



**MINNESOTA
SWIMMING**

Become an USA Swimming Official

What is required to become a Stroke & Turn Judge?

1. Signup with the MSI Officials Chair, Jack Campbell. Call (651)808-0628 or send <mailto:jack@campbelljohnsonassoc.com> and to let us know you are interested.
2. Attend an officials training clinic. They are scheduled at various times and locations and announced on the MSI web site.
3. Become a non-athlete member of USA Swimming and complete the background check and concussion awareness required for all officials and coaches.
4. Take and pass an open-book test. You may use the 2011 USA Swimming Rules and Regulations online to take the test if you do not have access to hard copy of the rule book. The rule book is located at (use this link or copy and paste it into your browser): <http://www.usaswimming.org/Rainbow/Documents/92062db1-06cf-4c09-99a0-f8a0e2a17007/2011%20Rule%20Book.pdf>
5. Work as a shadow with experienced officials on deck at five (5) sessions of sanctioned competition.
6. Complete an online concussion awareness course that is required by state law for all officials and coaches. It is located at (use this link or copy and paste it into your browser): http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online_training.html

What is required once you are certified?

1. To maintain your certification, you must work a minimum of ten (10) sessions at and MSI sanctioned swim meets over 12 months, maintain your MSI membership, and take an open-book test every 2 years.
2. The dress code is a white shirt, khaki slacks, shorts, etc. and white or mostly-white shoes.
3. Regularly review the rules just before a meet to maintain your knowledge.

Common Questions:

Q: When will I work?

A: When you choose to. Clubs hosting swim meets are required to ensure there are at least 2 Stroke & Turn Judges on deck at each session of a meet. When your club hosts a meet, you may be expected to fulfill your share of the work by working the meet as an Official. All MSI Officials are encouraged to work any session of any meet that they might normally be attending anyway.

Q: Do I need to know how to swim?

A: No.

Q: How do I begin?

A: Contact your club coach or the Officials Committee Chair at (651)808-0628 or send <mailto:jack@campbelljohnsonassoc.com>

Q: What are some of the benefits of being an official?

- A:
1. You are helping support a good sport for your children.
 2. You are closer to the action.
 3. It is frequently much cooler on deck than in the stands.
 4. You get free meals and refreshments.
 5. Fulfill club volunteer obligations at meets you would attend anyway.
 6. Gain a fuller understanding of swimming and sports in general.

As the swimmers grow and develop, you can too, by choosing to train to become a Starter and then a Referee. You must be an official for one (1) year before you can certify at the next level.

Join thousands of parents around the country who support their children in competitive swimming by becoming a certified Stroke & Turn Judge.

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