

Southeast Ohio/West Virginia YMCA Swimming League Championships Backup Timer Instructions

PLEASE READ THESE!!! YOU MUST PERFORM YOUR DUTIES AS OUTLINED BELOW
TO OBTAIN ACCURATE RESULTS. IF YOU ARE RELIEVED, BE SURE
YOUR RELIEF PERSON READS THESE BEFORE THEY BEGIN.

Position yourself slightly behind the blocks near the assigned lane location.

Make sure you identify yourself to each lane timer you are backing up and where you will be positioned.

You should have **two** watches.

If you are not ready when a race begins, call out and wave your arms over your head to get the referee/starter's attention.

Start your watches at the flash of the strobe light on the starter's stand. The difference between the speed of light and that of sound can make your time be up to several 10ths off if you don't.

Immediately after the start of each race look to be sure your watches have started.

If signaled, go to that lane, and stand **DIRECTLY** over the end of the lane and look vertically down the end wall for the finish. Stop your watch at the instant any part of the swimmer's body **PHYSICALLY** touches the **TIMING PAD**. Use the first joint of your index finger to press the watch and do not swing your arm when starting or stopping. Don't concern yourself with the legality of the finish. The officials will take care of that.

Provide your watch time to the timer with the clipboard and return to your position.

If more than one of your lanes needs a backup time in the same heat, give the timers in one of the lanes one of your watches while you go to the second lane. Go back and reclaim your first watch after the heat.

Should you have more than two lanes needing a backup time, look for help from a timer in an empty lane or the backup timer on the opposite side of the pool. All timers have been instructed to start their watches even if their lane is empty.

ACCURATE watch times and backup button times are **VERY** important, even with the electronic timer. Occasionally pads and/or backup buttons malfunction. The official time may need to be determined by integration of pad time, backup button time and watch times.

Don't become over excited in a close race and forget to pay attention to the lanes you are backing up.

Do **NOT** coach swimmers, give advice, or cheer during a race. Congratulations after a race are in order.

The back of your clipboard has a QUIET, PLEASE notation. You may need to hold this up to help quiet the swimmers behind the blocks.