



# NVSL Officials Committee Situations and Interpretations 2019 Season

Welcome to the 2019 NVSL Season. Hopefully your first Meet went off without a hitch on Saturday. The weather was great and there was lots of fast swimming going on. Every Season there are Situations that arise where Officials have questions. Most all of them can be resolved by referring to the NVSL and USA Swimming Rule Books. In some cases, you may wish to consult the Situations posted on the NVSL Web Site.

From time to time, the Officials Committee will review Situations that have arisen during recent Meets. We have been asked to remind our Officials about a few issues:

**Tie Back Suits:** Per USA Swimming Rule 102.8 and as highlighted on Page 95 of the 2019 NVSL Handbook, 'No fastening devices, i.e. no zippers or closure devices are permitted (108.8.1.C - FINA 4.1.6). Suits with tie-backs are not permitted. A tie-back or a lace-up on a suit is considered a fastening device.' These types of Suits MAY be worn for warm-up or practice. They are not permitted for competition.

**Swim Caps:** NVSL Rule 1.0 states that, 'Swimmers shall not be permitted to compete in swim caps which include the name or insignia of any other team other than their NVSL team.' This should be monitored at Clerk of Course and swimmers with a cap that has the wrong name/insignia should be asked to switch caps or turn the cap inside out. If a swimmer makes it from Clerk of Course to the Pool with the wrong cap, Referees should use their judgment and if there is time to make a change, do so. If the swimmer competes in a cap with a name/insignia other than their NVSL team, it is NOT a disqualification. The swimmer should be asked to correct the cap before their next Event.

**Number of Officials Required:** Per Rule 10.c. of the NVSL Rules, the minimum requirements for Deck Officials at 'A' Meets are; Referee, Starter, and 4 Stroke & Turn Judges. So what do you do when an Officials becomes ill or doesn't show up for the Meet? Common sense dictates that the Referee should seek a

replacement to provide a full compliment, regardless of Team Affiliation. In the event that replacements are unavailable, then the Starter (if S&T Certified) could cover the quadrant closest to the Start Area. The Referee should not act as a Stroke & Turn Judge.

**Watches:** Swimmers can wear a watch during their race.

**Re-entering the water:** If a swimmer exits the Pool at the end of his/her race and then gets back to be able shake hands with fellow competitors, good sportsmanship, etc. they should not be disqualified. This may happen from time to time with younger athletes. Generally speaking, an athlete should not be disqualified if they are reacting to an instruction by an Adult (Timer, Official, Coach, etc).

That's all we have at this time. Please contact the Committee with questions throughout the Season. We have established a Google Groups email address to facilitate communication, [nvsl-officials-committee@googlegroups.com](mailto:nvsl-officials-committee@googlegroups.com).

### **NVSL Officials Committee**

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