



# Advanced Administrative Official/Referee

Problem Solving Meet Challenges

# T.T.H.@M.

► Things That Happen @ Meets



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# Presenters

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# THE GOALS OF THIS SEMINAR



Listening to the issue  
Assessing the situation  
Considering the consequences  
Presenting solutions



KEEP THE MEET REFEREE INFORMED



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# FORMAT

- Issue, question, or situation presented
- Background information if needed
- Discussion
- Actual outcome



**1. A swimmer comes up to you at the corner and states, “I swam in the wrong heat.”**



a. What information do you need to know?

Name, Event, Seeded Heat/Lane, Swam in Heat/Lane

b. What do you do?

Hold the results while you investigate.

You may need to investigate who swam in the original lane.

Write the correct time on the athlete's original seeded position

Write the correct time on the other athlete's original seeded position.

# COLORADO TIMING SHEETS

## Heat 4

1 Athlete 1	54.23	_____
2 Athlete 2	53.14	_____
3 Athlete 3	53.91	_____
4 Athlete 4	52.77	_____
5 Athlete 5	54.05	<u>53.99</u>
6 Athlete 6	57.28	_____

## Heat 5

1 Athlete 7	56.89	_____
2 Athlete 8	55.77	_____
3 Athlete 9	57.14	_____
4 Athlete 10	56.98	_____
5 Athlete 11	57.69	<u>57.02</u>
6 Athlete 12	56.49	_____

## Race 23

1	2	3	4	5	6
54.01	53.23	53.74	52.78	<del>57.02</del>	56.87
				53.99	
				swam in Heat	
				5 Lane 5	

## Race 24

1	2	3	4	5	6
57.22	55.56	56.97	56.55	<del>53.99</del>	56.71
				57.02	
				swam in Heat	
				4 Lane 5	

**2. A parent comes up to you and states, “I thought I signed my child up for this meet. But his name is not on the check-in sheet.” This is a CBA+ meet.**

a. What information do you need to know?  
Name, club, and age

b. What do you do?  
Check for the athlete on the check-in sheet.  
Check the computer for the athlete  
Check the athlete’s meet registration receipt.



c. Swimmer is not in the meet. Actual meet he signed up for is a 2-hour drive away. They live 30 minutes from this meet.

Actual outcome: asked more info about the athlete and learned it was their first meet. Explained that I would ask the MR if we could add the athlete to the meet in similar events. Parent was told if the entry was allowed, they would need to pay all the fees.






The Meet Referee allowed the additional entry.

Admin matched the events as closely as possible and gave all the information to the computer operator.

Meet director was informed of the addition and dealt with fee collection.



3. A parent states, “My child was the lead off swimmer on her relay and she swam a Far Western cut. Her time doesn’t show as that time. I think you switched swimmers.”

a. What information do you need?

Event, club, heat/lane, athlete name

b. What do you do?

Look at the results,

Check the relay card and the swimmer order

Check the Colorado timing sheet

**FWs!?!?!?!?!?**




## ACTUAL OUTCOME

The relay card showed the correct swimmer order was printed in the results. The second leg of the relay looked like a FW cut. This is why the parent thought we mixed something up. Looking at the Colorado timing sheet, the times corresponded to the correct athletes. The first leg was 45+ seconds, the second leg was 25+ seconds. Final time was correct.

### **So what happened?**

It was a medley relay. The leadoff backstroker may have missed the pad and it finally registered as they got out of the pool. This made the second leg look really fast. Coach was informed that the first leg was the only one to be submitted to SWIMS and it was correctly recorded. Coach agreed that backstroker may have missed the pad.




4. The following is listed in a Meet Announcement:

Athletes can qualify for the 1650 Freestyle with a 1000 yard/800 meter qualifying time. Athletes can qualify for the 100 Freestyle with a 1650 yard/1500 meter qualifying time. The 1650 Freestyle will be seeded in the following order: 1650 SCY, 1500 LCM, 1500 SCM, 1000 SCY, 800 LCM. The 1000 Freestyle will be seeded in the following order: 1000 SCY, 800 LCM, 800 SCM, 1650 SCY, 1500 LCM, 1500 SCM.
















a. What type of meet announcement is this listed and where can it be found in the meet announcement?


Age Group, Far Westerns, Sectionals, National meets

Distance rules



b. See the following Entries for the 1000 Free, It is an 8-lane pool.

 <u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Seed Time</u>
 Athlete A	17	UN-PC	9:42.77 S
 Athlete B	16	UN-PC	8:52.68 L
 Athlete C	16	UN-PC	9:35.76 L
 Athlete D	14	UN-PC	9:50.68 L
 Athlete E	13	UN-PC	10:53.89 Y
 Athlete F	15	UN-PC	10:54.29 Y
 Athlete G	16	UN-PC	10:58.62 Y
 Athlete H	18	UN-PC	11:10.89 Y
 Athlete I	14	UN-PC	11:11.19 Y
 Athlete J	13	UN-PC	17:34.59 L
 Athlete K	16	UN-PC	18:36.42 S
 Athlete L	15	UN-PC	19:01.59 L
 Athlete M	12	UN-PC	20:13.79 L
 Athlete N	11	UN-PC	20:14.57



<u>Lane</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Seed Time</u>
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**Heat 1**

1	Athlete C	9:36.76 L
2	Athlete I	11:11.19 Y
3	Athlete G	10:58.29 Y
4	Athlete E	10:53.89 Y
5	Athlete F	10:54.29 Y
6	Athlete H	11:10.89 Y
7	Athlete B	8:52.68 L
8	Athlete D	9:50.68 L

**Heat 2**

1		
2	Athlete N	20:14.57 L
3	Athlete L	19:01.59 L
4	Athlete A	9:42.77 S
5	Athlete J	17:34.59 L
6	Athlete M	20:13.79 L
7	Athlete K	18:36.42 S
8		



Lane   Name   Seed Time

**Heat 1**

1	Athlete C	9:36.76 L
2	Athlete I	11:11.19 Y
3	Athlete G	10:58.29 Y
4	Athlete E	10:53.89 Y
5	Athlete F	10:54.29 Y
6	Athlete H	11:10.89 Y
7	Athlete B	8:52.68 L


8

**Heat 2**

1	Athlete K	18:36.42 S
2	Athlete M	20:13.79 L
3	Athlete J	17:34.59 L
4	Athlete D	9:50.48 L
5	Athlete A	9:42.77 S
6	Athlete L	19:13.79 L
7	Athlete N	20:14.57 L

8

**ACTUAL  
SEEDING**

- 
5. **After the 100 Free. A coach approaches you asking about the results. Coach thinks that the athlete has broken a record and that the posted results are incorrect. Coach states that it is very important that this situation be corrected. List the steps you would take to investigate.**

Athlete name, Event, Heat/Lane

Review the printed results.

Review the Colorado printout.

May need to review the Lane Timer sheet.




**Coach is adamant that the posted results are incorrect. You have shown the coach the results from the Colorado printout which support the posted results. What are your next steps?**

Tell the coach you need to consult with the Meet Referee and will get back to him in a few minutes.

Present all the information to the MR and your conclusions. Let the MR decide how they wish to handle the situation.






**6. On the last day of a Senior Preliminaries and Finals meet, a coach approaches you and asks why an athlete is not seeded in the event.**

**a. What do you think was the reason why an athlete was not seeded in the event?**

Most likely too many events

**b. What are the rules pertaining to this situation?**

Athlete was required to scratch events prior to scratch box close the day prior. Since they did not scratch, Admin scratches the required number of events starting from the last event going forward.



**c. The coach returns and explains that OME allowed him to enter and pay for all qualified events for his athlete. He was aware of the 6-event limit for the meet. He was told on Saturday that his swimmer was not eligible to swim on Sunday. He was not told by the Admin Referee that his athlete needed to scratch events prior to Sunday morning. He was not given the option to choose what events to scratch. He hoped that his athlete could swim his best event, the 100 Freestyle. What should you do now?**

It is the responsibility of the athlete to know the rules and to scratch events.  
You may ask the coach to give you a few minutes to consult with the Meet Referee.

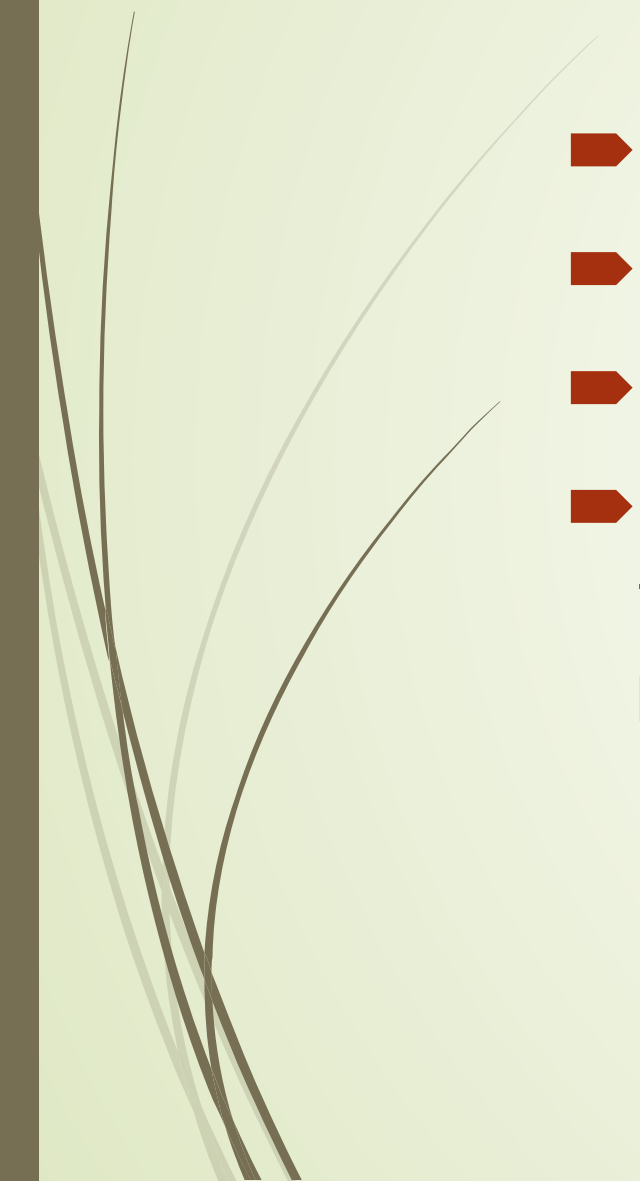
d. Bonus Question: How do you think this issue was resolved?

Possible Option: Lane was available in a heat of the 100 Free. Meet Referee was informed of the situation and that there was a lane available so that no heats would be split. Athlete was allowed to swim 100 Free and scratched from a different event.





# ACTUAL OUTCOME

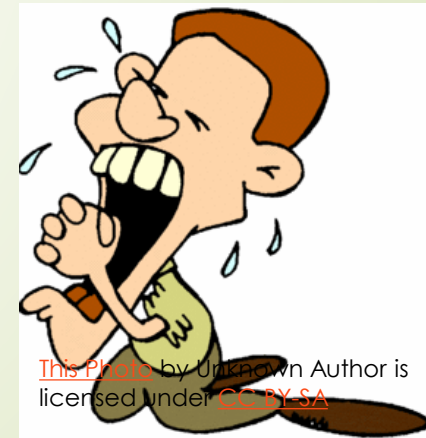
- Coach presented a written protest
  - The Meet Referee put it to the jury
  - Jury listened to the coach
  - Jury decided to allow the athlete to swim the 100 Free as an exhibition swim. He was required to scratch from the 100 Free finals (if qualified).
- 

# SCRATCH DESK



7. An athlete approaches you at the finals scratch desk and is ready to leave the facility. The athlete wants to scratch from an event closed 15 minutes ago. Would you allow the athlete to scratch?

The athlete cannot scratch and must compete in the Final event or be penalized.





## **What could happen with the permission of the Meet Referee...**

- Some meets have no penalty for missing a final event on the last day of the meet.
- The finals might not be seeded yet.
- It may be better not to have incomplete heats.
- It may give an athlete a second swim who might not have had an opportunity.



**8. A coach approaches you before the start of finals. The coach wants to scratch an athlete from a final event. What do you do?**

Ask the coach if the athlete was scratched into the event. If so, Admin can go down the results list to find an athlete willing to swim in the Finals.


If the athlete was a Finals qualifier, they are required to compete in the event or be penalized. If the coach persists, inquire why does the athlete want to scratch.

If the plea sounds reasonable, present the situation to the Meet Referee.





***Itchy and Scratchy***



**9. There is a medical scratch from a finals event. What are the consequences of a “medical scratch” What actions do you take?**

- Athlete name, event, heat/lane.
- Confirm that it is a medical scratch
- Inquire if the athlete has other finals event and if he/she is competing.
- Advise the coach/athlete that the Meet Referee will be asked if the medical scratch is accepted.
- If accepted, the next athletes or alternates that are eligible to swim will be asked if he/she is available to compete. Multiple athletes may need to be contacted.

**BE ADVISED: YOU MAY NOT ASK ANY DETAILS OF THE MEDICAL CONDITION.  
IT IS A VIOLATION OF THEIR RIGHTS TO INQUIRE.**

**10. A coach approaches you at the scratch desk. He states that he is scratching his entire club from all finals events because the club is leaving to return home. Do you allow it? What steps do you take?**

- a. Name of club leaving.
- b. Confirm that ALL athletes are leaving.
- c. Ask the coach to wait as you get a printout of all the club's athletes registered to meet.
- d. Have the coach sign the printout and the time.



# If the coach is unsure that all athletes are leaving...

- Advise the coach that all athletes will need to come to confirm that they are scratching from all remaining finals.
- Obtain a computer list of all the club's registered athletes.
- Each athlete will need to initial and write the time on the printout.
- They do not need to scratch each event individually.
- Admin must check all Finals events for these athletes.



## 11. What is a DFS?

A DFS is a Declared False Start: the athlete does not intend to compete in an event that has been seeded.

a. When can it be declared?

It may be declared at any time after the seeding and prior to the heat being started. It may not be declared during a Finals Event.

b. Does it count towards the athlete's event count?

Yes, it counts toward the day and meet event count. It is a disqualification. But the ref sheet still records – NS, DFS, and DQs

c. What if the athlete shows up to the block to compete?

The athlete is allowed to compete.

d. What do you do if the referee allows the athlete to compete?

You should request that the athlete's identity be confirmed.

12. An athlete does not report for their Time Trial event. What are the consequences?



The athlete is assessed a No Show for the event.  
It counts towards the day or meet total number of events.



**Suppose the athlete says they missed because they were feeling ill. The athlete is requesting to transfer the Time Trials entry form to tomorrow's Time Trials.**

Present the information and the athlete to the Time Trials Meet Referee.



**13. When pre-seeding events for the last day of the meet, what should you consider? Based on these items, what should you do?**

Exceptions printout

Contact Coach if athlete needs to scratch events. Remind the coach that it must be done by scratch box close deadline.





14. Here are the results for the Preliminary heats for a Sectionals meet. A and B finals, with C finals reserved for 18 and under and swimming in C, B, A order in an 8 Lane pool. How would you seed?

1)	Athlete A	17	1:53.13
2)	Athlete B	17	1:54.32
3)	Athlete C	15	1:55.08
4)	Athlete D	20	1:55.09
5)	Athlete E	17	1:55.25
6)	Athlete F	18	1:55.32
7)	Athlete G	21	1:56.13
8)	<del>Athlete H</del>	<del>19</del>	<del>1:56.74</del>
9)	Athlete I	21	1:57.19
10)	Athlete J	17	1:57.33
11)	Athlete K	17	1:57.76
12)	Athlete L	16	1:57.77
13)	Athlete M	15	1:57.78
14)	Athlete N	20	1:57.94
15)	Athlete O	16	1:57.98
16)	<del>Athlete P</del>	<del>18</del>	<del>1:58.08</del>
17)	Athlete Q	18	1:58.13
18)	Athlete R*	20	1:58.22
19)	Athlete S*	15	1:58.22
20)	Athlete T	15	1:58.58
21)	Athlete U	15	1:58.61
22)	Athlete V	16	1:58.72
23)	Athlete W	20	1:58.77
24)	<del>Athlete X</del>	<del>16</del>	<del>1:58.78</del>
25)	Athlete Y	21	1:59.18
26)	Athlete Z	15	1:59.25
27)	Athlete A1	16	1:59.34
28)	Athlete B1	18	1:59.37
29)	Athlete C1	18	1:59.51



# Do you need another piece of information?

- Swim-off between Athletes R and S
- Are there any scratches?
- Results of Swim-off: Athlete R wins.



## Heat 1 Bonus Final

1 Z

2 V

3 T

4 Q

5 S

6 U

7 X

8 A1

### Alternates

1 B1

2 C1

## Heat 2 Consolation Final

1 O

2 M

3 K

4 I

5 J

6 L

7 N

8 P

## Heat 3 Championship Final

1 G

2 E

3 C

4 A

5 B

6 D

7 F

8 H

### Alternates

1 Q

2 R



**What if E/K scratched?**



### Heat 1 Bonus Final

1 A1

2 X

3 U

4 S

5 T

6 V

7 Z

8 B1

### Alternates

1 C1

### Heat 2 Consolation Final

1 Q

2 O

3 M

4 J

5 L

6 N

7 P

8 R

### Heat 3 Championship Final

1 H

2 F

3 C


4 A

5 B


6 D

7 G

8 I



15. The Meet Referee shares the unpublished meet announcements with you and asks you to review it? What should you look for?



# Key points

- ▶ Listen carefully to the issue.
- ▶ Get all the information you need. Ask questions. Know the Meet Announcement.
- ▶ Come up with solutions.
- ▶ Execute all steps if it is within your jurisdiction. Keep the Meet Ref informed.
- ▶ Not your decision, present a brief concise review to the Meet Ref. Offer solutions and carry out the Meet Ref's decision.





**REMEMBER BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT GOES TO THE SWIMMER**

**HAVE FUN AND ENJOY THE LEARNING PROCESS**

**THANK YOU**

