

## **Swimming New South Wales Technical Swimming Committee NSW Protocol Variations**

### **Purpose and Context**

SAL Protocols are adopted for SNSW meets. However, most SNSW meets do not have reserve Officials.

Additional Considerations:

1. Many sessions can run in excess of three and a half (3 ½) hours,
2. Opportunities to provide hourly breaks where sessions are expected run in excess of 3 1/2 hours,
3. Provide opportunities for pool deck rotations for Officials that may not be available for full sessions,
4. Stagger lunch breaks for Officials to reduce queue times for toilets and food,
5. Provide opportunities for afternoon session Referees to prepare for their Sessions,
6. Provide support for backstroke ledges, where these are in use,
7. Starting platforms are often not calibrated for relay changeovers.

These variations are available for use at any SNSW meet.

### **Objectives**

To provide ample and reasonable opportunities for all Technical Officials to have breaks.

Where there are morning sessions exceeding 3 ½ hours duration and there are individual freestyle events at the end of a session, provide opportunities to stagger lunch breaks.

To provide a consistent, fair and reliable protocols for reporting relay changeovers where starting platforms have not been calibrated. Rationale:

- Consistency with practice at International and National events, in that it provides practice for Referees to receive relay change over reports from the Control Room Supervisor (CRS),
- Consistency in practice across all lanes. When starting platforms are not calibrated, it generally impacts 1 or 2 lanes,
- Gives JOSs & IOTs practice in reporting protocols,
- Whilst the actual measure may not be accurate, it is an indicator that something has happened. Where a report by an Official is supported by equipment, there is certainty that an infraction has occurred.

### **Judges of Stroke (JOS)**

Individual Freestyle 800 and 1500 metre events during sessions that are expected to exceed 3 ½ hours duration:

1. Two (2) JOS shall move off deck for a break, and are available to rotate into other positions to provide opportunities for a break, as required,
2. Two (2) only JOS at 15 metre point after the start,
3. When the last swimmer passes the 15 metre point after the start, both move to observe the 15 metre point after the first turn,
4. When the last Swimmer has passed the 15 metre point after the first turn, these JOSs move to the start end Chief IOT and sit down. They are then available for rotation to

any position on pool deck, to provide other Officials a break or to commence a staggered lunch break.

Individual 200 metre and 400 metre freestyle events that are the last events in morning sessions that exceed three and a half (3 ½) hours duration:

1. Two (2) JOS shall move off deck to commence a staggered lunch break,
2. Two (2) only JOS at 15 metre point after the start,
3. When the last swimmer passes the 15 metre point after the start, both move to observe the 15 metre point after the first turn,
4. When the last Swimmer has passed the 15 metre point after the first turn, both JOSs move to the turn end and sit down, observing turns.

Individual Backstroke Events where backstroke ledges are used:

1. For the first event in a sequence of backstroke events where there are not sufficient IOTs for each lane, all JOS shall move to the start end to help install backstroke ledges,
2. The priority shall be those lanes that have Swimmers in the first heat of that event,
3. They shall return to their positions before the start of the first heat of that event, once ledges are in place for those lanes with Swimmers in that heat

### **Inspectors of Turns (IOT)**

Individual Freestyle 200 and 400 metre events during sessions that are expected to exceed 3 ½ hours duration:

1. Where there are sufficient IOTs to have more than one (1) IOT for 2 lanes (other than each outside lane) at each end, rotate IOTs off deck for at least five (5) minutes,
  - a. For a 9 and 10 lane pools this would be five (5) IOTs, for 7 and 8 lane pools this would be four (4) or more IOTs etc.
  - b. Where there are officials on a boom for short course events, these officials have rotation priority
2. Where there are not sufficient IOTs per point 1, move all IOTs off deck for a break and rotate into other Pool Deck positions such as Check Starter and Clerk of Course to provide opportunities for a break, as required,
3. Where these are the last events in a morning session, move off deck to commence a staggered lunch break.

Individual Freestyle 800 and 1500 metre events:

1. Start end IOTs are not required to stand until there are four (4) laps to go. They can rotate from deck to have a brief break but must be back in position before the first Swimmer approaches the third last turn (i.e. 4 laps to go)
2. Turn End IOTs can be seated for the race, whilst operating lap counting devices. They are not required to stand

All other events:

- Every hour, or as close as practical to the hour, one (1) or more IOTs to be rotated off deck for at least five (5) minutes during sessions that are expected to exceed 3 ½ hours.

Medley Relay Events where Backstroke Ledges are used

- Where there are insufficient Start End IOTs, move Turn End IOTs as required to the Start End for the purposes of installing ledges before each start, and removing ledges after each start.

Other

- The Chief IOT (CIT) at each end will coordinate all rotations.

**Relay Changeovers (where Starting platforms are not Calibrated)**

FINA Rule 13.1 states “When Automatic Officiating Equipment (See FR 4) is used in any competition, the placings and times so determined and relay take-offs judged by such Equipment shall have precedence over the Timekeepers and Inspectors of Turns.”

However, where starting platforms have not been regularly maintained and the calibration and / or accuracy is known to be unreliable, consistency and fairness to the athletes is uncertain.

Where the status of starting platforms is not known, the following protocol applies:

- IOTs and JOS shall report any observed changeover infractions,
- Additionally, the CRS / Chief Recorder (as applicable) shall notify the Referee of any measured changeover infraction,
- Where the Automatic Officiating Equipment (AOE) supports the Pool Deck official’s report, the Referee shall ask the CRS / Chief Recorder to write up the infraction report and sign it. The rationale is that at SNSW meets where there are usually shortages of IOTs, it is preferable to keep as many pool deck officials observing rule compliance, rather than writing up infractions.