

# USA SWIMMING

## RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

### 1999 PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS

Version: Final House of Delegates Copy (September 1999)

HK-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 37 102.25 MEET RESULTS

**Proposed by:** Arvydas Barzdukas on behalf of John Hirschmann

**Purpose:** To clarify that requirements for printed meet results also apply to computerized results posted to a website.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**102.25 MEET RESULTS** - Copies of printed meet results shall be provided as directed by the LSC within fourteen (14) days after the meet. The results may also be provided on a computer disk or posted to a website made known to meet participants. ~~Printed~~ Meet results shall..... (no further change)

HK-2	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 49 105.5 PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

**Proposed by:** Arvydas Barzdukas

**Purpose:** The starting rule change made in March 1998 now permits all swimmers to do this. Therefore, this exception for swimmers with disabilities is no longer needed.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

#### 105.5 PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

##### .1 Start

A, B, C, D - no change

For freestyle, breaststroke and butterfly, a forward start (facing the course) shall be used. The Referee, however, may allow modifications such as the following:

~~A. The swimmer may start from the front of the block so that a forward step need not be taken;~~  
(Reletter subsequent sections)

HK-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 64 ARTICLE 207.2 USA SWIMMING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Proposed by:** Senior Swimming Committee

**Purpose:** To correct terminology and allow for the current A, B and C finals in National Championships

*Recommendation: Rules & Regulations Committee recommends adoption.*

### 207.2 USA SWIMMING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

*(No change in first paragraph)*

*Make the following changes in paragraph 2:*

If the following USA Swimming team selection trials are held in conjunction with the USA Swimming National Championships, only United States citizens eligible to make such teams will be allowed to compete in the A (championship) finals from which team selections are chosen: Pan American Games Trials, and the Pan Pacific ~~Games~~ Championships Trials. Foreign swimmers may compete in all relays, but in individual preliminary events and B and C (consolation and bonus) finals only. When the selection of more than one of the above teams necessitates picking athletes from beyond eighth (8) place in a specific event, this rule also applies to the B and C (consolation and bonus) finals in that event. Finals will be seeded accordingly."

R-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 11 GLOSSARY

**Proposed by:** Suzanne Heath, National OVC Coordinator

**Purpose:** To allow computerized verification forms

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**OFFICIAL VERIFICATION CARD (OVC)** - a ~~three-copy~~ form for certifying a national qualifying time .....  
*(no further change)*

R-2	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 11 GLOSSARY

**Proposed by:** Open Water Swimming

**Purpose:** To add Open Water terms as a separate section to the glossary.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

**CONSIDER ALL UNDERLINED**

**OFFICIAL GLOSSARY**  
**Open Water Swimming Words and Terms**

**CHECK POINT**--A point along the course where a swimmer's progress is noted. (OWS)

**COUNTDOWN**--The announcement at regular intervals of the time remaining before the start of the race. (OWS)

**CUTOFF TIME**--The time established and announced prior to the start when the race will officially end and all swimmer who have not completed the race distance will be ordered from the course. The time may be a set time or a time after the first swimmer finishes. (OWS)

**DRAFTING OR SLIPSTREAMING**--Swimming behind or next to another swimmer or support craft for the purpose of taking advantage of the reduced water resistance created by the former's wake. (OWS)

**ESCORT CRAFT**--Boats or paddle boards used for the swimmers' safety and logistical support. (OWS)

**FINISH POINT**--The physical location where the race terminates. (OWS)

**GREASE**--Substance used by the swimmers to reduce friction or reduce the loss of body heat during a swim. (OWS)

**HONORARY STARTER**--A VIP assigned by the Meet Director to physically activate the starting signal or fire the starting pistol. (OWS)

**INDIVIDUAL SWIM**--An individual unpaced and uncontested swim for time and/or distance, not normally considered to be part of a competitive race. Equivalent to a time trial or a record attempt against time in pool swimming. (OWS)

**LEAD BOAT**--The boat used as a course guide for the swimmers, usually following the course a short distance in front of the leading swimmer. (OWS)

**NAVIGATIONAL AID**--A device used to accurately measure and establish a course to be swum. (OWS)

**NEOPRENE CAP**--A swimming cap made of material that will eliminate or reduce the loss of body heat from the head. (OWS)

**PACING**--An attempt by a person not participating in the race to enter water with the intent of providing moral support or otherwise assisting a swimmer in setting the tempo of the race. (OWS)

**PADDLER**--A person on a paddle board or manually propelled craft who supports a swimmer or group of swimmers. (OWS)

**SANCTIONING LSC**--The Local Swim Committee that issues the sanction for an event. (OWS)

**SAFETY AND MEDICAL EVACUATION PLANS**--Written plans for the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency or need for medical intervention. (OWS)

**SUPPORT PERSONNEL**--Persons in the swimmer's escort craft who provide for feeding, navigating, coaching and other supporting activities for swimmer. (OWS)

**TURN**--A point on the course where the swimmers reverse or change direction of the swim. (OWS)

**VENUE**--Geographical area and environs where the swim is conducted. (OWS)

**WAVE**--The second or subsequent start used if the start area can not accommodate all contestants at the same time. (OWS)

R-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 16 ARTICLE 102 CONDUCT AND OFFICIATING OF ALL SWIMMING COMPETITION

**Proposed by:** Rules & Regulations Committee

**Purpose:** To coordinate this section with existing section 205.3.1 F.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval*

**102.1 EVENTS** - ~~In planning any meet, careful consideration must be given the demands to be made upon swimmers, officials and spectators, in that order. Long, tiresome meets with too many events and/or entries, often result in keeping small children up late at night.~~ Meets should be planned to terminate within a maximum period of eight (8) hours of competitive events in any one day and to provide adequate meal and rest breaks and sheltered rest areas, properly supervised. Refer to Section 205.3.1 F for additional provisions.

R-4	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 17 102.1.2 AGE GROUP EVENTS

**Proposed by:** Age Group Planning Committee

**Purpose:** The committee believes it is important to include events which promote aerobic training and development in these age groups. The recognition of additional events does not require inclusion of the events in any given meet.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation. Note related references in R-21.*

**102.1.2 AGE GROUP EVENTS** - *(delete current text)* Competitions may be composed of events selected from the following recognized list of events or other such events/meet types as may be sanctioned by the LSC.

**10 Years and Younger**

50-100-200-400/500 freestyle  
50-100 backstroke  
50-100 breaststroke  
50-100 butterfly  
100-200 individual medley  
200 medley relay  
200 freestyle relay

**11,12 Years**

50-100-200-400/500, 800/1000, 1500/1650 freestyle  
50-100-200 backstroke  
50-100-200 breaststroke  
50-100-200 butterfly  
100-200-400 individual medley  
200-400 medley relay  
200-400 freestyle relay

**13,14,15,16,17,18 Years**

50-100-200-400/500, 800/1000, 1500/1650 freestyle  
100-200 backstroke  
100-200 breaststroke  
100-200 butterfly  
200-400 individual medley  
200-400 medley relay  
200-400-800 freestyle relay

R-5	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 18 102.4 RELAYS

**Proposed by:** Arvydas Barzdukas

**Purpose:** The current language appears to make swimming all relay heats in finals (which in some cases may exceed two heats) illegal. Some LSCs when swimming a 3-day program, swim the 800 Free Relay on day one, all 200 Free and Medley Relay heats during prelims on days 2 and 3, and all 400 Free and Medley Relay heats during finals again on days 2 and 3.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

## 102.4 RELAYS

.1 and .2 - *No change*

~~.3 Timed final relays shall be swum in seeded heats, with not more than two heats (which shall be the fastest heats) conducted during the final sessions meets holding preliminaries and finals, and the balance of heats conducted during the preliminaries.~~

~~.4 Relays conducted as preliminaries and finals shall be seeded and conducted in the same manner as individual events.~~

*Renumber subsequent paragraphs.*

R-6	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 25 102.12 OFFICIALS

**Proposed by:** Stan Benson, House of Delegates representative from Oregon Swimming

**Purpose:** To ensure that officials meet the minimum training standards established by the National Officials Committee.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends rejection of this legislation. As an alternate, it recommends that these standards be adopted by resolution for inclusion in the USA Swimming Policy Manual..*

## 102.12 OFFICIALS

- .1 The National Official's Committee shall adopt minimum official's certification standards. The Committee shall review the certification standards of all LSCs to determine if they meet the minimum official's certification standards adopted by the Committee.
  - A. Officials assigned at any USA Swimming Championship or Trials meet shall be required to be certified by an LSC that has adopted certification standards that have been approved by the Officials Committee.
  - B. Officials certified by an LSC whose official's certification standards are determined as not meeting the standards adopted by the Committee shall not be eligible for either National or National Championship certification.
  - C. Officials holding National or National Championship certifications on the effective date of this rule shall be eligible to renew their existing level of certification but cannot advance to a higher level without conforming to the above requirements.
- .2 The National Officials Chairman may grant waivers to 102.12.1 to accommodate situations where it is judged to be impractical to meet the standards.

*(Renumber subsequent paragraphs in this section)*

R-7	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 25 102.12.5 OFFICIALS FOR USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Proposed by:** Ron Van Pool, Program Operations Vice President

**Purpose:** Under the FINA "no recall" starting procedure to be used at Junior Championships and above, the recall starter is no longer needed.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

### 102.12.5 Officials for USA Swimming Championships

A. (no change)

B. The following officials shall be required and assigned for all USA Swimming championship and team selection trials competitions:

1 Referee

1 Administrative Referee

1 Starter

~~1 Recall Starter~~

1 Chief Judge ..... (no further change)

R-8	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 26 102.13 REFEREE

**Proposed by:** Frank Ching, Member, National Officials Committee

**Purpose:** There have been recent incidents at our national meets where the intentional or inadvertent use of laser pointing devices and/or artificial noisemakers have disrupted or disturbed swimmers on the starting blocks. An overall ban on such devices would avoid one of several potential distractions at the start of every race.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

### 102.13 REFEREE

.6 ~~He may at his/her discretion~~ May prohibit the use of any bell, siren horn device that disrupts or interferes with the meet, such as a laser pointing device or other artificial noisemaker during the meet.

R-9	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 27-29 102.14 STARTER

**Proposed by:** Ron Van Pool, Program Operations Vice President

**Purpose:** To adopt FINA starting procedures for all levels of USA Swimming competition, with the "no recall" alternative to be used at Junior Championships and above. This will allow USA Swimming athletes to experience and become familiar with the dynamics of the starting procedures at international meets that they may attend.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

## 102.14 STARTER

### .1 Preparation

A, B, C - (no change)

~~D - Notifies swimmers of the distance and the event.~~

#### E D Optional Instructions

~~Stroke(s) to be used and the order of swimming them.~~

~~Number of pool lengths to be swum.~~

Event, stroke and distance.

Advise heat when a swimmer is attempting a time at an initial distance.

For backstroke starts, the command "Place your feet."

Notify relay swimmers that all but the last swimmer must leave the pool immediately upon completion of their leg.

### .2 The Start

~~A - The Starter, upon receiving clearance from the Referee (for all events except backstroke and medley relay) directs swimmers to step onto the starting block or platform and remain there. Refer to 101.3.1 for backstroke start requirements.~~

~~B - After the Referee's whistle, the Starter instructs the swimmers and directs them to "take your mark," to which they must immediately respond by assuming a starting position with at least one foot at the front of the starting block or platform. Sufficient time should follow "take your mark" to enable swimmers to assume starting positions, but no swimmer shall be in motion immediately before the starting signal is given.~~

~~C - At all USA Swimming Championship meets as defined in Article 206.1, the following starting procedures shall be used:~~

A. At the commencement of each heat, the Referee shall signal to the swimmers by a short series of whistles to remove all clothing except for swimwear, followed by a long whistle indicating that they should take their positions on the starting platform and remain there. In backstroke and medley relay events, at the referee's first long whistle the swimmers shall immediately enter the water and at the second long whistle shall return without undue delay to the starting position (101.3.1).

B. When the swimmers and officials are ready, the Referee shall signal with an out-stretched arm to the starter that the swimmers are under the Starter's control.



- C. On the Starter's command "take your mark", the swimmers shall immediately assume their starting position with at least one foot at the front of the block. When all swimmers are stationary, the starter shall give the starting signal.

**.3 Warning Signal - (no change)**

**.4 False Starts**

A (no change)

- B All swimmers leaving their marks before the starting signal is given shall be charged with a false start. Except when the "no recall" procedure under paragraph H is used, a swimmer who has false started because of the action or movement of another competitor may be relieved of the responsibility for the false start and a false start may be charged only to the offender. (No further change)

C (no change)

- D Except as stated in paragraph H, when the starting signal is given and one or more swimmers have obtained an unfair advantage, all swimmers shall be recalled at once by a second signal.

E & F (no change)

- G. Any swimmer who is charged with committing or causing a false start shall be disqualified and shall not be permitted to swim the event. ~~This rule shall not apply to USA Swimming international events or to the Trials for Pan American, Pan Pacific, World Championships or Olympic teams, where current FINA false start rules shall apply except that all false starts shall be recalled.~~ Except as specified in paragraph H, if the false start is not recalled and the race is permitted to proceed, the swimmer shall not be disqualified.

H. For USA Swimming Championships or team selection trials the starting procedure shall be as follows:

Any swimmer starting before the starting signal has been given, shall be disqualified. If the starting signal sounds before the disqualification is declared, the race shall continue and the swimmer or swimmers shall be disqualified upon completion of the race. If the disqualification is declared before the starting signal, the signal shall not be given, but the remaining swimmers shall be called back, be reminded by the starter of the penalties, and start again.

The above procedure may be used at other meets provided the recall procedure is included in the Meet Information.

- I. A swimmer shall not be disqualified for an illegal starting position at the start ~~or charged with a false start~~ if the race is permitted to proceed without recall. Enforcement of the correct starting position is the responsibility of the Starter who, with the concurrence of the referee, may impose the appropriate penalty for violation before the starting signal is given.

R-10	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Proposed by:** Ron Van Pool, Program Operations Vice President

**Purpose:** With the FINA "no recall" procedure, a recall starter is no longer needed at USA Swimming Championships.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**102.15 RECALL STARTER** - A recall starter may be assigned to immediately discharge a recall sound device (a) if the automatic equipment is not properly functioning on the starting signal, (b) if a false start has been observed, and (c) to assist the Starter in any desired manner. The position of the recall starter and the type of signal to be used for the recall shall be made known to the swimmers. ~~A recall starter is mandatory in USA Swimming Championships.~~

R-11	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 31      102.17.3      TIMING PERSONNEL AND THEIR DUTIES

**Proposed by:** Arvydas Barzdukas

**Purpose:** The Timing Judge will observe when there is a discrepancy between the automatic versus the semi-automatic and/or manual times. Having this additional information is as useful in determining what should be the Official Time as knowing the swimmer touched late or missed the pad. Timers know when they have inadvertently misused their button or watch at a finish.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**102.17.3.B Head Lane Timer**

- .4 Report if the swimmer has delayed in touching or has missed the touch pad at the finish, or there is reason to believe the semi-automatic or manual times may be inaccurate."

R-12	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 32      ARTICLE 102.17      TIMING

**Proposed by:** John Kinney and Helen Brown

**Purpose:** To ensure that the Timing Equipment Operator can judge when a touchpad has malfunctioned or failed to record a finish touch.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**102.17.3**

**D Timing Equipment Operator** - The Timing Equipment Operator shall be responsible for the automatic or semi-automatic timing equipment, including the electronic starting system and scoreboard

(if used), and shall advise the Referee of any system problems that might affect the accuracy of times or whenever the touchpad is observed to have failed to record the finish when the swimmer completed the race. The timing equipment should be placed so that the operator is able to observe the finish of each race.

R-13	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 34 102.17.5 DETERMINATION OF OFFICIAL TIME

**Proposed by:** Arvydas Barzdukas

**Purpose:** In a situation where an entire heat is timed only by watches (because the primary (pad) system was never armed), it is necessary to go to other heats in order to perform a timing adjustment to reflect the difference between watch and pad times. The current rule book does not address this situation. That led to a protest when this happened during the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 circle-seeded heats during prelims of a major meet.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**102.17.5.E Adjustment for Malfunction on a Lane** - When a malfunction is confirmed on a lane, the backup times on that lane shall be adjusted by calculating the average difference between valid primary and valid back-up times in that heat, or if necessary, using times from heats immediately preceding and/or following that heat.

R-14	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 37 102.25 MEET RESULTS

**Proposed by:** Michael Lawrence, Illinois Swimming

**Purpose:** Easier confirmation that results are "official".

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**102.25. MEET RESULTS** — Copies of printed meet results shall be provided, ... The results may also be provided on a computer disk. Printed meet results shall include the following information:

- .1 Meet name, date, location, sanction number, and the pool length (25Y, 25M or 50M) must appear on every page and the pages must be numbered.

*(no further changes)*

R-15	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 37 102.25 MEET RESULTS

**Proposed by:** Edward Toatley, Ozark Swimming

**Purpose:** To require the inclusion of split times in official results.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends rejection to reduce burden on meet host. See alternate proposal R-15A.*

### **102.25 MEET RESULTS**

- .3 For each individual event, the order of finish in preliminaries, finals and swim-offs, when applicable, listing the swimmer's first and last name, age, club affiliation and official time; disqualified swimmers shall be listed last and indicated "DQ", with no times listed. Time Trial results shall be provided in the above format, when applicable. If the meet is computerized and connected directly to or interfaced with the automatic timing system then all the times listed in 102.17.4A shall be listed.

R-15A	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 37 102.25 MEET RESULTS

**Proposed by:** Rules & Regulations Committee

**Purpose:** As an alternate to R-15.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval. .*

### 102.25 MEET RESULTS

- .3 For each individual event, the order of finish in preliminaries, finals and swim-offs, when applicable, listing the swimmer's first and last name, age, club affiliation and official time; disqualified swimmers shall be listed last and indicated "DQ", with no times listed. Time Trial results shall be provided in the above format, when applicable. If the meet is computerized and connected directly to or interfaced with the automatic timing system then all initial distance times listed in 102.17.4A shall be made available upon request.

R-16	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 42 103.16 PACE CLOCKS

**Proposed by:** Arvydas Barzdukas

**Purpose:** Sanctioned competitions are held at many pools that do not have two visible pace clocks. This would conform the rules to actual practice in many LSCs.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

### 103.16 ~~LSC/AM~~ PACE CLOCKS

R-17	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 53 202.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTION

**Proposed by:** Anneliese Eggert on behalf of the Adapted Swimming Committee

**Purpose:** To condone current practices and allow greater flexibility in accommodating disabled swimmers at USA Swimming sanctioned meets. Example: allow disabled swimmers to be seeded into heats compatible with their time and in shorter distance events, rather than by age.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

### 202.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTION

*Add the following new subsection:*

.13 LSCs may develop special administrative standards and conditions to encourage athletes with disabilities to participate in their meets. Such conditions shall be included in the meet information.

R-18	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 55 202.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS

**Proposed by:** Suzanne Heath, National OVC Coordinator

**Purpose:** Time trials officiated to the same standard as the meet itself are being observed in many of the LSCs hosting college conference meets. Other LSCs refuse because the subject is not covered in the rulebook, thereby creating undue havoc, lots of phone calls and bad feelings. Practically speaking, these time trials are being observed, whether there's a rule for it or not. It makes more sense to include the subject and set up criteria for this observation than to leave it out and condone poor observation and improperly observed swims.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

#### **202.5. REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS —**

.1 (no change)

.2 The meet must be a season-culminating Championship, e.g., League, Conference, District, Sectional, State, Regional, or be specifically approved by the USA Swimming Program Operations Vice President ~~upon~~ through application to the National OVC Coordinator. A time trial held in conjunction with the season-culminating championship meet that is officiated to the same standard as the championship meet may also be observed.

R-19	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 55 202.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS

**Proposed by:** Rules & Regulations Committee

**Purpose:** To move existing 202.5.1 to the beginning of the section since it is not a requirement but a statement of the purpose of the section. A new .4 is added to the section to assure that observers at these national championships are of national caliber.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**202.5. REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS —** Official times achieved as observed swims in collegiate, high school, YMCA, Masters, etc. meets, held under other than USA Swimming rules, will be acceptable for Official Verification Certification (OVC) purposes. Swims may be observed by assigned USA

Swimming officials for conformance with USA Swimming technical rules in a meet conducted under other than USA Swimming rules if all of the following conditions are met:

- .1 *(Moved to beginning of above paragraph)*
- .2, .3 & .4 *Renumber as .1, .2 and .3 respectively.*

*ADD FOLLOWING NEW PARAGRAPH:*

.4 USA Swimming observers for collegiate national championships and YMCA national championships shall be appointed by the National Events Coordinator and Program Operations Vice President.

R-20 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 55 202.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS

**Proposed by:** Suzanne Heath, National OVC Coordinator

**Purpose:** To conform to ruling by the Rules Committee on this issue and continued re-occurrence of the question.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

### **202.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS**

- .5 The USA Swimming observers present at the meet must be notified, prior to the start of competition, of the individual swims for which certification will be requested if the meet is not receiving blanket observation (all swims observed).

*Add new subsection:*

- .7 If a meet is receiving blanket observation (all swims observed), a time for any swim in compliance with USA Swimming rules as stated in Section 202.4.4 above will be considered an official time for the swimmer.

R-21 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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**Location:** Pages 58-60 ARTICLE 205 AGE GROUP PROGRAM

**Proposed by:** Age Group Planning Committee

**Purpose:** These proposals are intended to clean up the age group white pages, clarify the events which may be selected for Zone and LSC championships, and have 205.7 conform in style with 205.6 and 205.8. Note: Would be affected by changes proposed in R-4.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

### 205.3 PROGRAM AND EVENTS

.1 *no change*

- A *no change*
- B USA Swimming shall establish and publish age group motivational times ~~standards~~ for the recognized events in 102.1.2
- C *no change*
- D *no change*
- E Age Group meets may be designated by ability classifications (~~i.e., A, B, C~~)

### 205.6 ZONE AGE GROUP PROGRAM - Zone Age Group Championship Meet - *no change*

.1 *no change*

.2 Those events in 102.1.2 are recommended for use for zone meets. Each Zone shall select their events from the list of events in 102.1.2. A Zone, at its option, may...

.3 *no change*

.4 *no change*

.5 *no change*

### 205.7 LSC AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS - (*delete current text*)

.1 The meets shall be in conformance with the contractual obligations of USA Swimming, including the time period, format and number, sponsorship identification and publicity requirements that may be in effect at the time, and about which the LSC shall be notified.

.2 Two meets shall be conducted annually, short course and long course (where such facilities are available), and shall conform to the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, except as hereinafter specified.

.3 Age group championship meet events shall be selected from the recognized events in 102.1.2.

.4 An LSC, at its option, may open its oldest age group to Post Age Group swimmers.



## 205.8 NATIONAL TOP 16 TIMES REPORTING AND RECOGNITION

- .1 Times submitted for recognition to the National Top 16 Times Coordinator shall be achieved in the recognized events in 102.1.2 and in accordance with 102.17.4C ...
- .2 - .8 *no change*

R-22 ACTION:    Adopted    Defeated    Adopted/Amended    Tabled    Postponed    Pulled
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Location: PAGE 60-75      **ARTICLE 206 AWARDING USA SWIMMING  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
ARTICLE 207 USA SWIMMING NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Proposed by:** George Block on behalf of Senior Committee

**Purpose:** To establish USA Swimming Sectional Championships (approximately 16) and a USA Swimming National Championship in accordance with the concepts summarized below.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

### 206.1 GENERAL

- .1 **Senior Class** -- ~~two~~ one short course and one long course meets.
- .2 **Junior Class** -- *delete*
- .3 Sectional Championships—approximately sixteen (16) short course and (16) long course meets.

### 206.3 AWARD OF EVENTS

- .1 USA Swimming Nationals, Trials class, USA Swimming National and Sectional Championships, and U.S. Open ...*[no further change]*

### 206.4 DATES

- .1 *[Delete entirely and replace with the following]*  
USA Swimming National Championships -- To end the third Saturday in March.
- .3 *[Delete entirely and replace with the following]*  
USA Swimming Sectional Championships - To end not less than two days prior to the entry deadline of the USA Swimming National Championships.

### 206.7 METHOD OF GRANTING AWARD

- .3 A USA Swimming National, Trials class, USA Swimming National and Sectional Championships, and U.S. Open ..... *[no further change]*

.5 USA Swimming Sectional Championship sites shall be selected by the Sections and approved by the Board of Directors.

**207.1 GENERAL** -- United States Swimming shall conduct USA Swimming National Championships, ~~USA Swimming Junior Championships~~, Sectional Championships, and Trials class meets ..... *[no further change]*

**207.3 USS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** - *[Delete entirely]*

**207.2. USA SWIMMING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**—USA Swimming National Championships shall be governed and conducted by Program Operations. They shall be scheduled to conclude the third full weekend in March and, except in the Olympic year, shall be conducted short course yards. All USA Swimming member-athletes...

**207.6 USA SWIMMING SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**—USA Swimming Sectional Championships shall serve as qualifying meets for the USA Swimming National Championships and shall be conducted as follows:

- .1 Each Zone shall conduct at least two (2) Sectional meets.
- .2 Time standards for Sectional meets shall be established by the Section, to accommodate not fewer than 400 participants.
- .3 Each Zone shall designate the Sections. The Sections shall determine the location and dates of the Sectional meets. The meets shall be scheduled to conclude not later than the entry deadline for the National Championships. (Note: If a Zone has not scheduled its Sectional meets before April 1 of the preceding year, the Senior Committee shall designate the meet locations and dates. )
- .4 Sections shall determine their own format.
- .5 All swimmers who have achieved the sectional qualifying times shall be eligible to participate.

*[Renumber following sections to conform to new inserted language]*

#### **207.5 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT OF USS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**.5 Schedule --**

C [New subsection] At the discretion of the National Events Coordinator, the preliminary sessions of the USA Swimming National Championships may be conducted in one course.

**.11 Finals --**

A Except for the relay events ..... *[no change to existing section]*

B There shall be bonus, consolation and championship final heats in the National Championships, with the bonus and consolation heats preceding the championship heat.

**.12 Scoring**

C Scoring at the USA Swimming National and USA Swimming Sectional Championships, ~~and USA~~

~~Swimming Junior Championships shall be mandatory.~~

**207.8 ENTRY BLANKS AND INFORMATION BOOK**

.8 B *[Delete entirely]*

**207.9 ENTRIES**

**207.10 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS**

.2 *[delete entirely]*

.3 *[New section]* USA Swimming Sectional Championships qualifying time standards shall be established by the Sections to allow for no fewer than 400 swimmers at each meet.

.4

Program Operations shall approve at each annual meeting the qualifying time standards for all USA Swimming National Championships, ~~USA Swimming Junior Championships, USA Swimming Sectional Championships~~ and USA Swimming Open meets ..... *[no further change in section]*

R-23	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 61 NOTE (in shaded box)

**Proposed by:** South Carolina LSC

**Purpose:** To delete Club Championships proposed for 2001. These club championships are too restrictive to the smaller teams and the smaller LSCs. Unfair advantages will go to the richer clubs, or swimmers, that can afford to travel to less competitive sectional meets. It is harmful and restrictive of the younger developing athlete to legislate away a chance to compete. With the passage of a short course yards National Championship, there will not be a need for this format.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

~~Note: Effective in the Spring of 2001, USA Swimming will conduct a series of sectional championships in each zone and a single National Club Championship. The current spring format of events will remain unchanged in 1999 and 2000.~~

~~In 2001, these club championships will replace the current format of three Junior Championships and one National Championships in the spring only. The Rules & Regulations Committee will present specific language to define these new club championships at the USA Swimming House of Delegates meeting in 1999 in accordance with a resolution adopted by the House of Delegates on October 3, 1998.~~

R-24	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 61 ARTICLE 206 AWARDING USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Proposed by:** South Carolina LSC

**Purpose:** A short course yard meet for the Spring Nationals would generate interest and greater competition at that season's National Meet. This would preserve the short course Junior Championships, which is a highly successful vehicle of USA Swimming and which is being threatened by the Club Championship proposal. This would protect the developing athlete on the small USA club team from being eliminated from either a spring Junior meet or a spring Senior meet. Also it is believed that there would be greater attendance and interest in a short course yards meet. The Olympic year exception is to encourage competition and preparation in the Olympic course.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

**206.1. General --** USA Swimming Championship meets shall be awarded in the following categories:

- .1 **Senior Class** – ~~Two~~ One long course meet and one short course yards meet, except in the Olympic year when there will be two long course meets.

R-25	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 63 206.6.1 USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP AREAS

**Proposed by:** Senior Swimming Committee

**Purpose:** Move the Potomac Valley and Maryland LSCs from the Southeast to the Northeast area for the Speedo Junior Championships. By moving these two LSCs to the Northeast, a better balance between all three Junior areas can be realized. For the past three years, the results from the Northeast Juniors has lagged behind the other two sites. The Northeast site has had the fewest athletes (generally between 700-750). This move will also help alleviate a potential over-crowding problem at the Southeast Junior meet

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**Effective January 1, 2000**

206.6.1

Northeast: Adirondack, Allegheny Mountain, Connecticut, Indiana, Lake Erie, Maine, Maryland, Metropolitan, Michigan, Middle Atlantic, New England, New Jersey, Niagara, Ohio, Potomac Valley, Wisconsin

Southeast: Arkansas, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Gulf, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, ~~Maryland~~, Mississippi, Missouri Valley, North Carolina, North Texas, Oklahoma, Ozark, ~~Potomac Valley~~, South Carolina, Southeastern, Virginia, West Virginia

R-26	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 65 207.3 USA SWIMMING JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Proposed by:** Ira Klein

**Purpose:** To assure that all swimmers have an opportunity to compete. Currently athletes making a National Qualifying time between the two periods listed in 207.3.1 B and C cannot swim that event at either the Nationals or Juniors.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval. .*

**207.3.1.**

**B** A swimmer who has achieved the current time standard (short or long course) for the Spring USA Swimming National Championships ~~after Sept. 1 of the second year prior to the championships~~ during the qualifying period in 207.9.6 C (1) may not enter that event in the short course USA Swimming Junior Championships.

**C** A swimmer who has achieved the current time standard (short or long course) for the Summer USA Swimming National Championships ~~after May 1 of the previous year~~ during the qualifying period in 207.9.6

R-27	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
<b>Requires 90% vote</b>							

**Location:** Page 65 207.3 USA SWIMMING JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Proposed by:** Ira Klein

**Purpose:** To allow the coach and swimmer to decide which meet they wish to compete in, but not allow them to swim the same event in both the Junior and National Championships during the same championship season.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee made no recommendation.*

**207.3 USA SWIMMING JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS -**

*.1 (no change)*

A *(no change)*

B A swimmer who has achieved the current time standard (short or long course) for the Spring USA Swimming National Championships after Sept. 1 of the second year prior to the championships

may not enter that event in the short course USA Swimming Junior Championships. Exception: A fourteen-year-old or younger female swimmer, or a fifteen-year-old male swimmer who, prior to the USA Swimming National Championship entry deadline, achieves a National Championship qualifying time for the first time, shall be granted a one-time exemption to compete in that event at the same season's USA Swimming Junior Championships. A swimmer electing to use the exemption may not compete in the same event at that season's USA Swimming National Championships.

R-28	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 69 207.5.11 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT  
 OF USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Proposed by:** Senior Swimming Committee

**Purpose:** Eliminate the "C" (bonus) final from the National Championships. The "C" final is acceptable for developmental meets, but the National Championship is not a developmental meet. The "C" final rewards mediocre preliminary swims and adds approximately 20 minutes to each of the finals sessions.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

- .11 Except for the relay events, the 1000 and 1650-yard and 800 and 1500-meter freestyle events, there shall be a C, B and A (bonus, consolation and championship) final heats in ~~both~~ the short course and long course ~~National and Junior Championships.~~ The National Championships shall only have B and A (consolation and championship) final heats in the individual events, except the 1000 and 1650-yard and 800 and 1500-meter freestyle events.

R-29	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 69 207.5.12 E SCORING  
 Page 72 207.7.1 AWARDS  
 Page 73 207.7.2 B AWARDS

**Proposed by:** Senior Swimming Committee

**Purpose:** Change the 18 & under individual and team awards at the National Championships to 19 & under to bring consistency, as we now allow 19-year old athletes at the Speedo Juniors. When the 18 & under award was established at the Nationals, only athletes 18 & under could compete at the Junior Championships. This award was established to honor the fastest 18 & under athlete in the country, who was competing at the Nationals, not the Juniors. Now that the Juniors are 19 & under, it makes sense to keep consistency with this award and move the age to 19 & under.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation. See related Item R-29A below.*

207.5.12.E ~~For eighteen (18) & under combined team scoring at the USA Swimming National Championships, scoring will be calculated on the basis of the top 24 athletes, eighteen (18) & under competing in each individual event.~~

207.7.1 USA Swimming National Championship only:

Men's & Women's USA Swimming National ~~18~~ 19 & Under Combined National Team Champion (first through tenth - for ~~18~~ 19 & under swimmers scoring in individual events)

207.7.2.B First-place medal to be awarded to the ~~18~~ 19 & under swimmer placing highest in each individual event at each USA Swimming National Championship. If no ~~18~~ 19-and-under swimmer scores in the A, ~~B or C~~ B finals, the highest placing ~~18~~ 19-and-under swimmer from preliminaries will be recognized as the National ~~18~~ 19-and-under Champion for that event.

R-29A	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 69 207.5.12 E SCORING  
 Page 72 207.7.1 AWARDS  
 Page 73 207.7.2 B AWARDS

**Proposed by:** Rules & Regulations Committee

**Purpose:** Delete the 18 & under individual and team awards at the National Championships since this provision has not been effective in bringing recognition to the younger swimmers at Nationals nor does it seem to have encouraged greater participation by younger swimmers. With the addition of 19 year olds to Juniors, it is believed this provision is no longer necessary.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

~~207.5.12.E For eighteen (18) & under combined team scoring at the USA Swimming National Championships, scoring will be calculated on the basis of the top 24 athletes, eighteen (18) & under competing in each individual event.~~

207.7.1 USA Swimming National Championship only:

Men's & Women's USA Swimming National 18 & Under Combined National Team Champion (first through tenth for 18 & under swimmers scoring in individual events)

~~207.7.2.B First place medal to be awarded to the 18 & under swimmer placing highest in each individual event at each USA Swimming National Championship. If no 18 and under swimmer scores in the A, B or C finals, the highest placing 18 and under swimmer from preliminaries will be recognized as the National 18 and under Champion for that event.~~  
 (Reletter subsequent paragraphs)

R-30	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 69 207.5 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT OF USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Proposed by:** Ira Klein

**Purpose:** To put the same environment for scoring in both meets.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

**207.5 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT OF USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**.12 Scoring -**

A (no change)

B Foreign swimmers may not score points for a USA Swimming team at the USA Swimming National Championships or the USA Swimming Junior Championships, but, .....(no further change)

R-31	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Pages 70-1 207.6.2 PROGRAMS

**Proposed by:** Senior Swimming Committee

**Purpose:** To change the event order for the National and Junior Championships. The current event order has one day which is significantly longer than any of the other days. The current event order has all the 100s in stroke on the same day and the 200s in stroke on the same day. This makes swimming two events on these two days very difficult. Also, by changing the event order, we can better prepare our distance swimmers for international competition by having the distance events on back to back days, just as it is in the preliminary/final format internationally.

Upon adoption, this Item will become effective on January 1, 2001.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

207.6.2 Four-day (modified) Program

- |         |         |  |
|---------|---------|--|
| Day One | Women's | <del>1000 yard/800 meter freestyle</del> |
|         | Men's   | <del>1000 yard/800 meter freestyle</del> |
| Day Two | Women's | 100 yard/meter freestyle                 |
|         | Men's   | 100 yard/meter freestyle                 |
|         | Women's | 200 yard/meter breaststroke              |
|         | Men's   | 200 yard/meter breaststroke              |
|         | Women's | 200 yard/meter backstroke                |
|         | Men's   | 200 yard/meter backstroke                |



		<del>Women's</del> 200 yard/meter butterfly
		<del>Men's</del> 200 yard/meter butterfly
Day Three		<del>Women's</del> 200 yard/meter freestyle
		<del>Men's</del> 200 yard/meter freestyle
		<del>Women's</del> 400 yard/meter individual medley
		<del>Men's</del> 400 yard/meter individual medley
		<del>Women's</del> 400 yard/meter freestyle relay
		<del>Men's</del> 400 yard/meter freestyle relay
Day Four		<del>Women's</del> 100 yard/meter backstroke
		<del>Men's</del> 100 yard/meter backstroke
		<del>Women's</del> 500 yard/400-meter freestyle
		<del>Men's</del> 500 yard/400-meter freestyle
		<del>Women's</del> 100 yard/meter breaststroke
		<del>Men's</del> 100 yard/meter breaststroke
		<del>Women's</del> 100 yard/meter butterfly
		<del>Men's</del> 100 yard/meter butterfly
		<del>Women's</del> 800 yard/meter freestyle relay
		<del>Men's</del> 800 yard/meter freestyle relay
Day Five		<del>Women's</del> 200 yard/meter individual medley
		<del>Men's</del> 200 yard/meter individual medley
		<del>Women's</del> 1650 yard/1500-meter freestyle
		<del>Women's</del> 50 yard/meter freestyle
		<del>Men's</del> 50 yard/meter freestyle
		<del>Men's</del> 1650 yard/1500-meter freestyle
		<del>Women's</del> 400 yard/meter medley relay
		<del>Men's</del> 400 yard/meter medley relay
207.6.2	<u>Day One</u>	<u>Women's</u> 100-yard/meter backstroke
		<u>Men's</u> 100-yard/meter backstroke
		<u>Women's</u> 500-yard/400-meter freestyle
		<u>Men's</u> 500-yard/400-meter freestyle
		<u>Women's</u> 100-yard/meter butterfly
		<u>Men's</u> 100-yard/meter butterfly
		<u>Women's</u> 200-yard/meter breaststroke
		<u>Men's</u> 200-yard/meter breaststroke
		<u>Women's</u> 400-yard/meter freestyle relay
		<u>Men's</u> 400-yard/meter freestyle relay
	<u>Day Two</u>	<u>Women's</u> 200-yard/meter butterfly
		<u>Men's</u> 200-yard/meter butterfly
		<u>Women's</u> 100-yard/meter freestyle
		<u>Men's</u> 100-yard/meter freestyle
		<u>Women's</u> 400-yard/meter individual medley
		<u>Men's</u> 400-yard/meter individual medley
		<u>Women's</u> 800-yard/meter freestyle relay
		<u>Men's</u> 800-yard/meter freestyle relay
	<u>Day Three</u>	<u>Women's</u> 200-yard/meter freestyle

<u>Men's</u>	<u>200-yard/meter freestyle</u>
<u>Women's</u>	<u>1000-yard/800-meter freestyle</u>
<u>Women's</u>	<u>100-yard/meter breaststroke</u>
<u>Men's</u>	<u>100-yard/meter breaststroke</u>
<u>Men's</u>	<u>1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle</u>
<u>Women's</u>	<u>200-yard/meter backstroke</u>
<u>Men's</u>	<u>200-yard/meter backstroke</u>

<u>Day Four</u>	<u>Women's</u>	<u>200-yard/meter individual medley</u>
	<u>Men's</u>	<u>200-yard/meter individual medley</u>
	<u>Women's</u>	<u>1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle</u>
	<u>Women's</u>	<u>50-yard/meter freestyle</u>
	<u>Men's</u>	<u>50-yard/meter freestyle</u>
	<u>Men's</u>	<u>1000-yard/800-meter freestyle</u>
	<u>Women's</u>	<u>400-yard/meter medley relay</u>
	<u>Men's</u>	<u>400-yard/meter medley relay</u>

For preliminary heats on Day Three, the distance events will be swum after the Men's 200 backstroke. For preliminary heats on Day Four, the distance events will be swum after the 400 medley relay.

207.6.2.C & D - *Delete the existing sections and substitute the following:*

*(New)*

207.6.2.C The Men's 1500 meter/1650 yard freestyle and the Women's 800 meter/1000 yard freestyle on Day 3 and the Men's 800 meter/1000 yard freestyle and Women's 1500 meter/1650 yard freestyle on Day 4 shall be conducted during the preliminaries on a timed final basis, the heats swum slowest to fastest, with the single fastest heat swum in the final session. In facilities where women's and men's events are conducted in the same course, all heats during the preliminaries shall be swum alternately women/men as follows:

- (1) Second fastest men's heat last.
- (2) Second fastest women's heat next to last.
- (3) Third fastest men's heat third from last.
- (4) Third fastest women's heat fourth from last and continuing until all heats are swum.
- (5) In the event of an unequal number of women's and men's heats, the excess slow heats will be swum first, then the remaining heats will be swum as indicated in (1) through (4) above.

The starting time for each preliminary heat shall be scheduled so that the second fastest heat of the men's 800 meter/1000 yard freestyle on Day 3 and the men's 1500 meter/1650 yard freestyle on Day 4 are concluded 60 minutes before the evening finals session is scheduled to begin.

R-32 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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**Proposed by:** Michael J. Seip, General Chair, Middle Atlantic LSC

**Purpose:** The Junior Championships are designed to encourage athletes to continue climbing to the next level, many times an athlete's first qualifying time to the Junior Championship is a relay swim. If these athletes were afforded the opportunity to participate in Time Trials it becomes a much meaningful and practical trip for the athlete their family and coach.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends rejection. Time trials at Juniors are currently so large that it is often difficult to run them in the time available. The addition of relay-only swimmers would make time trials unwieldy to the detriment of the rest of the meet. It would become a case of "the tail wagging the dog"!*

### **207.6.3 Time Trials**

- B At the USA Swimming National Championships, USA Swimming Junior Championships, and Trials Class meets, a swimmer must be entered in the meet with a proved individual event or relay time (~~individual event or relay~~) to be eligible to participate in the Time Trials.
- ~~C At the USA Swimming Junior Championships, a swimmer must be entered in at least one individual event with a proved time to be eligible to participate in the Time Trials.~~

*(Reletter subsequent paragraphs)*

R-33	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Pages 71-78 207.9 ENTRIES  
 207.10 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS  
 207.11 PROOF OF ENTERED TIME

**Proposed by:** Time Standards Committee

**Purpose:** Eliminate the time standards for foreign swimmers. This set of standards has become obsolete. In recent years, very few foreign clubs or foreign national teams have attended our National Championships. There is no real need to have a more difficult standard for these foreign clubs or national teams. In addition, most foreign athletes at our Nationals are USA Swimming members who use the domestic qualifying standards.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**Effective date:** January 1, 2000

**207.9.13** Foreign swimmers who are not members of USA Swimming may enter national championships provided they have met all qualifying requirements including submission of proof of entered times. These foreign athletes must meet the National Championships time standards. (See also 207.11.3)

**207.10.3** Time standards for foreign swimmers who are representing a foreign team or country shall be ~~based on the fastest 16th preliminary place from the USA Swimming National Championships of the previous year~~ the National Championships time standards.

**207.11.3** Foreign swimmers who are representing a foreign team or country must meet the established ~~foreign time standards~~ National Championships time standards and provide official meet results with the entry form.

*Delete the table of time standards for foreign swimmers on the bottom of page 82.*

R-34	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 77 207.11 PROOF OF ENTERED TIME

**Proposed by:** Ron Van Pool, Program Operations Vice President

**Purpose:** Some swimmers are not requesting an OVC for times that qualify for the National Championships in order to swim at the Junior Championships. This change would place the burden on coaches to ensure that their athletes swim at the proper level of competition.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**207.11 PROOF OF ENTERED TIME** - Procedures for issuing OVCs shall conform to the current edition of the USA Swimming OVC Guidelines Handbook. OVCs shall be issued only for official times achieved in

accordance with the requirements of 102.17.4. Individuals must request an OVC for their fastest qualifying times achieved during the qualifying period for the championship season.

R-35	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 79 APPENDIX 2-A  
USA Swimming Official Verification Card (OVC) System

**Proposed by:** Michael Lawrence, Illinois Swimming

**Purpose:** To reflect change made in Section 202.5.2.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

*Make the following change in the fourth paragraph:*

**Obtaining an OVC** / Well in advance of the meet, consult with the Meet Host, Meet Director, Meet Referee, or LSC OVC officer to determine if the meet will be conducted in a manner which will qualify the swimmers for issuance of OVCs. For non-USA Swimming meets, such as high school, YMCA, or collegiate meets ~~which are in the progression of season-ending championship level meets~~, requests for observation shall be submitted to the LSC a minimum of 10 days in advance of the competition.

*(No further changes)*

R-36	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 79 APPENDIX 2-A USA Swimming Official Verification Card (OVC) System

**Proposed by:** Suzanne Heath, National OVC Coordinator

**Purpose:** Some high level dual meets are being observed with proper request procedures being followed. More meets are receiving blanket observation now.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**Obtaining an OVC - Revise lines 6 - 9 as follows:**

.....competition. See Article 202.5. Other meets, such as invitationals and other multiple team ~~(more than 2 teams)~~ meets hosted by the above organizations require approval by USA Swimming Program Operations, through the National OVC Coordinator, a minimum of 28 days in advance of the meet. The coach or swimmer ~~will~~ may be asked to complete an OVC request form prior to the event. Some meets may receive blanket observation (all swimmers observed). Check with the Meet Referee or LSC OVC Chair to determine what the meet observation will include. Any time swum in compliance with USA Swimming Technical Rules (202.4.4) in a meet with blanket observation will be an official time for OVC purposes. When completing an OVC request ..... *(no further change)*

R-37	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 80 APPENDIX 2-A USA Swimming Official Verification Card (OVC) System

**Proposed by:** Suzanne Heath, National OVC Coordinator

**Purpose:** In the new database, meets automatically loaded (championships and others), times faster than junior standards will be automatically picked up.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations recommends approval.*

**BONUS EVENTS /** Some USA Swimming Nationals may permit bonus events. For each qualifying time achieved in an individual event, additional bonus events may be allowed, provided the time meets the Junior qualifying time. Junior qualifying times are not always kept in the database for swimmers older than 19, therefore swimmers 20 and over ~~must~~ should obtain OVCs for all bonus events entered and send or bring them to the meet as proof of time.

R-38	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Pages 86-106 APPENDICES 2D, 2E, 2F and 2G

**Proposed by:** Age Group Planning Committee

**Purpose:** The Age Group Planning Committee strongly feels that these appendices are motivational tools only and, therefore, should not be published as part of the Corporation's Rules and Regulations. This action would be consistent with the Rules and Legislation Committees' efforts over the past few years to streamline the rulebook. If this legislation passes, these appendices would then be published in booklet form, as well as being posted on the USA Swimming website.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends rejection. Publishing of the motivational standards in a separate booklet would increase the cost to USA Swimming and not everyone has access to the internet. The Committee does recommend, however, that the URL for the website be included.*

**Removal of related age group appendices:**

(remove)	Appendix 2D	National Age Group Top 16 Reportable Times
(remove)	Appendix 2E	National Motivational Times - Top 16 Based
(remove)	Appendix 2F	Age Group Motivational Times - Championship Based
(remove)	Appendix 2G	Age Group Motivational Times - Percentile Based

**The following two related Items (L-1, L-2) are presented as a package and separated only because they have different voting requirements for adoption.**

L-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 108 Article 303 ELIGIBILITY, 302.2 Membership

**Proposed by:** Dave Carson

**Purpose:** For the Registration Year 1997, the Outreach Committee recommended and the Board of Directors approved the establishment of a pilot project to register qualifying athlete members at a reduced fee. The Registration Committee worked with the Outreach Committee to implement this pilot in selected LSCs. Based on the results of this program, the project was expanded to include all LSCs for the Registration Year 1998. The Board of Directors has approved making the Outreach category of membership permanent. The approval included a stipulation that LSCs not charge an LSC fee for this category.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

302.2 **Membership** – Athlete membership will consist of ~~either~~ an annual membership, an outreach membership, or a seasonal membership.

- .1 {no change}
- .2 Outreach membership – Annual Membership with special reduced fees
- .3 {same as current .2}

**Note: A 2/3 affirmative vote is required for adoption of any item in Part Five.**

L-2	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 120 ARTICLE 501 MEMBERS

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**501.6 Fees**

- .1 The annual fee for each class of membership is composed of the following elements:
  - A. A national fee established by the Board of Directors and House of Delegates; and
  - B. A local fee established by the LSC except in the case of Outreach membership where a local fee not to exceed \$2.00 may be established.

L-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**Location:** Page 120 ARTICLE 501 MEMBERS

Proposed by: Rick Shiperd, Club Development Committee and Club Membership Sounding Board  
and Paul Klingensmith, Club Development Committee Chairman

Purpose: To set in motion for the membership year 2002, the provisions of new classes of club  
membership.

*Recommendation: : The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**501.5** [new] All USA Swimming member clubs registering for the first time shall complete the club membership application process as required by USA Swimming. [Note: This provision shall become effective for the membership year 2002.]

L-4	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 122                      ARTICLE 502    HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Proposed by: Senior Swimming Committee

Purpose: In looking at the list of committees that receive this right, the Senior Swimming Committee  
plays as large a role in our sport as does almost every other committee that already has this  
right.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**502.6** All USA Swimming officers and ... Convention/Elections Committee, the Senior Swimming Committee,  
past USA Swimming...



**The following three related Items (L-5, L-6, L-7) are presented in this order for the purpose of clarification and discussion.**

L-5	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 123 ARTICLE 504 OFFICERS

Proposed by: David Salo, Sr. Western Zone Director

Purpose: To provide enabling legislation for election of a Technical Vice President to the Board of Directors.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee make no recommendation.*

504.1 All USA Swimming officers, . . . ~~and~~ Vice President of Program Operations and Technical Vice- President.

L-6	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 123 ARTICLE 504 OFFICERS

Proposed by: Ira Klein

Purpose: To specify requirements for the office of Technical Vice President to the Board of Directors. The Rules & Regulations Committee bifurcated this part from L-4 after discussion and in order to make separate recommendations.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends rejection for two principal reasons: (1) no other Vice President has specific requirements; (2) the requirements as stated are exclusionary.*

504.6 [new] The Technical Vice President must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a coach at a Junior or National Championships within the four previous championship seasons.

L-7	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 128 ARTICLE 508 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

Proposed by: David Salo, Western Zone Chairman

Purpose: To provide the reporting structure for the position of Technical Vice President.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

**508.7***[new]* The following shall be responsible to the Technical Vice President: Olympic International Operations Committee, Coaches Education Committee, Technical Planning Committee, Steering Committee.

*[ReNUMBER .8, through .10 to .9 through .11]*

L-8	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 126 ARTICLE 505 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Proposed by: USA Swimming Board of Directors

Purpose: To add one athlete member in addition to the Athletes Vice President in order to meet the 20% requirement of the U. S Amateur Sports Act.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**505.13** The Executive Committee shall have . . . , amend the Code. It shall consist of the officers of USA Swimming and one additional athlete member from the Board of Directors to be selected by the Athletes Committee, acting with the advice and consent of legal counsel. . . or rejection.

L-9	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 128 ARTICLE 508 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

Proposed by: Open Water Swimming

Purpose: Submitted by Open Water Swimming as part of Part 8 re-write (L-11).

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

*Amend 508.2 as follows:*

The House of delegates shall elect following at the time of the annual meeting of the USA Swimming in even years-numbered years: Domestic and Age Group Operations Coordinator, and National Events Coordinator, ~~and the Open Water Swimming Coordinator~~. The Domestic and Age Group Operations Coordinator shall be directly responsible to the Program Development Vice-President. The National Events Coordinator ~~and Open Water Coordinator~~ shall be directly responsible to the Program Operation Vice-President. Each shall be subject to the same limitations as to terms and succession as are officers of USA Swimming (Section 504.6)

*ADD 508.4 (on p.128) and renumber :*

The following shall be responsible to the Program Operations Vice-President: Open Water Coordinator.

L-10	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 129 ARTICLE 509 RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

Proposed by: USA Swimming Secretary/General Counsel

Purpose: To add as a member of the Rules & Regulations Committee the person who is involved from time to time in interpreting the regulations.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**509.1** The Rules & Regulations Committee shall consist of the following:

.1 The Officials Committee Chairman, the Secretary/General Counsel of the Corporation, the Chairman . . . or their respective designees.

L-11	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 149 ff. PART EIGHT OPEN WATER SWIMMING

Proposed by: Open Water Swimming Committee/Dale Petranec and OWC Ad Hoc Rules Committee

Purpose: Substantially rewrite and clarify the entirety of Part Eight.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

**CONSIDER ALL UNDERLINED**

**PART EIGHT  
OPEN WATER SWIMMING  
ARTICLE 801  
JURISDICTION AND DEFINITIONS**

**801.1 JURISDICTION** -- The Open Water Swimming Committee has jurisdiction and administrative control over all open water events, postal events and other non-standard swimming events which are held under USA Swimming sanction. USA Swimming Rules and Regulations apply to this competition, unless specifically indicated otherwise in Part Eight.

**801.2 DEFINITION** -- Open water swimming shall be defined as any freestyle swimming event usually, but not exclusively, conducted in a natural body of water. Postal meets may be contested in a pool venue.

- .1 LONG DISTANCE SWIMMING shall be defined as open water competition up to a distance of 25 Kilometers.
- .2 MARATHON SWIMMING shall be defined as open water competition over a distance longer than 25 kilometers.

**ARTICLE 802  
ADMINISTRATION**

**802.1 ORGANIZATION:**

- .1 The Open Water Swimming Committee (OWS Committee) shall consist of the following:
  - A Open Water Coordinator, elected at the bi-annual convention by the Program Operations Committee and responsible to the Program Operations Vice President, for the administration and conduct of the USA Swimming Open Water Swimming program and shall serve as the Chairman of the OWS Committee.
  - B At-large members, appointed by the President of USA Swimming for a two (2) year term.
  - C The Open Water National Team Coach nominated by the OWS Committee and appointed by the IOC shall serve a four (4) year term beginning with the new Olympic quadrennium.
  - D The FINA Technical Open Water Swimming Representative nominated by USA Swimming and appointed by FINA.
  - E A sufficient number of athletes to constitute twenty per cent(20%) of the voting membership of the Committee, appointed for a two year term by the Athletes Committee in consultation with the Open Water Coordinator.
  - F USA Swimming Staff Liaison.
- .2 The OWS Committee shall meet at the time of the annual meeting of the USA Swimming House of Delegates and at other times designated by the Open Water Coordinator.

- .3 Five (5) representatives of the USA Swimming OWS Committee to the USA Swimming House of Delegates as authorized in 502.6 shall be appointed by the Open Water Coordinator and ratified by the OWS Committee.

### **802.2 ELIGIBILITY**

- .1 Athletes competing in open water competition shall be athlete-members of USA Swimming in conformance with the applicable provisions of Articles 302, 303, and 304.
- .2 Foreign Swimmers may compete, subject to USA Swimming Rules and Regulations pertaining to their eligibility.
- .3 USA Swimming athletes competing in foreign events must notify their Local Swimming Committees and obtain the required travel authorization as outlined in Article 202.6.

### **802.3 USA SWIMMING SANCTIONING**

- .1 All USA Swimming Open Water events must be sanctioned in accordance with Article 202. Foreign Athletes may compete in USA Swimming Open Water Events, but approving authorities must comply with the procedures outlined in Article 202.6, before issuing the sanction.
- .2 If an event is to be held in more than one LSC's geographical area, the LSC where the organizing committee is located shall be the sanctioning LSC for the event. The sanctioning LSC shall notify the sanctioning officers in appropriate LSCs of its action and about the details pertaining to the event.
- .3 Individual Open Water and Long Distance (pool) events must be sanctioned and conducted by USA Swimming in accordance with all pertinent rules and regulations.
- .4 USA Swimming Open Water Events may be held in conjunction with Masters, novice or community-administered events. When two (or more) groups, e.g., Masters and USA Swimming member-athletes compete at the same time, the race shall be considered as two (or more) separate events. The USA Swimming sanction will apply only to the USA Swimming event.

## **ARTICLE 803 SAFETY**

**803.1** Safety shall be the paramount consideration in the conduct of all Open Water Swimming competition. Safety recommendations contained in the USA Swimming Open Water Meet Directors Guidelines shall be strictly followed to minimize safety hazards.

## **ARTICLE 804 CONDUCT OF THE COMPETITION/EVENTS**

### **804.1 SWIMWEAR**

- .1 Swimwear for open water events shall conform to the provisions of Article 102.9.
- .2 Wearing only one suit, goggles, ear plugs and a reasonable application of body grease will be allowed.
- .3 Swim cap(s), including those made of neoprene, may be permitted. Swim caps shall be defined as head gear conforming to a traditional swim cap design and shall not extend to protect necks

and shoulders.

- .4 Except as provided in 804.3.3, wet suits, flotation aids, or any similar items, and anything used to maintain body heat, except as noted above, are not allowed.

#### **804.2 THE VENUE**

- .1 The Meet Director shall determine the course for an open water event.
- .2 The course shall be measured as accurately as possible with the available navigational or survey equipment.
- .3 The course shall be in water that is subject to only minor currents or tide.
- .4 The distances shall be the same for men and women.
- .5 Events for different age groups and sexes may be combined to allow swimmers to compete at the same time, but the competitions shall be treated as separate events.
- .6 The minimum depth of water at any point on the course shall be 1 meter (3.4 feet).
- .7 The average water temperature should be a minimum of 14EC (57EF).
- .8 All turns and other changes in direction on the course shall be clearly indicated.
- .9 A clearly marked craft or platform for a turn judge shall be positioned at all alterations in direction on the course in such a manner as not to obstruct the swimmers' view or their negotiating of the turn, but shall provide a clear view of the swimmers' turns for the officials.
- .10 All turning marks or points and the turn judges craft or platforms shall be securely fixed in position.
- .11 The final approach to the finish shall be clearly marked with distinctive color markers.
- .12 The finish line shall be clearly defined and marked by a vertical surface of sufficient width to allow at least five adults to finish simultaneously.

#### **804.3 NON-TRADITIONAL VENUES AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- .1 **Quarter mile (440 yards) straightaway**
  - A An open water course which shall be a quarter mile straightaway delineated by a cable with floats stretched between two stationary pylons or platforms fixed in the water. The distance between the anchoring points shall be plus or minus six inches, measured from the outer edge of the turning point with a sufficient distance between the turning point and any obstruction to allow at least four swimmers to negotiate the turn at the same time.
  - B The course shall be swum clockwise, unless it is deemed unfeasible by the Meet Director. No more than twenty swimmers shall be placed in a row at the start. If more than one heat is swum, the meet director has the authority to change the direction of the second and/or subsequent heats.
  - C If a race is stopped before the 2 mile point, it may be restarted. If the race is stopped after the 2

mile, the race results will be determined by the time and place at the last completed 2 mile.

**.2 Pool events**

- A **Distance Events.** The purpose of distance events is to achieve times for distances longer than those normally contested in pool events, e.g., 3, 5 10, Kilometers, etc. These events should be timed in the same manner as other pool events except that timing with three hand held watches shall be considered the minimum standard.
- B **Time/Distance Events.** The purpose of these events is to determine the distance swum within a given time period, e.g., within one hour, 12 hours, 24 hours, etc. Scoring and placement shall be based on the total distance swum within the given time.
- C In pool events it is permissible for a swimmer to leave the water for brief periods because of pool safety and health considerations. When re-entering the water the swimmer shall resume the event commencing with the last completed length, using an in water start. The start must be from a stationary position in the pool with a push off the wall. A dive entry is not permitted.
- D Team scoring and relays may be incorporated into these events.

**.3 Wet-suit exception**

- A To increase participation and to alleviate possible safety concerns, race directors may request permission from their Local Swimming Committee to allow the use of wet suits in any non-championship event.
- B If approved, there must be separate classification for wet suits only and this information shall be clearly stated in the meet information and on the accompanying entry form. Swimmers using wet suits and swimmers competing without wet suits shall not be ranked in the order of finish and scored as part of the same race. The results shall clearly indicate the swimmers who competed in the Wet Suit Classification.

**804.4 MARKING AND SEEDING**

- .1 Prior to the start, entrants shall be marked with their race numbers on both upper arms and their backs. Paddlers and escort boats shall also be marked with the swimmer's race number.
- .2 When practical, swimmers shall be seeded by their 1500m/1650y freestyle event times or as otherwise stipulated in the meet invitation with the fastest swimmers receiving the preferred starting positions. In longer races no official starting position need be assigned and swimmers may select any position at the start line.

**804.5 THE START**

- .1 The start line shall be clearly defined by either overhead apparatus or by removable equipment at water level.
- .2 If there is a large number of swimmers, or if the course conditions dictate, the Referee may elect to start the race by having each wave (heat) separated at the start from the previous wave by a set interval of time, e.g., by starting each wave every 15 minutes. Swimmers' times shall be adjusted by the starting time interval and their order of finish shall be determined on the basis of the adjusted time. The Referee

may also segregate competitors into the men's and women's competition or by other classifications (e.g., by age group), either by the position at the starting line or by separate time of start.

- .3 Open water events preferably should start with the competitors standing or treading water in a depth sufficient for them to commence swimming on the start signal. However, a running start where contestants line up and is run into the water from the shore on the Starter's signal is permitted.
- .4 The Clerk of the Course shall keep competitors and officials informed of the time remaining before the start at suitable intervals and at one minute intervals for the last five minutes.
- .5 The Referee shall indicate by an upright-held flag and short blasts on a whistle when the swimmers are ready to start and indicate that the competition is under Starter's jurisdiction by pointing the flag at the Starter.
- .6 The Starter shall be positioned so as to be clearly visible to all competitors.
- .7 The start signal shall be both audible and visible.
- .8 If, in the opinion of the Referee, an unfair advantage has been gained by someone at the start, the competitors shall be stopped and restarted.
- .9 All escort boats shall be stationed prior to the start so as to avoid interference with any competitor. If picking up their swimmers from behind, the boats shall navigate in such a way as to avoid maneuvering through the field of swimmers.

#### **804.6 THE RACE**

- .1 All open water competitions shall be freestyle events.
- .2 Intentional obstruction, interference or intentional contact with another swimmer shall, if deemed by the Referee to be "Unsporting Impedance," lead to disqualification whether it is caused by a swimmer or that swimmer's escort craft.
- .3 Any other unsportsmanlike conduct in the opinion of the Referee may result in a disqualification.
- .4 Pacing of a swimmer by another person entering the water is prohibited.
- .5 Swimmers shall maintain clearance from other swimmers except at the start, the turns, the finish, or where the course or race conditions dictate otherwise. Race judges shall instruct swimmers who, in the judges' opinion, are taking unfair advantage by pacing or slipstreaming, to move clear of other swimmers. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- .6 Escort boats shall maintain a constant position at the side of their swimmer and shall maneuver so as to avoid obstructing or placing themselves directly in front of another swimmer.
- .7 Standing on the bottom during a race shall not disqualify swimmers, but they may not walk or otherwise propel themselves from the bottom or objects thereon.
- .8 With the exception of the above, swimmers shall not receive support from any fixed or floating object and shall not touch or be touched by their escort craft or the crew.



- .9 Each escort boat shall contain a race judge, a person of the swimmer's choosing, and the minimum crew required to operate the escort boat.
- .10 Each escort boat shall display the swimmer's race number so it is easily seen from either side of the boat.
- .11 Swimmers shall be allowed to use grease or other similar substances, if not considered excessive by the Referee.
- .12 Giving food or liquid to a swimmer is permissible.

#### **804.7 THE FINISH OF THE RACE**

- .1 The area leading to the finish point shall be clearly marked by a narrowing A gateway of buoys.
- .2 The finish apparatus, where possible, should be a stationary, vertical panel securely fastened in place so as to not be moved by wind, tide, or force of the swimmer striking it and wide enough to accommodate at least five adult swimmers.
- .3 Open water events preferably should finish in a sufficient depth of water to allow contestants swim without interference from the bottom or objects thereon.. However, an on-shore finish where contestants run from the water to a finish point signal is permitted.
- .4 The Finish Judges and Timers shall be positioned in an area designated for their exclusive use.
- .5 Video or other electronic devices may be used in judging the finish order.
- .6 Every effort should be made to ensure that the swimmer's representative can be transferred from the escort boat to meet the swimmer as the swimmer leaves the water.
- .7 Upon leaving the water, some swimmers may require assistance. Swimmers should only be touched or handled if they clearly display a need or ask for assistance.
- .8 A member of the medical team should make a cursory inspection of all swimmers as they leave the water, and refer swimmers needing follow up assistance in accordance with the Meet Director's safety/medical plan. A chair shall be provided for the swimmer to sit while the medical assessment is made.
- .9 Swimmers should have access to refreshments immediately.
- .10 If doping control is being conducted, the host shall accommodate the needs of the associated staff and shall provide the necessary facilities.

#### **804.8 TEAM EVENTS**

- .1 Team events usually will be conducted coincidentally with individual events, with the results achieved in the individual event used to compute the team scoring.
- .2 A team event shall be contested on a total time or distance basis. Clubs may enter any number of three or four-swimmer teams. The aggregate time or distance of the top three swimmers on each team shall be used to determine the team's time or distance. Mixed (gender) shall be composed of not more than two

males and two females.

- .3 The team whose top three swimmers have the lowest cumulative time or the greatest cumulative distance shall be the winning team. Subsequent places shall be determined on the cumulative time/distance basis. If two or more teams have identical times or distances, a tie shall be declared.

**804.9 OPEN WATER RELAYS**--Relay teams normally shall consist of six swimmers, but the number of swimmers may be increased or decreased by the meet management. The team members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time each swimmer must spend in the water on each leg shall be specified in the entry information. Because the changeover is determined on a time basis rather than distance, not all swimmers on the team will swim the same distance or the same number of times. The changeover to the incoming swimmer shall be made as soon as practical after the finishing swimmer has completed his or her respective leg. In the exchange, physical contact shall be made between the two swimmers.

#### **ARTICLE 805 THE MEET DIRECTOR**

**805.1** The Meet Director shall be responsible for the conduct of the event with the exception of the actual competition for which the Referee is in charge.

**805.2** The Meet Director shall be responsible for all pre- and post-race administration connected with the event. The Director's duties include but are not limited to:

- .1 Planning of the technical, and safety aspects of the event.
- .2 Preparing the budget and attending to other financial matters as needed or appropriate.
- .3 Preparing and distributing the entry information.
- .4 Obtaining clearance from the local authorities, securing the necessary permits, etc.
- .5 Obtaining the meet sanction from the LSC.
- .6 Preparing the communications, safety and medical evacuation plans in conjunction with the appropriate authorities.
- .7 Coordinating with the LSC regarding LSC requirements and any special insurance or technical matters.
- .8 Briefing the Referee, the Safety Officer and other officials.
- .9 Accepting entries and completing the meet administrative duties.
- .10 Ensuring that the USA Swimming General Insurance forms are signed by all motorized boat owners who have provided support craft.
- .11 Certifying the accuracy of the timing devices.
- .12 Ordering and ensuring the receipt of all items necessary for the conduct of event.
- .13 Preparing, printing and distributing the results.

- .14 Preparing and releasing appropriate results to the media.
- .15 Preparing necessary reports, including the financial report to the LSC and others, as may be required.
- .16 Completing and forwarding as appropriate, USA Swimming Report of Occurrence for any injury or accident, including a report for any swimmer who has failed to finish the race because of fatigue, hypothermia, etc.
- .17 Acknowledging the efforts of all volunteers and meet workers.

**ARTICLE 806**  
**OFFICIALS**

**806.1** The following officials shall be required and assigned for all Open Water Swimming events:

Referee  
Assistant Referee  
Administrative Referee  
Announcer  
Safety Officer  
Medical Officer  
Course Officer  
Clerk of Course  
Starter  
Race Judge (one per competitor in escorted races)  
Turn Judge (one at each change in the direction of the course)  
Chief Timer and 3 timers  
Chief Finish Judge and 2 finish judges  
Recorder  
Race Jury of not fewer than three persons

- .1 While it is desirable that all officials' positions be filled by separate individuals, the size of the event may necessitate having some positions filled by the same person. The positions of the Referee, the Safety Officer, the Finish Judge and the Timers shall not be combined with the duties of any other official.
- .2 All officials shall make their decisions autonomously and independently of each other.

**806.2 THE REFEREE:**

- .1 Shall have full control and authority over all officials, shall approve their assignments and shall instruct them regarding all special features and regulations related to the competition;
- .2 Shall enforce all rules and regulations of USA Swimming and shall decide all matters relating to the conduct of the competition, which may not otherwise be covered by the rules;
- .3 Shall ensure that all officials necessary for the conduct of the event or competition are at their respective posts;
- .4 Shall appoint substitutes for the officials who are absent, incapable of acting or are found to be deficient;

- .5 If, necessary, shall appoint additional officials;
- .6 Shall have the authority to intervene in the competition at any stage to ensure that USA Swimming Rules and Regulations are observed;
- .7 For safety reasons or other unforeseen circumstances shall have the authority to change the distance or race course;
- .8 Shall adjudicate all protests related to the competition in progress and render a decision in cases where the Finish Judges' decision and the recorded times do not agree;
- .9 Shall have the authority to use any electronic or mechanical judging devices in case of any doubt about the conduct or finish of the race, or in order to aid in ruling on a protest.
- .10 Shall conduct the draw for the Race Judges and shall assign them to their respective boats;
- .11 Shall ensure that the Turn Judges are in position prior to the start of the competition;
- .12 Shall signal by a raised flag and a series of short blasts on a whistle that the start is imminent and when satisfied that swimmers are ready, indicate by pointing the flag at the Starter that the competition may commence;
- .13 Shall disqualify any swimmer for any violation of the rules personally observed or based on the report of other authorized officials;
- .14 When necessary, shall communicate by radio or telephone with the Assistant Referee(s), the Medical Officer, the Safety Officer, Shore-to-Emergency services, etc;
- .15 Shall remain on the course until the all swimmers are out of the water; and.
- .16 Shall receive all reports prior to the start of the race from the Clerk of Course, the Course Officer and the Safety Officer at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the race.

**806.3 THE ASSISTANT REFEREE**--shall be aboard the craft designated for his or her use and shall perform all duties assigned by the Referee.

**806.4 THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFEREE**--shall be responsible for all administrative matters assigned by the Referee, concentrating on overseeing the activities that the Referee is unable to supervise directly.

**806.5 THE ANNOUNCER:**

- .1 Whenever possible and dependent on the number of participants shall introduce the swimmers prior to the commencement of competition;
- .2 Shall announce the countdown to the start;
- .3 Shall keep the swimmers, officials and spectators informed in such a manner as to maintain a high level of interest in all aspects of the competition; and
- .4 Shall make any announcement requested by authorized race personnel.

**806.6 THE SAFETY OFFICER:**

- .1 Shall be responsible to the Referee for all aspects of safety related to the conduct of the competition;
- .2 Shall inspect each escort boat and ensure it is suitable;
- .3 Shall check that the entire course and especially the start and finish areas are safe and free of all obstructions;
- .4 Shall ensure that sufficient number of powered craft are available during the competition to provide safety backup for the escort boats;
- .5 When applicable, shall provide to all swimmers a tide and/or current charts indicating the time of tide changes on the course and showing the relationship between tides or current and swimmers' progress along the course;
- .6 In conjunction with the Medical Officer, shall advise the Referee if, in their opinion, conditions are unsuitable for staging the competition and/or make recommendations for the modification of the course or the manner in which the competition is conducted; and
- .7 Shall be familiar with the Meet Director's event safety plan.

**806.7 THE MEDICAL OFFICER:**

- .1 Shall be responsible to the Referee for all medical aspects related to the competition and competitors;
- .2 Shall inform the local medical facilities of the nature of the competition and ensure that all casualties can be evacuated to them at the earliest opportunity;
- .3 In conjunction with the Safety Officer, shall advise the Referee if, in their opinion, conditions are unsuitable for staging the competition and/or make recommendations for the modification of the course or the manner in which the competition is conducted; and
- .4 Shall be familiar with the Meet Director's event safety plan.

**806.8 THE COURSE OFFICER:**

- .1 Shall be responsible for the accuracy the survey establishing the distance of the course;
- .2 Prior to the commencement of competition with the Referee and Safety Officer, shall inspect the course to ensure that all points are correctly marked and all equipment has been correctly installed and is in working order; and
- .3 Shall serve as the pilot in the lead boat.

**806.9 THE CLERK OF COURSE:**

- .1 Shall assemble and instruct the competitors prior to the competition and ensure proper reception for the competitors at the finish;

- .2 Shall ensure competitors are correctly identified with their race number;
- .3 Shall keep the swimmers and officials informed of the time remaining before the start at suitable intervals until the last five minutes, during which one minute warnings shall be given;
- .4 Shall ensure that all clothing and equipment left in the start area is transported to the finish area and kept safe and secure; and
- .5 Shall ensure that all competitors leaving the water at the finish have the basic equipment required for their well being, should their own attendants not be present at that time.

**806.10 THE STARTER (or the Honorary Starter, if used):**

- .1 Shall assume a position clearly visible to all competitor;.
- .2 On signal of the Referee, shall raise a distinctive flag to a vertical position;
- .3 Holding the arm straight, shall simultaneously bring the arm holding the flag down and shall activate an audible signal to signify the start; and
- .4 In the event of a false start, shall activate a recall device or signal. The recall signal shall be made known to all competitors prior to the race.

**Note:** If an Honorary Starter is used, the Referee shall appoint a qualified Starter to ensure the provisions of this section are observed.

**806.11 RACE JUDGES**

- .1 Shall be assigned to each swimmer in each escort craft by random draw immediately prior to start.;
- .2 Shall be positioned in the escort boat so as to be able to observe his or her appointed swimmer at all times;
- .3 Shall ensure that the rules of competition are complied with, and that any violations are recorded and are promptly reported to the Referee;
- .4 Shall have the authority to order a swimmer from the water upon expiration of the time limit or when so ordered by the Referee;
- .5 Shall ensure that the assigned swimmer does not take unfair advantage or commit unsportsmanlike impedance of another swimmer and, if the situation requires, instruct the swimmer to maintain clearance from any other swimmer; and
- .6 Shall immediately inform the Referee if the assigned swimmer withdraws from the event and shall record the completed distance and the time of the withdrawal.

**806.12 TURN JUDGES:**

- .1 Shall be positioned so as to ensure that all swimmers comply with the turn and other changes of the course procedures as indicated in the competition information documents and as directed at the pre-race briefing;

- .2 Shall record any violation of the turn procedures on the record sheets provided, indicating the observation of any violation to the Referee at the time the infringement is committed.; and
- .3 Promptly upon completion of the event deliver the signed record sheet to the Referee.

**806.13 THE CHIEF TIMER:**

- .1 Shall assign at least three Timers to their positions for the start and finish;
- .2 Shall brief the Timers on their duties and the particulars of their assignment;
- .3 Shall ensure that a time check is made to allow all persons to synchronize their watches with the official race clock, if applicable, at least 15 minutes before start time;
- .4 Shall collect from each Timer a card or other form of report showing the time recorded for each swimmer and, if necessary, inspect their watches;
- .5 Shall record or examine the official time on the card or other form of record for each swimmer; and
- .6 Shall authorize the use of automatic or semi-automatic timing devices.

**806.14 TIMERS:**

- .1 Shall start their watches at the start signal and stop their watches at the finish to time each assigned swimmer as instructed by the Chief Timer.
- .2 Promptly after each finish shall record the time and the swimmers' race number on the time card or other form of report and shall deliver it to the Chief Timer.

**Note:** When automatic or semi-automatic timing equipment is used manual backup timing is required.

**806.15 THE CHIEF FINISH JUDGE:**

- .1 Shall assign each Finish Judge to a position;
- .2 Shall brief Finish Judges on their duties and the particulars of their assignment;
- .3 After the race, shall collect the signed results sheets from each Finish Judge; and
- .4 Based on these results, shall determine the swimmers' order of finish and deliver the results to the Referee or his or her designee.

**Note:** There shall be three Finish Judges, one of whom shall be assigned as the Chief Judge.

**806.16 FINISH JUDGES:**

- .1 The judges shall be positioned in line with and where they can have a clear view of the finish; and
- .2 As assigned, each judge shall record after each finish the place of each swimmer.

**Note:** To assist the Finish Judges in identifying the athletes, the swimmer and/or the escort may be requested to call out their or their swimmer's race number at the finish.

**806.17 THE RECORDER:**

- .1 Shall check the results from the computer printouts or from the times and order of finish records in each event;
- .2 Shall record withdrawals from the competition, enter the results on the official forms, and determine the placements for team awards; and
- .3 Shall complete team results calculations.

**806.18 THE RACE JURY**--shall consist of a minimum of three (3) knowledgeable and objective individuals selected by the Meet Director with the concurrence of the Referee and shall include at least one athlete and one coach. In the event of an official protest, the race jury shall consider and adjudicate the protest as provided in Rule 102.11.

**ARTICLE 807  
DISQUALIFICATIONS**

**807.1**-- Only the Referee shall have the authority to disqualify a swimmer. Other officials observing a violation of the rules within their assigned jurisdiction shall report all the details through the appropriate channels to the Referee.

**807.2** --Swimmers shall be disqualified if they:

- .1 Willfully or intentionally delay or impede the progress of another swimmer (Note: Accidental contact, especially at the start of the event, shall not be a basis for disqualification.);
- .2 Fail to swim or complete the prescribed course;
- .3 Receive assistance by pulling on the cable, line markers or buoys at any turn or on the course;
- .4 Receive propulsive aid from anyone in boats, on surf boards, etc.;
- .5 Violate the swimwear rules;
- .6 Receive aid from another person in the form of pacing;
- .7 Fail to maintain clearance between themselves and other swimmers and/or escort craft except at starts, turns, finishes, or where course conditions do not permit suitable spacing;
- .8 Take an unfair advantage by slipstreaming another swimmer or escort safety craft; and
- .9 Act in an unsportsmanlike manner as determined by the Referee.

**807.3**--Escort craft's and coach's actions can result in the disqualification of the associated swimmer if they interfere with another swimmer's progress or fail to heed the instruction of an assigned official.



**ARTICLE 808**  
**TECHNICAL RULES PROTESTS**

The Referee shall attempt to informally resolve any problem that may result in a protest. If the matter cannot be resolved, the athlete may submit a written protest to the Referee within 30 minutes of the informal decision, stating the facts related to the protest. If the matter is not resolved to the athlete's satisfaction, the protest shall be referred to the Race Jury, whose decision shall be made the day of the event. The athlete has the right to appeal the Race Jury's ruling in accordance with the procedures stated in 102.11.5

**ARTICLE 809**  
**NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP/NATIONAL TEAM QUALIFIERS**

**809.1 Events** -- USA Swimming Open Water Individual and Team National Championships for the following events shall be awarded on bid basis two years in advance by the OWS Committee at the Annual Meeting:

- .1 Five Kilometer [may be contested in distances between 4.5 and 5.5 Kilometers (2.8 to 3.4 miles)];
- .2 Ten Kilometer [may be contested in distances between 9 and 11 Kilometers (5.6 to 6.8 miles)];
- .3 Fifteen Kilometer [may be contested in distances between 13.5 and 15.5 Kilometers (8.4 to 10.3 miles)];  
and
- .4 Twenty-five Kilometer [may be contested in distances between 22 Kilometers (13.6 miles)] and 28 Kilometers(17.3 miles)].

**809.2 Start and finish**

- .1 An in-water start and an in-water finish are required for all USA Swimming National Open Water Swimming Championships.
- .2 Video taping of the finish shall be provided for meets from which National Teams are selected.

**809.3 Administration**

- .1 The Meet Host shall enter into a contract with USA Swimming, Inc. under the terms and conditions approved by the USA Swimming Board of Directors.
- .2 The OWS Committee shall appoint a representative to act as liaison and to assist the Meet Director in the organization and conduct of the National Championships.
- .3 The Referee and Safety Officer shall be approved by the OWS Committee. The assigned Officials shall be responsible for mentoring and training other Open Water Swimming officials at the Championships.
- .4 From the list provided by the Meet Director, USA Swimming through the appropriate registration channels shall verify the eligibility of swimmers entered in any USA Swimming Open Water National Championships in sufficient time prior to the meet for the Meet Director and swimmers to correct any problem.
- .5 Individual and team results shall be submitted to the Open Water Swimming Coordinator and USA Swimming. A copy of the results will also be mailed to the coaches having swimmers entered in the competition, all unattached swimmers and shall include the following information: Swimmer's names,

ages, places, and team times.

#### **809.4 Financial**

- .1 The sponsoring or hosting organization shall agree to fully underwrite the costs of the meet and to the terms of the contract between the USA Swimming and the host, including setting up the course, shipping special equipment, insurance and all other requirements stated in the contract.
- .2 The entry fees for the USA Swimming National Championship shall not exceed \$20.00 for individual entries and an incremental \$5.00 fee per individual for those entered in the Team events.
- .3 With the concurrence of USA Swimming, surcharges and additional fees may be charged to cover unmet meet expenses.

#### **809.5 Entry Blanks and Meet Information Booklet**

- .1 The entry blank and meet information booklet shall be prepared under joint direction of the Open Water Swimming Coordinator, the Meet Director and the USA Swimming Executive Director or his/her representative. Printing distribution and mailing of the entry blank and information booklet shall be the responsibility of USA Swimming. Entry blanks and meet information booklets shall be approved in writing by the Open Water Swimming Coordinator prior to printing and distribution.
- .2 One set of entry blanks and the information booklet shall be sent at least ninety (90) days prior to the meet-entry-closing date to all LSC General Chairmen, LSC Senior Chairmen, LSC Coaches Representatives, LSC Open Water Chairmen and to all coaches and unattached swimmers and teams entered in the two preceding years' National Championship. The mailing list to be used shall be maintained by the Executive Director and updated following each National Championship with assistance of the Meet Director of that meet.
- .3 The information booklet shall state eligibility criteria, qualifying times and any procedure necessary for proof of time.
- .4 The information booklet shall state eligibility criteria for foreign swimmers.

#### **809.6 Eligibility**

- .1 All USA Swimming athlete-members and member clubs shall be eligible to compete in the USA Open Water National Championships.
- .2 The USA Swimming Open Water National Championships shall be open to foreign swimmers under the provisions of Article 202.4.1. Foreign clubs, but not national teams, may compete for team championships.
- .3 When the National Championships is a National Team selection event for an A level international competition (World Championships and the Olympic Games), the competition shall be closed to foreign athletes.
- .4 Qualifying time and/or qualifying criteria shall be established by the Meet Director with the concurrence of the OWS Coordinator or his designee. Any swimmer entered in any USA Swimming National Championship 15 kilometers or longer shall show proof of having achieved a time of eighteen (18) minutes or better in the 1500-meter freestyle for men or nineteen (19) minutes in the 1500-meter freestyle for women. This

can be verified by USA Swimming/foreign official and does not have to be from a USA Swimming sanctioned event.

### **809.7 Team Events**

- .1 Open Water Swimming National Championship team events shall be conducted in men's, women's and mixed-gender categories.
- .2 Open Water Swimming National Championship team events shall be held concurrently with the individual events, and swimmers entered in the team event shall also be entered in the individual event.
- .3 A team shall consist of not more than four nor less than three swimmers, with the cumulative times of the three fastest swimmers used to determine the total time for the team. The teams shall be ranked in the order of the fastest cumulative times to determine team placements. In the event two or more teams finish with the same time, a tie will be declared.
- .4 Clubs may enter more than one team in each category. Prior to the start of the competition coaches shall designate the category and the team (A, B, C, etc.) in which their swimmers will compete.
- .5 Swimmers may compete in only one team event in each championship.

### **809.8 NATIONAL OVERALL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

Standings in the USA Swimming Open Water National Overall Club Championships will be determined annually using 16-place scoring. The points earned by individual club members in the USA Swimming Open Water National Championship events will be accumulated determine the ranking in the overall club championship competition. To be eligible, a club must have had its members score in at least two different distances in two separate USA Swimming Open Water National Championships.

### **809.8 Awards**

- .1 USA Swimming Championship individual medals will be awarded as follows: 1st place, gold; 2nd place, silver; 3rd through 8th place, bronze.
- .2 USA Swimming Championship team medals will be awarded up to four members per team for teams who finish as follows: 1st place, gold; 2nd place, silver; and 3rd place, bronze.
- .3 The male and female swimmers 18 years of age or younger attaining the highest finishing position shall be designated as the USA Swimming 18-and-under Open Water Swimming Champions in each contested event and shall receive the appropriate USA Swimming Championship medals.
- .4 USA Team-Championship Awards shall be given to the top three teams in the men, women and mixed-gender team events at all USA Swimming Open Water Championships.
- .5 Following the last USA Swimming Open Water Championship event each calendar year, USA Swimming Open Water National Overall Club Championship awards shall be given to the highest placing club, the runner-up club and the third place club.
- .6 With the concurrence of USA Swimming, the Meet Host at the USA Swimming Open Water National Championships may present additional individual and team awards.

**ARTICLE 810**  
**ALL-AMERICA TEAM SELECTION**

**810.1** The OWS Committee shall select candidates for the USA Swimming Men's and Women's Open Water Swimming All-America Team. The selection will be based on the placement in the USA Open Water National Championship events. The first three places in the USA Swimming Individual Open Water Championships and swimmers qualifying for the USA Swimming Open Water Swimming National Team will be considered for All-America Honors.

**810.2** Any swimmer finishing in the top ten places in the final FINA Open Water Marathon Cup Series rankings will be considered for All-American Honors.

**810.3** The Committee will also consider for All-America honors individuals nominated by the LSCs.

**810.4** The OWS Committee's All-America selections shall be forwarded for ratification to the USA Swimming All-America Committee.

**ARTICLE 811**  
**POSTAL (Internet) MEETS**

**811.1** A postal meet is a competition where swimmers swim at a place of their choosing and send in the time or the distance they have achieved to a central location for tabulation. Similarly contested E-mail or Internet meets shall be considered to be postal events.

**811.2** The OWS Committee will conduct an annual National Postal Meet for individuals and teams in the following events:

- .1 One-Hour Swim for Distance (Age-Group and Senior).
- .2 Ten Kilometer Swim ( Age-Group starting with the 13-14 age group, and Senior).
- .3 Age-Group 1000-2000-3000-5000 yards/meters as follows: Nine and ten-year olds-- 1000 yards/meters; Eleven and twelve-year olds--2000 yards/meters; thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen and eighteen-year olds--3000 yards/meters;
- .4 Senior (for any age)--5000 yards/meters.

**811.3** USA Swimming Postal Meet medals or caps shall be awarded as follows:

- .1 Age-Group First six places
- .2 Senior First ten places
- .3 Teams First three places (based on composite of individual team members' scores)
- .4 With the concurrence of USA Swimming, Meet Hosts may offer additional awards and incentives.

**ARTICLE 812**  
**RECORDS**

**812.1** Because of differences in courses, currents and other physical factors records for Open Water

Swimming events are not maintained except as indicated below. For events where records are maintained they will be considered as US Open Records.

**812.2** A record swim may only be achieved in a sanctioned event. The report of the swim with all pertinent information must be sent to the Open Water Swimming liaison representative at the USA Swimming Headquarters.

**812.3** Open Water US Open Individual and Team Records for men and women will be maintained as indicated below:

.1 Time/Distance Events:

- A One-Hour Swim (25 Yard Pool)
- B 12- and 24-Hour Swim (50 Meter Pool)

.2 Set Distances:

- A Four miles (Quarter-mile open water straightaway course)
- B Five-mile increments (5, 10, 15 miles, etc., including the official marathon distance of 26 miles 385 yards) (25 Yard Pool)
- C Five kilometer increments (5, 10, 15..... 50.....100 Kilometers) (50 meter Pool)
- D Age Group 1000-2000-3000 and Senior 5000 Yard/Meter distances.

**ARTICLE 813  
CHAMPIONSHIP MEET SITES AND DATES**

*(List of next year's USA Swimming Open Water National Championships will be supplied after it is determined at the annual meeting in San Diego.)*

Redistricting-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 140 APPENDIX 6-C REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

Proposed by: Wyoming Swimming, Debbie Walthall, General Chairman

Purpose: To make a regional re-alignment that corresponds to Wyoming's membership in the Western Zone.

*Recommendation: The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

*[Reference page 146 Appendix 6-E(.5) Change in Regional Alignment.]*

Wyoming Swimming, currently in Region 11, requests reassignment to Region 12.

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**Notes to the Committee:**

Org Chart: Put Legal Counsel on Org Chart; remove Finance Committee from Org Chart

Re-assign Open Water Swimming to Part Seven and move Masters Swimming to Part Eight.

Order of Events (207.6.2) must continue to include current order until 2001.

***AND THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!!!***