

# Stroke and Turn Judge Checklist

## ● Rules and Interpretations

- Stroke and Turn - know and understand all the applicable rules and official interpretations for each stroke - Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Freestyle, Individual Medley, Medley Relays.
- Relay Early Take Off Judging
  - Understands observation protocol – departure then touch.
  - Single confirmation procedure
  - Dual confirmation procedure
  - Positioning
- Swimmers with a Disability – understand how USA Swimming rules apply to swimmers with properly documented permanent disabilities.

## ● Meet Operations

- Appearance and Dress
- Duties
  - Arrives before designated briefing and assignment time and checks in
  - Reports promptly for the officials meeting when announced
  - Reports to assigned position on time, works full session, returns from relief on time. Takes relief when scheduled.
- Equipment - Understands use of Radios for communication. Can use radios.
- Attentiveness – focus on swimmers when in assigned jurisdiction.
- Clarity and accuracy of reporting DQ's.
- Calls all infractions regardless of age of swimmers-**benefit of the doubt goes to the swimmer.**
- Respects and supports all decision of the Referee and fellow officials.
- Understands Jurisdictions - Set by Meet Referee – Turn Judging, Stroke Judging, dual.
- Positioning & Procedures
  - Start end
  - Turn end
  - Stroke – single and dual coverage (lag lead) on each side
  - Understand balanced and even coverage
- Lane Timer and Head Lane Timer duties, if assigned.

## ● Disqualifications

- Procedure
  - Observe not scrutinize
  - Raise hand (with certainty but not enthusiasm), aware of other procedures (FINA) (N3)
  - Note on heat sheet
  - Can communicate on radio (per USA Swimming guidelines)
  - Can Write DQ slip, including notes such as which hand touched first in Non-Simultaneous touch, etc.
  - Notify the swimmer at the end of heat (start end)
  - aware of other procedures (FINA) - N3
- Communications with swimmers
  - Friendly, compassionate
  - "You disqualified yourself by..."
  - Inform, don't coach
  - Understand use of Chief Judges and their general function
- Confirmation/Inquires
  - Be aware, and understand that the Referee or a Chief Judge may want more information regarding a call - what was observed, where it was seen, position of observer, and what rule was broken.
  - Parents, spectators - politely redirects them to the swimmer's coach if they have questions.
  - Coaches – generally, politely ask them to talk to the Referee.

# Stroke and Turn Judge Checklist National Levels

## **N1 (LSC – National Level 1)**

The *Stroke and Turn Judge Checklist* is provided as a suggested guide for LSCs to certify Stroke and Turn Judges.

To use the N1 designation:

1. LSC's and Officials must comply with the Minimum Standards for Certification as published by USA Swimming Officials Committee.

Other suggested requirements for N1 certification include:

2. Official has a good understanding of the fundamentals and observes and makes valid calls with confidence.
3. Official has worked a sufficient number of sessions since initial certification to be considered for LSC age group championship meet assignment.

## **N2 (National Level 2)**

Proficient, consistent, experienced Stroke and Turn Judge with at least one year at the N1 level or equivalent.

## **N3 (National Level 3)**

Very proficient, consistent, experienced Stroke and Turn Judge with a thorough understanding of the rules and their interpretation with at least one year at the N2 level.

Has all of the qualities needed for to serve as a Stroke and Turn Judge at National Championship Meets.