

STARTER Level 3 Protocol

Element / Performance Criteria	Protocol
1 Preparation	
1.1 Arrived at venue at least 60 minutes prior to the start of event and reported to the Referee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per criteria, obtained a copy of the program and timeline. If Multi Class events are included in the program, ascertained whether strobe light/s are required and for which lane/heat/event/s. Discussed with the Referee when they would like to test it to ensure working.
1.2 Ensured that all equipment required for starting was available, appropriate, tested, working and positioned correctly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tested starting equipment and false start rope.
1.3 Ensured that the starting device could be seen and heard by all lanes, swimmers, officials and spectators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microphone sound was set at a good level for both starters. One Starter walked across the pool behind each block to listen to the other Starter's commands and ensured the level was at an appropriate volume level for all lanes to hear. Tested start mechanism was working and light flashed. Did this at both ends of pool if long course.
1.4 Positioned Starting Stand where Starter could clearly see all lanes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensured the starting stand (if one in place) was positioned where both Starters could see all lanes clearly. Alerted Technical Manager if stand needs to be moved. Agreed positioning with the Referee.
1.5 Obtained a copy of the timeline from the Technical Manager.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the timeline for respective events.
2 Performance of Task	
2.1 Worked with the Referee to maintain a position where the Referee could be seen during each start.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaised with the Referee to make sure Referee's position does not obscure Starter's view and Referee's arm can be seen. Liaised with the other Referee so that each are aware of positioning in the event that their Referee was called off the pool deck. Interacted well with Referee. Unnecessary communication was kept to a minimum.
2.2 Watched the Referee at all times prior to the handover so they could react to all instructions and signals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per criteria and took appropriate action when instructed.
2.3 In a timely manner moved swimmers down the lane rope in backstroke events when over the top starts are in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued 'move down the lane ropes' command as agreed with the Referee's instructions.
2.4 Reacted immediately and appropriately to the Referee's signals and instructions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did only what was asked and when asked.
2.5 Issued the start instructions as soon as they were satisfied that all swimmers were stationary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did this after the Referee handed over control. If necessary waited until swimmers were in a steady state prior to issuing the command. Start signal not given before all swimmers were stationary. The command was not given too fast or swimmers held unduly so that all are given a fair start.
2.6 Swimmers were not held unduly after they were ready to start.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When all swimmers were stationary, the starting signal was given. Swimmers were not held longer than necessary once stationary.
2.7 All instructions were issued clearly and in accordance with the rules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Command was 'take your marks' (with an audible "s").
2.8 Starting instructions were issued with the appropriate volume and tone of voice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The command 'take your marks' given with authority, in a consistent tone (not in a sing song, shouted or timid tone).
2.9 Check that the Timing Clock on the Scoreboard had been initiated after each start.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checked that the clock on the scoreboard has started after every start.

2.10 Focused entirely and exclusively on the task assigned without engaging in any distracting activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The starter was not distracted by the happenings around them but was aware. Passed on any enquiries to the Referee and Technical Manager. Maintained a copy of the actual meet timeline.
2.11 Displayed a composed temperament at all times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appeared in control though relaxed, composed and confident. Command remained consistent throughout. Regained composure quickly and was able to continue after swimmers had been stood down.
3 Decision Making	
3.1 All recommendations regarding possible breaches of the rules were made immediately to the Referee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported what they saw to the Referee immediately and concisely without drawing attention to themselves. Where a swimmer has been observed to have started before the starting signal, made a report immediately, regardless of whether the Referee had observed it. If the Starter observed movement after the start of a race and the Referee did not turn around, approached the Referee to make their report. Only reported where they were 100% confident. Did not appear flustered if the report was not accepted. Kept a record of any disqualifications / reports to Referee in the program.
3.2 All decisions made were consistent with every competitor being treated equally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per criteria.
3.3 All recommendations were made quickly, clearly, concisely and in accordance with the rules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per criteria. Was not apprehensive when making a report.
3.4 At the Start where the Starter observes movement that the Referee does not observe, records same in their program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per criteria.
4 Infraction Reports	
4.1 All infraction reports were completed accurately and pursuant to the rules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infraction report cards were written legibly and in relation to the rules. Not rushed and continued to do the job calmly until able to complete the infraction report card. Checked infraction report card for accuracy before giving it to the Referee. Kept a record of the report in the program. If called to a Jury of Appeal, only stated the facts and did not argue the decision.
4.2 All written reports were completed expediently after the verbal report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per criteria.
5 General Competencies	
5.1 Was courteous to all swimmers, coaches, parents and other officials at all times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appeared calm and spoke politely to enquirers. Passed on enquiries to the Referee or Technical Manager, not dismissive.
5.2 Maintains a level of concentration and capability to perform the task.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintained a high level of concentration throughout the session.