

Deck Officials' Protocol

Inspector of Turns

Start End:

- In Freestyle and Backstroke events (where Backstroke Ledges are not being used), remain seated at the Referee's whistle then stand and move forward when the lead swimmer reaches the 15m mark approaching the turn on the second lap. Remain standing until the finish of the race.
- In Breaststroke, Butterfly and Individual Medley events, on Referee's whistle, stand behind and to one side of your lane's starting platform. If observing more than one lane, stand in a position to view the lanes equally. Remain standing until the end of the race.
- Where required, after the starting signal is given, quickly step forward onto the bulkhead to observe the first stroke.
- If you have observed an infraction, indicate to the Chief IOT that you have an infraction to report and remain standing over the lane until the Chief IOT comes to you.
- You may need to operate a SAT button.
- In 800m and 1500m races, you will signal either by whistle or bell when the swimmer has 2 laps plus 5m to go.
- You will observe relay changeovers as a back-up if electronic changeover equipment is present and to judge if such equipment is not present.

Turn End:

- In all races, stand and move forward when the lead swimmer reaches the 15m mark from the turn end. Remain standing until the last swimmer has passed the 15m mark from the turn end on the last lap.
- If observing more than one lane, stand in a position to view the lanes equally.
- You will observe relay changeovers as a back-up if electronic changeover equipment is present and to judge if such equipment is not present.
- If you have observed an infraction, indicate to the Chief IOT that you have an infraction to report and remain standing over the lane until the Chief IOT comes to you.
- In 800m and 1500m events, you will set up and operate lap counters:

Event	Number of laps		Procedure
	800m	1500m	
Long Course	15	29	Change the lap counter when the swimmer has passed 5m after the turn.
Short Course	31	59	

Backstroke Ledges:

Note: The use of Backstroke Ledges by a swimmer is not compulsory. If the ledge is not required by a swimmer they should request the Inspector of Turns (IOT) appointed to that lane to remove the ledge from the water. The swimmer should not attempt to remove the ledge.

Prior to the Start

- The IOT shall install the ledge and adjust the setting to '0' (0 corresponds to water level).
- Once the backstroke ledge has been installed, the kicker plate should be adjusted and locked into position 3.
- The swimmer may choose to change the setting level of the ledge for their start. They should make the adjustment themselves however may request assistance from the IOT.
- On the first whistle, the IOT should stand and move forward on the deck behind the blocks. On the second whistle, the IOT should step up and move forward to observe that at least one toe from each foot is in contact with the wall or face of the touchpad. The IOT may need to request the swimmer to adjust the position of their toes. Once the swimmers toes are correctly positioned, the IOT should step back level with the back of the block but remain standing until after the starting signal is given. The check for the position of the toes must be actioned quickly and should not unduly delay the start.
- All IOT's should stand and move forward at the start of each race as above regardless of whether the swimmer in their lane uses a backstroke ledge or not.

After the Start during heats

- After the start of each heat, the IOT should step forward and remove the ledge from the water. To remove the ledge from the water and ensure the straps do not become twisted, it is recommended that the ledge is removed from the water by standing behind the starting block and placing each hand under the straps on each side. Lift and carefully slide the ledge into position under the front of the block (below the backstroke grips).
- The setting should be returned to '0' after each start.

At completion of the Backstroke event

- After the start of the final heat of a backstroke event, remove the ledge from the starting block and carefully roll the device back to its original position without twisting the straps.

Chief Inspector of Turns

- Be alert and make sure you are watching the Inspectors of Turns after the start, each turn and at the finish of each race in the event they have an infraction to report.
- If an infraction is reported, the Chief will inform the Referee by radio.

- Ensure that you relay only the information the IOT is reporting. You are not to interpret what you think they are saying.
- If the report is accepted, the reporting IOT will go to the Referee and complete the infraction report. The Chief will arrange (if available) for a reserve official to take over on the lane until the reporting IOT returns. If no reserve is available, the Chief will remain on that lane until the reporting IOT returns.

Judges of Stroke

- There are 4 Judges of Stroke [JOS], 2 on each side of the pool. They are numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4. JOS 1 & 2 are positioned on the same side as the Referee, with JOS 1 closest to the Referee. JOS 3 & 4 shall be positioned on the opposite side of the pool. JOS 1 & 4 are positioned opposite each other, as are JOS 2 & 3.
- Each JOS shall observe the 5 lanes in a 10 lane pool (4 lanes in an 8 lane pool) on their side of the pool.
- If you have an infraction to report, where possible, let your partner JOS know that you are moving around to see the Referee but do not stop and discuss the infraction.
- Judges of Stroke shall report any infractions directly to the Referee.

Freestyle:

- At the start of each race, each pair of JOS on both sides of the pool should be positioned at the 15m mark from the start to observe swimmers' head breaking the surface of the water.
- All stand at the Referee's whistle.
- During heats of freestyle events, all four JOS shall remain at the 15m mark from each end until the completion of all heats of the event then follow the swimmers to the 15m mark from the start end where they will join their fellow JOS.
- For 400m or longer freestyle events, each JOS should sit once the last swimmer has passed the 65m mark and remain at the 15m mark from each end of the pool until the last swimmer passes the 15m mark on the last length and will follow the swimmers up to the 15m mark where they will join their fellow JOS.
- For 50m, 100m and 200m freestyle events, each JOS should remain standing throughout the race and remain at the 15m mark from each end of the pool until the last swimmer passes the 15m mark on the last length and will follow the swimmers up to the 15m mark where they will follow their fellow JOS.

Backstroke & Butterfly:

- All stand at the Referee's whistle.
- JOS 1 & 4 will proceed to 8-10m from the start end while JOS 2 & 3 stand at the 15m mark from the start end of the pool.
- After the start of the race, JOS 1 & 4 will follow swimmers to the 15m mark to assist their colleagues to observe swimmers' heads breaking the surface of the water.
- All JOS will then walk along the side of the pool observing the swimmers. JOS 2 & 3 shall be slightly behind the lead swimmers, whereas JOS 1 & 4 will follow the tail swimmers.
- At the turn end, JOS 2 & 3 will stop approximately 5m from the end of the pool to observe the turns. JOS 1 & 4 will stop at the 15m mark from the turn end of the pool to ensure all swimmers break the surface of the water at or before the 15m mark after the turn.
- After the turn, on the 2nd length, all JOS will walk along the side of the pool, observing the swimmers. JOS 1 & 4 shall be slightly behind the lead swimmers, while JOS 2 & 3 will follow the tail swimmers. If there is another turn at the start end (eg races of more than 100m), the reverse will apply.

Breaststroke:

- All stand at the Referee's whistle.
- JOS 1 & 4 will proceed to 5m from the start end (note: JOS 1 should not go past the Referee at the start or finish of a breaststroke event). JOS 2 & 3 will proceed to 10m from the start end.
- Once the race has started, all JOS will walk along the side of the pool observing the swimmers. JOS 2 & 3 shall be slightly behind the lead swimmers, whereas JOS 1 & 4 will follow the tail swimmers.
- At the turn end, JOS 2 & 3 will stop approximately 5m from the end of the pool to observe the turns. JOS 1 & 4 will stop approximately 10m from the end.
- After the turn on the 2nd length, all JOS will walk along the side of the pool, observing the swimmers. JOS 1 & 4 shall be slightly behind the lead swimmers, while JOS 2 & 3 will follow the tail swimmers. If there is another turn at the start end (eg races of more than 100m), the reverse will apply.