

CLARIFICATION REGARDING TIMES SUM IN SWIM SUITS
NOT ON FINA APPROVED LIST

On May 19, 2009, the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (“FINA”) issued a list of approved swimsuits for use in FINA-approved competitions. As part of the review process, FINA rejected some swimsuits for failing to meet the prescribed regulations. Effective June 1, 2009, USA Swimming’s Rules Committee adopted the FINA list of approved suits into the USA Swimming rules.

In the *USA Swimming Athlete Selection Procedures 2009 FINA World Championships* (the “*Selection Procedures*”), USA Swimming will rely on the “World Ranking” to (i) determine which swimmers will make the World Championships Team (the “Team”) in the event that more than 26 men or women qualify under the Selection Procedures, and (ii) break ties where swimmers in different events have tied for the final position(s) on the Team. World Ranking is defined as “the ranking of the time swum by a swimmer in the Finals of the Qualifying Competition integrated into the combined Swimnews.com world ranking lists for 2008 and 2009 through June 30, 2009.”

A number of athletes have inquired as to the impact of FINA’s decisions on the selection of the Team for the 2009 FINA World Championships. In response to those questions, USA Swimming announces the following clarification to the *Selection Procedures*:

For purposes of the *Selection Procedures*, all times for U.S. athletes swum in suits that had not been rejected by FINA at the time of the race will be counted.

Further, for purposes of the definition of “World Ranking” as set forth in the *Selection Procedures*, other than reviewing and eliminating times of U.S. Swimmers from races after June 1, 2009 where those swimmers used suits rejected by FINA, the Swimnews.com world ranking lists for 2008 and 2009 through June 30, 2009 will be used, regardless of the suits used by non-US swimmers to achieve their respective rankings.

Any questions regarding this clarification should be directed to Lindsay Mintenko at (719) 866-4578.