

Setting up USB Ports for MEETWARE, TIMEWARE 2 and POLOWARE 2

If you are using a laptop computer with a USB ports only, you will use a USB to Serial adapter to connect an older Computer Timing Interface (for swim timing) or Polo Interface (for water polo). Newer Computer Timing Interfaces come with a USB A to USB B cable. In either case, you will need to install the software driver for the USB device before Windows will recognize it. If you purchase a USB to Serial adapter cable, the driver normally comes on a CD with the cable. If you purchase a Computer Timing Interface with a USB cable, the driver is included with the MEETWARE or TIMEWARE 2 Software. If your CD gets lost, you can also find links to the drivers at <http://www.istime.com/Service/TechSupport.htm> under Hardware Support/Computers.

Once the driver is installed, you can set your software to the COM port assigned. For MEETWARE or TIMEWARE 2, go to Utilities/Setup Hardware. For POLWARE 2, go to Preferences. The screen will show the available COM ports, but if multiple ports are available you may not know which one to use. Also, if your laptop gets used with different USB devices when it's not used for timing, you may find that the USB adapter/cable gets assigned to a different COM port the next time you plug it in. If this happens, you will get an error when you start the deck cable diagnostic, timing or running a polo match. Here's a way to quickly determine which COM port has been assigned to your USB cable:

- Have the Computer Timing Interface or Polo Interface connected to the computer's USB port and plugged in to power
- Minimize the IST software you are using
- On your Desktop, right-click on My Computer and select Manage
- Under System Tools, select Device Manager
- Under Ports, you will see one of the following:
 - For a USB to Serial Adapter: **Prolific USB-to-Serial Com Port (COM#)** with # being the port number (or something similar if you didn't buy your adapter from IST)
 - For a USB A to USB B Cable: **USB Serial Port (COM#)** with # being the port number
- Maximize MEETWARE or TIMEWARE 2, go to Utilities/Setup Hardware and set the Timer Port to the COM# from above. For POLWARE 2, go to Preferences. Set the Main Scoreboard, Game Clock, Shot Clock and Button Ports all to the COM# from above.
- To test the port, in MEETWARE or TIMEWARE 2 go to Meets/Diagnostics/Deck Cable. If the Status is OK and you see the changing number in the Marker box, you're ready to go. For POLOWARE 2 go to Match/Hardware Diagnostic to see if your clocks respond to the diagnostic as expected.

Note: This procedure works for Windows XP, Vista and 7.