

2012

AUCKLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS (50m)

incorporating 'Sub-Divisionals'

Thursday 23rd – Sunday 26th February

NEWSLETTER 22.2.12

Preparation for NZ Opens

The ASA Opens is great preparation for our athletes for SNZ Opens/Olympic Trials at the end of March.

Equally it is an opportunity for us to test our systems and to ensure that everything is in the best shape possible for the same event.

We have announced under separate cover that the ASA has acquired and will be installing 8 new Olympic style starting blocks at West Wave. This will involve some changes and we will be working with those this weekend to test our systems.

The main change will be that to use the new starting blocks it will involve the sprint events being started from the dive-well end of the pool rather than at the scoreboard-end of the pool. This is a major change.

We will be making every effort to try and work this change from the beginning of the ASA Opens (Session 1). We will not have final confirmation until roughly the beginning of warm-up (6:00 pm) which direction we will be working on Thursday, but will notify as soon as is possible pending the outcome of the system test conducted earlier in the day.

On Friday our electronic system supplier (and service agent) HTS will be at the pool during the day working on our touch pads and system integration. If there are issues which arise from our live system testing on Thursday night they will be seeking to repair those issues during the day on Friday. This should mean that regardless of the outcome on Thursday that from Friday and throughout the balance of the programme

this weekend all 50-meter events will start at the normal dive-well start end of the pool and will finish at the scoreboard-end of the pool. This will be the way in which the 50 meter events will be swum off the new starting blocks for Olympic Trials next month.

We would ask for your understanding this weekend and if there are issues with the timing we hope you will appreciate that this is a live system test to ensure that we are prepared and ready to offer the best system possible for our athletes during the Olympic Trials.

Please also note that our supplier will be attempting to install the new starting blocks on Friday during the day. They tell us that if all goes according to plan this should result in a full and complete installation by the end of the day (in time for Session 2). From where I stand today I am unable to confirm exactly how much progress will be made on Friday but we will be seeking to ensure minimal disruption throughout the meet.

Regards

Brian Palmer
Executive Officer
Swimming Auckland



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