

Basic Chief Judge

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What is a CJ? Is it for me?

John C. Gagliardo
Pacific Northwest Swimming (PNS)

Disclaimer / Acknowledgement

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Agenda

- Introductions
 - Who is this guy and why is he talking to us?
 - And you?
- What is a Chief Judge?
- What are some Traits of a Good CJ?
- What are the roles and responsibilities / Duties?
- Closing Remarks

What is a Chief Judge?

- As defined by USA-Swimming, 102.13.1:
An overall “Chief Judge” may assign and supervise the activities of all stroke, turn, place, and take-off judges and may report their decisions. If desired, any judging category may have a designated “Chief.” Any “Chief” may act as liaison for the judges and may serve simultaneously in one of the judging positions and shall assign those judges within the “Chief’s” category.

What is a Chief Judge? (cont.)

- In other words, to keep things sailing smoothly, a CJ is...
 - The Captain's [aka Meet Referee] representative to The Crew [Stroke & Turn Judges]
 - A liaison to the First Officer [Deck Ref] for The Crew
 - A mentor and a team leader... in short, the Meet's Chief Executive Officer

Traits of a Good CJ

- Organized but flexible
- High energy
 - Willing to do the overtime for scheduling assignments, evaluations, etc.
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Knowledgeable
- An upstanding soul
- Eyes and Ears
- Can be certifiable
 - Depending upon the LSC
- Be The Duck
 - Calm on the surface, paddling like heck underneath

Roles & Responsibilities: Prelude

- Coordinate with Meet, Deck, and Admin Refs
 - No-Shows
 - False Starts
 - DQ's
 - RTO's
 - Radio protocols/terminology
 - Special circumstances

Roles & Responsibilities: Prelude (cont.)

- Conducts the Officials meetings
 - ‘FIN’ Briefings
 - “Where am I?”
 - “You want me to do what?” (aka “The Dance”)
 - Oh, those lonely times...Distance events

Roles & Responsibilities: Prelude (cont.)

- Miscellaneous Other
 - Heat Sheets
 - Timer boards & watches
 - Bells / Lap counters / Count sheets
 - Radios to appropriate Assigned Crew
 - Radio Roll Call
 - Towels, refreshments, etc.

Roles & Responsibilities: The Main Event

- Eyes and ears of the Deck Ref
- Mentor the crew
- Process DQ's
 - Those all important questions:
 - What lane?
 - What did you observe?
 - What is the rule violation?
 - Reporting / recommendations to Deck Ref
 - The paperwork
 - Delivering the bad news -- Athlete notification
- Relays – Let the [organized] chaos begin!

Roles & Responsibilities: The Aftermath

The meet is done; are you? Hardly!

- Proper Manners
- Become a Collector
- Evaluations

In Closing...

- Chief Judge – the toughest job on deck you'll ever love
- Resources:
 - USA-Swimming has several wonderful items, including:
 - Officials manual / Guide to officiating – esp. Chapter 4 CJ
 - Stroke Briefing
 - Radio Protocols
 - Evaluation criteria/checklist (S&T, CJ, etc.)
 - FIN blog / Briefing in Rhyme – Officials Blog archive [1 Nov 2013]

Your Turn...

QUESTIONS?