

Midlakes Dive Dual Meets – Judges’ Meeting



The Announcer will call for a Judges’ Meeting before the meet begins.

The following volunteers must attend the Judges’ Meeting:

- Meet Referee
- All Judges for the current dive group
- Announcer

The Meet Referee will review the following information with the Judges and Announcer.

- **“Repeat the Dive”**, i.e. who can ask the Announcer to say the dive again?
 - The diver or their coach may ask before performing the diver performs without penalty.
 - Judges may ask after the diver performs the dive in case you want to make sure that what you saw matches with what the dive was supposed to be.
- **“Repeat the Scores”**: The Scorers may ask the Announcer to repeat the scores if they didn’t catch them. So, Judges, **don’t close your score cards** until the next dive is announced.
- **“Change the Dive”**: The diver or coach may ask the Announcer to change the position of a dive while the diver is at the board. There is no penalty for changing the dive position. The Degree of Difficulty (DD) may be adjusted at the scoring table. Judges do not need to worry about this. The Announcer should re-announce the dive with the change. Judges score the dive based on the elements of the updated dive.
- The Meet Referee will call out infractions during the meet which may result in a maximum score or no score. If no infraction with a maximum is noted, then score the dive based on what you saw.

Things to Remember When Judging – Mention these to the Judges!

Try and give equal weight to the Three Parts of the Dive: Takeoff (approach, hurdle), Flight, and Entry.

- Takeoff – Looking for: forward dives = 3-step hurdle with arm circle; backward dives = heel drop, knee bend, and arm circle; strength, elegance, and height in the takeoff; no extra hops.
- Flight – Looking for: executes elements of dive (position, twist, rotations) with elegance
- Entry – Looking for: clean, vertical entry, in the correct position and orientation, and minimal splash.

Takeoff notes:

- Upgrade a dive with excellent power, grace, and height in the takeoff.
- Downgrade a dive with stilted, awkward takeoff, or one that lacks height.
- **NOTE: Arm circles** benefit a dive by increasing power and height. The lack of an arm circle does not cause an infraction, i.e. there is no maximum or direct penalty, but dives without arm circles should score a bit lower than the same dive with an arm circle.

Flight notes:

- Scores should be based on elegant execution of the required elements - position, twists, rotations.

Entry notes:

- Downgrade a dive that enters far away from the board (divers should go up and down, not up and out).
- Downgrade a dive severely if it is distinctly **unsafe**, e.g. exceptionally close to the board or out of control.

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Miscellaneous:

- **Do not score younger divers higher because they are cute**, are trying really hard, or just look better than they did at practices. There is no "A" for effort. Young divers will get better over time and inflated scores don't help them see the progress.
- **A really "cool" looking dive should not score higher because it looks cool.** The Degree of Difficulty will multiply the diver's scores appropriately. Score the dive as usual taking into account all the normal elements for each part of the dive: power/height, control, grace, accuracy, form, splash, etc.

Infractions – called by Meet Referee

- **Failed/incomplete dive.** This scores zero. Don't hold up a score. Only 8 and Under divers may re-attempt a failed dive without penalty, and only once.
- **Maximum Score** due to an infraction. Judges may score up to the maximum. **Don't automatically award the maximum.** If a dive was poor, then downgrade appropriately. Example: arms up on foot-first entry (max 4.5), an otherwise superb dive should not score the same as a mediocre dive.
- **Balks** = awkward stop and reset by diver. The judges score the dive normally; the announcer reads the scores as displayed by judges and explains there is a balk; a 2-point deduction is made *by the scoring table* on each score, i.e. a 5 is recorded as a 3, a 4.5 is recorded as a 2.5. **No balks are called for 8s and 10s.**

Common Infractions:

- Arms above shoulders on a feet-first entry = max 4.5
- Lineup for newer divers = max 2.0
- Lack of a 3-step hurdle = max 4.0. This includes a diver who:
 - Takes 3 steps, then has a significant pause at the end of the board before a knee lift and takeoff.
 - Takes 1 step, then executes the knee lift and takeoff.
 - Takes no steps, stands at the edge of the board, executes knee lift and takeoff.
- Failed dive = no score. Scorers write in all zeros.
- Back dive ½ twist has several maximums specific to Midlakes judging.
 - Feet Move on Board – Max 2.0
 - Hips Twist Prior to Takeoff – Max 3.0
 - Falling Back Dive with Twist – Max 4.0

Fairness:

- If judging your own child or divers from your home team, please be fair. Don't be more stringent or more generous than scoring others.

Consistency:

- If you find your scores are a little higher than the other judges, then stay consistent. You can adjust on the next round. Don't adjust mid-round since that's not fair to the divers.

Variances:

- **Multiple judges are needed for a variety of perspectives.** Some will note the excellent height of a dive while others may miss it. Some will note that a dive looked great but ended farther away from the board and others won't notice that. Trust your own view and also be open to discussing a dive with other judges to see what you may have missed.