

Priority of Judging and Timing Equipment

ARTICLE 2. a. Three levels of judging and timing equipment (primary, secondary and tertiary) are required for all championships meets. A minimum of two levels of judging and timing equipment should be used for all nonchampionships meets.

- b. For clarification: primary = automatic equipment; secondary = semiautomatic equipment; tertiary = manual watch.
- c. The following priority list shall be used to designate levels of judging and timing equipment:
1. Automatic equipment.
 2. Three-button semiautomatic equipment.
 3. Three manual watches per lane.
 4. Two-button semiautomatic equipment.
 5. Two manual watches per lane.
 6. One-button semiautomatic equipment.
 7. One manual watch per lane.
 8. One or more alternate watches for the field, except in championships meets where at least one watch per lane is required.
- d. For a time to be considered for entry into a NCAA championship it must have been achieved using priority level 1 equipment (automatic equipment).

If a malfunction is confirmed by the head judge with priority level 1 equipment, then priority level 2 equipment (three-button semiautomatic equipment) is acceptable.

If a malfunction is confirmed by the head judge with priority level 2 equipment, then priority level 3 equipment (three manual watches per lane) is acceptable.

No other priority level is acceptable for NCAA championship time qualification.

For a time to be considered for entry into a non-NCAA championships or nonchampionships meet, any priority level equipment is acceptable provided the conference rules accept all levels of equipment.

Note 1: In all non-NCAA championships and nonchampionship meets, the highest priority level timing equipment should be used. Priority levels 2 through 8 timing should be used as back up only in case of a malfunction. For level 2 or 3 times to be accepted for NCAA championship qualification, proof of a malfunction, validated by the head judge, on the POP form, in the manner described in Article 3 (for level 2, a computer print-out showing all three computer times; for level 3, a contemporaneous completed timing card showing three separate stop-watch times) must accompany the qualification time and will be reviewed by the NCAA Swimming and Diving Committee for acceptance. Priority levels 4 through 8 timings are not acceptable for NCAA championships qualification.

Confirmation of Malfunctions

ARTICLE 3. The head judge is responsible for confirming a malfunction at any priority level of judging and timing equipment. Any discrepancy of 0.3 seconds or more between or within primary, secondary and/or tertiary information warrants investigation by the head judge to attempt to determine the cause of the discrepancy. If the problem is found to be the result of equipment failure or officials' error, any affected information must be declared invalid. Immediate action then must be taken to avoid the problem in subsequent races. Nonaffected information must be certified as valid and must be retained. All invalid information as a result of a timing malfunction in any priority level must be retained for one academic year by the institution hosting the meet.