Timer Responsibilities

Welcome to the Officials Team for this session of the meet! As an official for this session, you will want to do your best to assure the swimmers an accurate time for their swims. Listed below are your responsibilities. We hope you enjoy helping this meet run smoothly. If you are interested in becoming a permanent member of the Officials Team, please convey your interest to the Meet Referee.

1. Determine whether the swimmer or relay team is present and in the correct lane, heat, and event, and that relay swimmers are swimming in the order listed or that corrections to the order are made. If there is confusion about who is seeded for a heat, please make it known to the referee prior to the start of the race.

2. Be in position to see and start the watch at the instant of observing the visual starting signal. If the visual starting signal is not observed, start the watch upon hearing the sound of the signal.

3. Stand directly over the assigned lane at the finish to observe a touch above, at or below the surface of the water and stop the watch and/or push the semi-automatic system button when any part of the swimmers body touches the wall.

4. Determine and record manual watch times or the absence of a swimmer seeded in your lane.

5. Record on your timer sheet if a swimmer has missed the touch pad, or a delayed touch.

6. Lane Timers may operate both one watch and one button, but you may not operate two watches or two buttons.

7. Officials working as Timers only, and other Timers do not judge the legality of any stroke or touch of a swimmer. Officials assigned a dual roll of Stroke and Turn Official and Button Operator will judge in accordance with both assignments.

8. Timers don’t initiate conversation with swimmers. They are thinking about their race.

Thank you for donating your valuable time to help our swimmers at this meet.

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