

MHSAA OFFICIALS BULLETIN



Last week we asked you to indicate what the additional duties of the Head Lane Timer are over and above those of a regular Timer. 4-9-2 enumerates the additional duties.

- Record the times for the assigned lane
- Deliver the timecard to the Chief Timer
- Determine if the swimmer has touched the finish end in each heat and race
- Maintain a written tally of the number of laps in the 500 yd/ 400-meter freestyle

It would be helpful if the Head Lane Timer in observing the final touch indicates if the touch was on the timing pad, if in use, or on the end wall. Head Lane Timers can also be asked to hold swimmer (s) at the lane that have just completed so the official can speak to them. If this action will be required, the specifics of how it is to occur should be discussed in the Timers meeting prior to the beginning of competition.

We also asked what additional duties the referee has and what procedures he/she is to follow if permanent 15-meter marks are not present at the pool. 2-4-5 describes the required markings and their position. Situation 2-4-5 a. requires the referee of the meet to contact the "host schools administration". The Swimming Coach is not considered as a member the schools administration. (Most likely this would be either the Athletic Director or Principal). You may also recall that the MHSAA in 2019, asked you to file an Officials Report so that they could follow-up on the school's compliance. The name of the person you spoke with at the school and a contact phone

number would be helpful for the follow-up process.

In Weekly Bulletin 21-22 # 3 we asked, "What is Prior Mutual Consent?" When must it occur? How should you be notified if it exists? Finally, do all changes require Prior Mutual Consent? The answer is in 1-4-3. Prior Mutual Consent requires written documentation signed by the coaches (Head Coach of opposing teams) prior to the start of the competition. It is permitted only when specified in the rulebook. You should be notified of the existence of a Prior Mutual Consent document by being presented a copy of the document for your review prior to the start of competition.

Not all changes require a Prior Mutual Consent document. For example, a team contacts the host school saying they are stuck in the back-up from a motor vehicle accident on the interstate. They will be 15 minutes late and would like to abbreviate the warm-up and start the meet a half hour late. No agreement is required.

In the situation described above the Head Coaches of each team wish to run the Diving event while the Swimming warm up is going on. There is only one diver from the visiting team. Both Head Coaches and the official must agree to the time of the Diving event. The official must also decide if he/she can officiate the Diving event and still complete the other pre-meet responsibilities. If he/she cannot, then Diving may not be conducted simultaneously with the Swimming warm-up unless a second official is available. It may be moved to the first event but it must occur after the Swimming warm-up.

RULES REVIEW

Which of the four different competitive strokes does not utilize 15-Meter Marks? ? [CLICK HERE](#) to submit your answer.