THE CHIEF JUDGE @TRIALS/SELECTION MEETS AND THE ROLE OF THE CIT

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Hot August Nights 2025

TRIALS AND SELECTION MEETS

- Pre-meet considerations
  - Still work with MR to determine protocol and "vision" for the meet
  - Protocol more intricate and synchronized
    - Movement on & off deck
  - Increased TV cameras & types of cameras
  - Increased production/show (LED boards)
  - Credentialling/Uniforming
  - Larger crew/deck staff
  - Facility Coordination
  - "Point" person for communications

TRIALS AND SELECTION MEETS

- During meet considerations
  - Increased radio traffic – need for radio protocol to be crisper
  - Increased flexibility due to TV changes
  - Underwater cameras & use of CJ in video room
  - All ST are N3 DR but have they recently worked as ST?
    - No assumptions!
    - How do you mentor/give advice (evaluations)?
    - How do you make adjustments for those struggling?
  - TLCJ handles all athlete notifications (with assistance)
  - Pace yourself (Trial Meets are long)

TRIALS AND SELECTION MEETS

- During meet considerations
  - Single stroke briefing, typically on Day 1
  - Focus on updated protocol briefings before each session
  - CJs typically have dedicated responsibilities for the entire meet
    - Includes single person setting the deck with input from TLCJ
      - Consider on deck abilities of ST
    - TLCJ handles OTS
  - Changes during the meet
    - MR may just request TLCJ "handle it"
    - Can use the experience of the MR or others to make adjustments

TRIALS AND SELECTION MEETS

- During meet considerations
  - Always "honor" the chain of command
    - Allows others to learn and grow in their roles
  - Introduction of 50's of stroke
    - Race Ref versus Ref blowing the whistle
    - Still only one Ref "responsible" for the event

HYBRID MEETS (WORLD AQUATICS)

- Chief Inspector of Turns
  - Conducts briefings
  - Manages reserve official and reports potential infraction
  - Reports operational issues to referee (cap in pool)
  - Does NOT prepare DQ slip
  - Can still assist Technical Officials with transitioning to different strokes/protocols

WORLD AQUATIC MEETS

- Chief Inspector of Turns
  - No pre-session responsibilities
    - WA representative / referees conduct briefings
  - Manages reserve official and reports potential infraction
  - Reports operational issues to referee (cap in pool)
  - Can still assist Technical Officials with transitioning to different strokes/protocols