

# **Guidelines**

## **Evaluation of N3 Starters**

at

### **Time Trials of National Championship Level Meets**

Officials at National Championship Level Meets may, if qualified, request an N3 Starter evaluation at Time Trials. The request may be made at, or prior to, the first official's meeting at the Championship Meet site.

Candidates, if it is anticipated they can be accommodated, will be assigned a mentor from N3 Starters at the meet. The purpose is to help candidates prepare for the evaluation, educate them about National Championship Meet protocol, if necessary, and take an interest in their progress.

The National Officials Chair or Meet Referee may allow, restrict or not allow evaluations at time trials as they see fit, regardless of any requests that may have been accepted.

#### **Guidelines:**

1. Candidates for "FINAL evaluation" must come into the meet with a satisfactory Initial N3 Starter evaluation completed and with a recommendation from that evaluator that they are ready for a "FINAL evaluation." These candidates will have first priority for evaluation.
2. If circumstances allow, other qualified prospective candidates, with at least one year as an active N2 Starter, may be given an "Initial" N3 evaluation.  
To protect time trial swimmers, assigned mentors shall make a preliminary assessment that these candidates can perform satisfactorily as a starter, before they will be considered for evaluation.
3. Starter candidates will be evaluated in at least two time trial sessions with at least 10 starts in each session. Two National Evaluators – one the head Starter and the other a Meet Starter or Deck Referee - will evaluate each starter candidate over the two sessions.
4. Only one successful evaluation may be at Time Trials of National Championship level meets. If it is the Initial evaluation, and it is successful, the FINAL evaluation shall only be at an Officials Qualifying Meet. Both evaluations, Initial and FINAL, may be at Officials Qualifying Meets.
5. If there is capacity, N2 and N3 Starters may submit a request for an "observation for education" The observation will be in only one time trial session with the conditions in **2** above applying. An "observation for education" will not be considered a N3 FINAL evaluation or an N2 or N3 Re-certification evaluation.
6. The priority order for evaluations will be:
  - a. N3 Initial evaluation with recommendation for FINAL – no previous TT evaluations
  - b. N3 Initial evaluation with recommendation for FINAL – previous TT evaluation – not satisfactory
  - c. N2 Starters as noted in 2, above
  - d. N3 Starters requesting "observation for education" as noted in 5, above
  - e. N2 Starters requesting "observation for education" as noted in 5, above

This priority order first applies to officials working all sessions at the meet. If circumstances allow, the priority order may then be applied to officials working only a portion of the meet.