

Southern Vermont Swim League

***Changes to this policy are in Italic and areas have been updated as of 5/3/2017*

Policy for Stroke & Turn *and Starter* Judges

(Spring 2017)

For the purpose of maintaining an adequate reserve of qualified Stroke & Turn *and Starter* judges for the Southern Vermont Swim League, the Board of Directors establishes the following policy:

Purpose

Since Stroke & Turn *and Starter* judging is a vital part of any meet, it is the intent of the Board of Directors to establish a policy which shall perpetuate an active, competent cadre of volunteer judges at each team level. For the purpose of providing these judges at dual or league championship meets, the Board's intent is to establish its own league standards for Stroke & Turn *and Starter* judges, notwithstanding the certification requirements of other organizations.

Stroke & Turn Judge *and Starter Judge* Candidates

For the year 2003 *(and subsequent years following)*, each team within the SVSL shall furnish the names of four (4) individuals from their respective teams who shall be currently certified or who shall attend a Stroke & Turn *or Starter judge* clinic administered by a certified facilitator from New England Swimming. *(These Stroke and Turn or Starter Clinics will be provided free of charge to the Stroke and Turn or Starter volunteers. The SVSL will provide payment to New England Swimming for such clinics.)* In every subsequent year, each team shall furnish the names of at least two (2) additional individuals to attend such clinics. At no time shall each team have less than four (4) qualified Stroke & Turn judges *or (3) qualified Stroke and Turn and (1) qualified Starter* whose qualifications shall be determined by the SVSL Board of Directors. Such clinics shall be held *four to five times annually* between

May 1 and June 30, with an additional early July clinic for newly interested in-season parents at locations determined by the Board. The Vice President of the SVSL Board is responsible for the arrangement of Stroke and Turn Clinics and including at least one Starter Clinic within the dates described earlier in the policy. Also if needed, one Hy-tek Computer instruction will be scheduled for meets.

Stroke & Turn Judge Instruction

Individuals attending the stroke & turn clinics shall receive a minimum of one and a half (1 1/2) hours of instruction, unless altered by the facilitator. Immediately after instruction, each attendee shall, as a group, take the stroke & turn test. The tests shall also be graded and corrected as a group. *Upon completion of the clinic, each attendee shall receive a certificate of completion signed by the Vice President of the SVSL and a SVSL Official's Pin to be worn at competition meets.*

Starter Judge Instruction

Individuals attending a Starter Clinic shall receive a minimum of one and a half (1 1/2) hours of instruction, unless altered by the facilitator. It is recommended that the individual have 2 years of Stroke and Turn certification prior to attending a Starter Clinic. Upon completion of the clinic, each attendee shall receive a certificate of completion signed by the Vice President of the SVSL and a SVSL Official's Pin to be worn at competition meets.

Stroke & Turn Judge Apprenticeships

Each individual who has successfully completed the Stroke & Turn clinic shall serve an apprenticeship for one season. During that season, each apprentice shall attend and judge no less than three 4 dual meets. At each dual meet, each coach and/or certified Stroke & Turn judges shall review performance/evaluation with each apprentice at the end of or, when possible, during each meet. *At the end of his or her first season and after having judged at a minimum of four (4) dual meets, each attendee shall receive a certificate of completion signed by the Vice*

President of the SVSL and a SVSL Official's Pin to be worn at competition meets.

This certification shall enable the apprentice to judge during the SVLS Championship of the same season. This certification shall be contingent upon the apprentice attaining satisfactory evaluations or by becoming a USA Swimming certified stroke & turn judge. For subsequent seasons, the certification shall remain in effect so long as the apprentice shall re-attend the Stroke & Turn clinic every other year. At his or her discretion, each apprentice may elect to become certified by completing the requirements established by USA Swimming.

Starter Judge Apprenticeships

Not Available and none required.

Individual Meet Requirements

Each team shall supply two (2) Stroke & Turn judges for each dual meet. In the event that neither team has a certified judge, one must be provided, at league expense, for a fee to be determined annually. In the event that one team cannot provide the minimum number of judges, the competing team may provide additional judges to resolve the deficiency. Each team, however, which does not provide the requisite two (2) judges shall be assessed a league fine of \$50.00 for each judge not provided. No meet shall proceed without a minimum of *four (4) Stroke & Turn judges and one (1) Starter judge. Totaling five (5) judges per meet.*

League Championship Meet Requirements

Each team shall provide three (3) Stroke & Turn/ *Starter* judges for the League Championship meet. Any team which fails to provide the minimum number of judges shall be assessed a league fine of \$50.00 for each judge not provided.

League Stroke & Turn *and Starter* Coordinator (Typically the Vice President of the SVSL)

Each year the Board shall appoint an individual to enforce and enact the provisions of this policy. The responsibilities of this coordinator shall include but not be limited to: scheduling and organizing the annual Stroke & Turn *and Starter* clinics; assigning and scheduling stroke & turn judges for each dual meet throughout the season; assigning and scheduling stroke & turn judges for the annual League Championship meet; scheduling outside certified stroke & turn judges for meets, if necessary; monitoring the evaluation of judges; facilitating with team coordinators the provisions of this policy; and recommending changes or amendments to the stroke & turn policy.

Team Coordinators (Typically Team President/Parent/Head Coach)

Each team shall appoint a team coordinator to enact the provisions of this policy. Each coordinator shall report to the League Stroke & Turn *and Starter Judge* Coordinator. The responsibilities of the team coordinator shall include: submitting individual names for attendees at the annual Stroke & Turn *and Starter* clinics; furnishing Stroke & Turn *and Starter* judge schedules for his/her team for each dual meet of the season; adding, replacing, or substituting judges for each dual meet when necessary; furnishing names of Stroke & Turn *and Starter* judges from his/her team for the League Championship *and the Vermont State Meet*; and monitoring his/her team's compliance with this policy.

Timelines

Each season, the League Stroke & Turn *and Starter Judge* Coordinator and Team Coordinators shall adhere to the following timelines:

By May 15th, each team shall furnish to the League Coordinator a list of all participants for the annual Stroke & Turn *and Starter Judge clinics*.

By July 1st, the League Coordinator shall have compiled a list of all Stroke & Turn *and Starter* judges assigned to the League Championship Meet.

Amendments

The Board of Directors shall have the final authority of enforcing this policy. Any amendments to this policy shall be at the direction of the Board.