

Mentoring Referee Candidates



- a) Put the candidates at ease, do not be overbearing, and do try to be supportive.
- b) Ensure candidate is taken through the poolside duty checklist prior to the warm up.
- c) When mentoring a trainee referee for (A) Shadow, explain all your actions in relation to:
 - Checking all swimmers are ready for the next race.
 - Checking that all officials are in position, show you are looking.
 - Your positioning for the start so that you get the best view.
 - The whistling procedure.
 - Your positioning throughout the race.
 - At the end of the race, explain and let them see you are observing all relevant officials in case they wish to report an infringement.
- d) When mentoring a trainee referee for (B) the Start, correct them if needed regarding:
 - The whistling procedure, this should be a series of short (4 or 5) whistles with a distinct pause before the long whistle. The second long whistle for backstroke should be of equal length and loudness.
 - They don't hand over to the starter until the swimmers are in position and ready.
 - That the outstretched arm stays in position until the starting signal is given.
- e) When mentoring a trainee for (C) Start and Race, make sure you are with them at the end of the race. If any officials wish to make a report this must be to you. The trainee will observe how you handle the receiving of reports.
- f) When mentoring a trainee for (D) Reports, please make sure you are with them if they should receive a report so that you can advise or intervene if necessary. Remember that the correct terminology should be used, for example in butterfly for an underwater recovery at the finish the report should be worded "Arms not brought forward over the water" with additional information "Underwater recovery at the finish". Only you as Referee can disqualify, not the candidate.
- g) The mentoring for (E) AOE should be ongoing. You should be explaining what you are doing, letting them read the printouts etc from their first mentoring session. By the time they come to towards the end of their mentoring sessions they should be able to understand how to cope when there is not an AOE time for a swimmer or where to find one in the history. Do not sign off (E) without checking they are conversant with all aspects of AOE.
- h) When mentoring a trainee for (F) Full, you will need to observe that their positioning is correct for the start, throughout the race and for the finish. That they are confident with the starting procedure, checking that all officials are in position. That they are covering the whole course not only to observe the swimmers but to check all officials are fulfilling their duties correctly. That they handle the receiving of reports confidently and correctly and are able to deal with queries from, swimmers, coaches and officials although be ready to step in if needed. They should also be involved in the delivering of the officials briefing. On their final mentoring session prepare them to make the briefing themselves and, without embarrassing them, at the end of the briefing add anything they may have missed.
- i) At the end of the session please complete their workbooks and please add constructive comments as appropriate.