



Minnesota Swimming Officials' Staffing Guidelines

Updated May 2022

Suggested Officials' Staffing for L2 and L3 Meets

In order to provide fair and equitable deck coverage for Minnesota Swimming meets, the following are recommended minimum numbers of officials for meets in the LSC:

Intrasquads, Dual Meets, Timed Final Invitationals (L2 Meets):

- 1 Meet Referee (may also serve as DR or AR), 1 Deck Referee, 1 Starter, 1 Administrative Referee/Official, 4 Stroke and Turn Officials.
- The Meet Referee must be present for all sessions of the meet unless excused by the Officials' Committee.
- Chief Judges may be used at intrasquads, dual meets, and timed final invitationals if personnel and facility resources allow.

MACs and MRCs (L3 Meets):

- 1 Meet Referee (should not serve elsewhere on deck), 1 Deck Referee, 1 Starter, 1 Administrative Referee/Official, 4 Stroke and Turn Officials.
- The Meet Referee must be present for all sessions of the meet unless excused by the Officials' Committee. Other lead officials should be present for all or most sessions of the meet.
- Chief judges are highly recommended at MACs and MRCs. If available, radio protocol established by the Meet Referee should be used.

Prelim/Final Meets and State Championship Meets (L3 Meets):

- 1 Meet Referee (should not serve elsewhere on deck), 2 Deck Referees, 2 Starters, 2 Administrative Referees/Officials, 4 Stroke Officials (2 per end), 4 Turn Officials (2 per side), 3 Chief Judges.
 - For non-state championship meets, 1 official in each position (DR, SR, AR/AO, CJ) should be designated as the lead official and should be present for all sessions of the meet. Other officials may rotate in the DR, SR, AR/AO, and CJ positions at the discretion of the Meet Referee.
 - For state championship meets, 1 official in each position (DR, SR, AR/AO, CJ) should be designated as the lead official and should be present for all sessions of the meet. Other officials assigned in the DR, SR, AR/AO, and CJ positions should be present for all or most sessions of the meet. Other officials may rotate in the DR, SR, AR/AO, and CJ positions at the discretion of the Meet Referee.
- Chief Judges and radio protocol established by the Meet Referee should be used at all prelim/final and state championship meets.



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Suggested Official to Athlete Ratios

In an effort to staff decks with officials, each club is encouraged to bring either officials or shadow officials in training to continue to be able to support the swimmers. Shadow officials are not permitted at MACs, MRCs, or the State Meet, except in the Chief Judge and Administrative Referee/Official positions.

Suggested minimum number of officials or shadows for each meet session for each club:

| Number of swimmers your club has registered in a session | Minimum number of your club's officials or shadows to have at the session |
|---|--|
| 1 - 25 swimmers | 1 |
| 26 - 50 swimmers | 2 |
| 51- 75 swimmers | 3 |
| 76 - 100 swimmers | 4 |
| 100+ swimmers | 5 |

Additionally, clubs are encouraged to maintain a 20:1 athlete-to-official ratio. For example, a club with 300 athletes would be encouraged to maintain a roster of at least 15 active officials.