

Splash Times

HIGH-POINT SELECTIONS

To create a high-point report, we go to Reports/Scores. Once we select the Report Type as Individual and Gender as Male/Female, there are three choices under Athlete Criteria, each producing its own distinctive report.

No Age Criteria – This will list the point scores in order for all athletes, irrespective of age group. Points are calculated based on the swimmers' points earned competing in their respective age groups, though the high-point report, for example, may show an 11-12 boy top-ranked with 67 points, followed by a 15 & Over with 63 points.

Use Athlete Age – This selection determines how Meet Manager uses an athlete's age to create high-point scoring. It is the most common setting used for age-group meets. At the recent Gator Holiday Classic in Ocala, for seeding purposes the 1650 was swum as a 13 & Over event, though all other events for those ages were categorized as 13-14 and 15 & Over. It was set up as a Multi-Age Group event for those two age groups. When selecting "Use Athlete Age" for high-point, we inserted all age groups: 10 & U, 11-12, 13-14 and 15 & O. (It's not necessary to list age-groups if the meet strictly offers standard age groups.) This set-up allowed the program to allocate points in the 1650 to swimmers in the two older respective age groups. If we had not listed the age groups as above, it would have excluded 1650 points due to it being a 13 & Over event.

Event Age - Athletes are scored based on the age group defined for that specific event rather than their actual age. The Event Age setting is useful when your meet has events that are intended to score based on a specific age group, especially if those events include multiple age groups combined for seeding but want to score within those event-defined age groups. A high-point report from the same Gator meet as Event Age shows separately the 13 & Over scoring totals from the 1650 and scoring for 13-14 and 15 & Over in all other events.

USING SPLITS TO VERIFY TIMES

Split times are useful data and can be used to determine accurate final times - particularly in distance events - and are easily accessed and viewed in the top right section of the Run screen. Splits may be displayed as either cumulative or subtracted.

Let's use a 500 Free race as an example. A female swimmer completes the race and it is determined that she may have been a 50 short, completing only 18 lengths. The counter gave the orange lap counter signal and the timers responded to that, stopping their watches as the swimmer "finished." A look at the splits shows that the swimmer had consistent subtracted splits throughout at roughly 35 seconds per 50. The halfway split was 2:50, which sets up an expectation that the swimmer would complete the race near 5:40, or perhaps several seconds beyond (5:45).

Checking the swimmer's final pad touch, it's noted that she activated the pad at 5:10, which would not be reasonable if she is completing each 50 consistently in 35 seconds. With this reasoning, it becomes obvious the swimmer is two lengths short of a 500.

Conversely, a swimmer may miscount and swim too many laps, such as 22 in a 500. Checking splits would provide information to determine if a swimmer did indeed complete an extra 50.

Another case of using splits would be if a swimmer completes a 200 and did not activate the pad, for example, at the 150. Even if the swimmer has a button backup time, it is preferable to use the finishing pad time from the splits window.

Deck officials will often keep count for each swimmer on splits recording sheets, and timers may utilize this practice as well. However, they are prone to make occasional mistakes and the more evidence provided, the greater the level of accuracy.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM SPLASH TIMING!