



Finding Officials for Your In-Season Prelim/Finals Meet

Updated February 2024

IMPORTANT: Meet hosts are required to find the Stroke and Turn officials for in-season prelim/final meets. The selection of the lead officials (Meet Referee, lead Deck Referee, lead Starter, and lead Administrative Referee) is intended to be a collaborative process between the MNSI Officials Chair and the host club, with the host club selecting ½ of the leadership team, and the Officials Committee selecting ½ via an application. The Meet Referee required to be identified when meet is submitted for sanction. With questions regarding qualifications of officials, please contact the Minnesota Swimming Officials Chair. With questions regarding membership status of officials, please contact the Minnesota Swimming Operations Manager.

Finding Officials for Your Meet

There are two options to find officials for your meet – be sure to communicate with your Meet Referee which option your team prefers:

- Meet Referee finds all host team-selected lead officials and stroke and turn officials for the meet.
- Host team finds all host team selected lead officials and stroke and turn officials for the meet.

Resources to find officials for your meet include:

- Minnesota Swimming maintains a list of approved Meet Referees and Administrative Officials/Referees, posted on the [Resources for Clubs](#) tab, found under Officials on the MNSI website.
- Minnesota Swimming maintains a Dropbox folder with contact information for all registered officials. Please contact the Minnesota Swimming Officials Chair or Operations Manager for access.

NOTE: It is **strongly recommended** that all to confirm the lead officials (Meet Referee, Deck Referee, Starter, Admin Official/Referee) for your meet with the Officials Chair and the Minnesota Swimming Operations Manager to allow time for problems to be addressed prior to the meet start.

Minimum Required Officials (per 102.10) and Best Practices

USA Swimming Rules and Regulations (see 102.10) and define the minimum number of officials required for intrasquad meets, dual meets, development meets, and all other meets. Note that these are minimum expectations and more officials are recommended to provide consistent deck coverage from meet to meet, to allow officials breaks during the meet, and to allow officials opportunity for apprenticing in new positions.

- Minimum of 4 officials required – 1 Referee (in no other position), 1 Starter (also a Stroke and Turn official), 1 Stroke and Turn official, and 1 Administrative Official/Referee (in no other position).
- Best practice is a minimum of 11 officials – 1 Meet Referee (in no other position), at least 1 Deck Referee (in no other position), at least 1 Starter (in no other position), at least 2 Chief Judges, at least 2 Administrative Officials/Referees (in no other position), at least 4 Stroke and Turn officials.

Still Need Help? If you've used the above listed resources and are having trouble finding officials for your meet, we're here to help. Reach out to Official's Chair, [Jack Swanson](#), or Operations Manager, [Tracy Meece](#) for additional help. Confirming officials for your meet should be done as soon as possible...contact us for help a minimum of 2 weeks prior to your meet.