

The doubt is on the benefit of the Swimmer



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FINA Rules. Introduction

Introduction

Any discussion of officiating and a manual to assist with that activity must be based on a sound understanding of the rules.

The basis for the rules of swimming are found in the rules used by the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA)

Officials must apply the rules intelligently at all times, using common sense and good judgement



"Fairness to all competitors, giving the benefit of the doubt, in every instance, to the swimmer."

Officiating. Basic Concepts

Basic Concepts

- 1.- Take officiating seriously and work hard at it.
- 2.- Work regularly at the job.
- 3.- Be professional in manner.
- 4.- Dress properly uniform

“Decisions must be subject to flexible judgment and common sense. Ugly is not necessarily illegal” .



Officiating. Basic Concepts

1. Take officiating seriously and work hard at it.

Competitors has a right to expect officials to know the rules and interpret them correctly, fairly and courteously.

- Study FINA rules
- Uniformly apply rules regardless of the level of the swimmers.
- Call violations as seen, don't guess or anticipate.
- Be fair and consistent. Always give the swimmer the benefit of the doubt.
- Exercise good judgment



“Officiating seriously. Always give the swimmer the benefit of the doubt”

Officiating. Basic Concepts

2. Work regulary at the job.

- Officials need practice, just as competitors do.
- Working regulary builds confidence.
- Attend training sessions regulary to keep up with the rules changes and new interpretations.
- There is no substitute for experience.



“Officials need practice”



100m breaststroke gameplay.wmv

Officiating. Basic Concepts

3. Be professional in manner

- Fairness to all competitors must dictate actions.
- Dress properly.
- Make decisions quickly and decisively.
- Avoid coaching swimmers.
- Refrain from cheering-control your emotions.
- Don't fraternize with swimmers, coaches or spectators during competition.
- Admite a mistake if wrong: competitor's welfare is more important than your own ego.



Be professional in manner



SOMETIMES THINGS ARE NOT WE LOOKS LIKE

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Officiating. Basic Concepts

4. Dress properly uniform.

Officials look more “official” if dressed properly.

“White means white” even almost is not a problem of colours.

Be professional: attitude, dress code,...



Focus points of the rules

The Focus point of the Rules are:

- ❖ **Aknowledgment**
- ❖ **Interpretation**
- ❖ **Application**
- ❖ **DQ call**

It is important always to make a self evaluation after the competition



Focus points of the rules

1. Acknowledgment

Know the rules and apply them consistently to all swimmers.

Points of self evaluation.

1. Did I blow any call?
2. Where there any time when it was fortunate that I did not have to make a call?
3. Did I do everything I could to ensure a just outcome?
4. Were my call/decisions consistent...



Focus points of the rules

2. Interpretation

The question is: **Why aren't the rules written so clearly that we don't need interpretation?**

There are sometimes situations where there are not right or wrong answers.

Let's not write rules to cover these strange and rare possibilities. Leave something for the officials to decide.



“The competent swimming official is a judge of the competition not a judge of the rules”

Focus points of the rules

3. Application

The swimmer can not break a rule that is not in the rules.

Be in position to observe and be attentive.

- 1) Call what you see, see what you call.
- 2) Benefit of the doubt goes to the swimmers in all cases.
- 3) Do not be afraid to discuss a call with a head judge or the referee.



“You can always “take back” a call but you can not make a late call”



kevinunderwater.wmv

Focus points of the rules

4. DQ call

Questions you should ask yourself

- 1) Are you 100% absolutely certain of what you saw.
- 2) Can you explain regarding the infraction and describe what you saw?
- 3) Where you in the correct position to see the infraction?
- 4) Was it your call?
- 5) Was it beyond a doubt?
- 6) How I need write the official DQ form?
- 7) ...?



“You should make a call if and only if you can answer to all questions”

Focus points of the rules



Are you 100% sure?



TaraKirk_codos.wmv

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Focus points of the rules

4. DQ call

Be prepared to accurately answer the “3 Questions” from the Chief Judge or the Referee, is asked. with the language of the rulebook.

1. Where were you (Jurisdiction)
2. What did you see (Description)
3. What rule was broken (Infraction)



“Must be based on personal observation”

Focus points of the rules

4. DQ call

Fill out the disqualifications report using the Swimming Rule Quick Reference Infraction card.

1. Immediately after lowering your hand, write details: heat/lane infracción...
2. Know event, heat and lane without doubt..
3. Check the applicable boxes...

Swimming Rule Quick Reference Infraction Card

This card is to assist as a quick reference guide for Judges of Stroke, Inspector of Turns. It must not be used as a substitute for the thorough knowledge of FINA Rules

STARTS	FINA RULE
Any swimmer starting before the starting signal will be disqualified	SW 4.4

FREESTYLE SWIMMING	FINA RULE
Form stroke swum in Freestyle leg of medley	SW 5.1
Swimmer did not touch the wall at the turn	SW 5.2
Swimmer's head did not surface at or before 15m mark following the start or turn	SW 5.3
Swimmer totally submerged (except for first 15m at start & turn)	SW 5.3
Swimmer walked or pushed off the bottom of the pool	SW 10.4

BACKSTROKE SWIMMING	FINA RULE
Swimmer left position on the back (other than to execute continuous turning action)	SW 6.2
Swimmer totally submerged, except in first 15m following the start, turn or finish	SW 6.3
Swimmer executed arm pull, kick independently of turning whilst off the back	SW 6.4
Swimmer did not touch the wall during the turn	SW 6.4
Swimmer stood on the bottom of the pool	SW 10.4

BUTTERFLY SWIMMING	FINA RULE
Body not on the breast (except when executing a turn)	SW 8.1
Arms not brought forward over the water	SW 8.2
Arms not brought forward together	SW 8.2
Arms not brought backward simultaneously	SW 8.2
Movements of the feet not simultaneous	SW 8.3
Alternating movement of legs of feet	SW 8.3
Swimmer used breaststroke kick	SW 8.3
Touch at finish or turn with one hand, or touch not simultaneous	SW 8.4
Swimmer's head did not surface at or before 15m mark following the start or turn	SW 8.5
Swimmer totally submerged (except in first 15m after start and turn)	SW 8.5
More than one arm pull under water (following start or turn)	SW 8.5
Swimmer stood on the bottom of the pool	SW 10.4

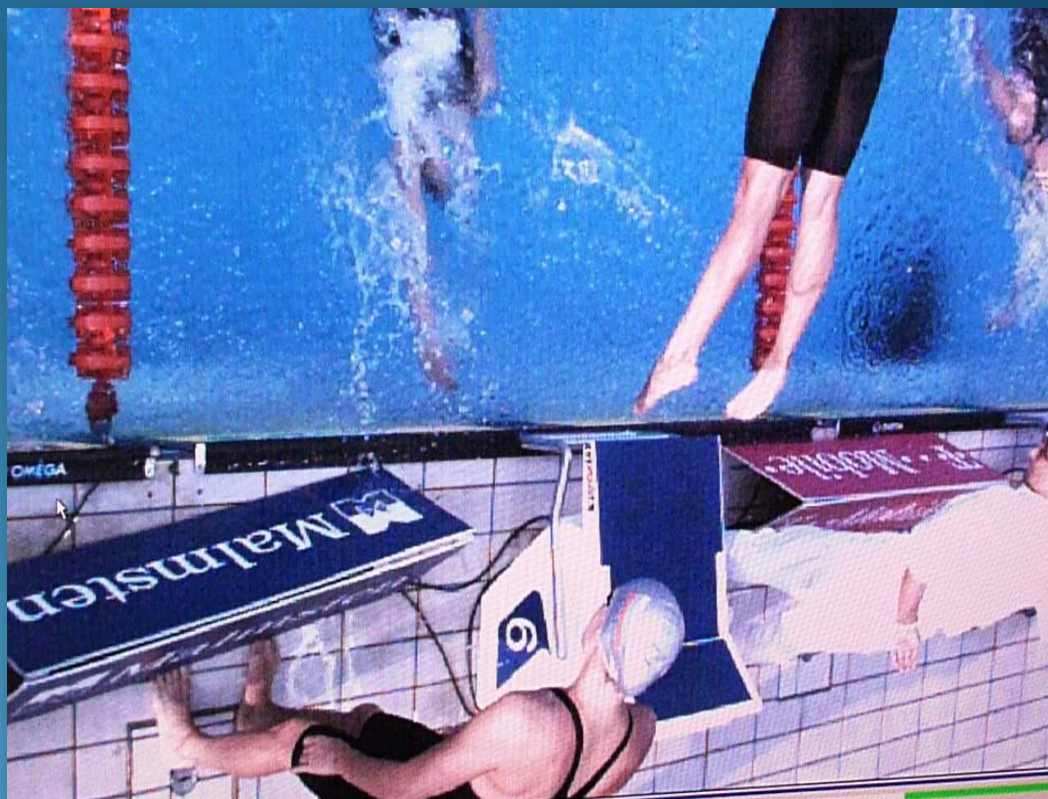
“This card is to assist as a quick reference. It must not be used as a substitute of FINA rules”

Focus points of the rules

4. DQ call

Do everything to ensure a just outcome.

Even if you are sure, try to use all the information available.



“ Check always information available ”

Underwater Video Judging



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Focus points of the rules. Self evaluation

Starting Points of self evaluation after a meet.

1. Did I blow any call.
2. Where there any time when it was fortunate that I did not have to make a call.
3. Did I do everything I could to ensure a just outcome.
4. Were my call/decisions consistent.
5. Did I fail to mantain proper control at any time.
6. When did I feel most vulnerable to outside influence.
7. Were there any situations where I avoided or usurped responsability for a ruling at the expense of another official.....



“You can only answer question about yourself”

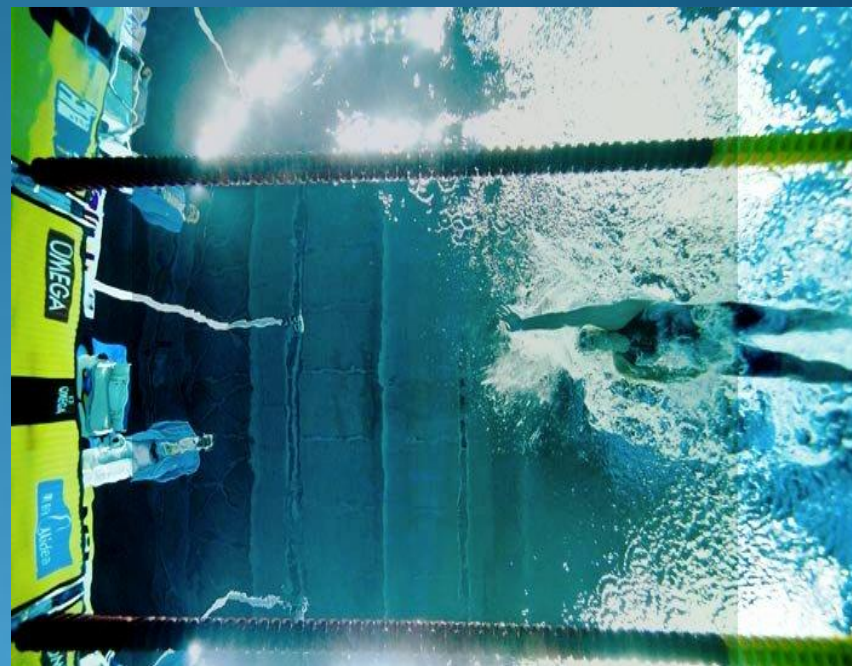
Focus points of the rules. Self evaluation

Another Points of self evaluation after a meet.

Did I...

1. ...Arrive at the meet site on time?
2. ...Dress smartly and appropriately?
3. ...Give the proper signals (whistle, raised hand..) in an appropriate manner?
4. ...Maintain proper positioning?
5. ...Treat all participants with the appropriate amount of respect

...



“Did I maintain proper positioning”

Qualities of a good official

- Calm
- Alert
- Delegator
- Knowledgeable
- Communicator
- Experienced
- Confident
- Professional
- Team player
- Proactive
- Interpersonally skilled
- Fair...



“All the qualities are to better serve swimmers... and other officials”

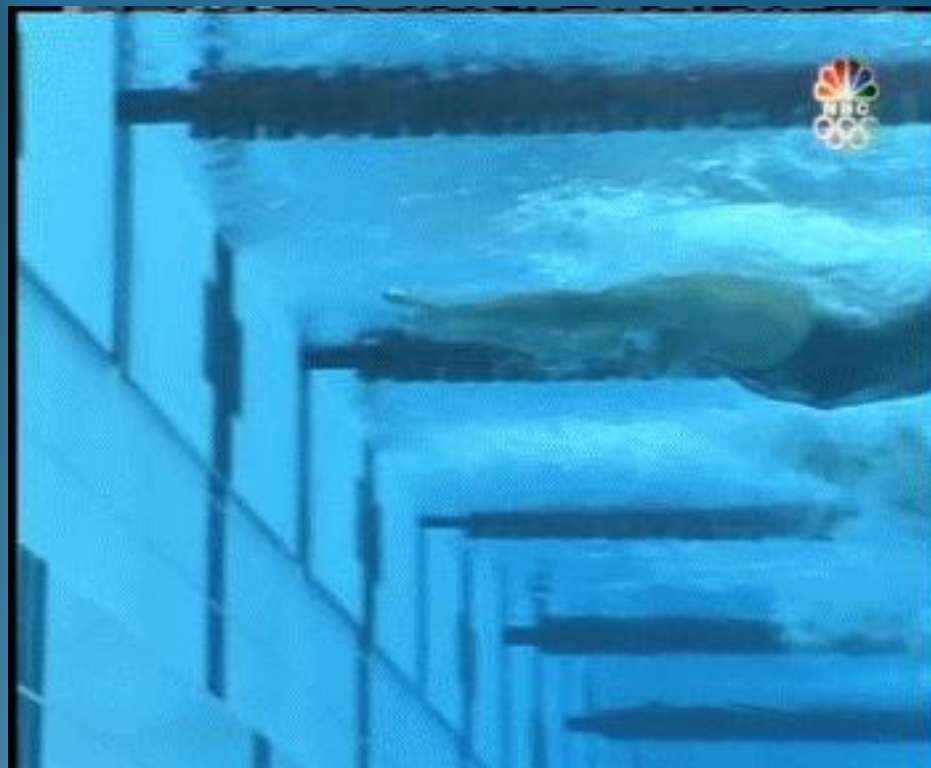
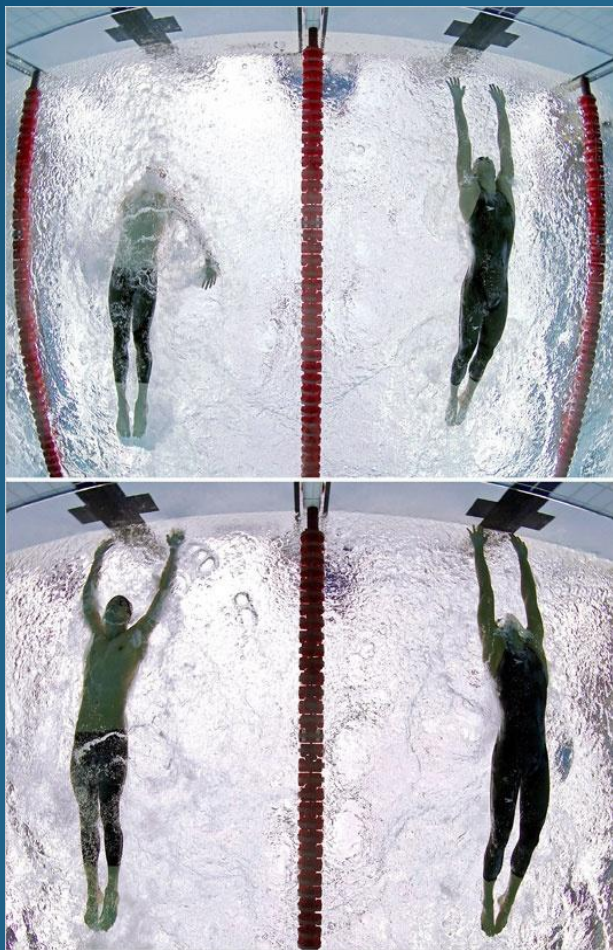
Are you sometime in a doubt ?



It seems we looks like?

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Are you sometime in a doubt ?



100maripallegada.pekin.avi

Who won Phelps or Cavic?

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The doubt is not only on the benefit
of the swimmer



**THE DOUBT IS ALSO ON THE
BENEFIT OF THE GOOD OFFICIAL**

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Bibliography

- ✓ FINA Workbook for officiating.
- ✓ LEN Competition Handbook
- ✓ Guide to officiating.USA
Swimming Officials Committee.
- ✓ Manual for officiating.SPAIN
Swimming officials Commitee.
- ✓



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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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