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June 5, 2004

To: General Chairs  
Officials Chairs  
Grand Prix Meet Directors  
Rules and Regulations Committee  
Board of Directors, USA Swimming

From: Don Hart, Chairman

Subj.: Amendment to Rule 102.10 Disqualifications – Effective Immediately

During a committee meeting on June 4 and 5, 2004 in Seattle the Rules and Regulations addressed the need to amend the rule for disqualifications to conform with FINA rule SW 10.15. Specifically this dealt with the use of a pace device during competition. The rule amendment and interpretation is attached. We would request that you disseminate it widely throughout the LSC's and other swimming community and at the up coming competitions.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Should you have specific questions please contact me at [duckhart@charter.net](mailto:duckhart@charter.net).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Don Hart'.

Don Hart, Chairman  
Rules and Regulations

USA SWIMMING  
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

AMENDMENT TO RULES TO CONFORM  
TO FINA RULES

*Effective June 5, 2004*

BACKGROUND REGARDING PACE MAKING DEVICES

FINA has recently determined that certain wearable radio receivers that have recently been brought to market are not permitted. These devices, designed to be worn by swimmers in the water, can transmit information from a coach or someone else on deck. FINA rule SW 10.15 with language prohibiting pace making is the basis for this FINA determination. The Rules & Regulations Committee has conformed our rules to those of FINA.

102.10 DISQUALIFICATIONS

.10 No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help his/her speed, pace or buoyancy during a race. Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the Referee.

INTERPRETATION

The official interpretation of 102.10.10 as amended to conform to FINA rule SW 10.15 is that no mechanical or electronic device than can convey pace or speed may be worn in competition.

AUTHORITY

Article 510.1 states in part that “the Rules & Regulations Committee may alter, amend or repeal any portion of Part One at any time to conform to the rules of the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA).”

The USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee approved the change to USA Swimming 102.10.10 and the interpretation, both shown above, on June 5, 2004, effective immediately.

Attested to:

  
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Don Hart, Chairman, Rules & Regulations Committee