



Being A Northwest Aquatic League Official

Why have Officials?

- Provide fair and equal setting for competition.
- Keep meet moving along smoothly and quickly.

Why have disqualifications?

- Prevent swimmers from gaining unfair advantage.
- Help to identify and stop improper practices before they become habits.
- You are assisting the coach in teaching.

Things to remember as an official

- Look like an official – dress properly.
- Use of NWAL approved shirts. Logo is trademarked.
- Behave like an official
 - Raise hand when you make a call
 - Be friendly and courteous to swimmers and adults
 - Show that you have confidence in yourself
 - Officials should be colorblind

Work as a team with other officials – This is our emphasis!

- Be in the right position and know your jurisdiction (4 W's)
 - Where were you?
 - Was this your jurisdiction?
 - What did you see?
 - What was the rule infraction?
- Watch others
- Learn where to watch (go to swim practices to hone your skills)
- Call only what you are sure you saw
- Let the referee resolve disputes and protests

Remember that officials are judged by a different standard than the swimmers. (Our children are expected to make mistakes; we are not.)