

## **Buckhead Aquatics Parents – thank you for joining the ranks of volunteer**

### **Georgia Swimming Officials.**

Buckhead Aquatics needs volunteer officials at all levels in order to begin hosting meets & contribute to the meets Buckhead Aquatics attends. Volunteering as an official contributes to the strength and success of Buckhead Aquatics, as well as that of all USA Swimming athletes locally, nationally, and internationally.

Buckhead Aquatics plans to host meets in the near future, and in order to host a meet that is sanctioned/approved by Georgia Swimming, a minimum number of trained officials must officiate the meet.

You easily may become a GA Swimming official as a **“Stroke & Turn Judge.”** “Stroke & Turn Judges” are entry-level officials who stand at either end of the pool or walk along the side of the pool observing the swimmers to ensure that the technical rules of the individual strokes are being followed. Stroke and Turn Judges may progress to more advanced official positions like Starter or Referee, but they don’t have to.

*The training is fun, easy, and not a massive time commitment:*

Entry level “Stroke & Turn Officials” training is accomplished primarily through attending a one morning training session and then taking the “open book” test at your own pace (you may even take it home to complete it at your leisure). Following this training session, you then complete an apprenticeship of 5 sessions over at least 3 separate meets, working with a certified Stroke & Turn Judge to gain your certification and improve your confidence. The best part of being a “Stroke & Turn Judge” apprentice is you can apprentice at any of your child’s swim meet sessions, so there is no extra time commitment!

### **How do I become a GA Swimming Official?**

**One of our own parents, Lorre Gaudiosi, has been a volunteer GA Swimming official since 2004. She advanced from the entry-level Stroke & Turn Official to National Official and then Meet Starter.**

### **Top 10 Reasons to Become a Georgia Swimming Official**

- **Help support your team as a volunteer!**
- **There’s no better view of the pool!**
- **Learn the technical aspects of competitive swimming & impress your swimmer!**
- **Free food, free water/soft drinks, free admission, free parking, and free heat sheets!**
- **Since United States Swimming is a tax-exempt charitable organization, volunteer expenses such as mileage, hotel, and meals are potentially tax-deductible.**
- **Spend time with fun people who will mentor you in the sport!**
- **Make a difference!**

- Free shirts at some meets – though you have to work a few sessions to earn them!
- No worrying about what to wear to the meet: white shirt, blue shorts/pants, white shoes!
- Heat rises, so the deck is usually much cooler than the stands!

**Do not sit in the stands & get a sore back!**



**Buckhead Aquatics**