



## Phillips 66 Nationals ~ Irvine, CA July 26-30, 2022

Tracy Meece

I had the opportunity to attend the Phillips 66 National Championship in Irvine, CA last week. I served as an assistant administrative referee for all sessions at the meet and time trials. This meet had 5 prelim and 5 finals sessions plus time trials. Time trials were held after each preliminary session. For a short time, the meet was planned to have flighted prelim sessions, but that was not necessary when final entries came in.

Official's briefings were held prior to the beginning of the meet and before each session. Since the admin crew was typically busy with pre-session duties (scratches, seeding, taking DFS's, etc.) they did not attend any of these briefings.

Due to the meet being classified as a FINA meet, we used an Omega timing system along with timing and underwater cameras during the races. Because of the use of the timing cameras, the deck was set with only 1 official at the start end of each lane. This person served as the turn official and as a button pusher at the end of each race. Unlike other FINA meets, the underwater cameras were only used to confirm, overturn, or declare inconclusive a call made on deck by stroke or turn officials. The referees in Video Review kept a log of disqualifications that were NOT called by officials on deck. This list was planned to be given to the USA Swimming National Team manager after the meet.

Admin duties were split between Current Session (in the booth above the pool with the Omega crew and Meet Manager computer) and Future Session, with the Resolution Desk set up in the warm-up pool area. Current session worked with Omega crew to figure out timing discrepancies (which they typically had figured out before we even saw any paperwork), tracked DQ's called in from the deck, notified the Omega staff person working the scoreboard so that DQs/results could be displayed/scrolled correctly after each heat/event and to get initial results to the Resolution Desk. Notification to the announcer was done by the off-duty DR. Future Session admins worked to notify teams of anyone that scratched into a different heat for finals than originally announced, seed finals and proof heat sheets and custom timelines for the next session - this meet had 4 heats in finals with the D final reserved for 18&Unders and only for non-foreign athletes. Finals were flighted for TV. Meet Manager typically kicked out the athletes that were too old but didn't always catch the foreign athletes, so we needed to carefully watch for this. Future Session admins also worked to seed the next day's events after the scratch deadline passed each night during finals. The lead admin typically stayed at the Resolution Desk with the 2 assistant admins rotating duties each day.

Coach/Official hospitality was in an area just off the competition pool. Hospitality was scheduled so that officials and coaches knew when to expect the food to be available. Breakfast included the famous Nova Aquatics made-to-order omelets and an abundance of fresh fruit.

This meet was live streamed for finals and recorded/shown later for prelims. The live stream for finals meant extra cameras on deck. This meant a little creative positioning of officials at times and the stroke officials had to be extra aware of the camera's location at all times as to not walk in front of the cameras.

All officials were given an evaluation at this meet. The leads completed the evaluations for their assigned team and the Chief Judges completed the evaluations for the stroke and turn officials.

I would recommend attending a higher-level meet outside of the LSC to any official. You make new friends and see different ways of doing things at each and **every** meet you attend.

Swimmingly submitted by  
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