

# Technical Officials Newsletter Number 2

## July 2005



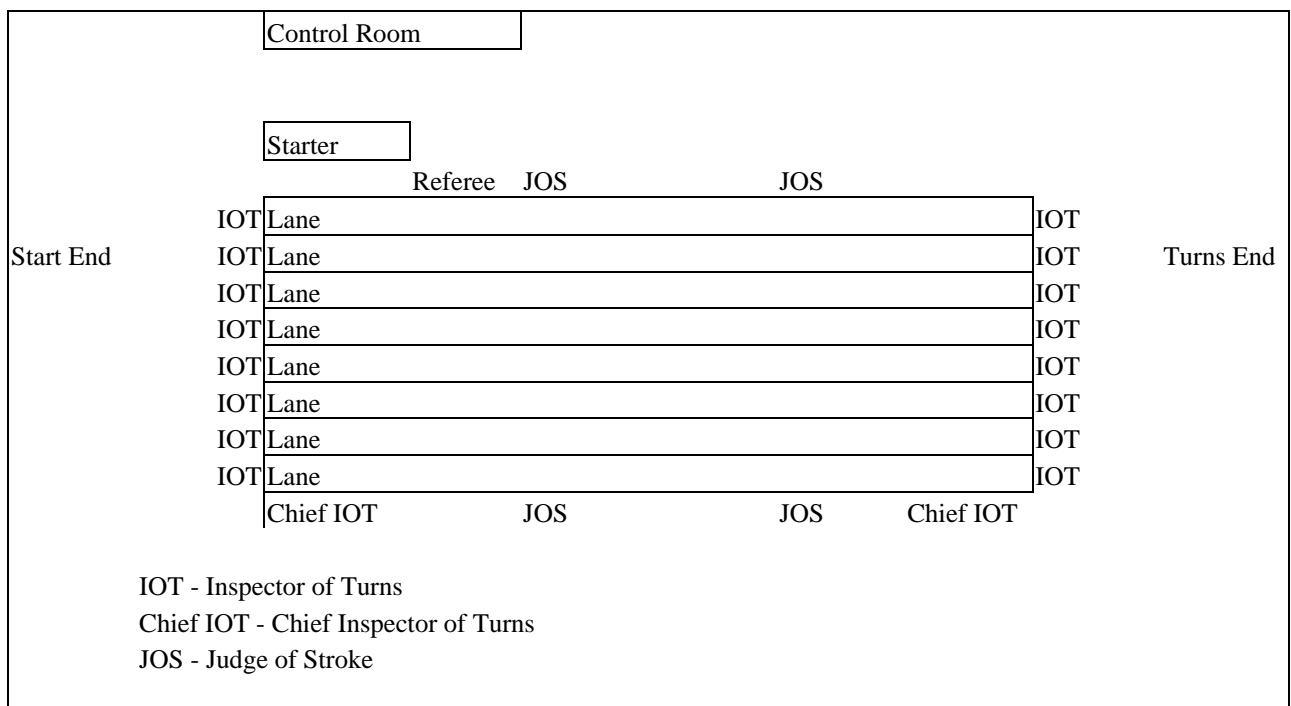
The main points from the SNZ Technical Panel minutes for the meeting held in November 2004 and May 2005 are as follows:

- **Technical Forms:** Updated forms are available on the website. These are dated November 2004, we are in the process of further updating the forms and these will be released shortly. The Technical Committee would like these used throughout the country to get consistency. These will be discussed again and may be updated.

*Rationale: If we can standardise the forms throughout the country at National Meets it will make it easier for officials and swimmers*

- **Signals on Pool Deck:** There is a need to use the same signals through out the country for consistency.

If DQ or problem – go straight to referee, then fill out form afterwards.



JOS – that saw infraction to leave position immediately and move towards Referee, the second JOS on that side of the pool then to cover the full length of the pool. One JOS should always be on the 15m at the start and the turn. At the turns the JOS closest to the turn end goes to where they can see the turn, and the other JOS stands on the 15m mark. In breaststroke the JOS is to look at the head and the hands to ensure that the head breaks the surface of the water before the hands turn inward at the widest part of the second stroke.

At the start of Breaststroke and Butterfly IOT's at the start end are to stand on the referees whistle. At the turns and finish of all races turn end IOT's are to stand when the first swimmer passes the 15m mark (false start rope) and are to remain standing throughout the race. After the last swimmer has turned turn end IOT's are to sit down once the last swimmer has passed the 15m mark after the turn. At the finish IOT's are to sit down once their swimmer has completed the race should there be no infraction.

IOT technique for observing turns: Just prior to the swimmer touching the wall cast your eyes down the end of the pool to inspect the swimmer making the touch. Keep you eyes cast down the end of the pool until the swimmers feet loose contact with the wall. Then look up to see if the swimmer is conforming with the stroke rules.

IOT technique for observing relay changeovers: Watch the feet of the swimmer on the block. Once the swimmers feet loose contact with the block look down to see if the previous swimmer has touched the wall. The IOT should try and position themselves so they can see both the feet leaving the block and the incoming swimmer touching.

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If an IOT sees an infraction then they should step down from the end of the pool so Chief IOT can see that there is an issue. The Chief IOT then comes past the IOT to check what the issue is. The Chief IOT then goes to the referee to advise that there is a disqualification on it's way. He then goes back to collect the disqualification form.

If the infraction happens at the finish of the race the IOT should stay standing. The Chief IOT then comes past the IOT to check what the issue is. The Chief IOT then goes to the referee to advise that there is a disqualification on its way. He then goes back to collect the disqualification form

JOS – sitting down in 800m & 1500m. It was agreed that if the sessions were 3-4 hours on pool deck then JOS can sit down during the 800m & 1500. They are to sit at the 15m mark..

*Rationale: If we can standardise the movement around the pool deck throughout the country Technical Officials will know what is expected from them at all meets.*

- **Inspector of Turns:** If an IOT is watching two lanes the IOT needs to decide which one they are going to watch if the swimmers were coming in together. If there is more than one turn alternate the swimmer you are watching.

*Rationale: To ensure that the whole turn is seen.*

- **Turning Lap Counters:** lap counters are to be turned when the swimmer has reached the 15m mark after the turn. Once the swimmer has completed the last turn the lap counters are to be laid flat or removed from the pool deck. The lap counters are to be on the side of the block closest to the Chief Inspector of Turns.

*Rationale: If the lap counters are turned too early the swimmer may look for the number of laps and be out by two laps.*

- **Disqualifications at 50m Start:** When the JOS starts the 50m race and there is a disqualification at the start the referee should sign the disqualification slip as the referee.

*Rationale: This is to clarify who is responsible for signing the disqualification slip. The session referee signs the slip as they are signing the result sheet.*

- **Over the Tops Starts:** For backstroke starts the swimmers are to move 1m from the wall and hang on the lane rope. For dive starts swimmers to be at the wall holding the lane rope. When changing from backstroke to a dive start clear the pool.

*Rationale: This is to ensure that the races that start with a dive the swimmers have a clear view directly under them at the start.*

- **Swimming Rule Infractions Quick Reference Card:** This is to be further updated after the Congress meeting in Montreal and then distributed to regions etc.

*Rationale: This will bring the infraction card up to date after any rule changes in Montreal*

- **Referees Judging places at finishes:** A discussion was held as to referees judging at the finish of races. At international level referees do not judge finishing places. It was recommended that this was a personal choice.

*Rationale: Some referees like to place the finishes to ensure the results are correct. However, it should be remembered that the referee should not be carrying too much on pool deck.*

- **If there is an infraction prior to the start of a race** this should be addressed prior to starting the event i.e. if a swimmer has their toes out of the water they are to be requested to put their toes under the water line prior to the starting signal. If a swimmer does not have at least one foot at the front of the block prior to the start the starter should request that they put one foot forward prior to starting the race.

*Rationale: If the infraction can be remedied prior to the start the swimmer should be assisted in remedying the infraction.*