



## OFFICIALS' BRIEFING

- Assignments
- Deck Protocol

- Jurisdiction
- Special Information

### BREASTSTROKE

**Start:** Forward start

**Stroke:** Body kept on breast.  
Stroke cycle is one arm pull and one leg kick in that order.  
Simultaneous arm movement in same horizontal plane.  
After start and each turn one arm stroke may be completely back to legs. Head must break surface at widest part of second pull.  
Recovery by the hands from the breast-on, under, or over the water. Elbows under water except last stroke before turn or finish.

**Kick:** Simultaneous vertical and horizontal movements of the legs. Feet turned out during propulsive part of kick.  
After start and each turn a single butterfly kick is permitted, at any time PRIOR to the first breaststroke kick.  
No alternating, scissors, or butterfly kick except as stated is allowed.

**Turns/** Shoulders at or past vertical toward breast when feet leave wall.

**Finish:** Touch shall be made with both hands separated and simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface.  
At the last stroke before the turn and at the finish an arm stroke not followed by a leg kick is permitted.  
Head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during last complete or incomplete stroke cycle preceding the touch.

### BUTTERFLY

**Start:** Forward start.

**Stroke:** Body kept on breast.  
Multiple kicks permitted but first arm pull must bring swimmer to the surface.  
Must break surface throughout the race except swimmer may be submerged after start and each turn not more than 15 meters where head must break surface.  
Arms, shoulder to wrist, brought forward over water and pulled back simultaneously.

**Kick:** Simultaneous up and down movement. No alternating, scissors, or breaststroke kicking movements.

**Turns/** Shoulders at or past vertical toward breast when the swimmer leaves wall.

**Finish:** Touch shall be made with both hands separated and simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface.

### BACKSTROKE

**Start:** In water facing start end with both hands on gutter or starting grips.  
(a) guttered pool—feet/toes may be above the water, but may not be in, on, above lip, or bent over the gutter at any time before or after start.  
(b) flat wall pads—feet/toes may be placed above the water level.



- Stroke/ Kick:** Any style as long as swimmer remains on back.  
Must break surface throughout the race except swimmer may be submerged after start and each turn not more than 15 meters where head must break surface.
- Turns:** During turn swimmer may go past vertical to the breast and may utilize a continuous single or continuous simultaneous double arm pull to initiate the turn.  
Some part of swimmer must touch wall at completion of each length. Shoulders at or past vertical toward back when feet leave wall.
- Finish:** Some part of swimmer must touch the wall while on the back.

## **FREESTYLE**

- Start:** Forward start.
- Stroke/ Kick:** Any style may be used as long as the comply with the freestyle rules  
Must break surface throughout the race except swimmer may be submerged after start and each turn not more than 15 meters where head must break surface.
- Turns/ Finish:** Some part of swimmer must touch the wall at completion of each length or required distance.

## **INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY**

- Start:** Forward start.
- Stroke:** Rules for each stroke apply, except in the freestyle, the swimmer must be on the breast except when executing a turn.  
Must swim  $\frac{1}{4}$  of event distance as prescribed stroke, in order of Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, and Freestyle.  
May not swim in the style of the other three strokes during the freestyle leg.
- Kick:** Rules for each stroke apply.
- Turns:** Intermediate turns conform to turn rules for the stroke, except that in the freestyle turn, the swimmer must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.
- Finish:** Transition turns conform to finish rules for the stroke. On the breaststroke to freestyle transition turn, the swimmer must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.

## **RELAYS**

### **FREESTYLE RELAY**

- Freestyle rules apply.  
Each swimmer must swim  $\frac{1}{4}$  of distance.

### **MEDLEY RELAY**

- Rules pertaining to each stroke apply.  
Each swimmer must swim  $\frac{1}{4}$  of event distance as prescribed stroke, in order of Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle. Rules pertaining to each stroke used as describe the Individual Medley.

- Takeoffs:** Swimmers feet/foot must remain in contact with the starting platform until the incoming swimmer has touched the finish wall or pad.  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> swimmers must have one foot in front to the starting wedge if applicable



### JURISDICTION

**Stroke Judge:** Wall to wall---start to finish.

**Turn Judge:** Start----From entry into water through completion of first arm stroke.

Turn----Last stroke and kick prior to touch and through first arm stroke after the turn.

Finish—Ensure completion conforms to finish rules.

OR: As assigned by the Referee who has full control and authority over all officials.

There are two colors in swimming, black and white. Grey is the benefit of the doubt and the:

**BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT GOES TO THE SWIMMER**  
**Call what you see and see what you call.**