



Technical Swimming Committee Protocol Variations

1. Purpose and Context

SAL Protocols are adopted for Swimming NSW (SNSW) meets.

During many SNSW events there is not the required number of Inspectors of Turns (IoT's) to allocate one per lane.

Additional Considerations:

- Provide guidelines for referees when there are insufficient IoTs
- Provide guidance for judging relay changeovers

These below variations are available for use at any SNSW meet.

2. Objectives

To provide a consistent, fair protocols when there is insufficient IoTs, including:

- efficient installation of backstroke ledges
- efficient and accurate use of lap counters
- judging relay change overs

3. Protocols

Allocating IoT's to lanes:

- SNSW will appoint a CIoT (Chief IoT) at the start and turn end of the pool. In most cases the CIoT at the start end in conjunction with the CIoT at the turn end will allocate IoT's to lanes in consultation with the referee, completing the lane allocation sheet.
- If 9 or more IoT's should be appointed to both ends of the pool.
- If 8 or less IoT's they should all be appointed to the start end of the pool.
- If 5 or less IoT's (at one end) one IoT to be appoint to observe 2 lanes each, JoS asked to observe the turns to assist IoT's.

Backstroke ledges

Individual Backstroke Events where backstroke ledges are used:

- 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.
- The priority shall be those lanes that have Swimmers in the first heat of that event.
- 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.

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.
- Ensure these requirements are advised during the briefing of officials.

Lap counters and Bells for 800m and 1500m Freestyle events

Where there are insufficient or no Turn End IoT move Start End IOTs as required to the Turn End for the purposes of installing and turning lap counters:

- Judge of Strokes (JoS) may be asked to assist if needed, JoS to check that lap counters are on the correct number.
- If insufficient Start end IoT's to ring bell use JoS, starters and off referees to assist.
- Ensure these requirements are clearly advised during the briefing of officials.

Relay changeovers

Objectives:

To provide 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

Relay Changeovers (where Starting platforms are not Calibrated)

World Aquatics 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.

Short Whistles:

Provide a consistent approach to the use of short whistles during SNSW meets with heats and finals.

Short whistles to be used in finals, and for all heats and finals of Multi-Class events. Short whistles will not be used for timed finals in a final session.