

## **Southern Vermont Swim League Policy for Stroke & Turn Judges (fall, 2003)**

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

### **Purpose**

Since stroke & turn 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 judges, notwithstanding the certification requirements of other organizations.

### **Stroke & Turn Judge Candidates**

For the year 2003, 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 clinic administered by a certified facilitator from New England Swimming. 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 whose qualifications shall be determined by the SVSL Board of Directors. Such clinics shall be held twice annually between May 1 and June 15 at locations determined by the Board.

### **Stroke & Turn 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 an apprentice card.

### **Stroke & Turn 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 (3) 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 these meets, each coach, certified stroke & turn judge, or the meet referee/starter shall complete an evaluation sheet on each apprentice and sign his/her apprentice card. At the end of his or her first season and after having judged at a minimum of four (4) dual meets, such apprentice

shall be issued a card, at the discretion of the Board, establishing that apprentice as a certified SVSL stroke & turn judge. 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.

### **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 three (3) stroke & turn judges.

### **League Championship Meet Requirements**

Each team shall provide three (3) stroke & turn 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 Coordinator**

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 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; providing apprentice and certified judge cards to individuals; 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**

Each team shall appoint a team coordinator to enact the provisions of this policy. Each coordinator shall report to the League Stroke & Turn Coordinator. The responsibilities of the team coordinator shall include: submitting individual names for attendees at the annual stroke & turn clinics; furnishing stroke & turn 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 judges from his/her team for the League Championship; and monitoring his/her team's compliance with this policy.

**Timelines**

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

By May 15<sup>th</sup>, each team shall furnish to the League Coordinator a list of all participants for the annual stroke & turn clinic.

By June 10<sup>th</sup>, the League Coordinator shall have completed a schedule of stroke & turn judges for all dual meets, depicting the names of each judge for each meet.

By June 15<sup>th</sup>, the League and Team Coordinators shall have verified with each individual judge his/her schedule for each dual meet.

By July 1<sup>st</sup>, the League Coordinator shall have compiled a list of all stroke & turn 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.