



Diving Judge Expectations

While there are many aspects to being a good diving judge, knowledge of the rules is a must. Knowing the rules regarding the five elements of dives (starting position, approach, takeoff, flight and positions, and entry into the water) is essential to being a diving judge. It is important for diving judges to review the diving guidelines and silhouettes frequently.

Diving judges should:

- Be sure to consider all five elements of a dive when scoring. Judge the entire dive independently, selecting a score promptly upon completion of the dive.
- Be consistent and fair to all the divers. Score all divers on the same basis.
- Remember the specific rules requiring deductions by a diving judge.
- Trust instincts, judge what is seen and use the entire range of numbers 10-0. Do not allow outside factors such as other officials, spectators, coaches and team members to enter into the judging process. Individual judges do not have to agree with the rest of the panel; the score in the middle isn't always the correct one.
- If in doubt, give the benefit to the diver.
- Do not show the score for a dive until it has been called for and not delay once their score has been called for.

It is important to hear the announcer read the dive and dive description in order to develop a mental picture of the dive to be completed.

Begin judging the dive when the starting position has been established and do not stop judging the dive until the diver has passed below the surface of the water.

Once the dive is completed, select a score quickly without consulting another diving judge.

If there is an error in a score read by the announcer, bring it to the attention of the diving referee immediately.

Diving judges who are also coaches may converse with their divers for 20 seconds before or after his/her dive, or when the next dive is announced, whichever comes first. Coaching must cease when the next diver assumes his/her starting position on the board. The privilege can be suspended if the Diving Referee feels the coach/diving judge is not adhering to these guidelines.