

Glossary of Swim Terms

(Alphabetical)

Announcer	Runs the PA system. They keep everyone informed as to which event is being run, and also calls for the swimmers to the next event.
Bye	No swim meet is scheduled for that day.
City Meet	Championship meet of the NPDSC - swimmers must "qualify" for City times.
Classic Meet	Championship meet for those that don't have qualifying City times.
Clerk of Course	Individual in charge of lining up swimmers prior to start.
DQ (Disqualification)	The swimmer has been judged as not performing the start, stroke, turn, or finish correctly. The resulting time and score do not count.
Dual Meet	Swimming one team against another.
Exhibition Heat	Swimming for official times, but not for team scoring and usually not for ribbons or awards.
Free Relay	A relay of 4 swimmers - all swimming Freestyle stroke.
Heat	Each group of swimmers starting together, one per lane.
Individual Medley (IM)	4 strokes by a single swimmer Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, and Freestyle - (different sequence than Medley Relay).
Marshall	Individual at swim meet in charge of enforcing safety, supervision, & information.
Medley Relay	A relay of 4 swimmers - each swimming a different stroke: Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly, and Freestyle - (different sequence than IM).
Record Keeper	Individual in charge of keeping team record times.
Referee	Official in charge of swim meet rules & running the swim meet.
Relay	4 swimmers, each swimming one leg (either 1 length or 2 lengths)
Runner	Individual who collects Time Sheets & DQ cards and delivers them to the computer scoring table.
Scorer	Individual or Computer person that is recording times & scores.
Seed Time	A swimmer's best official time in a specific event that is used to place them in a roster/heat sheet for Championship or Dual meets.
Starter	Official that actually calls & begins each swim event.
Stroke Judge	Official at the side of the pool who monitors for the correct stroke of the swimmers.
Timer	Individual, using a stopwatch, to record swimmer times during meet.
Turn Judge	Officials at both ends of the pool who monitor for correct turns and touches by the swimmer.