

INSPECTOR OF TURNS

The Inspector of Turns (IOT) must read, know and understand the swim rules that govern swimming in New Zealand. They must be fair and make sure that rules are complied with. If a stroke rule is broken either at the start or at the turn they must be very sure of what they saw. There is no middle ground, if there is doubt it must go to the swimmer at all times.

Start End of Course

The Inspector of Turns assignment begins with the Referee's whistle. At that stage they should move up behind the starting block. At the start signal IOT's should step up onto the end of the pool and remain there until the end of the race except for Freestyle and Backstroke. The IOT should observe that the take-off and commencement of the stroke being swum do comply with the rule. Your jurisdiction ends with the finish of the first stroke at the start and from the beginning of the last stroke to the end of the first stroke when turning, at that stage the Referee or Stroke Inspector takes over.

At the Finish of the Race

The Inspector of Turns shall make sure that the swimmer or swimmers touch the wall correctly as set out by the rule for the stroke that is being swum.

800 – 1500 Metre Races

The IOT at the start end must signal, either by whistle or bell, to warn the swimmer that they have two lengths plus 5 metres of the pool to swim. They should be warned approximately two to three body lengths out from the wall.

Turning End of Course

The IOT jurisdiction begins at the fifteen metre mark. They should step up when the first swimmer approaches the fifteen metre mark and watch the swimmers approach the wall, making sure that the rule for the stroke being swum is complied with. They should then watch the swimmer or swimmers leaving the wall, making sure they comply with the stroke rule in regard to the first arm stroke and leg movements. Your jurisdiction ends with the completion of the first stroke from the wall at which stage the Stroke Inspector or Referee takes over. When the last swimmer passes fifteen metres all step down.

800 – 1500 at Turning End

The IOT will have lap counters to look after, these should be turned after completion of each lap plus 10m. The lap counters should be visible to the Chief IOT.

The Chief IOT should stand off to the side of the pool and complete a master sheet – as do the Referee and Inspector of strokes or others appointed by the Referee.

Disqualifications

IOT's must be very sure of what they saw. If an infringement of the stroke being swum has occurred the IOT should immediately attract the attention of the Chief IOT or the Stroke Inspector and let them know that an infringement of the rules has occurred. Step aside and attend to the DQ Slip, note time of occurrence on DQ slip and hand to the Chief IOT or the Stroke Inspector.

If a protest is lodged against your decision you may be required to report what you saw to the Jury of Appeal.

General

The Referee or the Chief IOT will allocate you to your lanes at the start of the meet and will tell you if there are any special rules that may be in place for the meet. They will also mention breaks that may occur during the session. You will need to be aware of the type of signal that is required by your Chief IOT or Stroke Inspector, i.e. after each turn or last turn. Maybe a hand movement or nod of head would be sufficient.

IOT's should remain over end of assigned lane may be asked to usher swimmers across pool at start end. They may also be asked to take a watch as 3rd watch on lane at start end.

Avoid turning away before swimmer has reached the 15 metre mark from turn or start.

Wear solid / sensible shoes. Wet surfaces, stepping up and down from walls can be hazardous.