

**SOUTH TEXAS SWIMMING, Inc.**  
**Safety Guidelines and Warm-up Procedures**

**A. WARM-UP PROCEDURES**

- I. Assigned warm-up Procedures.
  - a. Warm-up lanes and times will be assigned to competing teams based on number of entrants.
  - b. All warm-up activities will be coordinated by the coach(es) supervising that lane
  - c. Dive sprints may be done only under the direct supervision of the coach
- II. Open warm-up procedures.

**LANE USE**

<b>POOL</b>	<b>PUSH/PACE</b>	<b>DIVES/SPRINTS</b>	<b>GENERAL WARMUP</b>
8 Lanes	1 and 8	2 and 7	3 through 6
6 Lanes	1 and 6	2 and 5	3 and 4

- a. The first ½ of the assigned warm-up time shall be general warm-up for all lanes.
- b. Push/Pace Lanes will push off one or two lengths from starting end.
- c. Sprint lanes are for diving from blocks or for backstroke starts in specified lanes at designated times. One way only! Dive sprints may only be done under the direct supervision of the coach.
- d. There will be no diving in the general warm-up lanes. Circle swimming only.
- e. No kick boards, pull buoys, or hand paddles may be used.

**3. Safety Guidelines**

- a. Coaches are responsible for the following:
  - 1. Instructing swimmers regarding safety guidelines and warm-up procedures as they apply to conduct at meets and practices
  - 2. Actively supervising their swimmers throughout the warm-up sessions, at meets, and all practices.
  - 3. Maintaining as much contact with their swimmers AS POSSIBLE, both verbal and visual, throughout the warm-up period.
- b. The host team will be responsible for the following.
  - 1) A minimum of four (4) marshals who report to and receive instructions from the Meet Referee and/or Director shall be on deck during the entire warm-up session(s).
  - 2) Marshals must be members of United States Swimming.
  - 3) Marshals will have authority to remove from the deck for the remainder of a warm-up session, any swimmer or coach found to be in violation of these Procedures.
  - 4) The host team shall provide signs for each lane at both ends of the pool, indicating their designated use during warm-ups.
  - 5) Warm-up times and lane assignments will be published in the meet information and posted at several locations around the pool area. The following statement will appear in the meet information: "South Texas Swimming Safety Guidelines and Warm-up Procedures will be in effect at this meet."
  - 6) An announcer will be on duty for the entire warm-up session to announce lane and/or time changes and to assist with the conduct of the warm-up.
  - 7) Hazards in locker rooms, on deck, or areas used by coaches, swimmers, or officials will be either removed or clearly marked.

**B. MISCELLANEOUS NOTES**

- 1. Backstrokers will ensure that they are not starting as the same time as a swimmer on the blocks. Swimmers shall not step up on the blocks if there is a backstroker waiting to start.
- 2. Swimmers shall not jump or dive into the pool to stop another swimmer on a recalled start.
- 3. Swimmers are required to exit the pool on completion of their warm-up to allow other swimmers adequate warm-up time. The pool is not for visiting or playing during the warm-up session.
- 4. Warm-up procedures will be enforced for any breaks scheduled during the competition.
- 5. No hand paddles, fins, or kickboards may be used at any time during general, specific, or between warmup unless approved by the Referee.

***NOTE: Host Clubs, with the consent of the Meet Referee, may modify the time schedule or recommended lane assignments depending on pool configuration, number of swimmers, or other considerations; so long as safety considerations are not compromised. Any such changes will be announced and/or prominently posted in the pool area.***