



OFFICIALS BULLETIN – October 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE OCRC CHAIR – Suzanne Paulins

Welcome to the start of the 2018/19 season! Thank you to all those officials who offered their time over last season and special thanks to those who assisted at our summer national events in Edmonton and Winnipeg. The OCRC has several key priorities over the course of the season and will be working with Provincial Officials Chairs to deliver on a variety of initiatives. Swimming Canada continues to provide updates to the Registration Database (RTR), and we will also be looking to update and develop clearly identified roles and responsibilities for the positions used during our national events including: National Meet Referee, National Meet Director, and National Evaluator.

OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS

The Swimming Canada Board of Directors approved an overarching Code of Ethics for all members in our sporting community including officials. Many Provincial Sections also have a code of ethics for officials. Please review the Code of Ethics found [here](#).

SWIMMING CANADA FACILITY RULES AND GUIDELINES

As communicated in April and June 2018, Swimming Canada has finalized the new Swimming Canada Facility Rules and Guidelines. These facility rules came into effect on September 1, 2018. The new Facility Rules and Guidelines can be found [here](#). Please see the table (Appendix A) below taken directly from the new Facility Rules and Guidelines.

CLINIC UPDATES

All of the PDF versions of the official's clinics, available on the Swimming Canada website, have been updated as per the annual clinic updating procedures. Thank you to all those Provincial Sections, which provided feedback to ensure the clinics are updated annually and relevant for our officials across the country. Updated clinics can be found [here](#).

E-LEARNING CLINICS

The Introduction to Swimming Officiating Clinic and Safety Marshal Clinic continue to be available to be taken online. The clinics can be found [here](#). To date, 470 clinics have been completed through e-learning. We expect to have two additional clinics, Chief Timer and Clerk of Course available as e-learning clinics within the next couple of months, followed by additional clinics by April.

PARA-OFFICIATING

Beginning with this bulletin, all para-officiating updates will be provided through this one officials bulletin. As we continue to see more and more para-integrated competitions, it is important for all officials to continue to be educated on para-officiating. All officials are encouraged to participate in a para-officials clinic when offered. Level 5 officials are also encouraged to take the IPC Introduction to Para Sport, found [here](#) and the World Para Swimming Technical Officials on-line para-swimming clinic, found [here](#). There is a cost of €53.50 for the WPS Technical Officials on-line clinic.

OPEN WATER OFFICIALS CLINICS

The Open Water Officials clinics are currently being updated and we expect the Level 1 Open Water clinic to be available early in 2019.



OFFICIALS SYMPOSIUM

The OCRC will not be hosting a country wide official's symposium in 2018. Instead, the OCRC will be hosting an in-person meeting for the committee at the end of October, as well, all Provincial Officials Chairs have been invited to participate in the meetings on October 26 & 27th. During these meetings, the OCRC and various working groups will present updated material that can then be shared with officials in each province. Updates will include: National Officials Meet Progression; Level 4 & 5 National Evaluation Tool; and updates on the Registration Database (RTR), including the addition of a Deck Log. We hope to announce the date and format for the 2019 Officials Symposium following our October meetings.

REGISTRATION DATABASE UPDATES (RTR)

We are very pleased to have added several new and updated features for Official's in the registration database. Along with officials records on clinics taken and certification levels achieved, a new Deck Log feature has been added this season. This feature will allow officials to track the meets and deck positions worked directly into the database.

We have also updated the Para-officiating section of the database and are working to ensure all officials who have participated in the domestic para officials clinic are reflected accurately.

BACKSTROKE LEDGES

As stated in rule SW 6.1 "... When using a backstroke ledge at the start, the toes of both feet must be in contact with the end wall or face of the touchpad...". In recent years at national meets, Inspectors of Turns have been asked to look at the toes of swimmers and indicate to the starter that their swimmer did not have toes of both feet in contact with the pad and a warning to swimmers to abide by this rule has been given. Beginning in the 2018/19 season, warnings will not be provided to swimmers when their toes are not in contact with the touchpad during all national meets. Ledges have been in use for several years now and so the warnings given at national events will no longer be provided.

LEVEL V OFFICIALS

Congratulations to the following new Level 5 Officials, certified since July 2018:

Alison Gadsby, ON
Mike Bester, AB

Sandra Rousseau, ON
Stéphane Chabot, QC

Marie Morter, AB
Trevor Nicholson, AB

The OCRC has created a sub-working group that will review and approve all Level 5 applications on a monthly basis. This will allow for timely certification and allow the Provincial offices to award the Blue Pin (Master Official) upon confirmation of certification. All Level 5 applications received by the 15th of each month will be approved in that same month.

FINA NOMINATIONS

FINA Pool and Open Water officials have been nominated to FINA for FINA List #20 (pool) and FINA List #13 (open water) for appointments from January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2022. We hope to have final confirmation from FINA on these appointments in the coming months. Names will be published once FINA approval has been received.

All the best to all officials over the course of the 2018/19 season. I look forward to seeing many of you on deck in the coming months. Have a great season!



Appendix A: Facility Standard Comparison for Sanctioned Competitions

Preamble

The following table represents minimum facility standards for the hosting of international, national, provincial and club invitational/developmental level competitions in existing facilities across Canada. Some competitions and hosting agreements may require a higher standard than those outlined below in order to provide the best competitive environment.

	International	National	Provincial	Club Invitational Development
Water Depth for start (diving) from starting platform (max height 0.75m from water surface)	1.35m (extending from 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall)	1.35m (extending from 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall)	1.35m (extending from 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall)	1.35m (extending from 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall)
Water Depth for start (diving) from permanent deck or bulkhead (height not more than 0.35m from water surface)	Will not be used for international competition	Will not be used for national competition	Will not be used for provincial championship competitions	1.2-1.35m (extending from 1.0 metre to at least 5.0 metres from the end wall)
Water Depth elsewhere	1.0m	1.0m or reasonable variance	1.0m or reasonable variance	1.0m or reasonable variance
Starting Platforms	Per FINA FR 2.7	Per FINA FR 2.7	Starting platforms available	Starting platforms or end wall starts
Backstroke Ledges	Per FINA FR 2.10	Per FINA FR 2.10	When available	When available
Length of Course	Per FINA FR 2.1	Per FINA FR 2.1	Per FINA FR 2.1	Per FINA FR 2.1 or CFR 2.1.1
Warm-up/Warm down pool available	Additional 50m pool required	Additional 25m or 50m pool required	Per provincial requirements	As required
Lane Width	2.5m	1.8 m or a reasonable variance	1.8m or a reasonable variance	1.8m or a reasonable variance
Lane Width 2 per lane (distance events)	n/a	Minimum 2.0m or a reasonable variance	Minimum 2.0m or a reasonable variance	Minimum 2.0m or a reasonable variance
Lane Rope Colours	Per FINA FR 2.6	Colour of lane ropes is of no consequence	Colour of lane ropes is of no consequence	Colour of lane ropes is of no consequence
Pool Temperature	25-28C	25-28C	25-28C or a reasonable variance	25-28C or a reasonable variance