



## **Time Keeping and Officiating at Inter Club Carnivals**

As parents and or guardians we all like to watch our children swim at any competition they have been entered. Swimming, as with many other sporting activities, requires the assistance of parents in roles such as time keeping and officiating.

At Playford Aquatic Club our aim is to be fair and share the workload amongst the parents/guardians of our swimmers.

It must be noted that becoming a qualified technical official is voluntary, and those who have volunteered to take on the training for those roles and responsibilities, are to be thanked and commended for their decision to become involved at that level.

Officials are required to be on the pool deck for the duration of an event.

### **Time keeping**

This is an essential requirement to be dealt with prior to every meet. Every club is required to supply a certain number of officials and or timekeepers, depending on the level of the meet and the number of swimmers entered.

We have **two** options regarding time keeping available to us.

- 1 A roster system of time keeping for **1 hour**, and then changing with another parent for the next hour.

### **OR**

- 2 Supplying the required number of time keepers for the duration of the event.

**Option 1** seems to be the accepted practice with most clubs, however this will only run efficiently if **ALL** parents take their turn with time keeping. In the case of events where we have a large number of swimmers entered, we will undoubtedly be required to supply a greater number of officials and or timekeepers. The timekeeping roster will be determined by the nominations officer and will be made up from a list of swimmers entered.

It will be expected that every family with children competing will supply one person for either timekeeping or officiating.

Every effort will be made to roster a parent's time keeping duties, around their child's event times. However, this is not always possible, and on the odd occasion that it is not your cooperation would be appreciated.

There will also be times when we have a small number of swimmers entered into a competition. As previously stated, we will still (usually) be required to supply official/s and timekeepers. In this case, time keeping rosters, will also be compiled from the list of entrants however the duration a parent is required may be either increased or extended.

Prior to competitions the number of officials and time keepers required, (where possible) will be advised by email or posted to the members Facebook page. It would assist the process (and be appreciated) if those that are not going to be available for any reason advise the Club/Team Manager by reply so that alternative arrangements can be made where possible.

If you are allocated a time slot, and on the day, you wish to change or not undertake that role for any reason, then YOU must ask another family if they would mind changing with you or replacing you. (if you do this, please advise the TM for the day)

Families supplying an Official will not be asked to assist with time keeping unless there are no other families available.

**Team Manager** The role of Team Manager for the day, will also be spread around parents. Experienced club members will be present and able to advise and guide those parents, new to the club and competitive swimming.

We appreciate timekeeping rosters will not suit everyone. However, if all parents assist and 'take their turn' there is less likelihood of complaint, and the issue of timekeeping will be dealt with fairly.

If any parent / guardian has any suggestion on how to improve this aspect of a swim meet please approach any Playford Aquatic Club committee member, for that suggestion to be put forward and considered.

**NOTE all swimmers under the age of 18years must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all swimming events.**

**Playford Aquatic Club  
Committee  
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