

Minnesota Swimming Meet Officials

Chances are that you've seen several official looking individuals in white polo shirts around the pool during swim meets. Who are these people? They are certified Minnesota Swimming Meet Officials. To hold officially sanctioned swim meets, TUNA Swim Club (TUNA) MUST have a minimum number of officials present. As such, we are always on the lookout for individuals willing to become certified officials.

There are several types of officials needed:

- Stroke and Turn Officials observe the swimmers in the water to ensure that their strokes and turns meet legal standards. This position is the entry into the officiating process.
- The Starter is the individual that is responsible for starting each race.
- The Admin Official works at the results table and oversees the meet entries, seeding events, and operating the timing equipment.
- The Deck Referee oversees the entire meet and the other officials.

Generally all officials are volunteers, however it is common for clubs that are hosting meets to provide Starters, Admins, and Referees with some level of honorarium. It is TUNA's policy to provide Stroke and Turn officials (and others if they do not receive an honorarium) a \$20 credit to their club account for the first 29 sessions, and \$19 for the 30th, that they officiate annually. The official cap for credits an official may receive is \$599 for the calendar year. This credit applies to all TUNA home meets and away meets if TUNA has swimmers participating.

Please note it is up to each official to send our club administrator, <u>Eric Neese</u>, a recap of sessions they officiate after each meet to receive proper credit. Requests must be submitted to <u>Eric Neese</u> within 10 days of each meet occurring.

**TUNA will cover MN Swimming membership and background check costs.

How to Become an Official:

Step 1. Please contact Megan Nowak for information and to get complete information.

Step 2. Click <u>HERE</u> to view complete information on what steps to take to complete certification.