

FAST Combined Events Procedures for Clerk of Course and Announcer

1. **Overview.** This document explains the proper procedures for combining Fairfax Area Swim Teams (FAST) meet events so the Clerk of Course, Announcer, Stroke and Turn Officials, and Referees know who is swimming, to ensure disqualification slips go to the right swimmer.

Team representatives: Please provide a copy of this to your announcers, Clerks of Course, and Table Workers.

2. **Situation.** In previous seasons, there were occasions where the announcer (at the direction of clerk of course) was announcing "Combined" events that weren't combined, causing confusion with Stroke and Turn Judges and table workers.

The purpose in combining events is to speed up the meet by filling up empty lanes. That is a laudable goal, as long as it is done in a way that doesn't increase the likelihood that the wrong swimmer gets a DQ slip for a legal swim.

3. **Example:** The clerk of course gets all the swimmers for events 9 (boys 50M Freestyle) and 10, (girls 50M free) and has the following

For clarity, we will call every group of up to 6 swimmers who dive into the pool at the starters horn a "Row" (when you look in clerk of course, you see "rows" of swimmer sitting on benches or chairs), to distinguish them from a "heat"]

The Clerk of Course organizes 4 flights

Row 1: 3 slow boys, and 3 slow girls	(Events 9 &10)
Row 2: 4 medium boys and 2 medium Girls	(Events 9 &10)
Row 3: 5 medium girls	(ALL event 10)
Row 4: 4 fast boys and 2 fast girls.	(Events 9 & 10)

Some Teams have been (*incorrectly*) announcing these Rows as:

Row 1: Combined Event 9 & 10, Heat 1

Row 2: Combined Event 9 &10, Heat 2

Row 3: Combined Event 9 &10, Heat 3 (*there are no boys - Event 9 swimmers*)

Row 4: Combined Event 9 &10, Heat 4

This is **wrong** and causes confusion because everyone at the pool, including the Stroke and Turn judges and the referee, can clearly see row 3 is **NOT** a combined event (all girls, all event 10).

The correct way to report these events and announce them is:

Row 1: "Combined Event: Event 9, Heat 1 and Event 10, Heat 1"

Row 2: " Combined Event: Event 9, Heat 2 and Event 10, Heat 2"

Row 3 "Event 10, Heat 3"

Row 4: "Combined Event: Event 9, Heat 3 and Event 10 Heat 4"

Each Event has its own "Heat Counter," and the heat count increases **ONLY** when someone eligible for that event (gender and age group) goes into the water in a "row of swimmers"

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4. Problems Caused by the Incorrect Method

a. A Stroke and turn, paying attention, knows that **Row 4** is the third heat of event 9 girls event, and records a DQs for the swimmer in Lane 4, and (**correctly**) writes "Event 9, Heat 3"

b The announcer (**incorrectly**) announced **Row 3** as "Combined Event 9 & 10 Heat 3" and in the confusion at the table 5 minutes later, the swimmer in Lane 4 in **Row 3** (the earlier flight) gets the wrong DQ slip.

c. Stroke and Turn officials only record the Event, Heat, and lane of the infraction. They do not record the age or gender of the swimmer, and they generally don't have a meet sheet.

Bottom Line

The determination on whether a particular race of up to six swimmers is a heat of a combined events is based on each group of up to six swimmers (a "Row") who are actually swimming. If they are all from the same age group and gender, it **IS NOT** a combined event, even if the previous and subsequent events were/are combined.

Each Event will maintain its unique heat number.

The attachments in this document should be used by the Clerk of Course and the Announcer to keep track of which events are being combined in each row of swimmers in the meet.

Print multiple pages (4-5) of the tracker for clerk of course and Announcer. Start Row numbering with 1, and keep numbering each "row" that goes through clerk of course. Clerk of course will record the event and head numbers for the swimmers that make up that row, record that information on a slip to be delivered to the announcer, so the Announcer can properly announce the composition of that row of swimmers when they step up to the starting line.

Important Reminder on Seeding in Clerk of Course: FAST rules say

Clerks of Course: The Clerks of Course will seed the events and heats by filling all lanes to the greatest extent possible. This is done by placing the swimmers, from fastest to slowest, in the lane order of 3, 4, 2, 5, 1, 6, with the fastest overall heat last.

Seeding heats by any other manner (friends, team mates, or all one team in a heat) that does not follow the fastest to slowest method is a violation of the rules all Team Representatives have agreed to follow.

Please Direct Questions and Suggestions for improvement to:

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Individual Slips (to cut up) for a clerk of course runner to deliver to the announcer, copied from Clerk of Course tracker sheet, announcer will write down on his/her sheet. This sheet has Two rows per slip

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

Individual Slips (to cut up) for a clerk of course runner to deliver to the announcer, copied from Clerk of Course tracker sheet, announcer will write down on his/her sheet. This sheet has One row per slip

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
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		Boys Events (Odd Numbers)				Girls Events (Even Numbers)			
Row	Stroke	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat	Event	Heat

FAST Dual or Tri B-Meets

Boys		Freestyle		Girls
1A	6 & U	25M		2A
1	7-8	25M		2
3	9-10	50M		4
5	11-12	50M		6
7	13-14	50M		8
9	15-18	50M		10
Boys		Backstroke		Girls
11A	6 & U	25M		12A
11	7-8	25M		12
13	9-10	50M		14
15	11-12	50M		16
17	13-14	50M		18
19	15-18	50M		20
Boys		Breaststroke		Girls
21A	6 & U	25M		22A
21	7-8	25M		22
23	9-10	50M		24
25	11-12	50M		26
27	13-14	50M		28
29	15-18	50M		30
Boys		Butterfly		Girls
31A	6 & U	25M		32A
31	7-8	25M		32
33	9-10	25M		34
35	11-12	50M		36
37	13-14	50M		38
39	15-18	50M		40
Boys		Individual Medley		Girls
41	10 & U	100M		42
43	11-12	100M		44
45	13-14	100M		46
47	15-18	100M		48

Max Entries (All Swimmers) : 3
2 entries from free, back, breast, or fly
AND 1 entry in the IM

FAST Relays (Girls Swim First)

Girls		Freestyle		Boys
1A	6 & U	100M		2A
1	Mixed	150M		2
3	7-8	100M		4
5	9-10	100M		6
7	11-12	100M		8
9	13 & Over	100M		10
Girls		Modified Medley		Boys
11	8 & U	100M		12
Girls		Medley		Boys
13	9-10	100M		14
15	11-12	100M		16
17	13 & Over	100M		18

Max Entries – 4

Mixed Age Relay Legs (Events 1 & 2)
 1: 6 & Under (25 M) 2: 8 & Under (25 M)
 3: 9-10 (25 M) 4: 11-2 (25 M)
 5: 13&Over (50 M)

Modified Medley (Events 11 & 12):
 1. Back 2. Breast **3. Free** 4 Free

FAST IM Meet

Boys		Individual Medley		Girls
1	8&U	100M		2
3	9-10	100M		4
5	11-12	100M		6
7	13-14	100M		8
9	15-18	100M		10

Max Entries: 1

Event numbers and eligibility approved by team reps on April 27, 2014 from B, CSC, FCE, KR, LV, R, SR, & SS2.