

ROLE OF THE MEET REFEREE

Purpose:

The role of the Meet Referee is to provide expertise to meet management, mentorship to the on-deck officials and to provide consistency for multi-day competitions.

- For Swim Alberta designated competitions, the Meet Referee is appointed as per the “Placement of Officials for Swim Alberta Designated Competitions” document. For all other multi-day competitions, it is highly recommended for clubs to appoint a Meet Referee.

Qualifications:

Ideally the Meet Referee should be an experienced official who has received their Level 5 certification from Swimming Canada and has taken the Para Clinic.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Meet Referee:

- First and foremost, the Meet Referee shall be available to support and mentor the Session Referees. The Meet Referee will step in for the Session Referee or Starter if they need to step away from the pool when dealing with infractions or other issues.
- The Meet Referee should review the meet information package, especially when being named as the sanctioning referee.
- The Meet Referee should review the technical bulletin prior to its release when one is used.
- The Meet Referee should work with or be consulted with regarding the senior officials’ roster with either the Meet Manager or the Club Officials Chair. (Session Referees and Starters).
 - For provincial designated competitions Swim Alberta will consult with the Meet Referee prior to submitting the final roster of Session Referees and Starters for approval to the AOCC. The Meet Referee should also review and work with the Meet Manager or Club Officials Chair on the roster for each session.
- The Meet Referee will be a resource for rule interpretation, clarity of protocols and provide consistency in their delivery over the course of the competition. The Session Referee remains responsible for the officials briefing and the delivery of the competition.
- At provincial competitions, the Meet Referee will deliver a Senior Officials Briefing prior to the start of each session, including Session Referees, Starters, Meet Manager, Judge of Stroke and the CFJ/CJE. At all other heats and finals competitions, it is recommended that a senior briefing occur.

- The Meet Referee shall attend the officials briefing and ensure that the Session Referees covers all essential points. Feedback regarding the briefing shall be communicated privately to the Session Referee.
- The Meet Referee shall be available for all sessions, and they must attend the coaches technical meeting.
- The Meet Referee should work with the Meet Manager to ensure that all equipment necessary is in place for senior officials.
- The Meet Referee will confirm with the Meet Manager the names of any Para swimmer entries and ensure the Meet Manager distributes the Para Swimmer exception codes if applicable. Exception codes for classified Para Swimmers are available at: <https://www.swimming.ca/en/resources/para-swimming/para-swimming-classification/>
 - Meet Referee's for Swim Alberta provincial competitions will also serve as the Para Technical Advisor.
 - Swim Alberta will distribute the Para Swimmer exception codes for any Swim Alberta competitions with Para specific events (Provincial Competitions)
- While the Session Referee is arbitrator of the swim rules, if asked, the Meet Referee will provide guidance so that the Session Referee can make their own decisions. If a decision made by a senior official may be a safety issue or compromises the integrity of the meet, the Meet Referee may make recommendations to the appropriate officials.
 - If a decision is required prior to the competition, it will be made by the Meet Referee and will carry throughout the competition.
- The Meet Referee may be asked by the AOCC to sign-off on formal evaluations of Session Referees when approval is granted by the AOCC.