## **USA Swimming BLOCK PARTY Officiating FAQ**

## What is OTS?

The Officials Tracking System (OTS) is a part of the SWIMS database used for recording USA Swimming Officials' requirements and history. OTS allows for USA Swimming Officials to track the sessions worked and evaluations earned to maintain existing certification and pursue higher levels of certification (if they so choose). This is a critical tool in the professional development of USA Swimming Officials to serve our sport.

(Only USA Swimming meets with a certified referee may be used for required sessions.)

|                              | Approved for OTS   | Not Approved for OTS   |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Certified Referee identified | Team applying for meet must identify USAS Certified Referee  | N/A  |
| Number of Officials          | Block Party meets fall under rule<br>102.10.4 which requires a<br>minimum of three officials   | Block Party meets fall under rule<br>102.10.4 which requires a<br>minimum of three officials   |
| Types of officials           | <ul> <li>1 USAS Certified Referee, who may also act as a stroke and turn judge.</li> <li>1 USAS Certified Starter, who may also act as a stroke and turn judge</li> <li>1 USAS Certified Admin Official</li> <li>All other officials used on deck must be Certified as a USAS official or USAS Apprentice as outlined in the LSC Officiating Standards.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>certified swimming officials from other organizations or USA         Swimming Coaches can be used in the role(s) of Referee, Starter, AO or Stroke and Turn Judge     </li> <li>All coaches and officials must be USA Swimming members in good standing.</li> </ul> |
| Uniforms                     | Certified Officials uniforming   | specific uniforming not required   |
| Timing                       | • Rule 102.23  | • Rule 102.23  |
| Officials Tracking<br>System | USAS Certified Referee must enter<br>certified officials at meet into OTS  | N/A  |
| Officials training meet      | USAS Apprentice Officials may be<br>trained as outlined in The LSC<br>Officiating Standards.   | USAS Apprentice Officials may<br>not use the meet for training<br>sessions as outlined in The LSC<br>Officiating Standards.  |