

USA Swimming Block Party Officiating Guide

Thanks for considering officiating at a Block Party meet and supporting racing in your community. Competition is a big part of sport and we're excited you're helping the swimmers in your area have a more complete experience in the sport. Block Party meets are intended to be fun, short, and easy for clubs to host. Here's a few guidelines for officiating these meets:

- 1) All races should be officiated in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules.
- 2) All meets should be staffed with a minimum of the following officiating positions:
 - a. 1 Referee, who may also act as a stroke and turn judge
 - b. 1 Starter
 - c. 1 Other Stroke and Turn Judge, who may be the Starter
 - d. 1 Announcer
 - e. 3 Timers per lane, or a minimum of 1 per lane if automatic timing equipment with touchpads is used
 - f. 1 Administrative Official
 - g. 1 Place Judge
 - h. Relay Take-off Judges (if applicable)
 - i. Timing Equipment Operators, as needed
 - j. 2 Marshals, with at least one of each gender
- 3) All officiating positions may be filled by anyone who is either:
 - a. a USA Swimming non-athlete member in good standing certified as a USA Swimming Official,
 - b. a USA Swimming non-athlete member in good standing registered as a USA Swimming Coach, or
 - c. a USA Swimming non-athlete member in good standing who is certified as a swimming official by another governing body, including, but not limited to, the NCAA, YMCA, or NFHS.
- 4) Have fun and remember, the benefit of the doubt always goes to the swimmer.