



STROKE JUDGE

DESCRIPTION

- The STROKE JUDGEs are solely responsible for observing all strokes, turns, and finishes. They are not responsible for Heat Exchanges.

REQUIREMENTS

- A minimum of four (4) STROKE JUDGEs, two (2) STROKE JUDGEs per each half Meet, is required for each Dual Meet, Home and Away. A STROKE JUDGE should not be changed unnecessarily during either half of the Meet.
- All STROKE JUDGEs must attend a Swim Circuit's Official Clinic once every year for training and certification. At the end of the Circuit Training, all Meet Directors are provided with a list of certified STROKE JUDGEs for the current year.
- The STROKE JUDGEs shall work in pairs on each side of the pool; minimally with one (1) member of the pair from each Team.
 - ❖ The Stroke Judging area will be consistent on each side of the pool.
 - ❖ The STROKE JUDGEs will ensure a clear, unobstructed view of the swimming lanes at all times. If a permanent obstruction limits the stroke judging area on one (1) side of the pool, the stroke judging area on the other side of the pool shall be equally limited.

DUTIES

- The STROKE JUDGEs have the sole responsibility to observe swimmers strokes, turns, and finishes to determine that they comply with the NWSC By-Laws Circuit Requirements for Infractions. As such, they are not responsible for judging exchanges.
 - ❖ STROKE JUDGEs shall have sole responsibility and authority to report infractions for their half of the pool lanes.
- Both STROKE JUDGEs in a pair, one (1) member from each Team, must both agree on a Disqualification (DQ).
 - ❖ If there is any doubt or disagreement between the STROKE JUDGEs regarding an infraction, there shall be no disqualification.
 - ❖ If a STROKE JUDGE recognizes that they were not in a position to make a call, it is up to the discretion of that STROKE JUDGE to defer to the decision solely to the other STROKE JUDGE in that pair.
 - ❖ When a stroke infraction is witnessed by only one (1) STROKE JUDGE, the STROKE JUDGEs will issue a "Yellow" DQ Warning Slip to the Scoring Table indicating the infraction witnessed by the one (1) STROKE JUDGE. A Warning Slip does not impact the Swimmer's time or finish. The Warning Slip will be given to the Swimmer's Coach to evaluate whether the Swimmer requires stroke coaching.
 - ❖ When a stroke infraction by a Swimmer is witnessed by both STROKE JUDGEs and both STROKE JUDGEs are in agreement concerning the infraction, the STROKE JUDGEs will issue an official "White" NWSC Disqualification Form to the Scoring Table indicating the infraction witnessed by and initialed by both STROKE JUDGEs. The "White" Disqualification Form is attached to the Swimmer's Event Card at the Scoring Table. The Team's coach is responsible for informing the DQ Swimmer of the infraction.



- ❖ If a STROKE JUDGE is aware of any conflict that may interfere with their ability to maintain the necessary attention to and impartiality of their responsibilities, the STROKE JUDGE must request that the STARTER wait until another (impartial) STROKE JUDGE is located and put into place.
- All STROKE JUDGEs are to refrain from displaying any partiality to any Team or Swimmer while Swimmers are “on the deck”, “on their mark”, or in the water.
- ❖ STROKE JUDGEs are to be attentive to their assigned responsibilities while each Heat is in Progress.
- ❖ It is appropriate and in the spirit of the Circuit to encourage all Swimmers equally, especially those Swimmers struggling to finish.

DURING HEAT

- The STROKE JUDGEs will observe all swimmer strokes, turns, and finishes and have the sole responsibility and authority to rule on same for infractions in all Event Heats. All infractions, whether a “Yellow” Warning Slip or a “White” NWSC Disqualification Form, are initialed by both STROKE JUDGEs in the pair and sent to the Scoring Table.