

**Subject:** Officials Newsletter: New Rules You Need Know

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USA Swimming Officials Newsletter | November 2017



## OFFICIALS NEWSLETTER

### **The Scrivener's Error**

*By: Jim Holcomb, Chair, National Officials Committee*

A scrivener's error (aka clerical error) is a typographical error or the unintentional addition or omission of a word, phrase, or figure in writing or copying something on a record. Such an error is made by mistake and should be readily corrected without objection. Why do I bring this up?

At our 2017 convention in Dallas during a workshop on coaches and officials working together, a member of the audience brought up the idea that a mistake in filling out the disqualification form should result in the disqualification being overturned. The simple answer to that idea is "No." Clerical errors should be corrected. The DQ slip is informational. When the referee, after vetting the call, determines the DQ is valid, the swimmer is disqualified. After the vetting process, the slip is filled out to provide information to the swimmer and/or coach. The rule book gives only slight mention to the DQ slips, saying only "shall report any violations to the Referee on signed slips detailing the event, the heat number, the lane number and the infraction (102.13.3)."

If the slip is filled out incorrectly due to a scrivener's error, correct the slip. The DQ is valid. Having vetted the call, the referee decided the DQ was valid. A clerical error in filling out the form does not invalidate the call.

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### **Change to the Freestyle Leg of the I.M. & Medley Relay**

*By: Jay Thomas – Chairman, USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee*

At the General Congress in Budapest, Hungary – FINA changed its rules regarding Medley swimming. At the 2017 USA Swimming House of Delegates meeting, we adopted language to conform with the new FINA rule.

As always, any further questions that arise should first be directed to your LSC Official's Committee Chair.

[Read Rule Language](#)

[Read FAQs](#)

## Maxwell Award Winner

*Jack Yetter, Illinois Swimming*

Each LSC may submit a candidate that is deserving of recognition, and the winning officials are selected by the National Officials Committee to be recognized in Swimming World magazine every two months. This month's recognition goes to **Jack Yetter** of Illinois Swimming.



Jack was nominated by someone who is not an official, but rather a parent at the St. Charles, IL Swim Team, who has worked with Jack for many and wanted to show appreciation for all of Jack's efforts and dedication to the sport.

Jack has worked at many local, regional, and championship meets and is "hands down" the hardest working official at any meet he works, usually working every session of every championship meet. Jack has served on the Illinois Swimming Officials Committee to help organize training clinics, and has averaged 12 clinics a year, helping expand the number of officials in the LSC. Jack currently serves as the Officials Chair for Illinois Swimming.

**Congratulations Jack!**

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