

Really enjoyable Technical Development at SAARS & JAARS Time Trial 25th September 2022

SNSW TSC Members along with technical official coaches Cherry Smith and Ken Jones, were pleased to have unearthed some diamonds in the rough and encouraging performances from 19 new and developing officials at the time trials.

The officials were drawn from the recent referee's course candidates and the young officials group with many never having worked together prior to the meet. Rosters were set up so that six referees and starters were given their first opportunity in those roles with each pairing supported by Ken or Cherry in the team work aspects of those roles. The trials were divided into four continuous sessions. Two new teams were taken through the Control room and AOE operations whilst the remainder worked through four different roles supported by TSC members.

The day commenced with an extended briefing session with emphasis on planning, fairness and patience. Referees and starters were encouraged to make decisions as a group regarding the meet operations. Hurdles addressed included self-marshalling without help desk personnel, no announcer, infraction reporting and recording and how the deck officials could rotate quickly at the end of each session.

The meet ran smoothly as result of the planning and the SNSW TSC coaching group was very pleased with many questions from the newer and Young Officials.

Official Heidi Tolar shared her comments on the day – *“Thank you to SNSW and the TSC for running such a great development day for the technical officials yesterday.*

The experience was invaluable. It was great to have the mentors on hand giving positive feedback and lots of handy hints and tips throughout the day. They were so forthcoming with sharing their knowledge and I felt very comfortable being on pool deck particularly when it was my turn to Referee.

The four rotations of the roster was also a great idea. From chatting to my fellow TO's, everyone got a lot out of the day and hoping we get to do a few more in the future.”

SNSW TSC will continue to look for more opportunities to provide this type of training experience and also these new officials nominating for SNSW Meets. 🏊‍♂️