



**TUALATIN HILLS
SWIM CLUB**

Tualatin Hills Swim Club Officials Orientation

Introduction

- Welcome!
- THSC has ~50 certified officials
- ~30 people have expressed interest in becoming officials
- Referees
- How many years have you been officiating?

Why are you here?

- Parents who just really love their kids
- Meet service hour requirements
- Feel a connection to the sport
- Free stuff
- Desire to give back to the swim community

Additional Benefits!

- Officials are required for swimmer's times to be valid
- Allows THSC to host and operate competitive meets
- Helps THSC get invited to meets hosted by other clubs



Still More Benefits!!

- Best view of the pool
- Access to your swimmer
- Build friendships
- Opportunities to work high-level meets

What Do Swim Officials Do?

- Trained volunteers who make sure swim meets run fairly, safely, and by USA Swimming rules
- Two paths within USA Swimming:
 - **Wet side:** Stroke & Turn Judges, Starter, Referee
 - **Dry side:** Administrative Officials (timing/results oversight)

Primary Position Descriptions

Stroke & Turn Judges – Observe races, ensure legal strokes/turns/finishes, report violations (DQ = coaching tool).

Starter – Ensures fair race starts, gives start commands, works closely with Referee. Usually requires 1+ year as Stroke & Turn.

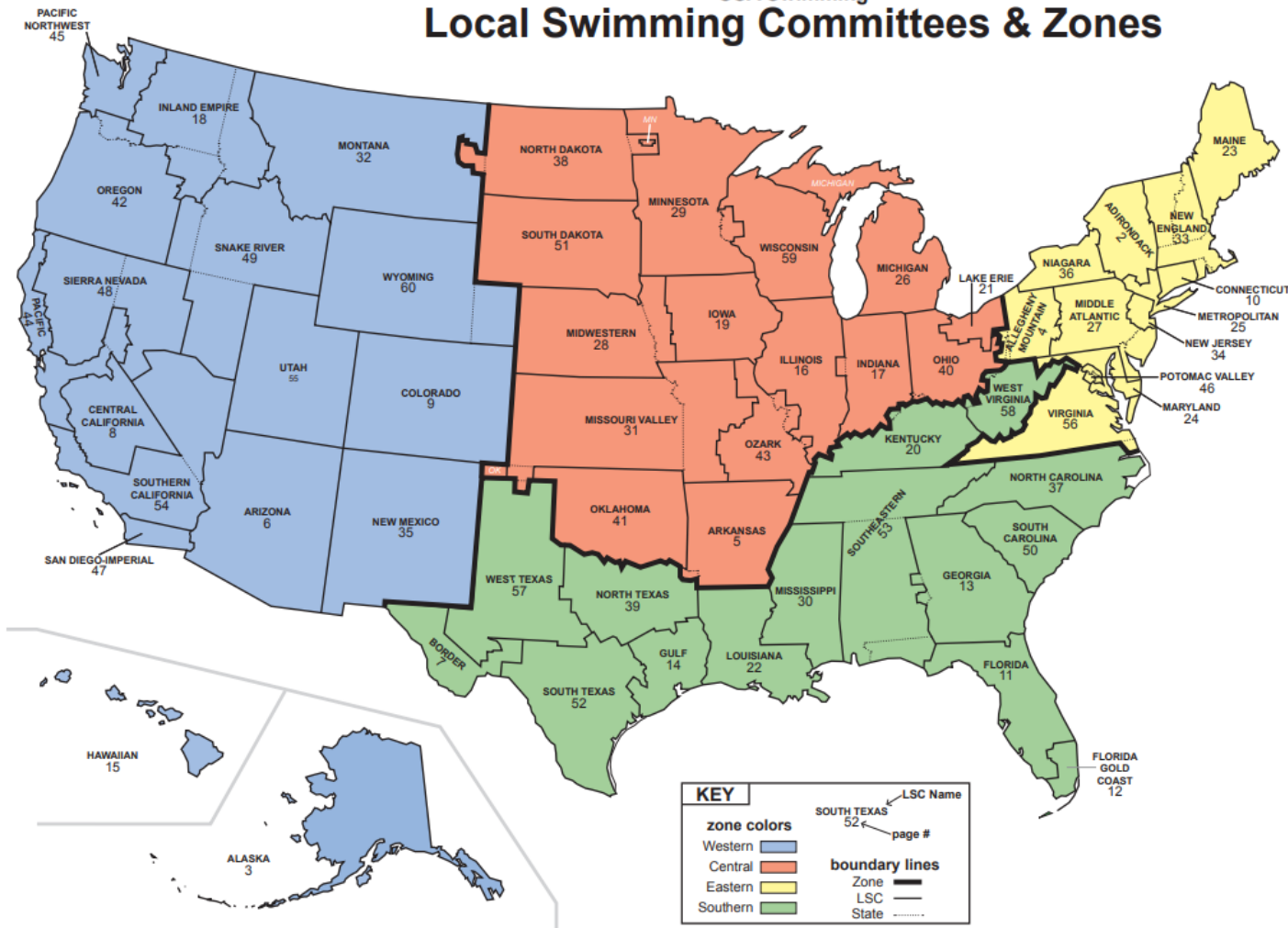
Referee – Overall authority at the meet, final decisions on rules/disputes. Typically 1+ year as Starter first.

Administrative Official (AO) – Manages timing, verifies results, ensures entries/times/DQs are correct.

How Do I Become a Certified Official?

1. Register as Non-Athlete w/ USA Swimming (~\$90)
2. Complete APT (Athlete Protection Training)
3. Complete Level 2 Background Check
4. Concussion Protocol Training
5. Online course: “Foundations of Officiating”
6. Take either Stroke & Turn OR AO certification course
7. Download training log
8. Email Matt/Johan: “I am ready to go on deck” (include test results + APT + Concussion certificates)
9. Begin shadowing certified officials → complete training sessions
10. Submit to Oregon Swimming → approval as certified official

USA Swimming Local Swimming Committees & Zones



How Do I Sign Up for a Meet

- **THSC meets:** Sign-up link on website + email (1–2 weeks prior)
- **Non-THSC meets:** Contact Meet Referee (must work at least one non-THSC meet for S&T/AO certification)
- Sign up for a **session** → expected to stay the full session

What to Expect at the Meet

- Read meet info → know start times + officials' meeting (usually 1 hour prior)
- Attend officials' meeting
- Wear the official's uniform
- Introduce yourself to Meet Referee & state training status
- Sign in on attendance sheet

Service Hours

- **THSC meets:** Hours credited for officials meeting + session. Meet Referee submits hours (may take up to a week).
- **Non-THSC meets:** Submit your own hours to coordinator. Provide proof (screenshot of meet history in USA Swimming profile).

Reimbursement

- After training completion → notify Matt/Johan → OSI approval
- Submit reimbursement request to THSC A/P for registration + background check costs
- After certification → THSC renews your USA Swimming registration annually (if actively officiating)

THSC Meet Schedule

October

- 10/11: Friday Night Thunder #1 & Intrasquad (MR: Liam McMahon)
- 17–19: Fall Open (MR: Matt Miller, Johan Van de Groenendaal)

November

- 7–9: November Open (MR: Audrey Lungershausen)
- 21: Friday Night Thunder #2

December

- 5–7: Holiday Classic
- 19: Friday Night Thunder #3

January–March

- Jan 16–19: NOT the Round Robin Dual Meet Championship
- Feb 6: Friday Night Thunder #4
- Feb 13–14: 6A-2 Metro District Championships
- Feb 15: Thunderbolt Last Chance (?)
- Feb 20–21: OSAA State Championships
- Feb 26–Mar 1: OSI 11–14 SC Championships (?)
- Mar 5–8: OSI Senior SC Championships (?)

Additional Information

- Annual Oregon Officials Expo – Saturday, October 4th at Pacific University
 - Rule updates
 - Best practices
 - Connect with fellow officials
 - Lead AO Training
- Oregon Swimming Website – Officials Page
- THSC Website – Officials Page
- USA Swimming Website
- Questions
 - Matt Miller (atlarge2@thunderboltswimming.org)
 - Johan van de Groenendaal (johanv.referee@gmail.com)