

Zone 1 South Overall Meet Criteria

rev March 23, 2017

Except for Zone Champs meets and when specified differently in the meet bid package, all other Zone 1 South meets must comply with the following meet criteria. This is our way of meeting the requirement to plan for the 4-hour rule. Note that champs meets do not need to follow the 4-hour rule.

Type of Meet

The host club must hold the type of meet that was agreed to in the bidding process along with any documented restrictions in the meet schedule. Board approval is required to make any changes. The elected officers may approve the change if there isn't enough time before the next Board meeting.

Limit on Number of Swimmers

In order to meet the 4-hour rule, meet directors should set a cap on the number of entries based on the following guidelines. They should monitor the timeline and adjust the cap as necessary since the length of the events will affect the timeline. This helps control the overall length of the meet which typically should be done by 3:00pm.

The cap for short course yard meets is 60 swimmers per lane for a single-ended meet. This gives a range of 360 to 600 swimmers for 6 to 10 lanes. The cap for a double-ended short course meets is 70 swimmers per lane with a range of 770 to 1120 swimmers for 11 to 16 lanes.

The cap for long course meets is 67 swimmers per lane for single-ended meets or 60 swimmers per lane for double ended meets. This gives a range of 402 swimmers for 6 lanes to 1080 for 18 lanes.

Facilities

It is recommended that a semi-automatic timing system be used (push buttons or wireless watches) with a single manual watch per lane as a backup. An automatic timing system may be used (touch pads) with backup buttons and a single manual watch per lane, but generally it is too difficult to use because the age of our swimmers frequently causes the touch pads not to trigger. Three manual watches should only be considered for small dual meets because of the effort required to enter all the swim times.

When possible, at least a single line scoreboard should be used, and a full scoreboard would be ideal.

At least one warm-up lane should be provided for up to 8 competition lanes with at least one empty lane between the warm-up lane and the competition lanes. More warm-up lanes should be provided with greater than 8 competition lanes with a minimum of 4 for 16 competition lanes.

Personnel

In addition to the personnel required by the "USA Rulebook", a chief timing judge is required for reviewing the swim times, marking changes for the computer operator, and assembling the paperwork for the office.

Awards

"A" medals are required for swimmers who make an A-time in their age group and stroke for the first time.

Ribbons shall be provided for each scoring position for at least ages 12 and under.