

COMPETITION FOCUS PER LEVEL

The competition focus per level is intended to provide guidance for the Meet Manager, Officials Chair and Referee to support swimmer development through each level of competition. The focus per level are guidelines and themes that align with the type of competition, not specific rules for officials to enforce. As always, the benefit of the doubt is intended to go to the swimmer.

The roster of officials should be aligned to the level of swimmers attending the competition. A roster for a Level 1 competition may be developed using the minimum official’s roster, while a Level 5 competition is expected to have a full roster. Similarly, Level 1 competitions with novice swimmers should focus on the experience and get times while Level 1 competitions with swimmers close to the provincial level and above should expect a higher standard of officiating.

For a complete list of officials required please refer to the Minimum Officials Roster. The officials roster considerations add roles to the previous level based on the competition focus.

For Level 1 and Level 2 competitions where a minimum official’s roster is used, clubs may choose to find alternate ways to educate swimmers of the rules. For example, at a novice competition the referee may provide a general summary of observed infractions to the coaches at the end of the session.

Competition Level	Competition Focus	Officials Roster Considerations
Level 1: Single Session Time Final - May range from novice competitions to a club champs with swimmers of all stages	Primary Focus: Get Swimmer Times <i>Secondary Focus: Ensure a fair start, attempt legal strokes, turns and finishes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One timer per lane (touchpads) or two timers per lane if touchpads are not available or reliable. - Recommend 1 turn judge every 4 lanes
Level 2: Multi-Session Time Final - May include single day or multi-day events	Primary Focus: Get Swimmer Times & Legal Start <i>Secondary Focus: Ensure legal strokes, attempt legal turns & Finishes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stroke judges on both sides of pool - Recommend 1 turn judge every 3 lanes
Level 3: Heats and Finals - No time standard required	Primary Focus: Get Times, Legal Start & Strokes <i>Secondary Focus: Legal Turns & Finishes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommend 1 turn judge every 2 lanes - Recommend Level 4 Advisory Referee for Multi-Day Events

Competition Level	Competition Focus	Officials Roster Considerations
Level 4: Provincial Series - Time standard similar to the provincial level	All rules expected to be enforced, records may occur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Officials roster similar to Level 5: Provincial Competitions - Advisory Referee Required
Level 5: Provincial Competitions - Includes Festivals, Provincial Trials and Championships	All rules expected to be enforced, records expected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standard officials' roster, Advisory Referee selected by Swim Alberta
Class 1 Time Trial - Record attempt for single swimmer or relay team	All rules expected to be enforced, records expected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All officials required