



The “Professional” Open Water Official



- Expects to be challenged
- Knows the rules
- Knows event and site procedures
- Is prepared
- Is there for the sport of Open Water Swimming
- Enjoys being involved
- Has a deep and all-around knowledge of the rules
- Applies maximum effort to the meet
- Does not pre-suppose a situation
- Officiates with understanding and respect for the sport and the athletes
- Gives the outward appearance of preparedness and being in control
- Appearance, dress, movements around the start and finish areas, race course, gestures, etc. must be professional
- Knows that spectators are watching as officials undertake their duties
- Looks forward to officiating at each meet.
- Make certain that the competition is conducted in a safe, controlled and fair manner
- Is considerate of all point of view
- Apply the rules and interpretations impartially for one and all. Keeps a balanced outlook



- Works with all other officials, to make sure, it is an event that all swimmers will enjoy being part of
- When reporting an infraction, write it out as the rule states, not in your own words.

Equipment

- Sun glasses (if outdoors)
- Sun protection material (if outdoors)
- Whistle/Pens/Paper/Start List
- Flags and whiteboard plus pens
- USA Swimming Rule Book

Finally, be prepared to have the courage to make the tough call when it is necessary