



Competition Newsletter

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

September 2009

Swimming New Zealand - Something Extraordinary

2009 Trans Tasman Tri Series – Officials’ Experience

Not even Swine Flu was going to stop this team taking on the Aussies! As we met the rest of the team at Auckland airport there was something special in the air. Dean Kent, as always, provided wise words and encouragement for the next generation before we embarked on the week long whirl-wind tour, taking in three towns and six meets.

The pools were all different -

Melbourne (2006 CWG pool) was light and spacious with good equipment. The local officials welcomed us warmly and it provided a very positive start to the tour. Working with their AOD system (including sensed blocks) was a learning point for us as Referees, especially for the relay changes.

Wodonga was a bit of a challenge as it was just a local pool with very little space. We had a few glitches with the equipment but in true Kiwi style we coped just fine.

The AIS pool was amazing and we weren’t even using their main pool! The blocks were sensed and had an adjustable upstand for the swimmer’s rear foot. The score board was a good size and easy to read.... which was terrific when the final race (medley relay) was won by our Kiwi girls!

The tour was an incredibly valuable learning curve. It was also a great opportunity to share ideas with the Australians. Interestingly, we realised that the standard of officiating in New Zealand is very high and we felt, in some respects, we are ahead of the Australians.

Trans Tasman is a unique opportunity for officials to be a real part of a team rather than a group separate from the manager, swimmers & coaches. We were included in team meetings and our input was encouraged and respected. The positive behaviour on and off the pool deck made us proud to be part of the team.

We urge any official who’s up for a challenge to apply!

Barbara Linton and Yvonne Voss

Officials Forum

SNZ held an Officials Forum on Saturday 12 September for two delegates from each region. The purpose of the Forum was to provide advice on officiating in New Zealand and to develop consistency across the SNZ regions.

A Memo with the key points discussed at the Officials Forum is on the [SNZ website](#).

The start of something extraordinary





Perry Foundation Support

SNZ is pleased to advise that Perry Foundation has given \$15,000 towards officials out of region travel and accommodation for national competitions. Please see the [Memo](#) for more information.

Officials Assessment System

After coming through the second season of officials' assessments, the standard of officiating at national competitions has reached a new level and the TAC is very proud of what they have done as a committee and the performance of the officials.

The TAC made the decision to assess chief inspector of turns. Assessment documents will be created and will take effect at the 2009 NZ Spring Competition.

Another assessment line has been added to the starter and referee assessment documents in relation to false starts and they are on the web.

Technical Officials Guide

The Technical Officials Guide includes all the information you need to know about National Technical Officials roles, criteria for National Qualifications and more. The Guide was updated in May and can be found on the SNZ website [here](#).

SNZ Officials Shirts

Due to the significant cost associated with providing SNZ Officials shirts at national competitions, timekeepers will be required to wear their own white tops/shirts. If the timekeepers have received a white SNZ official's shirt in the past then they are required to wear the SNZ shirt.

Black pants/skirts are still the SNZ uniform for all SNZ National Competitions. Black shoes are not compulsory.

FINA Rules for Swimwear Approval

FINA has published two documents relating to the Rules for Swimwear Approval. The [Transitory regulation](#) is valid until 31.12.2009. From 1 January 2010 swimmers will need to comply with the [Regulation valid for swimwear to be used from 01.01.2010](#).

Appointments to International Committees

Swimming New Zealand is pleased to advise that John West has been appointed as a member of the FINA Technical Open Water Swimming Committee and Ross Bragg has been appointed to the Competition Technical Rules and Regulations Working Group for the International Paralympic Committee.

Our congratulations go to John and Ross on their appointments.

Late withdrawal of relay team

The TAC have made the decision that if a relay team is forced to withdraw late from a final due to illness of a team member, then the team may replace the ill swimmer and swim as exhibition, only if there is no substitute team to replace them.

Reporting for marshalling

For timed finals, the fastest heat (which is swum in the finals session) will not need to marshal in the heats.



JOS placement when only 1 swimmer

For races when there is only 1 swimmer, for example at NZ Junior Champs, the judge of stroke is only required to walk the pool deck if the swimmer is on their side of the pool.

CRS doing trophy calculations

At national competitions, the control room supervisor will not only be required to check New Zealand records but also look after any trophies pertaining to the competition such as Club Points.

TAC Meeting Update – May

The [TAC Update](#) from the May Meeting is on the SNZ website. The Update covers the points that were discussed at this meeting.

Team Managers Meetings – non-attendance

The TAC is considering a fine for non-attendance of regions at the Team Managers Meeting at national competitions as per the new FINA rules.

Technical Officials info on web

The Technical Officials section of the website is located in 'Technical Information' under the 'Competition' section of the SNZ website
<http://www.swimmingnz.org.nz/competition/technical-information>

Technical Officials Applications

2010 National Competitions

The Officials Application Form for 2010 National Competitions is now on the SNZ website. Please fill out the form and return it to Libby at libby@swimmingnz.org.nz by Friday 9th October. Appointments will be made at the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting 10-11 October.

2010 Oceania Swimming Championships

The 8th Oceania Swimming Championships will be held in Samoa from 21-26 June 2010. Applications are invited for Technical Officials for this competition. Applications close Wednesday 30 September 2009.

Officials will travel at their own expense.

2009 NZ Tri Series Competition

The 2009 New Zealand Tri Series Competition is a development tour for age group development swimmers plus coaches and officials. The 2009 Tri Series will run from the 25-30 January 2009 in Masterton, Taupo and Wanganui.

Applications are invited for:

- National Referees and Starters who wish to travel with the team; and
- Officials who want to officiate at the competitions and not travel with the team.

The application form is on the SNZ website and is due by Friday 9th October.

All application forms can be found on the SNZ website [here](#).



Technical Advisory Committee

SNZ is pleased to advise that Jo Davidson has been reappointed as the Chair of the TAC and Ross Bragg has been reappointed as the Upper North Island TAC Member. The TAC members are:

Chair	Jo Davidson
Upper North Island	Ross Bragg (Northland, Auckland)
Central North Island	Dave Beattie (Counties Manukau, Waikato, BOP)
Lower North Island	Bill Matson (Taranaki, Hawkes Bay Poverty Bay, Wanganui, Manawatu, Wairarapa, Wellington)
Upper South Island	Lesley Huckins (Nelson Marlborough, Canterbury WC)
Lower South Island	Lyn Sutherland (Eastern Districts, Otago, Southland)

Feedback

What do you want to know?

What information do you want to be included in this newsletter? If you have any thoughts/recommendations please email libby@swimmingnz.org.nz with your suggestions.