

USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE
ADOPTED AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS
with January 1, 2018 Effective Date

G-16	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018 [<i>changes in titles effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates</i>]
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Location: Page 136 – **508.2 General Financial Procedures**

508.2 GENERAL FINANCIAL PROCEDURES — The ~~Finance~~ Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight shall ~~supervise~~ ensure the preparation of the USA Swimming annual budget by the Chief Executive Officer and staff and ~~shall be responsible~~ arrange for its ~~presenting~~ presentation such budgets to the Board of Directors for approval and ~~to the House of Delegates for adoption at the USA Swimming annual meeting~~. The ~~Finance~~ Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight shall ~~prepare~~ make available an annual financial report ~~to be presented to the members of the House of Delegates at the annual meeting~~. If requested by the USA Swimming Board of Directors or auditors, the Treasurer and the ~~Finance~~ Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight of USA Swimming shall deliver to the requesting party all money, accounts, books, papers, vouchers and records pertaining to the accounts of USA Swimming or the office of the Treasurer for audit or other purposes.

508.3 ANNUAL AUDIT — The financial records of the corporation shall be audited annually by a CPA firm selected by the Board of Directors. Such annual financial reports shall be made available for inspection by members of the general public at USA Swimming's principal office on request made within one hundred-eighty (180) days after notice of its availability.

508.4 RECEIPT OF SET ASIDES, GIFTS, AND GRANTS — The Corporation may, by action of the Board of Directors ~~or the House of Delegates~~, designate, receive and accept, or otherwise acquire property or funds or any interest therein in the form of set asides, gifts, grants, contributions, and testamentary transfers. The Corporation's use of such property and funds shall be limited to expenditure of its income only for USA Swimming's exempt purposes in furtherance of its support of, or to benefit, USA Swimming athletes and USA Swimming programs while retaining the principal thereof as an endowment to further such purposes.

508.5 ENDOWMENT FUNDS — There shall be established within USA Swimming such special endowment fund accounts as the ~~House of Delegates or the~~ Board of Directors deems appropriate. The rules governing their respective operations shall be set forth in the USA Swimming Policy Manual.

R-7	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 65 – **202.7 Requirements for Observed Swims**

202.7 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS — Swims may be observed by assigned USA Swimming or YMCA officials for conformance with USA Swimming technical rules in a meet conducted under other than USA Swimming rules. Official times achieved as observed swims may be submitted for entry into the SWIMS database if all of the following conditions are met:

- .1 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 Chair or designee. A time trial held in conjunction with the season-culminating championship meet that is officiated in accordance with the same standard as the championship meet may also be observed.
- .2 Requests for observers for certification of times from meets in the championship progression must be made to the host LSC in accordance with LSC procedures at least 10 days prior to the meet. Applications for observation of all other meets must be made to the host LSC at least 10 days prior to the meet. Authorization of such non-championship meets must then be approved by the USA Swimming Program Operations Vice Chair or designee.
- .3 An observer must verify that all swims approved for USA Swimming purposes were in accordance with the following requirements of: 402.24 (Timing Rules), 403.3 (Racing Course Dimensions), and 403.14 (Starting Platforms).
 - A Minimum of one referee, one starter and two stroke & turn judge association officials working season-culminating

championship meets and invitationals;

B 102.24 (Timing Rules);

C 103.3 (Racing Course Dimensions); and

D 103.14 (Starting Platforms)

- 4 Where the technical rules of the stroke differ from USA Swimming as defined in Article 101, at least two observers from USA Swimming and/or the YMCA, who shall be certified Stroke & Turn Judges assigned or approved by the LSC, must be present, one at each end of the course, to verify compliance of the swim or swims with that part of the USA Swimming rule that differs from the organization's rule. Where the technical rules as listed in Article 101 are identical to those of the organization under whose rules the meet is being conducted, the judgment of the organization officials shall be sufficient. ~~An individual swim being observed requires notification to the observers prior to the start of the competition.~~ The times should be entered, upon request, into SWIMS, the National Times Database.

R-8	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 67 – **Article 203 Representation**

203.6 If a member club of an LSC has secured a court judgment against an athlete member (or his/her parents or custodians) for non-payment of club membership dues and fees, ~~which entitle the athlete to compete attached to the club that~~ athlete shall be ineligible to represent any USA Swimming member club until the judgment is paid.

R-9	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 69 – **204.9 Sectional Championships**

204.9 SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- .1 Each Zone shall designate its Sections.
- .2 The Senior Development Committee will set nationwide time standards for Sectionals. Individual Sections may have standards that are slower than these standards, but not faster.
- .3 The goal size for the Sectional meet is 700 athletes. If 800 or more athletes enter a given meet, the ~~Zone~~ Section shall either (a) tighten the time standards, (but not faster than the standards established by the Senior Development Committee), or (b) split the meet into two meets for the following year. For meets held in two courses, the goal size of the meet is 1,000 athletes. If 1,100 or more athletes enter a given meet, the ~~Zone~~ Section shall either (a) tighten the time standards (but not faster than the standards established by the Senior Development Committee), or (b) split the meet into two meets for the following year.
- 4-10 [no changes]

R-10	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 69 – **204.9 Sectional Championships**

204.9 SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- .1-5 [no changes]
- .6 There shall be at least two (2) Spring and one (1) Summer Sectional meets in each Zone.
 - A Summer Sectional
 - (1) The Summer Sectional shall be a Long Course meet.
 - (2) The Summer Sectional meet shall be no more than four (4) days long, and shall conclude ~~between~~ at least eight (8) and twenty-two (22) days prior to the U.S. Open or Junior Nationals, whichever comes first.

(3) The Summer Sectional meet shall have at least one 18-and-under final heat per individual event.

B Spring Sectional

(1) The Spring Sectional meet should be no more than 3 1/2 days long. The dates may vary according to the needs of each Zone.

(2) The Spring Sectional meet shall have at least one 18-and-under final heat per individual event.

.7-.10 [no changes]

R-11	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 70 – 205.3 Program and Events

205.3 PROGRAM AND EVENTS

.1 In order to promote maximum achievement and recognition, competition may be separated by age, gender and level of ability. Meets and/or events shall be structured by the LSC to assure fair competition.

A Age Group swimming competition shall be conducted in conformance with the USA Swimming Technical Rules.

B USA Swimming shall establish and publish national motivational times for the recognized events in 102.1.2.

C An LSC may establish its own age group time standards for use within its jurisdiction or may sanction competition without any entry time requirements.

D Only swimmers whose best times correspond to the event's time standard for their age shall be eligible to participate in the particular event.

E Age Group meets may be designated by ability classifications.

F With the exception of championship and open water meets, the program in all other age group competition shall be planned to allow the events for swimmers twelve (12) years and younger to be completed in four (4) hours or less for a ~~timed finals per session (prelims, finals, timed finals) or in a total of eight (8) hours or less per day for a preliminaries and finals meet.~~ Events for the same 12 & under swimmers shall be limited to one session per day, except for prelim/final meets where events for 12 & under swimmers may be offered in both prelims and finals.

.2 Programs for Age Group meets and/or those of mixed classification may be tailored to meet local requirements and conditions. Recommended events are those listed in 102.1.2. An LSC, at its option, may open its oldest Age Group at any competition to Post Age Group swimmers. Dual meets between clubs and LSCs are encouraged.

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Location: Page 77 – 207.11 Administrative Conduct of USA Swimming Championships

207.11 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT OF USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS — The administrative rules for the conduct of the National Championships and Open Water Championships are specified herein. Additional rules for Open Water Championships are listed in Article 704.

.1-.5 [no changes]

.6 Scratch Procedures

A Swimmers may scratch from an event in which they are entered by following the procedures set forth in the meet announcement.

B The scratch deadline for the first day's events shall be fifteen (15) minutes after the general meeting is adjourned. The scratch deadline for all subsequent days' events shall be thirty (30) minutes after the time established for the start of the finals sessions.

C In all events where preliminary heats are necessary or in any timed final event for which the swimmer has been positively checked in, after the heats have been seeded, any swimmer who fails to compete in an individual event heat in which such swimmer entered and has not been scratched in accordance with sub-paragraphs A and B above will be

barred from all further individual and relay events of that day. The application of this penalty shall pertain to the order in which the event/heats are swum, not the numerical order of the events. Additionally that swimmer shall not be seeded in any individual events on succeeding days unless that swimmer declares an intent to swim prior to the close of the scratch box for that day's events.

D-F [no changes]

R-13	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 94 – **302.2 Membership**
Page 122 – **502.4 Individual Membership**

302.2 MEMBERSHIP — Athlete membership will consist of an annual membership, an outreach membership, a seasonal membership, or a single-meet open water membership.

- .1 **Annual Membership** — Membership is for a calendar year. Non-members applying for membership on or after September 1 will be issued a membership valid through December 31 of the following year.
- .2 **Outreach Membership** — Annual membership with specially reduced fees. Each LSC House of Delegates shall determine how athletes qualify for outreach membership.
- .3 **Individual Seasonal Membership** — At the option of the LSC, membership may be offered for one or two periods of not more than 150 days per period within a registration year. Seasonal membership may also be offered for an unspecified but continuous period of not more than 150 days commencing on the date of registration. Seasonal membership is not valid for competition at or above the Zone Championship level.
- .4 **Single-Meet Open Water Membership** — At the option of the LSC, membership may be offered for the specific date(s) of an open water competition(s). The swimmer must compete unattached. Single-meet membership is not valid for competition at or above the Zone Championship meet.

502.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- .1 Any individual may join USA Swimming as a member.
- .2 Athlete membership consists of four categories:
 - A Annual (LSCs are required to offer this membership)
 - B Outreach (LSCs are required to offer this membership)
 - C ~~Individual~~ Seasonal (offered at option of LSC)
 - D Single Meet Open Water (offered at option of LSC)
- .3-.6 [no changes]

R-17	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 133 – **506.9 Senior Development Committee**
Page 133 – **506.10 Age Group Development Committee**

506.9 SENIOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- .1 The Senior Development Committee shall consist of ten (10) members appointed by the Board Chair, at least five (5) of whom shall be coaches and two of whom shall be athletes. The Age Group Development Committee Chair or his/her designee shall be an ex-officio member with voice but no vote.
- .2-.3 [no changes]

506.10 AGE GROUP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- .1 The Age Group Development Committee shall consist of ten (10) members appointed by the Board Chair, with at least one representative from each Zone. At least five (5) of the members shall be coaches and two shall be athletes. The Senior Development Committee Chair or his/her designee shall be an ex-officio member with voice but no vote.

.2-.3 [no changes]

R-18	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Page 153 – **701.2 Rules**

701.2 RULES

.1-.4 [no changes]

.5 The Finish

- A Where in-water finish apparatus is not available, an on-shore finish where contestants run from the water to a finish point is permitted.
- B The finish should be filmed and recorded by a video system ~~with slow motion and recall facilities including timing equipment.~~
 - (1) The video recording system should be positioned in line with and where a clear, unobstructed view of the finish can be made. The recording system is from each side and above with a clear unobstructed view.
 - (2) The video recording system shall have both slow motion and recall capability, including timing equipment.

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Location: Page 156 – **701.7 The Meet Director**

701.7 THE MEET DIRECTOR shall

.1 have no other position at the event;

[re-number remaining]

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Location: Page 156 – **701.8 The Independent Safety Monitor**

701.8 THE INDEPENDENT SAFETY MONITOR shall

.1 be approved by an LSC sanction officer, and shall be independent of the race organizing committee, and have no direct responsibility for athletes entered in the competition (e.g., coach, personal assistant, or team manager);

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Location: Page 156 – **701.9 Officials**
Page 157 – **701.12 The Administrative Referee**

701.9 OFFICIALS — There should be no fewer than the following officiating positions filled. The positions of Referee, Safety Officer, Finish Judge and Timer shall not be combined with the duties of any other official.

The Referee, Assistant Referee, Administrative Referee or Administrative Official, and Starter must have passed the USA Swimming Open Water Referee online test prior to officiating a sanctioned Open Water competition.

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|--|--------------------------|
| Referee | Assistant Referee |
| Administrative Referee <u>or Administrative Official</u> | Announcer |
| Safety Officer | Medical Officer |
| Course Officer | Clerk of Course |
| Starter | Chief Timer and 3 timers |
| Chief Finish Judge and 2 finish judges | Recorder |

Race Judge (one per competitor in escorted races)
Turn Judge (one at each change in the direction of the course)

701.12 THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFEREE OR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL shall be responsible for all administrative matters assigned by the Referee.

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Location: Page 159 – **701.22 The Finish Judge**

701.22 THE FINISH JUDGE shall

.1 be positioned in line with the finish and where ~~he/she can have~~ there is a clear and unobstructed view of the finish; and

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Location: Page 159 – **702.2 Water/Air Temperature**

702.2 WATER/AIR TEMPERATURE — The race shall not begin if the following conditions are not satisfied:

- .1 The water temperature shall not be less than 16° C (60.8° F).
- .2 For races of 5K and above, the water temperature shall not exceed 29.45° C (85° F).
- .3 The air temperature and water temperature when added together shall not be less than 30° C (118° F) nor greater than 63° C (177.4° F).
- .4 The water temperature shall be checked the day of the race, 2 (two) hours before the start, on the course at a depth of 40 cm (15.75 inches).

R-26	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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Location: Required LSC Bylaws – 605.6 Duties and Powers

604.4 DUTIES AND POWERS - The House of Delegates shall oversee the management of the affairs of XXSI and the establishment of policies, procedures and programs. In addition to the duties and powers prescribed in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the House of Delegates shall:

- .10 Remove from office any Board Members, *[members of the Administrative Review Board,]* or committee chairs or members *or coordinators* who have failed to attend to their official duties or member responsibilities or have done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty by the Zone Board of Review for any of the reasons set forth in Article 404.1.3 of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. However, no Board Member, *[Administrative Review Board member]* or elected committee chair *or coordinator* may be removed ~~except upon not less than~~ without receiving thirty (30) days written notice by the Secretary or other officer designated by the House of Delegates specifying the alleged deficiency in the performance of the member's responsibilities or specific official duties or other reason and an opportunity to respond in writing within twenty (20) days to such allegations. ~~All notices and proceedings under this section shall be prepared, served and processed utilizing the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Article 406 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations to the extent applicable. Should the Board Member, *[Administrative Review Board member or]* elected committee chair *or coordinator* contest the alleged deficiency or other reason alleged in the notice, the House of Delegates shall hold a hearing at which the defendant shall have the same rights as if the hearing were to be conducted by the Zone Board of Review pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.~~

605.6 DUTIES AND POWERS - The Board of Directors shall act for XXSI and the House of Delegates during the intervals between meetings of the House of Delegates, subject to the exercise by the House of Delegates

of its powers of ratification or prospective modification or rescission, except that it shall not remove a Board Member, *[an Administrative Review Board member]* or other person elected by the House of Delegates or elected or appointed by another committee or division of XXSI or amend these Bylaws. In addition to the powers and duties prescribed in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to:

.1-11 *[no changes]*

.12 Remove from office any officers, *At-Large Board Members*, committee chairs, or committee members *or coordinators* of XXSI who were ~~not elected by the House of Delegates~~ appointed/elected by the Board and who have failed to attend to their official duties or member responsibilities or have done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty by the Zone Board of Review for any of the reasons set forth in Article 404.1.3 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. ~~However, No no officer, At-Large Board Member, or committee chair or coordinator~~ may be removed without receiving the thirty (30) days written notice specifying the alleged deficiency in the performance of the member's responsibilities ~~or specific under these Bylaws, the member's~~ official duties or other reasons and an opportunity to respond in writing within twenty (20) days to such allegations. ~~All notices and proceedings under this section shall be prepared, served and processed utilizing the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Article 406 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations to the extent applicable. Should the officer, At-Large Board Member, committee chair, or committee member or coordinator contest the alleged deficiency or other reason set forth in the notice, the Board of Directors shall hold a hearing at which the member shall have the same procedural rights as if the hearing were to be conducted by the Zone Board of Review pursuant to Part Four of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.~~