

# REFEREE RECERTIFICATION

ARIZONA SWIMMING  
INSTRUCTOR'S COMMITTEE

# THANK YOU

The meets hosted by the various clubs in Arizona and sanctioned by Arizona and USA Swimming would not be possible without your help and, as referees, you have invested substantial time to become trained to help the athletes have the best experience possible. Please know, YOU ARE APPRECIATED!!!

# Reminder:

## The benefit of the doubt goes to the swimmer

- For the Referee, applying this maxim means we have to use COMMON SENSE, JUDGMENT and DISCRETION in all we do with officials, coaches, swimmers and others involved in the meet.
- You should consistently review *The “Professional” Deck Referee – or- It’s more than blowing a whistle!* – Because IT IS!!
- Hone your craft and try to be a little bit better each time out.

# What's New?

- Glossary—defines “bullying” and “deck change”.
- Change in Rule 102.24.4 for resolving pad malfunctions on a single lane changes, effective May 1, 2016.
- The “Lochte” rule for IM Transitions. Rule 101.6
- Mixed gender relays—2 males and 2 females. Rule 101.7

# Remember . . .

- Rule 102.8 says no swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device, substance or swimsuit to help his/her speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a race). ANY KIND OF TAPE ON THE BODY IS NOT PERMITTED UNLESS APPROVED BY THE REFEREE.
- No tape means no tape—when a meet referee approves, it would only be for limited instances where medical tape of some sort might be needed to hold a medical device (like an insulin pump, etc.). NO KINESIO TAPE IS ALLOWED.

# Handling DQ Calls


Be precise—

- Ask the official where the official was (jurisdiction and lane).
- Ask what the official saw (description).
- Ask what the call is (i.e., what rule was broken)—and DO NOT COACH for the right language.
- If CJ's are being used, go through the same process, recognizing the CJ's recommendation to accept or reject the call.
- If DQ slips are being used, make sure they are filled out correctly.
- If DQ logs are being used, report it to Admin. precisely.
- Would prefer that Admin Official has a radio.

## The DQ Slip

- Make sure the slip is filled out correctly and signed by the judge and referee who made the calls.
- Though the slip only asks for the “Swimmer”, list the team—it makes it easier to deliver the slip to the right people.
- Make sure we know if the call was for the **start** (dive to heads-up), the **swim**, the **turn** (last stroke in to heads-up out) or at the **finish** (last stroke in).
- For IMs, list what the stroke infraction was or, if the swimmer swam the strokes out of proper sequence, list it as out of sequence.

**DISQUALIFICATION REPORT**

 EVENT # \_\_\_\_\_ HEAT \_\_\_\_\_ LANE \_\_\_\_\_  
SWIMMER \_\_\_\_\_

**BREASTSTROKE**  
DURING: START \_\_\_\_\_ SWIM \_\_\_\_\_ TURN \_\_\_\_\_ FINISH \_\_\_\_\_  
10 KICK: ALTERNATING \_\_\_\_\_ BUTTERFLY \_\_\_\_\_ SCISSORS \_\_\_\_\_  
11 ARMS: NON-SIMULTANEOUS \_\_\_\_\_ TWO STROKES UNDER \_\_\_\_\_  
NOT IN SAME HORIZONTAL PLANE \_\_\_\_\_ PAST HIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
12 ELBOWS RECOVERED OVER WATER \_\_\_\_\_  
14 CYCLE: HEAD NOT UP \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE PULLS/KICKS \_\_\_\_\_  
15 TOUCH: ONE HAND \_\_\_\_\_ NON-SIMULTANEOUS \_\_\_\_\_  
16 NOT TOWARD THE BREAST OFF WALL \_\_\_\_\_  
19 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**BUTTERFLY**  
DURING: START \_\_\_\_\_ SWIM \_\_\_\_\_ TURN \_\_\_\_\_ FINISH \_\_\_\_\_  
20 KICK: ALTERNATING \_\_\_\_\_ BREAST \_\_\_\_\_ SCISSORS \_\_\_\_\_  
21 ARMS: NON-SIMULTANEOUS \_\_\_\_\_ UNDERWATER RECOV. \_\_\_\_\_  
23 TOUCH: ONE HAND \_\_\_\_\_ NON-SIMULTANEOUS \_\_\_\_\_  
24 NOT TOWARD THE BREAST OFF WALL \_\_\_\_\_  
25 HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15M \_\_\_\_\_  
29 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**BACKSTROKE**  
DURING: START \_\_\_\_\_ SWIM \_\_\_\_\_ TURN \_\_\_\_\_ FINISH \_\_\_\_\_  
30 TOES OVER LIP OF GUTTER AFTER START \_\_\_\_\_  
31 HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15M \_\_\_\_\_  
32 NOT ON BACK OFF WALL \_\_\_\_\_  
33 NO TOUCH AT TURN \_\_\_\_\_  
34 PAST VERTICAL AT TURN:  
DELAY INITIATING ARM PULL \_\_\_\_\_ MULTIPLE STROKES \_\_\_\_\_  
DELAY INITIATING TURN \_\_\_\_\_  
35 SHOULDERS PAST VERTICAL \_\_\_\_\_  
36 COMPLETELY SUBMERGED PRIOR TO TURN OR FINISH \_\_\_\_\_  
39 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY**  
41 STROKE INFRACTION(S) # \_\_\_\_\_  
42 OUT OF SEQUENCE \_\_\_\_\_

**FREESTYLE**  
50 NO TOUCH TURN # \_\_\_\_\_  
51 HEAD DID NOT BREAK SURFACE BY 15M \_\_\_\_\_

**RELAYS**  
70 STROKE INFRACTION # \_\_\_\_\_ SWIMMER # \_\_\_\_\_  
71 EARLY TAKE OFF-SWIMMER # \_\_\_\_\_  
72 CHANGED ORDER: SWIMMER \_\_\_\_\_ STROKE \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER**  
60 FALSE START \_\_\_\_\_ 61 DELAY OF MEET \_\_\_\_\_  
62 DID NOT FINISH \_\_\_\_\_ 63 DECLARED FALSE START \_\_\_\_\_  
69 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(print name clearly)*

REFEREE: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(print name clearly)*

NOTIFIED: \_\_\_\_\_ SWIMMER \_\_\_\_\_ COACH \_\_\_\_\_

rev. (02/10)

# Referee Calls

- Rule 102.11.2 gives the referee the authority to disqualify any swimmer “for any violation of the rules that the Referee personally observes.”
- But, rule 102.22.1 provides that a disqualification can only be made by the official within whose jurisdiction the infraction has been committed.
- So—when and/or why should the Referee make a call that was not observed/called by the stroke and/or turn judge?
  - Remember **common sense, judgment and discretion.**
  - Ask “did I clearly see the infraction?”
  - Was I in a position that might interfere with providing uniform conditions of judging—{i.e., was I focusing on one lane close to me)?
- If you decide to make the call, you can only do so if you raise your hand. Rule 102.11.2.



# Working with your deck team

- Be positive and encouraging with your officials.
- Position yourself so you have a consistent view of the pool, but do not walk so far down on the side that you are undermining your officials and the job they have to do.
- If there are calls that are missed or need to be discussed, handle it privately and off the deck—again, use common sense, judgment and discretion and BE CALM, we are all volunteers doing the best we can.
- Make sure you are an active part of the team—be at Admin. when you are next up, so you can provide relief to the on-deck ref., if necessary.
- Help your meet referee by offering assistance as needed—helping with team assignments; invigilating the pool, checking equipment, flags and measurements, etc.

# Handling Conflict and Protests

- First, remember to be calm—if a coach is upset and wants to make a protest, listen and make sure you understand his/her concern and protest. DO NOT THINK YOU HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE SPOT—TELL THE COACH YOU WILL LOOK INTO IT AND GET BACK WITH HIM/HER.
- Second, protests need to be in writing—Rule 102.23.3 and .4. And protests concerning a call made about the competition, must be made within 30 minutes after the race where the alleged infraction occurred.
- Protests against judgment calls can only be made by the Referee and the decision shall be final. 102.23.1.
- Note: video replay footage “from cameras approved in writing in advance of the competition by the Vice President of Program Operations (of USA Swimming) may be used to review stroke or turn infractions. Rule 102.22.14. Otherwise video from a parent’s I-Pad or other mobile device cannot be reviewed—you need to confer with your judges and check them for the certainty of their calls.

# What do you think?

- Can a swimmer use a “declared false start” in Arizona competitions?
  - Rule 101.3(E) says a swimmer may declare a false start to indicate an intent not to compete in an event and, if they do so, they are disqualified.
  - **BUT—**
  - You need to consider whether it is a prelims/finals meet; if the swimmer seeks to use a DFS for finals, and what the applicable **scratch rule** is.
  - Rule 207.11.6D provides that a swimmer who qualifies for a C, B or A final in an individual event who fails to compete shall be barred from further participation in the remainder of the meet. **A declared false start is not permitted and will be deemed to be a failure to compete. See also, Arizona Swimming Policy 201H.5(b)(3).**
  - Note, the penalty may be waived, only by the Referee if there is an illness or injury or there are circumstances beyond the control of the swimmer that caused the failure to compete.

# What do you think?

- After swimming the 6<sup>th</sup> preliminary heat of a 100-yard backstroke event, a coach approaches you and questions the placement of the start-end backstroke flags. Upon checking, it is discovered that the flag poles have been set for short course meters. There have been 3 DQs for non-continuous turning motion on that side of the pool. What do you do?
- Recommended Resolution: The Referee should evaluate the situation in view of keeping conditions fair for all competitors. The specific solution will depend on the conditions and information gained through review. It could include leaving the flags in place for the remainder of the event or the rest of the session and letting the affected swimmers re-swim; or the referee could overturn the disqualifications. Rules: 102.11.5, 103.16

# What do you think?

- Three stroke and turn judges are positioned at each end of a 100-yard breaststroke event. During heat 2, the stroke and turn judge with jurisdiction for lanes 1-2 disqualifies the swimmer in lane 2 for a scissors kick. Subsequent calls are made for the same violation by the same judge in heats 3 and 4. This particular official was recently certified. What do you do, if anything?
- Recommended resolution: A number of questions need to be asked. Are other judges seeing the same thing? If not, it might be a good idea to have someone observe the official during subsequent races. A chief judge can be helpful here. If it is determined that the scissors kick being called was legal, the referee should overrule the disqualifications. Rules: 102.2.3, 102.11.1 and .5, 102.13.4.

# What do you think?

- During the 1500 meter event on a Sunday afternoon at an outdoor facility, lightning is observed in the area near the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> of 5 heats. Two swimmers have finished; three are on the last length and the remaining swimmers have more than one length to complete. What do you do?
- Recommended resolution: Whenever lightning is observed in the area, the pool should be cleared as soon as possible. If there is swimming facility management, follow their guidance and guidelines. Swims completed will count; those on the last lap may finish if that is the process of clearing the pool; others should be cleared and the Referee will have to consult with the meet committee and coaches about rescheduling the event so the affected swimmers get a chance to redo the swim, unless the Referee decides to cancel the meet. Referee decisions on weather shall be final. Rules: 102.7.4

# What do you think?

- In the 8<sup>th</sup> heat of the 200 yard freestyle, lane 3 is empty. After the heat, the swimmer who was to swim in lane 3 comes to you and asks if he can still swim the event. He said he was so focused on the upcoming race that he blocked out the long whistle. Should he be allowed to swim? Would the answer be different if a timer kept the swimmer from getting to the block? What if the decision is to allow the swimmer to swim, but no empty lanes become available? What if this happens in finals?
- Recommended resolution: This is a situation where “level-appropriate decision making” might be use. If it is an unscored meet, the Referee might try to find an open lane. You can consider if there were other factors that prevented the swimmer from swimming. The Referee has discretion to allow the swimmer to swim. If it was finals, the Referee has the discretion to fill the empty lane (if it is in a consolation final—or a championship if there is no consolation). Rules: 101.2.2, 102.11.1.