

Referee Notes

- 1) Know the technical rules. If you are not certain, the benefit of the doubt goes to the swimmer.
- 2) Protect the swimmer, then protect the call.
 - a. Confirm that the judge raised his/her hand.
 - b. Confirm the technical violation by questioning the judge.
 - c. Confirm that the judge was in the correct position to make the call that was made.
 - d. Verify that the DQ Report makes sense with the call.
 - e. Communicate DQ to the computer operator.
 - f. Communicate with the head coach. My recommendation is that this can be done anytime between the report being signed by the Referee and within a few heats after the infraction. Best practice is to make sure that coaches have an opportunity to challenge the call.
 - g. Any technical challenge that cannot be resolved at the meet, can be escalated to the VP of swimming. Questions as to whether the call was handled appropriately cannot be escalated to the league. The VP of swimming is happy to hear concerns and address them, but only technical rulings can create a condition where an event rescore is permitted. The VP of swimming should be made aware of any escalations as soon as possible after the meet is over, but no later than 72 hours after the posting of the results to the RMAL website.
- 3) Over communicate with head coaches
 - a. Possible inclement weather
 - b. DQs
- 4) Show up as early as possible. Try not to walk in 15 minutes prior to the start.
- 5) Brief Strokes and Turns 15 to 20 minutes before the meet.
- 6) Brief the Starter and Head Timer.
- 7) Keep the pool balanced.
- 8) Mentor the judges, build their confidence.
- 9) Communicate with the dry deck and the clerk.
- 10) Own the calm. It is always about the kids in the water.