



RELAY TAKE-OFF JUDGING:

In relay events the Inspector of Turns has the responsibility of judging the take-overs SW 2.5.5.

The starting Swimmer's feet may not lose contact with the start block until the incoming Swimmer touches the wall. The individual assigned relay take-off responsibility is to observe this exchange and determine if the feet of the Swimmer on the block have not left before the incoming Swimmer has made contact with the wall. For the fairest judging, it is preferred that there be one individual assigned per lane. For back up confirmation of a relay take-off disqualification, additional personnel should be assigned to observe from the side of the pool.

The individual assigned relay take-off responsibility should be positioned with a clear view of the incoming Swimmer and the starting Swimmer on the block. The feet of the starting Swimmer should be watched. At the instant that the feet lose contact with the starting platform, the gaze should drop to the wall surface of the pool. If the incoming Swimmer has not yet reached the wall, there is a break in the relay and an infraction has occurred.

The individual assigned relay take-off responsibility should stand next to the starting block, without touching the Swimmer, without kneeling or crouching or without talking to the Swimmer. Only the assigned lane should be watched. A perfectly timed exchange takes only a split second. The departing Swimmer is allowed to move as long as the feet maintain contact with the starting platform.

Consistent calls should be made and, unless dual relay take-off judging is used, signal (by a predetermined signal) any infraction immediately.

All violations must be reported, designating the event, lane and heat; signed and delivered to the Referee in writing.



NOTE: These notes are abstracted from the FINA publication "Manual for Officiating at Swimming Events".