

News from the **Technical Swimming Committee**

Welcome to the **October** Edition of the Technical Swimming Committee Newsletter.

Vale

It is with great sadness that the TSC notes the passing of Pamela Guyer OAM, Life Member of Kempsey Swimming Club and Swimming NSW Technical Official. Pamela, the wife of Technical Official Robert Guyer, and mother of Technical Official and SNSW Board Member Janelle Barnett, made an invaluable contribution to swimming in NSW over many years.

The TSC extends their sincere condolences to Robert, Janelle and family.

Online Training Dashboard

The latest figures for the various online training courses are as follows –

Course	Registrations	Passes
Timekeeper & Chief TK	889	700
Inspector of Turns	253	166
Marshal & Check Starter	256	197
Judge of Stroke	148	102
Starter	65	46
Total	1611	1211
Total Unique Candidates	1166	

The vast majority of registrations are from NSW (990), but it is very pleasing to see registrations from Northern Territory (7), Queensland (25), South Australia (23), Tasmania (6), Victoria (81) and Western Australia (10). There were also 24 registrations from Overseas,

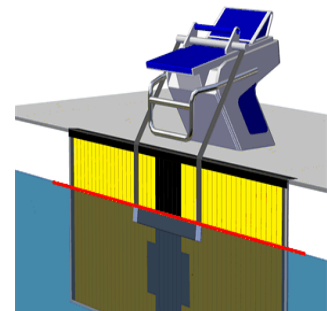
Technical Manager

The new Technical Manager position has been implemented at State meets. The Rules applicable to the position and Appendix A have been updated, detailing the duties and functions of the Technical Manager. Changes to the roster and final interpretation of the rules are the responsibility of the Technical Manager. The Technical Manager assists the Referee in organisation of Juries of Appeal, some aspects of late reporting to Marshals and Swim Offs. This allows the Referee to focus on the swimming. People interested in performing this role at State Meets are able to nominate directly to the Office.

Backstroke Ledges

A reminder that a video showing how to insert the Backstroke Ledge into position on the starting blocks can be found [HERE](#).

The Backstroke Ledge Protocol requires that the Inspector of Turns sets the ledge to zero before each race. It is the swimmer's responsibility to select and change the Ledge to any other desired setting.



My Lane – Peter Hall OAM

1. What Club did you start your swimming career?

Sladem Swim Club

What Club are you with now?

Sladem (Life Member)

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

Timekeeper/Check Starter 1982

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

I became an Official because my 2 sons were swimming at the time
The camaraderie with other Officials and helping swimmers to rise to their best levels

4. What is the highest credential received?

Starter Level 3 - FINA Appointed

5. What are your goals?

To be the best Starter and Referee and to help other Officials achieve their goals.



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

Starter: Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

Starter: Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games

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?

As a Starter practise makes perfect, learn how to give the command "Take Your Marks".
Also

- get to know other Officials;
- know the rules of swimming;
- request feedback from other Officials so you know how you are doing;
- Don't be pushy, listen to other Officials and learn; and
- Do as much starting as possible at Club, Area, State, Nationals to achieve your goals.

The Budapest Report

John Rohloff and Bill Ford recently officiated at the 2017 FINA World Swimming Championships. John has provided the following report on his experiences -

I was recently appointed as one of 5 International Technical Officials at the 2017 FINA World Swimming Championships in Hungary. I was selected to officiate in the Open Water Swimming discipline, held at Lake Balaton, approximately 80 kilometres outside of Budapest.

The lead up to the event was special in many ways, the years of officiating culminating in my selection being recognised at Club, Area, State and National Level. The support was tremendous and the opportunity to officiate at a World Championship was eagerly anticipated. Sometimes the anticipation of a major event can lead to a feeling of being let-down when the event finally arrives. However, I'm pleased to say this was not the case at the World Championships. My experience at Lake Balaton and the official events held in Budapest were amazing in every way.

As an Open Water Official, I was appointed to officiate in several positions including feeding pontoon, timekeeper, finish judge, assistant to the chief referee and starter.



The quality of athlete was second to none and the competition on each day was of the highest standard. Six days of competition saw athletes compete in 5k, 10k & 25k events for both Men and Women and there was the inaugural mixed 5k relay event.

The opportunity to officiate with Bill Ford (congratulations on your reappointment to the FINA TOWS Committee), four other international technical officials as well as the local technical officials was another highlight. There were many friendships formed and we enjoyed a meal or two away from the competition lake.

Back in Budapest after the open water events, we were invited to attend the FINA Gala Dinner held at the Hungarian State Opera House. Awards, good food/wine and company

were the order of the night. The evening was capped off with a magnificent orchestra and performers from the Hungarian State Opera performing operatic classics, culminating with a spectacular performance of Nessun Dorma.

I'd like to thank everyone for their support throughout my officiating journey, from club night timekeeper to FINA Open Water Referee.

My experience in Budapest will forever be a great memory.

2017 State Teams

Congratulations to Brett Patrick, Sue Worthington, Jacqui Currey, Murray Smith, Ben Ramsden and Matt Neale who all represented NSW as Technical Officials at the recent 2017 State Teams Meet at the AIS, Canberra.

Particular congratulations to Jacqui Currey and Murray Smith who were appointed as Referees (Sessions 2 and 4 respectively) and to Brett Patrick who was appointed as Starter (Women) for Session 1.

John Rohloff was our Team's mentor and also attended a meeting with other state technical officials hosted by the SAL TSC.

SAL NOAP Level 1 Referee Exams

Please contact [Josh Karp](#) at the SNSW Office regarding the scheduling of Referee Examinations prior to the upcoming SNSW State Age Championships.

To date, 20 people have successfully completed the examination. Country candidates who are unable to travel to Sydney to sit their examination may arrange a suitable time to undertake their exam during a visit to their Area by their TSC Buddy.

2017 Technical Official Development Programme

The program is well underway with a large number of new participants. It was great to see a large group of TO's from this program work at Nationals this year and many are now assisting in the current program.

Target Squad participants were exposed to some unusual circumstances and adjusted well under pressure to overcome the issues. The TSC has received positive feedback from participants with much of the feedback centring around the benefits of the discussion sessions.

Ask SAM

Don't forget the SNSW Online "Question and Answer" forum to help you if you have questions about Technical Officiating and training course content. The forum, called "Ask Sam" can be found [HERE](#) or at <https://nswtraining.swimming.org.au/answers/>

Another reminder that SAM has also created "The Official Swimming NSW Technical Officials group" on Facebook. All financial SNSW Technical Officials are welcome to join this group. It is a forum where officials can introduce themselves and assist other officials with answers and queries.

Thank You

Many thanks to all who officiated at the recent NSW Short Course 13 & Over, 12 & Under Championships.

Next SNSW Meets

Nominations are open for the following SNSW Meets.

Meet	Location	Dates	Closing Date for Nominations
NSW Metro Championships	SOPAC	24 th -26 th November 2017	14 th November 2017
2017 NSW Open Water Championships	Sydney International Regatta Centre	9 th -10 th December 2017	10 th November 2017
2017 NSW 10yrs & U to 12 Years Championships	SOPAC	12 th -13 th December 2017	28 th November 2017
2017 NSW 13 to 18 Years Championships	SOPAC	15 th -20 December 2017	28 th November 2017
2018 NSW State Open Championships	SOPAC	19 th -21 st January 2018	9 th January 2018
2018 NSW Country Regional Meets	Goulburn Orange Port Macquarie	27 th -28 th January 2018	16 th January 2018

To nominate, please click [HERE](#)

New Technical Officials

Congratulations to our newest Technical Officials. The full list can be found [HERE](#)

Quick Reference Infraction Card

Following a number of inquiries, the Quick Reference Infraction card has been updated and the new version is now on the SNSW website, or available [HERE](#)

Nominations and Appointments

The TSC endeavours to appoint officials to as many of their nominated positions as possible. However, on occasions, Technical Officials may be appointed to positions other than their preferred choices. By ticking the Declaration of Fitness to Officiate box on the online Nomination Form, the TSC will assume that an individual is fit to officiate in all positions. A copy of the Nominations and Appointments Policy can be found [HERE](#)

If you have nominated, but fall ill prior to the Meet, or are otherwise unable to attend, please notify Josh Karp in the SNSW Office so that alternative arrangements can be made, if necessary.

The QUIZ

August Quiz Answer

To recap on the August question – “You are appointed as an IOT to Lane 9 at the turn end of the NSW Metro Long Course Championships. The second heat of the Women’s 800M Freestyle is in the water. As your swimmer is about to turn at the 150M mark, a coach hands the swimmer in your lane a pair of goggles. As IOT, what do you do?”

Answer

Technically, there is no Rule to cover this scenario as long as the coach is deck accredited and that 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 does not take a step (SW10.4 – “Standing on the bottom during freestyle events.....shall not disqualify a swimmer, but he shall not walk”).

The IOT should make a note of what happened in case of an inquiry from the Referee later during the Meet.

The October Quiz question

Would your answer to the question above be different if it was not the swimmer’s coach who handed her another pair of goggles, but the swimmer’s father?

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
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