Requesting and Recording
Relay Lead-Off Splits and Initial Distance Splits

Relay Lead-off Splits

Relay lead-off splits, when recorded by the automatic timing system, are automatically stored in the VSI database and the SWIMS database and may be used as official times. These splits do not need to be requested by the coach or swimmer.

Initial Distance Splits

Splits from an initial distance of a longer event that is swum in accordance with USA Swimming Rules and Regulations will only be recorded in the SWIMS database if requested by the coach or swimmer.

Request at a meet:

It is preferable that the request be made prior to the event being swum (and is required for an initial distance split in backstroke) as this will allow the use of backup timers in case the time is not recorded by the automatic timing system.

A separate card with the swimmer's name, club, heat and lane as well as the distance for which the time is requested should be given to the Referee or Administrative Referee.

If watches are to be used for back-up, three additional timers are needed. The assigned lane timers may not act in that capacity.

If an initial distance split request is obtained for a backstroke event the Stroke & Turn official in who's jurisdiction the finish occurs must confirm that a legal backstroke finish was made at the finish of the slit distance.

The official time from the timing console printout as well as the watch times will be written on the card. If the back-up times are needed, watch-pad adjustments for the heat should be made in accordance with USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

The official time will be entered into the meet database in a new event created by the Recorder for this purpose.

If the request is received after the event has been swum, and the time was recorded by the automatic timing system, the time is entered into the database as described above.

Initial distance splits at 50 meters in a long course pool cannot be used unless far-end pads are being used as the primary timing system. If far-end pads are not being used, watch times are not acceptable for this purpose.

Request after a meet:

Notify the Top16/NTV Chair (Currently Terry Randolph) of the request. Initial distance splits for backstroke cannot be requested after the fact for backstroke as a legal finish cannot be confirmed.

Use of Initial Distance Slits

The recording of initial distance splits by meet personnel or the entry of the splits into the SWIMS database does not mean that the times can be used for all purposes. It is not the responsibility of meet personnel to determine when and for purposes these times can be used.