

For non-LSC Championship meets this meet must be open to officials from outside of the LSC for assignment and/or evaluation.

The OQM Sub-committee will determine the highest level (N2/N3) and positions each evaluator is available to complete. It is incumbent on the Meet Referee and LSC Chair to determine which positions each evaluator is to complete and what level. For example, an N3 evaluator for Deck Referee may be present at the meet and show in the published grid. However, if the meet has only been approved for N2 advancement no N3 Deck Referee evaluations may be performed.

The National Officials Committee OQM sub-committee will make the final determination as to the meet's OQM viability and level of evaluations permitted.

Meet Requirements

An OQM must meet the following minimum requirements.

- The meet must follow USA rules
- The meet must be **sanctioned**¹
- The Meet Referee agrees to run the meet using deck protocols approaching that expected at National Championship meets²
- The National Scratch rule will be used (LSC modifications are permitted as noted in the meet rubric)
- A fully automatic timing system will be used
- A broad range of senior events in most evaluation sessions (*some sessions may be age group, 13-14, sessions*). LSC Age Group Championships may be exempted from the "senior" event requirement
- The meet is expected to attract and include swimmers capable of achieving qualifying times for Futures and above

Venue and Pool Description

Meets operated in multiple venues and pools are eligible for consideration for all approved sessions provided officials and assigned teams are divided equally between sites and the agreed-upon National Championship protocols are followed.

Required Sessions

For an OQM there must be a minimum of 2 days and 4 sessions meeting requirements for official observation. Not all sessions may be counted toward the minimum. The count is dependent on age group, level of competition, and events offered. ***The balance of sessions not counted towards an OQM, LSC Sessions, should be recorded in a second meet in OTS.***

The following **are** eligible for OQM consideration

- Prelims and Finals except as noted in bullets below
- Timed Finals Sessions that include 13 & over 400IM and/or Relays

The following sessions are **not** eligible for OQM consideration.

¹ *Sanction is defined as a permit issued by an LSC to a USA Swimming group member to conduct a meet in conformance with all USA Swimming rules in which all swimmers are athlete members of USA Swimming, except as provided in Article 202.5.1*

² *For the purpose of this document, USA National Championship meets include Nationals, US Open, Pro Series, and Junior Nationals.*

- Timed Finals Sessions that **exclusively** include 1650Y/1500M, 1000Y/800M, or 500Y/400M Freestyle³
- Sessions that are exclusively for athletes aged 12 & under (see Zone exemption above)
- Time Trial sessions

Evaluated Positions

LSCs may request the level of evaluations to be available based on Evaluator availability. If an Evaluator determines that the meet does not fulfill the requirements for the position at the requested level, an evaluation should not be given. Below are the minimum requirements for requesting a meet and evaluations of a particular position. These are not all-inclusive. The [professional documents and evaluation templates](#) should be consulted for additional information

Select evaluation level for the meet based on the ***level of opportunities*** that can be fulfilled. Recertifications will be included on the final grid.

- N2 must include opportunities for education, discussion, mentoring, and introduction of concepts
- N3 must include everything for N2 so officials may show proficiency, plus additional opportunities

Position	N2	N3
<p>Minimum Deck Official Staffing Requirements</p> <p>If multiple venues or pools, officials must be equally divided for equity. The assigned team should also be balanced by site/pool.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Referee • Admin Referee • Deck Referee • Starter • 2 Chief Judges on a dedicated team (may include a Team Lead CJ) * • Preferred Stroke officials • Preferred 1 start/turn official per 2 lanes <p>*A minimum of 2 CJs per pool if multiple pools are used.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Referee • Admin Referee • Asst Admin Referee • 2 Deck Referees • 2 Starters • Team Lead Chief Judge • 2 additional Chief Judges on a dedicated team* • Stroke officials • Preferred 1 start/turn official per 2 lanes <p>*A minimum of 2 CJs per pool if multiple pools are used. N3 meets should have no fewer than 3 CJ's including a team lead.</p>
Stroke Briefing	<p>Provided all officials attend, a minimum of one stroke briefing must precede the meet and be observed by National Evaluator. Additional briefings may be conducted prior to sessions as deemed necessary by the Meet Referee or designee.</p>	
Stroke and Turn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of deck protocols and jurisdiction defined during Officials Briefing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotation through Stroke and Turn positions, • Possible rotation through relief and/or reserve

³All USA National Championship meets including Futures are exempt from this requirement.

