

News from the **Technical Swimming Committee**

Welcome to the **April 2018** Edition of the Technical Swimming Committee Newsletter.

Vale

It is with great sadness that the TSC notes the passing of Debbie Gregg (Parmenter), Life Member of Murwillumbah Swimming Club. Debbie will always be remembered for her generous spirit and her willingness to always be there for the kids.

Commonwealth Games

Good luck to the large contingent of SNSW Technical Officials, currently officiating at the 2018 Commonwealth Games –

Cherry Smith (Referee)
Ken Jones
Jann Fathers
Neil Rogers

Nick Keith
Faye Lewis
John Rohloff
Pam Weste

John Hart
Phil Jobling
David Cooper

SNSW Meets – Closing Dates for Nominations

Previously, the TSC closed Nominations for meets around 4 weeks prior to the meet being held. However, closing so far out meant that the TSC often received quite a high number of apologies, with the most common being that as a Technical Official's child did not qualify, they were no longer available to attend the meet.

Therefore, in an effort to minimise apologies and the re-working of Appointments (sometimes on multiple occasions), the TSC recently aligned the closing date for nominations to match the closing date for swimmer's entries. The TSC acknowledges that, by the time the appointments have been finalised and distributed, this may only give Technical Officials one week's notice of their appointments. However, all nominating Officials should be aware that, under current protocols (found [HERE](#) or on [this page](#)), they will be appointed for all sessions nominated.

The TSC welcomes feedback on the revised process.

2018 Technical Official Development Programme

Expression of Interest Forms have been distributed to Technical Officials as dates and locations have now been confirmed. The National A Meet has now been incorporated into an existing programmed meet -

1. Target Squad Meet 4th and 5th August – Peninsula Leisure Centre, Woy Woy
2. National A Squad Meet 8th and 9th September (Little State) - SOPAC.
3. Achievers Squad Meet 13th October – SOPAC

2018 State Teams Meet

A reminder that a call for nominations from developing Technical Officials and Mentors to attend the 2018 State Age Teams meet should be issued by the SAL TSC sometime in the coming weeks. The SNSW TSC welcomes all nominations, but preference will be given to those Technical Officials actively involved in both the SNSW TO Development Program and SNSW meets.

My Lane – Christine Etter

1. What Club did you start your swimming career? What Club are you with now?

I first began officiating with Auburn Swimming Club and now am a member of Randwick City SC.

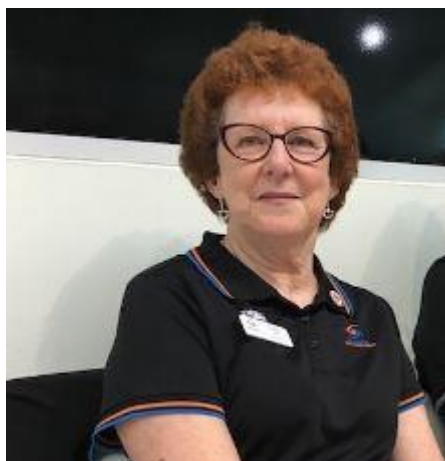
2. What was your first TO credential and what year did you attain that credential?

My first TO credential was Timekeeper in 1999.

3. Why did you become an official? Why do you still officiate?

I became an official to help out at Auburn SC Club Nights, which were held every Friday night. These club nights were conducted in a very professional manner and everyone really enjoyed participating. The competitors were most appreciative of the parental support. It was fun! I was then encouraged to sit the Timekeeper exam (so the swimmers' times would be deemed "official") and soon began timekeeping at Castlereagh District Meets.

I still enjoy officiating because of friendships made along the way, both with other TOs, coaches and swimmers. I have always been passionate about sport in general and believe in giving back to the sport that gave my family such wonderful opportunities, both in and out of the pool. I'm also enjoying the TO pathway where you can continually upgrade your skills, in more than one particular area. There is always something to learn!



4. What is the highest credential attained?

The highest credentials I have attained are: Referee Level 2 and Starter Level 2.

5. What is your goal(s)?

I have completed two successful assessments for Level 3 Starter; one in Brisbane during 2017 Australian Age Championships and the second during Australian Short Course Championships in Adelaide, October 2017. I still require two more successful assessments to achieve Level 3 status.

My goal is to achieve this Starter Level 3 status and officiate as Starter at a national competition.

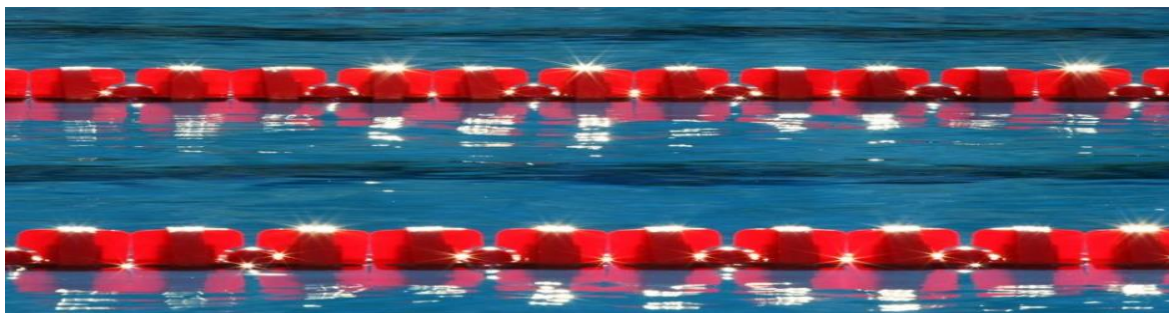
6. What is the highest-level meet at which you have officiated?

The highest-level meet at which I have officiated is the Australian Open Championships and Selection Trials for 2016 Rio Olympics in Adelaide.

7. With respect to your answer to Question 6, can you please pass on some of the strategies/tips you used to help you achieve your appointment?

Some of the strategies used to help me achieve this appointment, I believe, include:

- participating in SNSW TO Pathway program for two consecutive years,
- officiating at the State Teams competition in Canberra (twice),
- supporting as many SNSW meets as possible by nominating for a variety of appointments at every opportunity and finally;
- to hone skills at Area and club competitions.



For the Diary

Please note the following in your diary –

- An ATSCC Convenor’s Workshop will be held at Dooley’s Silverwater on Saturday 28th July commencing at midday. More information will be disseminated later this month.
- 2018 Annual Technical Officials Awards Dinner will be held on Saturday 28th July; and
- The Annual Technical Officials Forum will be held on Sunday 29th July.

Invitations to both the Dinner and the Forum will be distributed in the coming months.

SAL Values

Recently, SAL agreed to adopt a set of Values, to which all Technical Officials should aspire and adhere (found [HERE](#)). These values are –

- Integrity
- Committing to what we say we will do
- Value diversity of opinion
- Encourage curiosity and personal growth
- Sharing ideas
- Delivering a quality experience.

Shannon Smith

The TSC would like to extend its best wishes to Shannon Smith, Events Manager for Swimming NSW, as she is forced to work at home due to a debilitating back condition. She is currently seeing an array of medical specialists to determine the cause of her pain and will most probably require back surgery.

A Go Fund Me page has been set up to assist Shannon with some of her additional medical expenses. The link can be found [HERE](#).

Next SNSW Meets

Nominations are open for the 2018 Winter Season, which include the following Meets -

Meet	Location	Dates	Closing Date for Nominations
2018 NSW MC Meet #2	Blacktown Aquatic Centre	2 nd June 2018	22 nd May 2018
2018 NSW Country SC Championships	SOPAC	7 th -8 th July 2018	27 th June 2018
2018 NSW Metro SC Championships	SOPAC	20 th -22 nd July 2018	10 th July 2018
2018 NSW MC Meet #3	Ryde Aquatic Centre	11 th August 2018	31 st July 2018

To nominate, please click [HERE](#).

Australian Age Championships

Congratulations to the following NSW Technical Officials on their appointments to the Australian Age Championships being held at SOPAC later in the month –

David Cooksley
 Jacqui Currey
 Christine Etter (Starter)
 John Hart (Referee)
 Chris Hayes
 Philip Jobling (Referee)
 Kayleen Murphy
 John Owen
 Brett Patrick (Starter)

Ben Ramsden
 Neil Rogers (Starter)
 Peter Shell (Referee)
 Cherry Smith (Referee)
 Murray Smith
 Alan Walsh
 Karen Walsh (Starter)
 John Williams (Referee)

Some very pleasing appointments with 5 of the 8 Referees and 4 of the 8 Starters from NSW.

Referee Examination Dates Winter 2018

Referee Examinations have been scheduled prior to the upcoming Country and Metropolitan Short Course Championships. Please contact Josh Karp in the Office to

confirm - Friday 6th July, anytime suitable and Friday 20th July at 9.00AM (The first session of Metro commences at 2.00 PM). Exams will be held at the SNSW Office.

The “Blue Book”

A reminder that following a number of changes to the Rules agreed to by the Board, including recent Rule Changes adopted by FINA at the 17th FINA World Swimming Championships, updated editions of the “Blue Book” (SNSW Constitution, By Laws and Rules) have been distributed to Referees. Any Referee who did not receive a copy should contact the josh.karp@nsw.swimming.org.au.

The QUIZ

February Quiz Answer

To recap – You have been appointed to Referee Session 2 of the SNSW Metro Long Course Championships. During the second heat of the Women’s 800m Freestyle the IoT assigned to Lane 9 at the Turn End has reported to you that as the swimmer in Lane 9 was about to turn at the 150m mark, an adult male (who you find out to be the swimmer’s father) hands the swimmer in your lane a pair of goggles.

The IoT advises that, after receiving the replacement goggles, the swimmer touched the wall at the 150M mark (SW5.2 – “Some part of the swimmer must touch the wall upon completion of each length....”) and did not take a step (SW10.4 – “Standing on the bottom during freestyle events.....shall not disqualify a swimmer, but he shall not walk”).

As Referee, it would be unreasonable to disqualify the swimmer as she has not done anything wrong. The swimmer has touched the wall at the 150M mark and has not taken a stride. Furthermore, on further questioning you understand that she did not pull on the lane rope (SW 10.5 “Pulling on the lane rope is not allowed”) or become completely submerged whilst receiving the new goggles (SW5.3 “Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it shall be permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface”).

So you thank the IoT for their report and refer the matter to the Technical Manager.

As Technical Manager, what would you do?

Answer

As Technical Manager, there are a number of Rules/Policies that are relevant –

- Rule SW 10.17 – “Unauthorised persons shall not be permitted in those areas of the pool designated for competition, for the swimmers or officials for the duration of the meet” and
- SNSW “Field of Play Access Policy” – this Policy requires that only persons with the “appropriate accreditation” are permitted on pool deck (Deck Pass). The Field of Play Access Policy can be found [HERE](#)

Perhaps the best course of action for the Technical Manager to take would be –

- Try and locate the parent and advise him of the rules and policies and suggest that it would have been better handled through the Technical Manager or Referee should it happen again;
- Request a general announcement be made advising spectators that only authorised persons are permitted on the pool deck; and
- Note the incident in the Technical Manager's Report.

April Question

Let us continue with this theme and take it one step further.

The swimmer in Lane 9 (i.e. the swimmer in question) ends up finishing third in the Event. The coach of the 4th placed swimmer approaches the Referee and says that he wants to protest the result. The Referee explains why Lane 9 was not disqualified, but the coach insists on lodging a formal protest.

What instructions should the Referee give the coach on lodging a protest? Who should the Referee advise and why?

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please email Josh Karp:
josh.karp@nsw.swimming.org.au

Swimming New South Wales Technical Swimming Committee
April 2018