

**USA Swimming**  
**1999/2000 Officials Test**

The USA Swimming Officials Committee is pleased that your volunteer participation in your Local Swimming Committee (LSC) has brought you to the point of being ready to take the appropriate test for certification as a USA Swimming official. Tests are provided in each of the following areas of certification:

**Timer**  
**Stroke and Turn Judge**  
**Starter**  
**Referee**  
**Administrative**  
**Clerk of Course**  
**Timing Judge**

**Directions:** Each test is in a multiple choice/true-false format and is composed of 5 to 50 questions. The questions are based on the *1999 USA Swimming Rules and Regulations* published by USA Swimming, Inc. (ISSN 0742-7808). Upon joining USA Swimming, Inc. as a non-athlete (official) member in your LSC you will receive by mail a copy of the *Rules and Regulations*. Study the technical rules carefully in answering the questions on each test.

There is a single best choice for each question. You will be required to cite the Glossary (if applicable) or all the appropriate articles and sub-paragraphs of the technical rules for each question. Review the technical rules thoroughly, since there may be more than one citation for each question. A sample question with the proper technical reference is given below:

ANSWER & TECHNICAL REFERENCE

- [1] From the beginning of the first arm stroke, the position of the body shall be kept:
- a. on the breast.
  - b. past vertical towards the breast.
  - c. in any position.

a. 101.1.2

Each LSC may determine how it wishes to use any or all of the sections in this test. The USA Swimming Officials Committee considers this test to be an educational tool that should be used to supplement or reinforce teaching points to be presented at officials clinics; consequently, it recommends this be administered as an "open book" exam. It also recommends against giving all sections of the test to brand new officials. Conversely, since they are responsible for everything that goes on at a meet, referees should take all sections of the test, not just the **Referee** section. Individuals who are certifying for a particular position other than referee should take the appropriate specialized section and any other sections - or specific questions from other sections - that would assist them in performing their job better (e.g., a clerk of course applicant might take the **Clerk of Course** section

plus questions 14-24 inclusive as well as 49 and 50 from the **Administrative** section). The matrix at the end of this sheet indicates a recommended application of these test sections.

There is provided a separate answer page on which you are to record your letter answers and technical references. Please retain the test booklet with your answers marked on it for your reference and return the completed answer page only, in accordance with your LSC's instructions, to your LSC's Officials Chairperson (or his designee) who will let you know the results. The Officials Committee extends to you the best of luck and hopes that your volunteer service to USA Swimming will be both enjoyable and rewarding.

Recommended Application of the Test

Certifying Position	Sections						
	Timer	S&T Judge	Starter	Ref	Administrative	CofC	TJ
Referee	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Starter	x	x	x		q #s 14-24 incl, 49 & 50	x	x
Timing Judge	x				q #s 24-26 incl.	x	x
S&T Judge	x	x					
Clerk of Course					q #s 14-24 incl, 49 & 50	x	
Timer	x						

x = entire section if new

q = question #s from that section in addition to those from the position's primary section of the test

Officials Committee-1999/2000

Effective: May 15, 1999

Ltr 2

**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**

**Timer**

Multiple Choice/True-False

Answer & Technical Reference

[1] The Head Lane Timer shall:

- a. determine that the proper swimmer is in his lane.
- b. determine that relay swimmers are swimming in the order listed on the timer's card.
- c. neither of the above.
- d. both a & b.

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[2] A request for the lane timers to take split times should come from:

- a. the swimmer.
- b. the coach.
- c. the Chief Timer.
- d. a parent.

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[3] The number of timers required for each competitor when automatic or semiautomatic equipment is not available is:

- a. one.
- b. two or three.
- c. no less than three.

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[4] When only manual timing is available, the timers may use either a dial or a digital watch.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[5] A lane timer may operate:

- a. a manual watch or button only.
- b. a manual watch and a button.
- c. two buttons.

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[6] At the start, a timer should start the watch:

- a. at the instant of observing the visual starting signal.
- b. preferably at the instant of sound.
- c. either of the above.

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[7] The official who assigns lane timers to their lanes is the:

- a. Chief Timer.
- b. Head Lane Timer.
- c. Timing Judge.
- d. Alternate Timer.

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**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**

**Timer**

[8] The Chief Timer uses his or her watch as a substitute:

- a. if a lane timer's watch fails.
- b. to replace the slowest watch on the lane.
- c. to replace a watch that is 0.3 seconds different from other watches.

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[9] After the start of a relay heat, the Head Lane Timer shall change, on the lane timer's card, the first name and last name, the age and order of any relay swimmer whom a coach substitutes.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[10] In all 500-yard or longer events except for relays, the timer may be asked to sound a bell warning signal over the finish end of the lane with two lengths plus five yards/meters to go.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[11] When a semi-automatic timing system is used as the primary or secondary timing system, buttons should be pushed:

- a. at the start only.
- b. at the finish only.
- c. at both the start and finish.

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[12] The Lane Timer's position at the finish is:

- a. at the side of the pool.
- b. directly over the assigned lane.
- c. behind the block of the assigned lane.

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[13] Whenever semi-automatic or manual timing is used, if all three buttons or watch times disagree, the official time is:

- a. the average of all three watches or buttons.
- b. the time of the intermediate watch or button.
- c. the average of the two closest watches or buttons.

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[14] When automatic timing equipment is used, lane timers consider the backstroke finished:

- a. only when the swimmer contacts the touch pad.
- b. when any part of the swimmer touches the wall.

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**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**

**Timer**

[15] When three watches on a lane are the primary timing system, the official time is:

- a. the time of two watches that agree.
- b. The average of all three watches.
- c. the average of the fastest two watches.

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[16] The Head Lane Timer or the lane timers are responsible for reporting if a swimmer has delayed in touching or has missed a finish touch pad of an automatic timing device.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[17] When the times from only two watches are available, the official time is:

- a. the slower of the two watches.
- b. the faster of the two watches.
- c. the average of the two watches.

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[18] When the primary timing system is either automatic or semi-automatic and the backup system is manual, the official time for each individual swimmer shall be determined by:

- a. the Head Lane Timer.
- b. the Chief Timer.
- c. the Timing Judge.
- d. the Recorder.

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[19] Unless otherwise instructed, lane timers clear their watches:

- a. as soon as the times have been recorded.
- b. when the Referee signals that the next heat is ready to start.
- c. during the Starter's instructions to the swimmers.

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[20] When averaging two watches which result in 1000<sup>ths</sup>, the digits representing 1000<sup>ths</sup> are:

- a. rounded up to 100<sup>ths</sup>.
- b. dropped with no rounding.
- c. rounded up to 100<sup>ths</sup> only if the third number exceeds 5.

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**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**

**Timer**

For items below [21-25] - Fill in the official times for a meet using only a manual system:

	<u>Lane Timers</u>		<u>Technical</u>		
			<u>Official Time</u>	<u>Reference</u>	
[21]	46.54 - 46.53 - 46.45		__:__:__	_____	
[22]	32.57 - 32.80 - 32.57		__:__:__	_____	
[23]	54.60 - 54.90 - 54.70		__:__:__	_____	
[24]	29.72 - 29.83 -		__:__:__	_____	
[25]	- 1:02.23 -		__:__:__	_____	

**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**  
**Administrative Abridged Questions 24-26**

[24] For a long course meet, the following are conforming times:  
a. 50 meter freestyle.  
b. 50 yard freestyle.  
c. 100 meter backstroke.  
d. a & c above.

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[25] If automatic timing equipment is operating properly but both place judges agree about a different order of finish, their placements become the official placement.  
a. True.            b. False.

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[26] If the official times for two or more swimmers in different heats of a timed final event are identical, a swim-off must be held to determine placement.  
a. True.            b. False

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**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**  
**Clerk of Course**

Men's 400-meter Freestyle

A. Vendt, Erik	3:52.49	R. Justice, Sean	3:58.36
B. Younghouse, Jon	3:53.06	S. Siciliano, Tim	3:58.50
C. Taner, Ugur	3:55;58	T. Neligan, Brendan	3:58.58
D. Thompson, Chris	3:55.69	U. Potts, Andy	3:58.75
E. Lewis, Nat	3:55.72	V. Leonard, Mark	3:58.86
F. Warkentin, Mark	3:55.81	W. Donnelly, Eric	3:58.86
G. Malchow, Tom	3:56.02	X. Martin, Tim	3:59.58
H. Ramirez, Austin	3:56.47	Y. Neebe, Steven	3:59.95
I. Messner, Adam	3:56.68	Z. VanPool, Ron	4:00.10
J. Painter, Tyler	3:56.90	AA. Sawatzki, Matt	4:00.13
K. Keller, Klete	3:57.30	AB. Davison, James	4:00.24
L. Sirringhaus, Denis	3:57.32	AC. deFabrique, Yann	4:00.42
M. Irvin, Reeve	3:57.39	AD. Malchak, Mike	4:00.94
N. Mull, Cameron	3:57.70	AE. Hart, Don	4:27.57(y)
O. Dolan, Tom	3:57.80	AF. Caisse, Kris	4:27.72(y)
P. Hartzel, David	3:57.94	AG. Lunsford, Pat	4:28.08(y)
Q. Hooper, Matt	3:58.04	AH. Godsman, Eric	4:28.10(y)

Technical References:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**

**Timing Judge**

Multiple Choice/True-False

Answer & Technical Reference

- [1] The Timing Judge shall:
- a. determine the official order of finish.
  - b. only look at watch times when there is no pad or button times on a lane.
  - c. notify the referee when a time obtained by the primary timing system cannot be used as the official time.
  - d. all of the above.

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- [2] When the primary timing system consists solely of watches, a backup system must still be provided for all competitors to determine the official time.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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- [3] The following official decides whether or not there is a malfunction of the primary timing system:
- a. Timing Equipment Operator.
  - b. Timing Judge.
  - c. Chief Timer.
  - d. Referee.

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- [4] In a timed finals meet, when official times in different heats are identical to the 100<sup>th</sup>s, the final order of finish shall be determined by:
- a. a swim-off.
  - b. place judges.
  - c. declaring a tie.
  - d. flipping a coin.

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- [5] If the primary timing system is either automatic or semi-automatic but is started late, it may be used to determine the order of finish.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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- [6] The official time cannot be determined if only one watch or button time is available.
- a. True.
  - b. False.

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**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**

**Timing Judge**

[7] The Timing Judge should check for a possible primary timing system error when:

- a. an official reports a late or missed touch.
- b. there is more than .20 second difference between the primary system time and the backup times.
- c. both primary and secondary times are exactly the same, to the 100<sup>ths</sup>, on any lane.

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[8] Judging shall only be used to change the order of finish if:

- a. the swimmers competed in the same heat.
- b. times obtained from properly operating automatic timing equipment are not available.
- c. both place judges determine a different relative order of finish and make a written record.
- d. all of the above.

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[9] When automatic equipment is used and two swimmers tie to the 100<sup>th</sup> of a second, the 1000<sup>ths</sup> may be used to break a tie.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[10] When automatic equipment is used that reports times to 1000<sup>ths</sup>, the final digit is dropped and the time recorded to 100<sup>ths</sup>.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[11] The correction factor applied to the primary times when a malfunction equally affects an entire heat is the simple average of the total time difference between the primary times and the valid back-up times of each swimmer in a heat.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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[12] When automatic equipment is used, a potential malfunction exists if there is a difference of 0.30 seconds or more between the primary and secondary times for any lane.

- a. True.
- b. False.

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**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**  
**Timing Judge**

[13] When a malfunction in the primary system is confirmed for a single lane, the secondary time is used as the official time.  
 a. True.            b. False.

[14] Fill in the official times, noting the lane malfunction.

Primary System - Automatic  
 Secondary system - Semi-automatic, 3-buttons  
 Tertiary system - Manual, one watch

LANE	PRIMARY PAD TIME	BUTTON A	BUTTON B	BUTTON C	WATCH TIME	PAD MINUS MIDDLE BUTTON	OFFICIAL TIME
1	53.75	53.79	53.65	53.48	53.55		
2	54.19	54.03	54.08	54.01	54.00		
3	54.29*	53.49	53.46	53.47	53.45		
4	53.35	53.28	53.25	53.20	53.17		
5	52.92	52.83	52.78	52.68	52.74		
6	52.95	52.90	52.87	52.91	52.85		
7	54.10	53.96	53.81	53.91	53.85		
8	54.12	54.04	54.02	53.97	53.94		

**USA Swimming Officials Test 1999/2000**  
**Timing Judge**

[15] Fill in the official times and placement for a heat malfunction in the following situation:

Primary System - Automatic (late manual start confirmed)  
 Secondary system - Semi-automatic, 3-buttons (button times invalid)  
 Tertiary system - Manual, one watch

LANE	PRIMARY PAD TIME	WATCH TIME	WATCH TIMES LESS PAD TIME	HEAT ADJUSTMENT	OFFIC. TIME	ORDER OF FINISH
1	54.80	57.89				
2	54.13	57.20				
3	50.86	53.96				
4	51.68	54.80				
5	52.02	55.08				
6	53.00	56.08				
7	53.46	56.51				
8	54.00	57.04				