



**U.S. MASTERS  
SWIMMING**

## **USMS OFFICIALS**

- Resources
- Key points for non-USMS officials



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## Resources

[https://www.usms.org/gto/gto\\_officials](https://www.usms.org/gto/gto_officials)

1. Training materials (all positions)
2. Officials Listing
3. Briefing documents



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## **Key Points for USA/NCAA/YMCA/NFHS Officials**

1. No fly-over starts in short-course meets!
2. No critical timelines / 4-hour rule, run at athletes' pace.
3. Backstroke starts allowed in Freestyle events.
4. In-water starts for Breast & Fly can look like Backstroke starting position – legal.



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## **Key Points for USA/NCAA/YMCA/NFHS Officials**

5. Many athletes step up at short whistles, adjust pace.
6. If athlete misses heat, no substituting in empty lane later.  
WAIT to make sure all present are at the blocks.
7. 98% of movement on blocks is balance-related, not FS.  
Understand and judge accordingly.



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## **Key Points for USA/NCAA/YMCA/NFHS Officials**

8. Huge variety of starting positions, patience!
9. Many athletes compete without coaches, questions on DQs simply seeking information.
10. Of course....Breaststroke kick in Butterfly.
11. Warm-down allowed in lane.
12. NO TAPE! NO TIE SUITS! (except men)



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## Key Points for All

Encourage USA officials to become also USMS.

All teams hosting meets need USMS officials.

Appreciate all volunteers!

Questions?