



Speedo Winter Junior Nationals EAST ~ Greensboro, NC December 7-10, 2022

I had the opportunity to attend the Speedo Winter Junior Nationals East in Greensboro, NC last week. I served as a stroke and turn official for all sessions at the meet and as a chief judge for time trials. This meet had 1 timed finals session along with 4 prelim and 4 finals sessions. Time trials were held after each preliminary session.

Official's briefings were held prior to the beginning of the meet and before each session. Officials were also invited to attend the Technical Meeting which was held via ZOOM the Tuesday evening prior to the meet. A stroke briefing was given at the Wednesday afternoon briefing but not at any of the subsequent meetings (a common practice since all officials held an N3 stroke and turn certification to be invited). All briefings included protocol and jurisdiction for the events of that session. Something unique to this meet was that there was only 1 stroke judge walking on each side of the pool. Prelims were swum in 2 pools with Finals in 1 pool.

The meet used an Omega timing system but did not utilize underwater or timing cameras. Prelims had 1 stroke/turn judge at the start end for each lane along with 1 stroke/turn judge at the turn end over each lane. For finals, the deck was set with 3 officials for each lane at the start end and 1 at the turn end for each lane. Start end duties were: Right Chair – stroke & turn, Center Chair – Recorder/Button, Left Chair – Relay Take Off/Stopwatch/Button. Relief officials were utilized as relay take-off officials for relays. Relay Judging Platforms were used at this meet as well.

Coach/Official hospitality was in an area just off the competition pool. Snacks/beverages were always available, and meals were served after Time Trials and prior to finals each day.

With OTS being at the current state, only officials that needed evaluations were given them along with all assigned team 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
Tracy Meece