



FITNESS OF DUTY/SAFETY ON DECK

It is important that we always take a cautious approach when it comes to the safety of anyone on deck. We routinely remove swimmers from a meet when there are various medical related concerns, especially those related to concussion. Those guidelines shall adhered to without fail.

In the interest of also protecting officials, and to limit the liability to USA Swimming, SCS, the host team and related government agencies, please follow the guidelines below when it relates to officials.

1. Any official who falls on deck and requires extended time off in order to ice his/her body, and/or to address medical concerns that affect their ability to work the deck, shall be released from the meet. This will be administered by the Meet Referee and/or Meet Director.
2. Any official who experiences a medical emergency and/or has a medical professional, including an EMT, recommend the official be transported to the hospital for further evaluation, shall be released from the meet. This is to be followed regardless of whether the individual accepts or refuses medical attention or direction. The Meet Referee and/or Meet Director shall make the decision in regards to the officials' health related issue.
3. Any official who has sustained an injury requiring him/her to use a cane, crutches, boot, scooter for the boot, etc... shall first obtain a medical release from his/her doctor before being allowed on deck. The release shall state whether or not the official has any restrictions and what those restrictions are, if any. It will then be up to the Meet Referee to determine whether or not the official can be used in some capacity that will not endanger the official or others. And, if the Meet Referee decides to use the official, additional paid officials should not be brought in to "cover" for the injured official, should the official need more time off deck than usual. Doctors write notes that the official will say, "is it ok for me to be on a pool deck?" The doctor will than decide whether or not an official is capable of returning to a deck and has the ability to walk or work on concrete or a slippery deck. The release form from the doctor needs to be specific.

Failure to adhere to this policy may result in disciplinary actions that could include suspension. If any disciplinary action is necessary, the executive officials committee will create a recommendation based on the circumstances and submit the recommendation to the SCS Administrative Review Board (ARB).