

Why do we have Rule 18?

District Events are Level 1 and Championships, for most swimmers they are the highest level of meet they will ever attend. We endeavour to provide as professional a meet as is possible, from the planning and organisation to the clearing up afterwards. This includes the officials on the poolside. No events are successful without volunteers, working very hard. The events are put on for the swimmers and we owe it to them not only to act in a professional manner but to look professional. Fina and SASA have regulations governing poolside uniform and part a simply emphasizes what is already in existence.

The Quota is to ensure that a meet has sufficient personnel to run efficiently, and for clubs to take some responsibility for providing volunteers for event in which they have swimmers and the commitment increases as the number of swimmers increases.

The Change that comes into force in January is that there is a requirement that Officials are licensed. Licenses were introduced to maintain a standard of officials, in the past we could have officials that had passed their qualification a number of years ago and only attended odd meets here and there; these official were not necessarily up to date with rule changes and procedures, Now officials must renew their license every four year and had completed certain duties and updates during that period, this ensures that officials have the knowledge and practice to carry out their duties in a thorough and professional manner. Our aim is to have a level playing field for every swimmer in the competition, and to have a minimum standard for officials to reach. In practice most of the judges at District events are licensed and newly qualified Judges will be given a license application on completion of their assessment.

Clarification of Requirements for Rule 18

Firstly STO regulation 10.0.

This is the long standing regulation for poolside uniform.

White means white not cream or beige.

Trousers does not mean shorts and the length must be below the knee.

White trousers are available online from Alexandras,

<http://www.alexandra.co.uk/WL030/> also from Hewats 11-12 Teviot Place Edinburgh and online <http://www.hewats.com/> either chefs trousers <http://www.hewats.com/prod.php?sec=25&pid=404> or work trousers <http://www.hewats.com/prod.php?sec=3&pid=25> and from any sports

retail that sell bowling trousers. For information most cricket 'whites' are cream and are not acceptable.

Shirts may have club/district etc. logos; manufactures logos/trademarks must conform to Fina regulation i.e. less than 20cm² e.g. the British Gas logo on shirts provided at Scottish and GB events does conform, however a white sports shirt with shirt sponsor on the front does not. District poloshirts are available from Jo Maguire,

Poolshoes are a Health and Safety requirement from pool lets, Shoes should be predominantly white, there is no requirement for white soles but the uppers should be white with some motifs, logos etc allowed, shoes of this description are widely available.

Socks, if worn, should be white, there is no requirement that socks are worn.

White accessories refers to belts.

Secondly the requirement for quota officials: If a club has less than 5 swimmers in a session there is no requirement to provide any personnel.

A club with 5-9 swimmers should provide at least one volunteer, this includes marshals and any meet management helpers, as well as timekeepers, judges etc..

10-19 swimmers 1 volunteer (as above) + 1 BS Licensed Official, this is a Judge 1 or above who has a current British Swimming Technical Official License.

20+ swimmers 1 volunteer + 2 BS Licensed Officials.

Clubs may utilise Officials from other clubs to act on their behalf but this must be arranged IN ADVANCE of the meet, and notification given to either the STO convenor or the Gala convenor.

Licensed should be displayed at all times at the meet as this acts in the same way as coaches passes for access to the poolside and changing areas. Timekeepers should display their timekeeper qualification cards.