North Valley Aquatics Swim Team

2008 Officials' Committee Award Winners are:

Mark Carmody from the Solano Athletic Sea Otters Swim Team
Jeff Jones from Sierra Marlins Swim Team
Rebecca Landre from Sierra Marlins Swim Team
Daron Whittle from the Woodland Swim Team
Will Halligan from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team
Ted Curley from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team

2009 Officials' Committee Award Winners are:

Brian Rhodes from the Penguin Swim Team
Lou Schlitz from the Central Valley Aquatics Swim Team
Mark Hampton from the Scott Valley Swim Team
Rick West from the Chico Aqua Jets Swim Team
Gwen O'Hagan from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team

2010 Officials' Committee Award Winners are:

Penny Dodson from Sierra Marlins Swim Team
Jeff Galvin from the Spare Time Swim Club
Marilyn MacArt from the Woodland Swim Team
Craig Dolley from Sierra Marlins Swim Team

2011 Officials' Committee Award Winners are:

Jodi and Pete Votava from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team
Glenn Abernethy from the Vacaville Swim Team
C.A. Russell from the Central Valley Aquatics Swim Team
Bill Henderson from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team

2012 Official's Committee Award Winners are:

Jeff Anderson from the Northern Sierra Aquatics Swim Team
Bruce Barber from the Arden Hills Swim Club
Dana Covington from the Aqua Sol Swim Team
John Daleo from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team
Art Louie from the Solano Athletic Sea Otters Swim Team
Kevin Tokuniga from the Durham Dolphins Swim Team

2013 Official's Committee Award Winners are:

Donna Evans from the Arden Hills Swim Club
Amber Ponciano from the Gridley Gators Swim Team
Dean Needham from the Davis Aqua Darts Swim Team
Dennis Boston from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team

2014 Official's Committee Award Winners are:

Joel Christeson from the Foothill Aqua Sharks Swim Team
T.J Kay from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team
Juerg Morach from the Woodland Swim Team
Jennifer Treff from the Chico Aqua Jets Swim Team
Hank Van Mourik from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team

2015 Official's Committee Award Winners are:

Steve Covington from the Aqua Sol Swim Team
Mike Downs from Sierra Marlins Swim Team
Charmaine Lee from the Vacaville Swim Team
John Richardson from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team
Alex Ongaco from the California Capital Aquatics Swim Team

Can you determine which of the above Officials are still working the deck?

SIERRA NEVADA SWIMMING LSC BOARD MEETING

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

Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2016

Time: 7:00 PM
Quarterly Meeting: Fourth 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=0x809b21eebffa01b: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>

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 are **ZERO** 2016 Stroke and Turn Clinics on the calendar.

The online test is an every other year requirement.

FOR THE **2016** USA SWIMMING YEAR,
THERE ARE **10 STROKE AND TURN JUDGES** WHO NEEDS TO
COMPLETE THE STROKE AND TURN/TIMER RE-
CERTIFICATION TEST!! IN ADDITION THERE IS
1 REFEREE WHO HAS TO COMPLETE THEIR REFEREE RE-
CERTIFICATION TESTS. THERE ARE ALSO **3 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 **February of 2016**

Meet Date: February 6-7, 2016
Type of Meet: Pacific Swimming Short Course C/B/A+ Meet
Hosted by: Pacifica Sea Lions
Location: Jean E. Brink Swimming Pool
Oceana High School
401 Paloma Avenue
Pacifica, CA 94044-2436.

Directions: Use the website below to look at the map of the area around the Jean E. Brink Swimming Pool.

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/'/Jean+E.+Brink+Swimming+Pool,+Oceana+High+School,+401+Paloma+Avenue,+Pacifica,+CA+94044-2436./@37.6381457,-122.5575885,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x808f7a54acdc15af:0x82e36fe606369270!2m2!1d-122.4875485!2d37.6381664>

Contact Information: Meet Director: Magda Carranza <coachmagda.mc@gmail.com>
1 (650) 738-7460

Meet Date: February 12-14, 2016
Type of Meet: SCY
Hosted by: Feather River Aquatic Club
Location: Gauche Aquatics Park
421 C Street
Yuba City, CA
Meet Director: Sharon Guillory, s530g@aol.com

Directions: Use the website below to look at a map of the area around Gauche Aquatics Park

<http://www.yubacity.net/parks/gauche-aquatics-park.htm>

Contact Information: Sharon Guillory
767 Village Ct
Yuba City, CA 95991
530-673-2858
[<S530g@aol.com>](mailto:S530g@aol.com)

Meet Date: February 19-21, 2016
Type of Meet: SCY - Last Chance Qualifier - BB+/-
Hosted by: Solano Aquatics Sea Otters
Location: Solano Community College Pool
400 Suisun Valley Road
Fairfield, CA 94534

Directions: Use the website below to look at a map of the area around Solano Community College
http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&rlz=1G1GGLO_ENUS264&q=400+Suisun+Valley+Road,+Fairfield,+CA&oe=UTF-8&um=1&ie=UTF-8&sa=N&tab=wl&oi=property_suggestions&resnum=0&ct=property-revision&cd=1

Contact Information: Meet Director: Lisa Strong [<lisa-strong@comcast.net>](mailto:lisa-strong@comcast.net)

Meet Date: February 19-21, 2016
Type of Meet: SCY - Last Chance Qualifier - BB+/-
Hosted by: Vacaville Swim Club
Location: Walter Graham Aquatic Center
1100 Alamo Drive
Vacaville, CA 95687

Directions: From Eastbound Interstate 80: Alamo Drive Exit, stay to the right. Turn right at the second light, Marshall Rd. (McDonald's). Pool and parking on the left. Westbound Interstate 80: Alamo Drive exit, stay to the right. Turn right at the light (Alamo Dr.) Turn

right at the third light, Marshall Rd. (McDonald's). Pool and parking is on the left.

Google Directions: Use the website below to look at a map of the area around the Walter Graham Aquatic Center.

http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&expIds=17259,17311,22713,24472,25854,25901,25907,26087,26095,26144,26158,26209,26218,26339,26446,26512&sugexp=ldymIs&tok=_KhY8AIo0Mqi7olxJk-yLw&xhr=t&q=1100+Alamo+Dr+Vacaville,+CA+95688&cp=33&rlz=1G1GGLO_ENUS264&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=1100+Alamo+Dr,+Vacaville,+CA+95687&gl=us&daddr=1100%20Alamo%20Dr,%20Vacaville,%20CA%2095687&ei=3iGJTJ6oA4aqsAOXpoiVCg&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=directions-to&resnum=1&sqi=2&ved=0CBUQwwUwAA

Contact Information: Meet Director: Tanya Harris <tgrlily9@hotmail.com>

Meet Date: February 26-28, 2016

Type of Meet: SCY - February Frost

Hosted by: Vallejo Aquatic Club

Location: JOHN F. CUNNINGHAM AQUATIC COMPLEX.
801 HEARTWOOD AVE
VALLEJO, CA. 94591

Directions: From I-80 East onto Georgia Street: from I-80 West, RIGHT up over freeway onto Georgia Street. Go east on Georgia Street, past (3) stoplights. Turn LEFT on Heartwood to pool. From Contra Costa, take I-680 NORTH to I-780 NORTH. Exit from I-780 at Columbus Parkway. Turn LEFT on Georgia Street. Turn RIGHT on Heartwood. Pool is on the left side. For Google Maps directions, use <http://g.co/maps/2k8bh>. Pool parking lot is only for officials who are working the meet. Those parking in improper areas will be ticketed by V.P.D and may be towed.

Google Directions: Use the website below to look at a map of the area around the JOHN F. CUNNINGHAM AQUATIC COMPLEX

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/'/JOHN+F.+CUNNINGHAM+AQUATIC+COMPLEX.+801+HEARTWOOD+AVE.,+VALLEJO,+CA./@38.1023855,-122.2819082,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x808572f880580483:0x2fb172f3ebfd03cf!2m2!1d-122.2118682!2d38.1024063>

Contact Information: Meet Director: Joseph Sapida <meetdirector@vallejoaquatics.org>

Meet Date: February 26-28, 2016
Type of Meet: Pacific Swimming Short Course Last Chance B/A+ Meet
Hosted by: Stockton Swim Club
Location: Cortopassi Aquatics Center
St. Mary's High School
5648 N. El Dorado Street
Stockton, CA 95207

Directions: Use the website below to look at the map of the area around the Cortopassi Aquatics Center.

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir//Cortopassi+Aquatics+Center,+St.+Mary%E2%80%99s+High+School,+5648+N.+El+Dorado+Street,+Stockton,+CA+95207/@38.0036679,-121.3765996,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x80900c4532fbc751:0x2095ba7e95dbd3cc!2m2!1d-121.3065596!2d38.0036887>

Contact Information: Meet Director: Sarah EB Drouin 1 (860)778-7875
No calls or texts after 9:00 pm <SSCMeetRep@yahoo.com>

Officials: Ask your questions!!

- changed February 1, 2016 -

Often Asked Questions by USA Swimming Officials

I thought I only had to renew my Athlete Protection by 12/31/15. I did renew it a few weeks ago. Is there something else I missed?

Yes, you took the Stroke and Turn/Timer test in the swimming year of 2014 and this is your year to take the Re-certification Stroke and Turn/Timer test. It is only 30 questions long.

I'm having second thoughts about renewing....I have been unable to officiate as a starter...always placed back into the S&T position and unable to move forward. It's not worth it to me to complete any further tests because I'm sure I will not be able to utilize my new skills. Even at local meets, I'm overlooked for Starter position. Even had an outside of my LSC official come to my own meet was put into that position over me. Very frustrated with officiating at this point.

I hate to hear this. The Meet Referees need to make this journey a wonderful experience for everyone, who is volunteering their precious time. Do you want me to speak up on your

behalf and just let the folks know that you are REALLY interested in going further in this journey and would like to have that chance? It would be my pleasure to help you out in anyway on this journey, but I sure don't want you to give up.

When you say "Mark Brown will not send you a 2016 USA Swimming Membership Card because our LSC will not be using these membership cards this coming swimming year." -- is this the pink card? I just wanted to make sure as mine says it expired 12/31/2015 and I don't seem to have a replacement for 2016.

Yes, that is the one. That pink card expired on 12/31/2015. USA Swimming does have a "green" 2016 membership card, but as you will notice by looking at the expired pink card, it only has information about the Background Check and Athlete Protection Training and the current membership year that was paid for by the non-athlete member. It has nothing about being a certified Official. The 2016 Certification Card that I edit and then click a button, so that USA Swimming can send this updated card to you by way of a PDF document on your computer, shows if you are certified as an Stroke and Turn Judge (CE) or as in the case of new potential Officials (TR). If you are really interested in having one of these "green" 2016 membership cards, they can be obtained by going onto Deck Pass. I will send you an attachment to explain the steps in obtaining one of these cards.

I just completed my APT. My certificate is attached.

I just looked and your new expiration date doesn't show up on the USA Swimming website, but since your certificate is dated 1/3/2016 and it is still 1/3/2016, I would imagine that it will show up tomorrow. The new expiration dates show up at midnight plus one second on the day after the APT course is taken. Since there is a time difference between here and there, I bet it will show up tomorrow and I can then edit your 2016 Certification Card.

High School Swimming is looming in the near horizon and since I am the team manager for a Sac/San Joaquin Swimming Team, I keep getting the same question every year about the team suit. So, I'm asking for your interpretation of the High School Swim Rules. Can a "Jolyn" swim suit be worn for high school meets and at Sections? These are the same suits that are illegal at USA meets.

As for the swim suits you are talking about, according to the NFHS Rulebook, "It is recommended all swimmers and divers on the team wear suits of identical coloring and pattern. Suits shall be of one piece. A competitor shall not be permitted to participate wearing a suit that is not of decent appearance. Boys shall wear suits which cover the buttocks. Girls shall wear suits which cover the buttocks and breasts." Also, "swimsuits shall be made with no zippers or other fastening system other than a waist tie for brief or jammer..." So, with that in mind, I would say NO, since the Jolyn suits look like suits for girls to get suntans and attract boys, with their skimpy appearance, which doesn't cover all the "breasts" and "buttocks" in some cases. Also, they are made with fasteners in the back, which is illegal. These suits are not approved by USA Swimming, so any swimmer wanting a USA Swimming time, in their high school races, would not receive that time.

I finished the APT this evening. Please advise if there are any problems.

After completing the APT on a certain day, the new expiration date usually appears on the

USA Swimming website the next day. Since the day's results are entered at the magic hour of midnight of the day the APT is completed, your new expiration doesn't show yet, because USA Swimming and maybe the APT companies site is in a different time zone than us. I will check tomorrow morning as I usually do to see if your new APT expiration date shows up as expiring on 12/31/2018. If it does, I will send you a message, saying that I have updated your 2016 Certification Card.

I am considering doing the N2 evaluation process. When is the next opportunity?

Our LSC has two Official Qualifying Meets (OQM) a year, the Summer Sanders meet in June and the SN Long Course Championships in July. For other OQMs in USA Swimming, you can look on the USA Swimming website at:

<http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=1515&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en> and then click on *List of Approved Qualifying Meets for N2 & N3 Certification* for a PDF list of all the approved Official Qualifying Meets so far this year. It is early in the approval process, since many of the meets are in the spring and summer. All the best to you on your journey

I was looking at my certification card and in the level area it says CE. What does that stand for?

That is a good question. Sierra Nevada Swimming doesn't have levels and I could only use two letters. CE means you are certified. When the Official is in training, I use TR.

I was just wondering if the 2016 card (the one we have to wear "around the neck" while officiating) would be sent to us, or do we need to go to USA Swimming website and print one out ourselves? Just trying to get all my stuff ready for upcoming meets.

This year we are **NOT** using the "colored" USA Swimming Membership Card, because it had been such a big process for Mark Brown to be responsible for, as I am finding out with just updating the current Certification Card. Mark would not issue the membership card, unless all requirements were met, as I am doing with the Certification Card. You would not believe the folks who right now can not work the deck in 2016 because of either the APT not being done (8), the APT and online test not being done (8), only the online test needing to be completed (11) or past certified Officials not having any of the requirements completed including attending a 2016 clinic (65). I check every day to see if there were completed Officials. On January 2nd, I had 6 completions, but today only two. There is a way for you to get this year's "green" 2016 membership card, but I am not advertising it, since this membership card only has the current Background Check expiration date, the current APT expiration date and the current USA Swimming expiration date listed. It does not show who is certified, which the current Certification Card does. You won't need the "colored" USA Swimming Membership Card this year in Sierra Nevada Swimming, but if you attend other LSC Meets and you are worried if they will accept only the Certification Card as proof of your certification and you really want to print and laminate the "colored" USA Swimming Membership Card, there is an attachment to this message that will help, but **WE ARE NOT** using this membership card in Sierra Nevada Swimming for checking whether you can work the deck anymore.

I am certified and have never gotten the cards, How do I get them or where?

According to my research, I edited stuff on the USA Swimming website, so that USA Swimming would send you this 2016 Certification Card on 12/8/2015. It should have been in your computer's inbox on that date. I even sent you an email message on that same date, saying how proud I was of you for completing your 2016 USA Swimming non-athlete Official Requirements. I just did some clicking and there should be another 2016 Certification Card in your computer's inbox right now, but if not, I have made a copy and attached it to this message.

I had not seen this before (dang Colorado!!!) so we are observing the freestyles to insure no backstroke?

That is correct!! Even in the 400 yard Medley Relay, where there are several turns in the freestyle leg of the race. Thank you for asking,

I just received email from Sterling that I passed the background check, and I took the Athlete Protection class earlier last week. I'm assuming that you get the results directly. If not, let me know and I will forward the certifications.

I did see the APT results the other day and the Criminal Background Check results will probably show up tonight, after midnight. I will probably look tomorrow morning, since I will not be up at midnight tonight. If the results do show up as planned, I will send you a 2016 certification card, showing that you are in training as a Stroke and Turn Judge.

I was at a college meet this weekend (last minute sunday morning (5am) I drove down because I was told they were really short staffed) and I printed my card from USA swimming and brought it but the Officials at the meet, said that I really needed the "green" card for 2016. I showed them the email you sent and said I brought what was suggested by you. They could see that my stroke and turn, back ground, and athlete protection were current, but really stressed that I should have brought the "green" card. Where can i get the "green" card? And a side note: I would love to officiate college level and work on more training for USA swimming. I have a college student and a 9 year old so I would like to volunteer and help out as much as I can. Where can I learn more?

I will send out something so you can print your "green" card. It should be in you inbox, shortly. As for working college meets, they are always needing help. I tried when my 38 year old daughter was going to UCSB, but was never needed except one time in four years, because one lady always worked the meets for the four years I traveled to her dual meets in Santa Barbara. I worked some of the Big West Championships when her season ended each year, but I get more enjoyment working the many USA Swimming meets all over the USA. Some college associations pay their Officials and when more Officials work, it means that there is less pay to go around. Also, some College Coaches, don't like to have a lot of Officials at their meets. There is an NCAA Official's test to take on the USA Swimming website. This is strictly an NCAA test, which will require an NCAA Rulebook to answer the questions. The results go to the folks at NCAA headquarters. I still get asked to work college meets once in a while, but I do that just to help them out. In fact, I have been asked to help at a junior college meet at the end of January.

My son took a hiatus this fall from swimming and just recently rejoined, so I'm catching up myself. I did the Athletic Protection Training a few weeks ago. That should have updated. If not, I'll look into it further. Are there any 2016 clinics coming up? If not, what might be my options? My son's club usually will pay for the fees of the officials. I can double check their policy. I can take the Stroke and Turn/Timer test for 2016.

It is too bad that you missed the DART clinic in Davis on January 9th. We had about 25 show up, some from as far away as Mt. Shasta. That is the only clinic we had on our calendar at the moment. We have had 23 clinics in our LSC since the new 2016 swimming year started in September, with many of them in the Sacramento area. Most of the yearly clinics are held in the fall, so the Officials will be ready when the clock strikes midnight on the last day of 2015. Not having any clinics on the calendar, doesn't mean that no more clinics will be offered.

When the seasonal swimmers start in the spring, some of the seasonal clubs will offer clinics. Even some of the clubs in your area, might have a few folks, like yourself, who missed attending the required yearly clinic and would like to host a clinic now. I would suggest that you have your Team's Official Coordinator contact someone from the other clubs in the area to see if they would be interested in hosting a new 2016 clinic. If and when these clubs decide there is an interest, we can work on a day and time, get a sanction number and then advertise the clinic. I just looked and your records do show that you completed your APT before the first of the year and it expires on 12/31/2017. I have mentioned your options. Please have your Team's Official Coordinator contact someone from other clubs. All new Sierra Nevada Swimming memberships, start with the attendance at a yearly clinic. The policy of your team is that they do pay the membership fee for someone who is certified in the past year. I don't believe that has changed. For the swimming year of 2016, you will have to take the Re-certification Stroke and Turn/Timer test this swimming year, since you last took the test in the swimming year of 2014 and received the passing score of 97.50%. All that is left for you to become a member of USA Swimming this year is to attend the required yearly clinic, take that online test and have your club pay your membership fees.

I have completed the Athlete Protection Training, passed the Certification Stroke and Turn/Timer test, and started the background check. I would like to start the on-deck training at the Rocklin (RMAV) meet, but was not sure how to sign up. Any suggestions?

Your APT results don't show up on the USA Swimming website this morning. When did you take this course? The results usually are entered at midnight on the day you take the course, so if you just took it, it should show up tomorrow. If you took it some time ago, we will have to have someone at USA Swimming match up your APT to your name. Let me know please, when you took the APT. As for the Criminal Background Check, it takes three to five days for the check to be completed and the results to show up on the USA Swimming website. If you want to start your deck training at the RMAV meet, just show up at the meet in time for the Officials Briefing, usually a half of an hour before the meet begins. You will sign in as a Trainee and work with a certified Official for the entire session. When the session is over, you will have the Meet Referee date and initial your SN Training Slip.

I officiated at the age group All Star meet over the weekend. There were very few calls made during this meet which was nice. They use radios instead of DQ slips which I

found challenging. It is interesting how the DQ slip is a nice cheat sheet for the correct language for the calls. They also did not take notes on the calls which I like to have in case the call is challenged. It was a good educational experience for me. On another note the LSC we were competing against, all had the same shirts, hats, fleece vests and jackets identifying them as Officials from the same LSC. The jackets even had their names on the sleeves. I thought it made the crew look more professional. Maybe it was my military background which emphasizes uniformity.

I agree 100% about having all Officials dress alike. I also am glad you did a meet outside of our LSC, noting that there are differences in the way we dress and the protocol for DQ Slips. Thank you for sharing,

If the two trainees complete everything (taking the test, etc.) by 8/31/2016, can they recertify for the next swimming year (2017)? Can they officiate through 12/31/16?

If your two trainees were to complete all of their training requirements (six deck training sessions, online test, Criminal Background Check and Athlete Protection Training), they would be able to work the deck when ever they completed these requirements, for your Team. If they would complete their training requirements by 8/31/2016, they could work the deck as Officials until 12/31/2016 without re-certifying for the swimming year of 2017, because they would still be certified for the swimming year of 2016. In order to be certified for the swimming year of 2017, they would have to attend one of the required yearly 2017 clinics, before 12/31/2016, to be able to work the deck as Officials on January 1, 2017 or after that date. They would additionally have to work the minimum requirement of sessions worked during the year, to fulfill the requirement of working "only" 4 sessions, to continue their current certification for the next year.

Is there a way to have the USA ID appear on the Certification Card? I had a heck of a time finding my ID number when signing in for one of my shadow sessions.

No, the ID number will not appear on the Certification Card, but you can figure out your own ID number, because your ID number is the month of your birth (01), the day of your birth (01), followed by the year of your birth (50). Next comes the first three letters of your first name (ABC), followed by the first letter of you middle name (D) and then finishing up with the first four letters of your last name (EFGH). Now you put them all together and your complete ID Number is 010150ABCDEFGH. Not all Referees require your ID number and it really isn't even necessary, since if you are a member of USA Swimming, I can find you by only looking for your last name. But, if the Referee wants it, now you know what you have to do to come up with your ID Number.

Can you please verify If I took correct the course? I selected the athlete protection training and only one course popped up which was "Establishing and Maintaining Healthy Relationships with Athletes". I completed it. Hopefully it is the correct one.

If you just took the APT (today), the results will show up tomorrow at 12:01 AM. The APT results always are inputted into the USA Swimming database at midnight. Since I am not up at midnight, I will look at the Official Lists on the USA Swimming website tomorrow morning to see if you took the correct Athlete Protection Training. I bet you did, since there is now only one for all non-athlete members of USA Swimming.

I thought I was going to be out of town this weekend, but will be available. Do you know if I would be able to get any trainee shifts in? I don't know how we count, if we count, in the overall need for S&T officials.

While you are still in training, you don't count as one of the required Officials needed from your Team. You have to be a certified Official to count. If you can still come to one of the meets this weekend, you will be able to get one or two training sessions completed. Just make sure you attend the pre-meet briefing, starting about 8:30 AM. Make sure to sign-in. You will be paired with a certified Official for the session. When the session is over, you will need to make sure that your Sierra Nevada Swimming Training Slip is initialed and dated by the Meet Referee.

I'm new to all this. If someone was accepted to officiate in N Carolina and they live in California, do they have to pay their own way to get there? Also, I'm scheduled to do my first training this weekend. So I guess I just show up at the officials meeting with my white and blue gear on, with my card, and I tell the head ref I am there for training? Would appreciate any advice.

If someone was accepted to officiate at this meet in North Carolina, they would have to pay their own way to get there and all the other expenses too. Of course, you would have to be certified as an LSC Official, before applying. You couldn't be an Official in "training." As for getting your first training session done this weekend, you need to dress as warm and dry as you can get. If it is possible, white over blue is preferred. You would show up before the Officials pre-meet briefing about 30 minutes before the meet begins. You would sign-in on the sign-in form and list your position as S/T Trainee. You would be paired up with a certified Official for the session. When the session is over, you will have the Meet Referee initial and date your Sierra Nevada Swimming Training Slip.

I believe I have completed the on-line test, athlete protection training, background check, attended the training clinic, and paid all fees. I've done 4 of 6 on deck trainings and hope to finish the last two this weekend. I think I should have received a certification card showing I'm in training for stroke and turn. I have not. I just want to check to see what I'm missing as if hate to miss the opportunity to complete training if I don't have a cert card to be on deck.

Hopefully you have received your 2016 Certification Card, that I sent you on 11/11/2015. I will forward the note I sent you then. I am still waiting for you to complete all of your six deck training sessions and I believe we are both thinking alike on that requirement. In regards to the Certification Stroke and Turn/Timer online test, I don't have any record of you taking and passing this test. Because of my online test administrative privileges, I was able to go onto the USA Swimming website and look for individual tests or all the tests taken from a certain point in time. I didn't find a test taken by you on either searches. Some times the Test Takers don't use SN (Sierra Nevada) as the LSC and the results don't come to me as the LSC Officials Chair, but that wasn't the case. I didn't find your name on any of the two searches. So, to be completely certified, you have the two other deck training sessions to complete and the online test to take and pass.

We had an incident today where in a championship meet an athlete swam in the wrong lane and, as a result, the athlete who should have been in that lane did not swim. The athlete was 11. The Meet Referee put the excluded athlete in another heat. One senior Official said that the athlete should be disqualified. The MR decided that it was “no harm no foul” and gave him the time because it did not impact the meet. I agreed with that for a variety of reasons. But here is my question: what rule was violated by the athlete who no-showed in his lane and swam in another? I can piece it together but there is actually not a rule (as far as I know) that says that an athlete has to swim in the lane to which he or she is assigned.

As for your question, in USA Swimming, the only requirement is, as 102.22.4 states, "A swimmer must start and finish the race in the same lane." It is the responsibility of the Head Lane Timer, as 102.17.2A states, "The Head Lane Timer shall: Determine whether the swimmer or relay team is present and in the correct lane, heat and event, and record the names and order of relay swimmers prior to the start of the race, and determine that the relay swimmers are swimming in the order listed." In USA Swimming, we don't disqualify a swimmer for swimming in the wrong lane. In high school swimming that is not the case. On page 32 of the NFHS Rulebook, under Section 6, Conduct, Article 6, "Swimmers shall swim in their assigned lanes throughout the race and shall not interfere with a swimmer in another lane." As the penalty, it states, "a competitor shall be disqualified from the event for a.) not swimming in his/her assigned lane throughout the race;

Great explanation. But what if the athlete did that at Nationals? Would he or she still get her time? What is the time qualified him or her for finals? Isn't an athlete responsible for his or her swim?

If the swimmer did that at Nationals, the time would still count. The philosophy is, if the swimmer swims, the time counts. I had a swimmer at the test meet for Olympic Trials three and a half years ago, who didn't get notified that she was penalized for being a no-show for a previous event and swam the next event. She should have been disqualified by being not allowed to swim based on the no-show rule used for preliminaries during trial and final meets.

She qualified for finals and scored. According to our rule, it is the responsibility of the Head Lane Timer to make sure the correct swimmer is swimming in the right lane. That is why we, as Lane Timers, are asked by the Chief Judges, at higher level meets, to ask if the swimmer that is standing in front of us is the correct swimmer.

I am having trouble locating the link to purchase my Sierra Nevada officials name tag and white polo shirts. Can you help me out with locating that?

You can always check out the first two articles in my monthly newsletters.

I will not be at the ice breaker meet tomorrow because I was not able to get my uniform together. Got the shoes and shirt but could not get the pants in time.

At this time of the year, when it is so cold and wet, we don't always come dressed alike. If you can, please come and get at least one session of training in. When you are completely certified, we would expect you to have the proper uniform, but if it was cold and wet, we just dress to stay warm and dry.

Do we NEED to print/laminate to wear it or weren't u saying in a prior email that we would only need it if working in another LSC?

At ALL Sierra Nevada Swimming meets you WILL NEED to laminate, show and wear the 2016 Certification Card. At outside of our LSC, you might have to laminate and show the 2016 "green" USA Swimming Membership Card, which you can find by going to Deck Pass and then following the instructions on that attachment, which I sent in a separate email message on January 18, 2016 4:55:45 PM PST.

**SWIMMING SITUATIONS
- changed February 1, 2016 -**

1. A "splasher" who is preparing for the next heat, accidentally stops the electronic timing system while a race is in progress. May he swim in his heat or should he be disqualified?

Recommended Resolution: This is a judgment decision which may vary and can only be made on site. It must be determined if the swimmer is "interfering with the competition" by depriving another swimmer of a valid time. Normally, a warning is given to the swimmer to try to prevent a problem in the future.

Applicable Rules: 102.22.8

2. At a Junior Olympics a swimmer is disqualified by a Turn Judge at the turn end of the pool. The disqualification is verified by a Chief Judge and a Deck Referee and it is sent to the recording room. The results are posted and announced without the disqualification being listed, placing the disqualified swimmer in seventh place for finals. No one notices the omission. Thirty minutes prior to the evening finals, the Coach of the ninth place swimmer complains to the Referee. What should the Referee do?

Recommended Resolution: An error by meet management obviously occurred. The Scorers did not eliminate the disqualified swimmer as the rules require in determining the order of finish. This rule clearly stipulates that disqualified swimmers may not receive awards or scores points from disqualified swims. To overlook this would violate the "fair and equitable" criteria established in the prologue to Part One of the Rulebook. The Referee or a Designated Official is required to make "every reasonable effort" to advise a swimmer or his/her Coach about the disqualification. It would be inappropriate to withhold from the legitimate (9th place) swimmer a place in the finals because of an Official's error in recording.

Applicable Rules: 102.10.13, 102.10.2

3. In a large LSC invitational meet where the relays are swum as timed finals with the two fastest seeded heats swimming at night in the finals, the team 14th fastest on the psych sheet

asks the Referee if they may swim in the morning as their plane reservations require that they be at the airport by 7:00 p.m. What should the Meet Referee do?

Recommended Resolution: Allowing this request would require modification of the seeding rules and should not be done for one team unless the same option has been given to all. However, a proactive Administrative Referee would seek out the Coach of the fastest relay team swimming in the morning and offer a switch to an evening swim. More often than not, the offer will be gladly accepted.

Applicable Rules: 102.5.4A

4. At a Junior Olympics meet, a 13-14 age group swimmer wears a "Bud Lite" cap during a preliminary event. The Referee instructs the swimmer that the cap is inappropriate, to which the swimmer replies, "But Budweiser is an Olympic sponsor. Why can't I wear my cap?" What should the Referee's response be?

Recommended Resolution: USA Swimming Rules are quite specific about the prohibition of any visible marque or insignia in the form of advertising (other than the trademark on technical equipment or clothing). Offenders may be barred from competition, until they comply with this rule. Additionally, advertising for products involving alcohol are also prohibited.

Applicable Rules: 102.8.3A, 102.8.3B

5. Immediately after the start of a 50 meter freestyle heat, a swimmer in the next heat quickly jumps in and out of the pool to get wet. What should the Deck Referee do?

Recommended Resolution: The swimmer should be disqualified. USA Swimming Rules state that any swimmer not entered in a race who enters the pool or course in the area in which said race is being conducted before all swimmers therein have completed the race shall be barred from the next individual event in which he is entered on that day or the next meet day, whichever is first.

Applicable Rule: 102.22.7

TAKING THE ON-LINE TESTS

- changed February 1, 2016 -

The examples this month appear on the 2016 ADMINISTRATIVE REFEREE 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. Which of the following is a recognized 11-12 year-old age group event or a recommended 11-12 year-old open water event? **482.12**

- A. 5 kilometer open water.
- B. 800 meter/1000 yard freestyle.
- C. 400 meter individual medley.
- D. All of the above.

Hint: Please review references 102.1.2 and 102.1.3 for the correct answer.

2. 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. Approved competition.
- C. Observed competition.
- D. All of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.1.5 for the correct answer.

3. How may Time Trials be held? **1532.7**

- A. Time Trials may be a separate event, sanctioned, approved, or observed in compliance with Article 202.
- B. Time Trial events may be held in conjunction with a sanctioned, approved, or observed competition if all information about the conduct of the Time Trials is included in the Meet Announcement as sanctioned or approved by the LSC.
- C. Any of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.1.5 for the correct answer.

4. In a timed finals meet, how many individual events may a swimmer compete per day? **494.8**

- A. Not more than five (5) individual events per day.

- B. Not more than three (3) individual events per day.
- C. Not more than four (4) individual events per day.
- D. None of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.2.3 for the correct answer.

5. In order to compete in a meet, a swimmer must be entered in compliance with the requirements stated in which document? **468.18**

- A. The swimmer must be entered in compliance with the general regulations governing entries in USA Swimming, but need not comply with the event entry requirements stated in the Meet Announcement.
- B. The swimmer must be entered in compliance with the local LSC Bylaws, but need not comply with the event entry requirements stated in the Meet Announcement.
- C. The swimmer must be entered in compliance with the event entry requirements stated in the Meet Announcement.
- D. None of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.2.1 for the correct answer.

6. Excluding relay teams representing an LSC at a Zone meet or similar all-star competition sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, can a relay team be composed of unattached swimmers in USA Swimming competition? **372.8**

- A. No, under no circumstances.
- B. Yes, as long as they are members of USA Swimming.
- C. Yes, as long as they are all registered through the same LSC.
- D. Yes, as long as they all train together with the same coach.

Hint: Please review reference 102.3.1 for the correct answer.

7. For swimmers who were involved in a swim-off, what is the official time that will be used to seed them in the finals? **500.12**

- A. The entry time for the event.
- B. The times used for the swimmers involved shall be the times achieved in their original preliminary heats.
- C. The time established in the swim-off.

Hint: Please review reference 102.5.2 for the correct answer.

8. Assuming it is announced in the Meet Announcement, what sort of adjustments can be made to the order in which preliminary and timed final heats will be swum? **470.17**

- A.** Heats may be alternated between women and men.
- B.** Heats may be swum from slowest to fastest.
- C.** Heats may be swum from fastest to slowest.
- D.** All of the above.

Hint: Please review references 102.5.6A and 102.5.6C for the correct answer.

9. In timed finals, how would you seed 8 swimmers in a 6-lane pool? **299.12**

- A.** Three in the first heat and five in the second heat.
- B.** Four in each heat.
- C.** Two in the first heat and six in the second heat.

Hint: Please review reference 102.5.4A for the correct answer.

10. Lane assignments for timed final heats are made with the fastest swimmer in the center lane of the pool. If the lanes are numbered from the right to the left as the swimmers are facing the course, where Lane 1 is the right-most lane, in which lane does the next fastest swimmer get seeded? **305.12**

- A.** Lane to the right of the fastest swimmer.
- B.** Lane to the left of the fastest swimmer.
- C.** Left outside lane facing the course.
- D.** None of the above.

Hint: Please review reference 102.5.4A for the correct answer.

1. The correct answer is “D” for the multiple choice answer.
2. The correct answer is “D” for the multiple choice answer.
3. The correct answer is “C” for the multiple choice answer.
4. The correct answer is “A” for the multiple choice answer.
5. The correct answer is “C” for the multiple choice answer.
6. The correct answer is “A” 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 “A” for the multiple choice answer.
10. The correct answer is “B” 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>](mailto:cbrose@omsoft.com)