

SSL New Referee Class 2023

Class Registration

- Register for this class by putting the following information in the Chat box
 - Name
 - Team (the pool name, not the mascot)
 - Phone number
 - Email
- Email and phone number are not published and are needed to communicate to you
- Availability for Time Trials & Champs will be through the SSL website and/or email.

Referee's Role

- The Referee's role is a Supervisor of a team of officials
 - The Starter
 - S&T officials
 - Place Judges
 - Timers
 - Scorers
 - Clerk of Course, Head Timer, Runners, etc.

Referee's Role

- Pre-meet:
 - The night before, review the SSL rules that apply to running a dual meet.
 - Review the Referee Checklist and use it the day of the meet. Use the one on the SSL website, or make your own. Print it out and use it to make sure you do everything you should do before a meet:
 - Facilities, Meet with coaches, Warm-up protocols, Timers/Officials meeting

Referee's Role

- Pre-meet
 - Coordinate with Clerk of Course and Head Timer so you know when to start the next race
 - Times collected
 - All swimmers at the end of the pool
- Have a list of events
 - Either with names or just a list of events
 - When to move timers
 - Break after Butterfly– no such thing as a 5 minute break

Referee's Role

- Officials meeting
 - Introduce everyone
 - Pair up the timers by lane – one from each team
 - Watch check – use a whistle to “start”
 - Timers positioning
 - Away from the pool at start of the race
 - Start the watch on the flash/sound – check watch started. Back-up timer if the watch did not start
 - At the edge looking straight down as the swimmer finishes
 - Back away and average the times – report to Head Timer
 - Clear the watches on the whistle for the next race
 - Other items for timers in Checklist

Referee's Role

- Officials meeting
 - Place judges
 - Lane numbering
 - Can call ties
 - Make your call independently of each other
 - Write the lane numbers in the order of finish
 - Cards with numbers – the numbers are 1st, 2nd, etc. Just write the lane number in the order of finish
 - Sign or initial

Referee's Role

- S&T meeting
 - Assignments and positioning
 - Jurisdiction
 - Lane numbering
 - When to rotate and direction of rotation
 - Relay take-off assignments and positioning
 - Review strokes and any rule changes
 - SSL interpretations
 - 8&U and 6&U interpretations apply at all dual meets

Referee's Role

- Whistles
 - Traditional old fashioned whistle
 - Plastic or medal
 - Do Not use a pea-less whistle
 - Electronic whistles

Starting

- Starting – one person may be Referee/Starter or 2 separate people (recommended)
- Forward Starts
 - When the previous race swimmer have exited the pool, the Starter can ask the next event swimmers to ‘step up’. When ready (all swimmers at the pool and times collected) Referee blows one long whistle to have the swimmers step up to the edge of the pool
 - Starter announces the event – stroke and distance – may include ‘girls’ or ‘boys’, age group, the event number

SSL Starting

- Forward Starts

- When the swimmers are ready, the Starter says “Take your Mark”. Smooth, inviting, monotone. Don’t rush.
- Not commanding or directive
- When all swimmers are stationary, plus a little, start the race. Do not start as soon as the last swimmer is stationary.
- If the Starter is not going to start the race, say “Stand Please”

Starting

- Forward Starts
 - Reasons to not start the race
 - A swimmer falls into the pool – No False Start
 - A swimmer starts before the start signal – Do NOT start the race. Swimmer charged with a False Start
 - The swimmers do not become stationary or take too long to become stationary – a Judgement call
 - Outside interference – e.g. loud noise, camera flashes
 - There should be a short pause between the last swimmer becoming stationary and the start signal so that the last swimmer does not gain an advantage

Starting

- Forward Starts

- False Starts

- A swimmer “starts” before the start signal and no start signal
 - A swimmer starts before the start signal and the start signal is given – MUST be RECALLED by the Starter and the Referee
 - If the swimmer who committed the false start is obvious, the Starter can announce the False Start.
 - If the race is recalled, or multiple swimmers enter the water, the Referee will inform the swimmer of the False Start and the Starter will announce the False Start to the field

Starting

- Forward Starts
 - False Starts
 - Repeat the sequence until a fair start is achieved
 - A swimmer is DQ'd for a second false start in that event
 - The swimmer may swim exhibition if both coaches agree and the swimmer is not being disruptive. If the swimmer is causing problems starting the race, then the Referee can decide to not let the swimmer in the race
 - If the race is not recalled, there is NO false start
 - SSL does NOT use the No Recall False Start rule

Starting

- Forward Starts
 - After there is a clean start, the Starter should wait until the swimmers are up and swimming and the Referee has not recalled the race to release the microphone. No rush because the Starter has nothing to do until the next event.
- If the Referee recalls the race, the Starter should recall even if the Starter did not observe a False Start
- False Starts are the responsibility of the Starter – no dual confirmation. The Referee can overrule a False Start, but should be for unusual situations

Starting

- Backstroke starts
 - Same process as for forward starts with following differences:
 - Ask the swimmers to “step in please”, not “step up please”
 - When the swimmers are in the water and standing at the wall, or holding onto the wall, sound the single whistle.
 - Swimmers should assume a legal starting position (both feet on the wall, toes above or below the water surface, toes NOT over the gutter or lip of the pool)
 - Announce the event
 - Take Your Mark – when swimmers stationary, plus a small amount of time, Start the Race.

Starting

- Swimmers may hold on to the edge of the pool or “use legs”
 - “Use legs” means they may grasp the legs of another person who is standing on deck, facing away from the pool, heels not over the edge of the pool
 - Swimmer must grasp below the knees
 - Only one person as “the legs” – no chaining
- Swimmers may use a towel over the edge of the pool – must be removed after the start
- False starts are the same as a forward start

Starting

- Polaski's 3 P's of Starting
 - Pace
 - Practice
 - Patience

At the Break/End of Meet

- Check with the Scoring table and resolve any issues
- For a close meet, check that DQs have been recorded correctly
- You do not have to sign the score sheets, or check them
- At the end, thank all the officials who worked the meet