

USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

**2017 LEGISLATION ADOPTED
BY USA SWIMMING HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

Prepared by Jay Thomas (Chair),

Mickey Smythe and Gloria Schuldt (Secretaries)

September 16, 2017

USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE
PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

G-1	ADOPTED	Effective at the Conclusion of the 2017 House of Delegates
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Location: Page 137 – Article 511 Amendments
New Article XXX Rules of the House of Delegates

ARTICLE 511
AMENDMENTS

511.1 AUTHORITY TO AMEND AND VOTE REQUIRED —

.1 The Rules and Regulations Corporate Bylaws, excepting those items outlined below in 511.1.3B, may be altered, amended or repealed, by the Board of Directors, subject to the provisions of 504.910 (Authority), by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

[Re-number remaining]

.2 The Rules and Regulations Committee may alter, amend, or repeal any portion of Part One or Part Seven at any time to conform to the rules of the Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA).

.3 The USA Swimming House of Delegates may amend the Rules and Regulations at its annual meeting as follows:

A Parts One, Two, Three, Four, Six and Seven: by a majority vote.

B Part Five (Corporate Bylaws): by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, the House of Delegates may amend the number of Board members, their terms, or the number of which are elected by the House of Delegates, the composition of the House of Delegates, membership fees for membership classes in existence as of the 2017 registration year (see 502.7.1A and B), and Article XXX (Rules of the House of Delegates),

Note: See 511.5 for late submitted legislation.

~~511.2 AMENDMENTS PROPOSED~~ *(move to new section)*

~~.1 **By Whom Proposed** — An amendment to the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations may be proposed only by an LSC, a duly constituted committee, a member of the USA Swimming House of Delegates as identified in Article 507, the Board of Directors, the National Board of Review, or any Allied or Affiliate Group Member.~~

~~.2 **Form Required** — Every proposed amendment to the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations shall be in such form as to show the entire section as it will read if adopted, with any changes in existing language single underlined if new and lined out (struck through) if deleted. Each amendment shall be accompanied by a concise, but informative rationale for adoption and for the proposed effective date. In addition, the name, address and telephone number of the proposer must be included (if the proposer is an entity, the name, address and telephone number of an authorized spokesperson with authority to agree to changes in the proposed amendment).~~

~~.3 **Last Date for Proposal** — Every proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Chair of the Rules & Regulations Committee no later than the May 15 preceding an annual meeting of the USA Swimming House of Delegates.~~

~~.4 **Consideration, Recommendation and Report** — The Rules & Regulations Committee shall consider all proposed amendments and shall present them to the annual meeting of the House of Delegates with the Committee's recommendations.~~

~~.5 **Procedures for Recommendations** — As a part of its consideration, the Rules & Regulations Committee is encouraged to consult with the proposer and any other interested parties and suggest changes (which may be substantive or drafting) to the amendment that would enable the Committee to support adoption. Recommendations under this Article may be for or against adoption, a statement of no recommendation, or a recommendation to commit the proposal to a USA Swimming Officer or another USA Swimming Committee or the proposer for further consideration. Each recommendation for rejection shall include a concise but informative rationale for the recommendation.~~

~~**511.3 PUBLICATION OF AMENDMENTS** — All proposed amendments to all parts of these Rules and Regulations shall be published and made available on the USA Swimming website not less than seventy five (75) days prior to the annual meeting of the House of Delegates. Members of the House of Delegates may request a printed copy after the amendments are posted on the website.~~

~~**511.4 CHANGES TO AMENDMENTS** — A proposed amendment may be modified in any manner by the House of Delegates while under consideration, but such modification must be germane to the subject matter of the proposed amendment (which does not require the nine tenths (9/10) vote as provided in 511.5). If more than one amendment has been proposed on the same subject matter, and there are substantive differences between such amendments, the House of Delegates may adopt a compromise of substance as well as form, and if the adoption of an amendment as proposed or amended or comprised is inconsistent or in conflict with other parts of the Rules and Regulations, the House of Delegates may adopt conforming amendments appropriate to the case.~~

~~**511.5 LATE SUBMISSION AND MAJORITY REQUIRED** — After the deadline has expired for submission of legislation to the Rules & Regulations Committee, new and/or additional amendments may be proposed, but they may be adopted only by an affirmative vote of nine tenths (9/10) of the members of the House of Delegates present and voting. For purposes of this Article, legislation originating within the Rules & Regulations Committee will be considered as being submitted before the deadline as long as it is published in accordance with 511.3.~~

~~**511.6 EFFECTIVE DATE** — Housekeeping items approved as prescribed shall become effective immediately. All other amendments to Part One of these Rules and Regulations approved as prescribed shall become effective on May 1 of the year following their adoption, unless otherwise specified at the time of adoption. All other amendments to these Rules and Regulations approved as prescribed shall become effective on January 1 of the year following their adoption unless otherwise specified at the time of adoption.~~

ARTICLE XXX (new)

RULES OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

XXX.X AMENDMENTS - The USA Swimming House of Delegates may amend the Rules and Regulations at its annual meeting as follows:

.1 AUTHORITY

- A Parts One, Two, Three, Four, Six and Seven: by a majority vote.
- B Part Five – (Corporate Bylaws): by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, the House of Delegates may amend the number of Board members, their terms, or the number of which are elected by the House of Delegates, the composition of the House of Delegates, membership fees for membership classes in existence as of the 2017 registration year (see 502.7.1A and B), and Article XXX (Rules of the House of Delegates).

Note: See XXX.X.5 for late submitted legislation.

.2 AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

- A **By Whom Proposed** — An amendment to the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations may be proposed only by an LSC, a duly constituted committee, a member of the USA Swimming House of Delegates as identified in Article 508, the Board of Directors, the National Board of Review, or any Allied or Affiliate Group Member.
- B **Form Required** — Every proposed amendment to the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations shall be in such form as to show the entire section as it will read if adopted, with any changes in existing language single underlined if new and lined out (struck through) if deleted. Each amendment shall be accompanied by a concise, but informative rationale for adoption and for the proposed effective date. In addition, the name, address and telephone number of the proposer must be included (if the proposer is an entity, the name, address and telephone number of an authorized spokesperson with authority to agree to changes in the proposed amendment).
- C **Last Date for Proposal** — Every proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Chair of the Rules & Regulations Committee no later than the May 15 preceding an annual meeting of the USA Swimming House of Delegates.

D Consideration, Recommendation and Report — The Rules & Regulations Committee shall consider all proposed amendments and shall present them to the annual meeting of the House of Delegates with the Committee's recommendations.

E Procedures for Recommendations — As a part of its consideration, the Rules & Regulations Committee is encouraged to consult with the proposer and any other interested parties and suggest changes (which may be substantive or drafting) to the amendment that would enable the Committee to support adoption. Recommendations under this Article may be for or against adoption, a statement of no recommendation, or a recommendation to commit the proposal to a USA Swimming Officer or another USA Swimming Committee or the proposer for further consideration. Each recommendation for rejection shall include a concise but informative rationale for the recommendation.

.3 PUBLICATION OF AMENDMENTS — All proposed amendments to all parts of these Rules and Regulations shall be published and made available on the USA Swimming website not less than seventy-five (75) days prior to the annual meeting of the House of Delegates. Members of the House of Delegates may request a printed copy after the amendments are posted on the website.

.4 CHANGES TO AMENDMENTS — A proposed amendment may be modified in any manner by the House of Delegates while under consideration, but such modification must be germane to the subject matter of the proposed amendment (which does not require the nine-tenths (9/10) vote as provided in 515.5). If more than one amendment has been proposed on the same subject matter, and there are substantive differences between such amendments, the House of Delegates may adopt a compromise of substance as well as form, and if the adoption of an amendment as proposed or amended or comprised is inconsistent or in conflict with other parts of the Rules and Regulations, the House of Delegates may adopt conforming amendments appropriate to the case.

.5 LATE SUBMISSION AND MAJORITY REQUIRED — After the deadline has expired for submission of legislation to the Rules & Regulations Committee, new and/or additional amendments may be proposed, but they may be adopted only by an affirmative vote of nine-tenths (9/10) of the members of the House of Delegates present and voting. For purposes of this Article, legislation originating within the Rules & Regulations Committee will be considered as being submitted before the deadline as long as it is published in accordance with 515.3.

.6 EFFECTIVE DATE — Housekeeping items approved as prescribed shall become effective immediately. All other amendments to Part One of these Rules and Regulations approved as prescribed shall become effective on May 1 of the year following their adoption, unless otherwise specified at the time of adoption. All other amendments to these Rules and Regulations approved as prescribed shall become effective on January 1 of the year following their adoption unless otherwise specified at the time of adoption.

G-2	ADOPTED	Effective at the Conclusion of the 2017 House of Delegates
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Location: Page 123 – 502.7 Fees

502.7 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~~, except that changes to fees for Club membership (including seasonal) and the Individual categories of annual, seasonal, outreach and single meet open water must be approved by the 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 may be charged.
- .2 An LSC may charge a fee for transfers.

G-3	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 124 – 503.1 Officers

ARTICLE 503 CORPORATE OFFICERS

503.1 CORPORATE OFFICERS

- .1 The President & CEO is the chief executive officer of USA Swimming. The President & CEO shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the Board of Directors; and those specified in the USA Swimming Policy Manual. The President & CEO shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. For international purposes, the President & CEO shall be recognized as the Secretary General of USA Swimming. The President & CEO serves as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Board of Directors.
- .4 The Secretary & General Counsel is the chief legal officer of USA Swimming. The Secretary & General Counsel shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the President & CEO; and, in addition, shall be responsible for the legal affairs of USA Swimming under the direction of the Board of Directors and the President & CEO. The Secretary & General Counsel shall have voice but no vote in any of the affairs of USA Swimming. The Secretary & General Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of the President & CEO. The Secretary & General Counsel serves as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Board of Directors.

G-4	ADOPTED	Effective with the elections held in 2018
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Location: Page 124 – **Article 504 Board of Directors**

Proposed by: Board of Directors

Purpose: When the current structure of the Board was created, the functional categories necessary for a managing Board of Directors were totally appropriate. Things have since evolved, however, and the Board of Directors needs to transition to a governance-focused Board (setting policy standards for operations but delegating day-to-day responsibility for them to staff under the direction and authority of the President/CEO). Additionally, the benefits of fewer Board seats include better conditions for fostering discussions and less likelihood of factions developing within the Board. The inclusion of “semi-independent” directors is designed to enrich the Board by including people who have a connection with swimming, but whose thinking is not entrenched in the way we already do things.

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

Effective Date: With the elections held in 2018

ARTICLE 504

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

504.1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP — ~~Eight (8) Directors shall be (i) the elected Board Chair; (ii) the six (6) elected Vice Chairs; and (iii) the Secretary & General Counsel. In addition, two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the respective zones, pursuant to 504.3. The Chair of the National Team Steering Committee shall also be a member. The Board of Directors shall have fifteen voting members. The President/CEO and Secretary/General Counsel shall be ex-officio members with no vote.~~

504.2 BOARD CHAIR & VICE CHAIRS — ~~The USA Swimming Board Chair and all Vice Chairs, except the Athletes Vice Chair, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even numbered years. The elected Chairs shall be the Board Chair, Finance Vice Chair, Administration Vice Chair, Program Development Vice Chair, Program Operations Vice Chair, Technical Vice Chair and Athletes Vice Chair. The Athletes Vice Chair shall be elected by the Athletes Committee.~~

- ~~.1 USA Swimming shall have a Board Chair who shall preside at all meetings of the Board. The Board Chair shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect. The Board Chair shall perform such other duties and have such other authority and powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.~~
- ~~.2 The Vice Chairs of USA Swimming shall chair their respective divisions, and shall be responsible for their respective committees, as set forth in Article 506 and the USA Swimming Policy Manual.~~
- ~~.3 Whenever the Board Chair is unable to perform his/her duties, the Administration Vice Chair shall perform the duties.~~
- ~~.4 The Technical Vice Chair must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a coach at a Junior, Sectional, or National Championships.~~
- ~~.5 The Board Chair and Vice Chairs shall perform such duties as set forth in these Bylaws, or as may be assigned to them by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors.~~

504.2 (new) VOTING BOARD MEMBERS shall be as listed herein; a minimum of one individual from each zone's geographic area shall be maintained among the members who are elected by the House of Delegates; a minimum of three coaches shall be maintained, inclusive of the Chair of the National Team Steering Committee.

- .1 The Immediate Past Board Chair shall be a voting member.
- .2 The Chair of the National Team Steering Committee shall be a voting member.
- .3 Three athletes elected by the Athletes Committee shall be voting members. Athlete Directors need not themselves be athlete representatives, but must at the time of their election be actively engaged in swimming competition or have represented the United States in international competition within the ten (10) years preceding their election.
- .4 Nine individuals elected by the House of Delegates in accordance with Article 507.3 (Elections) shall be at-large voting members, at least two of whom shall be semi-independent (i.e., prior to election on the Board, have not been members of a House of Delegates at the national level, but who at present or in the past, have/had an obvious connection to swimming as swimmers, parents of a swimmer, coaches, officials, etc).
- .5 One individual directly representing the interests of all organizations that are members of USA Swimming pursuant to 502.3 and which conduct a national program or regular national athletic competition on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of swimmers to represent the United States in international swimming competition ("Allied Member Director") shall be a voting member. The Board of Directors shall determine whether an organization satisfies the criteria of this Article. If there is no Allied Member Director, there will be an additional individual elected by the House of Delegates in accordance with Article 507.3 (Elections), who shall be an at-large voting member.

[re-number remaining]

504.3 ZONE DIRECTORS — Each zone shall have one coach and one non-coach director from the zone as its Zone Representatives, elected at the annual meeting in the following years: *Note: Zone Directors will continue to serve in their operational roles, but will not have seats on the Board of Directors.*

	Coach	Non-Coach
Eastern Zone	Even Years	Odd Years
Southern Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
Central Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
Western Zone	Even Years	Odd Years

- .1 Both coach and non-coach Zone Directors will be elected by the members present at their Zone meeting in the appropriate year.
- .2 Each LSC is entitled to five votes, of which at least one vote must be designated to the LSC Athlete
- .4 For the purposes of casting its votes, each LSC may send one or more delegates to the Zone meeting.
- .5 The election of Zone members to the Board of Directors shall be based upon the zones in which the proposed Directors maintain their residency. Representative(s). If no Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.
- .3 No director elected to two successive terms is eligible for re-election to that office until after a lapse of two years.

504.4 ATHLETE REPRESENTATION — The Athletes Committee shall elect to the Board of Directors that number of Athlete Directors necessary to assure that not less than twenty percent (20%) of the voting Directors are athletes. Athlete Directors need not themselves be athlete representatives, but must at the time of their election be actively engaged in swimming competition or have represented the United States in international competition within the ten (10) years preceding their election. Two of these Athlete Directors shall be the Athletes Vice Chair and the Athletes Deputy Vice Chair. The Athletes Committee may also elect not more than five (5) alternate Athlete Directors. In the event that a regular Athlete Director is unable to attend or otherwise participate in a regular activity of the Board of Directors, an alternate Athlete Director may serve in the place of the regular Athlete Director and shall, for the limited duration of that activity, enjoy all the rights, privileges and duties enjoyed by the regular Athlete Director.

504.5 ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER REPRESENTATION — Any organization which is a member of USA Swimming pursuant to 502.3, and which conducts, on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of swimmers to represent the United States in international swimming competition, a national program or regular national athletic competition, and ensures that such representation shall reflect the nature, scope, quality and strength of the programs and competitions of such sports organization in relation to all other such programs and competition in the sport of swimming in the United States, shall be eligible to name a

Director. The Board of Directors or its designee shall determine whether an organization satisfies the criteria of this Article.

504.6 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS — The immediate Past President or Board Chair (as applicable) of USA Swimming shall be an ex-officio member with voice but no vote. Additional ex-officio members may be appointed by the Board to serve at the pleasure of the Board with voice but no vote. An ex-officio member who fails to attend at least two regularly scheduled meetings of the Board per year shall forfeit his/her seat on the Board.

[re-number remaining]

G-5	ADOPTED	Effective with the elections held in 2018
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Location: Page 126 – **504.7 Term of Office**

504.7 504.3 TERM OF OFFICE — ~~Directors~~ Elected Board members shall hold office for ~~two~~ terms of four years, through the annual meeting in even-numbered years, or until their successors are elected and qualified, ~~except that Zone Directors shall hold staggered terms of office pursuant to 504.3.~~ Their term of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are elected. Terms shall be staggered such that approximately one-fourth (¼) of the Board members are elected annually. Each Director is eligible for election to the same office to be nominated for two consecutive terms. An individual may hold only one elective office at any one time. No A person so elected for successive terms is eligible for re-election to the same office Board of Directors until after the lapse of two years following the terms of office to which that person was last elected (~~portions of those terms~~ Terms of less than thirty (30) months served to fill a vacancy in the office on the Board shall not be considered in the computation of time for this purpose).

G-6	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Page 124 – **504.2 Board Chair & Vice Chairs**

504.2 504.4 BOARD OFFICERS CHAIR & VICE CHAIRS — ~~The USA Swimming Board Chair and all Vice Chairs, except the 938 Athletes Vice Chair, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. The elected 939 Chairs shall be the Board Chair, Finance Vice Chair, Administration Vice Chair, Program Development Vice Chair, Program 940 Operations Vice Chair, Technical Vice Chair and Athletes Vice Chair. The Athletes Vice Chair shall be elected by the Athletes Committee.~~ The Board of Directors shall elect its own officers from among its voting members in odd-numbered years, except the Immediate Past Board Chair, the National Team Steering Chair, and the Allied member shall not be eligible for election to an office. Commencing in 2019, the Board shall hold the election of its officers in odd-numbered years. The Board of Directors, by a 60% majority vote, may call for an election of a new officer before the relevant term has expired. [Note: In the transition, the Board Chair and Vice-Chairs will be elected in 2018.]

- .1 **Board Chair** - USA Swimming shall have a Board Chair who shall preside at all meetings of the Board; ~~The Board Chair shall see to it that the Board fulfills its duties as prescribed by law, the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, and the Board's governing policies then in ; all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect; be the official spokesperson of the Board of Directors. The Board Chair and shall perform such other duties and have such other authority and powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.~~
- .2 ~~Whenever the Board Chair is unable to perform his/her duties,~~ **Board Vice-Chair** - ~~The Administration Board Vice-Chair shall perform such duties as set forth in these Bylaws or as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and shall perform the duties of the Board Chair in the event of the Board Chair's absence, disability or refusal to act. [reversed order of 504.2.2 and 504.2.3]~~
- .3 **Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight** - ~~The Vice-Chairs-Fiscal Oversight shall perform such duties as outlined in these Bylaws and Policy Manual, or as otherwise assigned by the Board of Directors. of USA Swimming shall chair their respective divisions, and shall be responsible for their respective committees, as set forth in Article 506 and the USA Swimming Policy Manual.~~
- .4 ~~The Technical Vice Chair must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a coach at a Junior, Sectional, or National Championships.~~ **Terms of Board Officers**
 - A Commencing in 2021, the term of the Board Chair shall be four (4) years. The Board Chair shall not serve more than one term as Board Chair. [Note: In the transition, the Board Chair elected in 2018 will serve a three-year term.]

- B The terms of the Board Vice-Chair and Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight shall be two years. No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms as Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight. [Note: In the transition, the Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight elected in 2018 will serve a three-year term; the Vice-Chair will serve a one-year term.]
 - C A person elected as Board Vice-Chair in the mid-term cycle of the Board Chair, shall be the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and assume the office of Board Chair after two years. [Note: In the transition, the person elected as Vice-Chair in 2019 will be the Chair-elect and take over as Board Chair in 2021.]
 - D Exception to the Term of Office as stipulated in Section 504.4 above shall be made for the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Board Chair and the Immediate Past Board Chair, whose terms shall be automatically extended, i.e. without having to be re-elected to the Board by the House of Delegates for the duration necessary to fulfill the ascendancy of those three offices.
 - E If a Board officer vacates his or her seat for any reason, the Board shall hold an election to elect another Board member to fill the remainder of the term of that office.
- ~~.5 The Board Chair and Vice Chairs shall perform such duties as set forth in these Bylaws, or as may be assigned to them by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors.~~

G-7	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Page 126 – **504.9 Vacancies**

504.9 504.6 VACANCIES — ~~If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, and the unexpired term of such Director exceeds six (6) months, a successor shall be appointed to fill the unexpired term of the vacated office, as follows: A temporary appointment shall serve for only such time as is necessary for either the appointing authority to replace the vacant office or until the temporary incapacity is cured. An appointment to fill a permanent or temporary vacancy shall be with full rights of the office.~~

- ~~.1 Board Members Elected by the House of Delegates - Any vacancy that may occur on the Board of Directors caused by death, resignation, incapacity or other reason may be filled permanently or temporarily. Any vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Board members. until the zone, organization, or committee concerned shall have elected or selected a permanent or temporary successor. A permanent successor shall fill the unexpired term of the vacant office. A temporary appointment shall serve for only such time as is necessary for either the appointing authority to replace the vacant office or until the temporary incapacity is cured. An appointment to fill a permanent or temporary vacancy shall be with full rights of the office.~~
- .2 Athlete Members – Any vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the Athletes Executive Committee.
- .3 Immediate Past Board Chair – Any vacancy shall be filled by the next most immediate past Board Chair.

G-8	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 126 – **504.10 Authority**

504.10 AUTHORITY/ EMERGENCY POWER — ~~The USA Swimming Board of Directors shall have the authority to act for the USA Swimming House of Delegates between meetings of the House, except that it cannot amend the Rules and Regulations. The Board may amend the Corporate Bylaws as permitted under section 511.1.1, but is not permitted to amend any other section of the Rules and Regulations except as follows: The Board shall have the emergency power to adopt, revoke and amend any rule or regulation in the Rules and Regulations if the Board with the advice and consent of the Operational Risk Committee, the Rules & Regulations Committee and legal counsel, shall determine that safety considerations so require. A technical rule which is also a FINA rule, may not be revoked or amended. An action taken under this emergency provision shall be effective until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. The Board Chair shall make a fully detailed report including findings of fact to the entire membership of the House of Delegates (as last certified) within thirty (30) days of the action taken.~~

G-9	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Page 127 – **504.11 Meetings**

504.11 504.8 MEETINGS

- .1 Regular Meetings** - Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at any time or place, pursuant to resolution of the Board, or to a call signed by the Board Chair, or ~~any three Vice Chairs,~~ or upon written request of one-third (1/3) of the members of the Board. Not less than thirty (30) days written notice of such meeting shall be given to each Director. Notice of any meeting may be waived in writing either before or after such meeting. Attendance by any Director not having received written notice shall be deemed a waiver of such notice unless at the beginning of the meeting or promptly upon the Director's later arrival, the Director objects to holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting because of lack of notice or defective notice and does not thereafter vote for or assent to action taken at the meeting.
- .2 Special Meetings** - Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held upon no less than 48 hours' notice. Actions taken during such special meetings shall be limited to those pertaining to issues cited in the meeting notice.

[re-number remaining]

- .3 Quorum** - The presence of a majority of the voting Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors. ~~Ex-officio Directors will not be counted to establish a quorum.~~ Proxy voting is not permitted.
- .4 Minutes** - A summary of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors as approved by the ~~Chief Executive Officer Secretary/General Counsel~~ and the Board Chair shall be ~~distributed to the membership within one month of each meeting.~~ Distribution shall be accomplished using posted on the USA Swimming website within one month of each meeting.

G-10	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Page 128 – Article 505 Executive Committee

**ARTICLE 505
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

~~**505.1 AUTHORITY** — The Executive Committee shall have the authority to act for the Board of Directors and USA Swimming between meetings of the Board and House of Delegates, except that it cannot amend the Rules and Regulations.~~

~~**505.2 MEMBERSHIP** — The Executive Committee shall consist of the USA Swimming Board Chair and Vice Chairs, the Chair of the National Team Steering Committee, and one additional athlete member from the Board of Directors to be selected by the Athletes Committee, acting with advice and consent of legal counsel.~~

~~**505.3 MEETINGS** — Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at any time or place upon the call of the Board Chair or any three members of the Committee, and upon no less than ten (10) days written notice of such meeting to each member. Special matters may be voted upon by the Committee by mail, electronic vote, or by telephone (confirmed in writing within twenty four (24) hours), but no action can be taken without the concurrence of all members of the Committee. At the next regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors the Committee shall make a report of its activities since the last Board meeting for the Board's confirmation, ratification, modification, or rejection.~~

~~**505.4 COMMITTEE EVALUATIONS** — The Executive Committee shall convene at least once a year for the purpose of evaluating the goals of the committees and their productivity.~~

[re-number remaining Articles]

513.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST — Conflict of interest and ethical practices of USA Swimming shall be as follows:

- .1** If any member of the Board of Directors, ~~Executive Committee~~ or any other Committee has a financial interest in any contract or transaction involving USA Swimming, such individual shall not participate in USA Swimming's evaluation or approval of such contract or transaction unless the material facts of the relationship or interest are disclosed or known to the other Directors or other Committee members. If such disclosure is made, the contracts or transaction shall not be voidable if the Board or Committee in good faith authorized the contracts or transaction by the affirmative vote of the majority of the disinterested Directors or Committee members and the contract or transaction is fair to USA Swimming at the time it is authorized.
- .2** Members of the Board of Directors, ~~Executive Committee~~, other Committees and each key employee of USA Swimming will execute a Statement of Principles on Ethical Behavior and Conflict of Interest each year.

G-11	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Page 128 – Article 506 Committees and Coordinators

ARTICLE 506

COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE USA SWIMMING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

506.1 STANDING COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

- .1 Standing committees of the USA Swimming Board of Directors shall be as listed in this Article.
 - .2 Except for those individuals who qualify for their positions under some other provision of Article 506:
 - A Non-athlete committee members shall serve four-year terms, except as noted herein.
 - (1) A non-athlete member who accumulates two or more unexcused absences within one calendar year may be removed by the Committee Chair with the consent of the Board Chair.
 - (2) After a warning from the Committee Chair, a non-athlete member who continues to fail to contribute or fulfill assigned duties in a timely manner may be removed from his/her committee position by the Committee Chair with the consent of the Board Chair.
 - (3) A member who has been removed shall be notified in writing by the Chair of the committee. The member shall have two weeks to appeal the decision to the USA Swimming Board of Directors.
 - B Except as noted otherwise in these Bylaws, the terms of non-athlete members of standing committees members' terms shall be staggered so that one-fourth of all non-athlete members are appointed each year by the Board Chair following the annual meeting of the Corporation.
 - ~~C Committees other than athletes' committees shall consist of volunteer members of USA Swimming who are not voting members of the Board of Directors. The Board Chair may appoint voting members of the Board of Directors as Ex-Officio, non-voting members of committees that are normally appointed by the Board Chair. Athlete members and non-voting members of the Board of Directors shall be exempt from this rule.~~
- [re-letter remaining]*
- C In the event of a vacancy on a committee caused by any reason, the person/organization responsible for the appointment shall select the person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. If the vacancy occurs in an elected committee position, the Board Chair, in consultation with the Committee Chair, shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term.
 - D At least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of each committee shall be athletes, each of whom must at the time of his/her appointment be engaged in swimming within ten (10) years preceding his/her appointment.
 - E An appointed non-athlete committee member shall serve no more than two consecutive terms and may be reappointed following a lapse of one year.
- .3 Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, the Board Chair shall appoint all standing committee chairs for one-year terms.
 - .4 The Board of Directors may establish special committees or task forces as it sees fit and coordinators to assist in its functions, and shall delegate to the President/CEO authority to establish committees to ensure member/volunteer input and participation in fulfilling USA Swimming's satisfy programming needs. Committee and coordinator details shall be outlined in the USA Swimming Policy Manual.
 - .5 ~~The following shall be responsible to the Board Chair: Governance Committee and National Board of Review Committee. Standing Committees will be responsible to the Board of Directors for the fulfillment of their responsibilities. Reporting to the Board shall be through the Board Chair or the Board officer or member as designated by the Board Chair.~~
 - .6 ~~The following shall be overseen by the President/CEO or his or her designees: responsible to the Administration Vice Chair: Rules & Regulations, National Team Steering, Senior Development, and Age Group Development and Credentials/Elections.~~
 - .7 ~~The following shall be responsible to the Technical Vice Chair: National Team Steering Committee, Senior Development Committee, and Age Group Development Committee.~~

~~.8 The following shall be responsible to the Athletes' Vice Chair: Athletes.~~

~~.9 The following shall be responsible to the Finance Vice Chair: Investment and Audit Committees.~~

~~.10 A summary of the minutes of each committee meeting, after approval by that committee's chair, shall be posted on the USA Swimming website within one month of that meeting.~~

[re-number remaining]

.6 Unless specifically provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, all committee meetings shall be regular committee meetings, unless specifically designated as a special meeting.

506.2 ATHLETES COMMITTEE

.1 The Athletes Committee shall be composed of the athlete members of the House of Delegates. The Athletes Vice Chair shall chair this committee shall be elected pursuant to the Athletes Policy Manual.

(no further change except to change Athletes Vice Chair to Athletes Chair)

506.3 RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE [move to Rules of the House of Delegates]

[re-number remaining]

506.3 INVESTMENT COMMITTEE — There shall be an Investment Committee of five (5) persons. Two (2) of the members shall be the Board Chair, or the Board Chair's duly appointed representative, and the Finance Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight. The remaining three (3) members shall be appointed jointly by the Board Chair and Finance Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight with the approval of the Board of Directors. One (1) member shall be appointed each year to serve a three-year term. At least two (2) of the appointed members shall be non-members of the Board of Directors, one (1) of whom shall be appointed chair by the Board Chair and Finance Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight with the approval of the Board of Directors. At least one (1) of the appointed members shall be an athlete.

506.5 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (reconstituted as a committee of the Board of Directors)

~~.1 Membership: The Governance Committee shall consist of eight (8) members appointed by the Board Chair, sufficient athlete appointments to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the committee, and the Secretary & General Counsel who shall have voice but no vote. There shall be no current voting members of the Board of Directors appointed to this committee.~~

~~.2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth (1/4) of such members are appointed each year.~~

~~.3 Responsibility: The Governance Committee shall:~~

~~— A Supply educational resources and research, as requested, to improve the governance process; and~~

~~B Consider governance process issues, as directed, and provide options for issue resolution.~~

[re-number remaining]

506.6 AUDIT COMMITTEE

.1 Membership: The Audit Committee shall consist of five members appointed by the Board Chair, as follows: the Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight, who shall serve as chair of the committee, an Executive Committee member, a non-officer Board member Zone Director, an athlete from a slate submitted by the Athletes' Committee, and two additional members with designated financial experience. There shall be no member of the committee who has check signing authority for the Corporation.

[no further change]

506.7 CREDENTIALS/ELECTIONS COMMITTEE [no changes]

506.8 NATIONAL TEAM STEERING COMMITTEE [move to Rules of the House of Delegates]

506.9 SENIOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE [move to Rules of the House of Delegates]

506.10 AGE GROUP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE [move to Rules of the House of Delegates]

[re-number remaining]

506.8 NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW COMMITTEE [no changes]

ARTICLE XXX (new)
RULES OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

XXX.X OPERATING COMMITTEES – the following committees shall report to the President/CEO or his or her designees:

.1 RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

A The Rules & Regulations Committee shall consist of the following:

- (1) The Officials Committee Chair, ~~the Chair of the NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming Committee~~, the Chair of the High School Swimming (NFHS) Rules Committee or designee, ~~the Technical Vice Chair, the Program Operations Vice Chair~~, the Chair of Program & Events Committee, the immediate past Chair of the Rules & Regulations Committee, and the USA Swimming representative to the FINA Open Water Swimming Technical Committee and the USA Swimming representative to the FINA Technical Swimming Committee, or their respective designees;
- (2) A sufficient number of active athletes appointed by the Athletes Committee so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee;
- (3) A representative, or his/her designee, from ~~each Allied member~~ the NCAA and from the YMCA, ~~on condition that within thirty (30) days following the annual meeting of USA Swimming in even-numbered years the member informs USA Swimming in writing of its desire to appoint a representative;~~
- (4) Eight (8) non-athlete members appointed by the President/CEO or his or her designee ~~Board Chair~~, ~~none of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors~~, and at least three of whom shall be coaches; and
- (5) ~~The Chief Executive Officer~~ President/CEO, the Secretary & General Counsel of the Corporation, and others appointed by the Rules & Regulations Committee Chair, as ex-officio members with voice but no vote.

B Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth of such members are appointed each year.

C The Board Chair shall appoint a Chair, with approval of the House of Delegates, to serve two years. The Chair shall appoint one or more secretaries from among committee members.

D The Rules & Regulations Committee shall hold at least one meeting of its members each year, at a time and place approved by the Committee, for consideration of amendments and interpretations of the Rules and Regulations.

E The Rules & Regulations Committee or its designee shall have the sole authority to officially interpret Parts One and Seven, the authority to interpret the remainder of these Rules and Regulations, and shall be responsible for all redistricting procedures for USA Swimming.

.2 NATIONAL TEAM STEERING COMMITTEE

A Membership: The National Team Steering Committee shall consist of:

- (1) Eight (8) coaches selected as follows;

Preceding Head Men's Olympic Coach (1)

Preceding Head Women's Olympic Coach (1)

The Head Women's Coach for the two Long Course World Championships preceding the Olympic Games (2)

The Head Men's Coach for the two Long Course World Championships preceding the Olympic Games (2)

Two coaches appointed by the ~~Board Chair~~ President/CEO or his or designee in consultation with the National Team Director (2)

Any vacancies on the committee shall be filled by appointment by the ~~Board Chair~~ President/CEO or his or designee in consultation with the National Team Director.

- (2) The chair of the committee shall be elected by its voting members.

- (3) Once the new Head Olympic Coaches are named, they shall become ex-officio members of the National Team Steering Committee, if not already on the Committee.

(4) Two athletes selected by the Athletes Committee, one female/one male, both former USA National Team members; and

(5) ~~The Technical Vice Chair, †~~The Chair of the Senior Development Committee, and the Chair of the Sports Medicine Committee shall be ex-officio members of the Committee with voice but no vote. The Committee may name additional ex-officio members.

B Term: Members of the National Team Steering Committee shall serve a term commencing with appointment and extending until the end of the annual House of Delegates meeting following the next Olympic Games.

C Responsibility: The National Team Steering Committee shall operate under the direction of the National Team Director to create a National Team program; expedite decisions regarding that program; and plan for specific needs of the National Team in preparation for international competition.

D Operation: The National Team Steering Committee shall operate according to policies adopted and published in the Steering Committee Manual.

.3 SENIOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A The Senior Development Committee shall consist of ten (10) members appointed by the President/CEO or his or her designee ~~Board Chair~~, at least five (5) of whom shall be coaches and two of whom shall be athletes.

B Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth of such members are appointed each year.

C The Senior Development Committee shall provide technical input for the structure of championship meets, for developing athletes at the post-age group level, and for the transitioning of athletes from Senior to National Team.

.4 AGE GROUP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A The Age Group Development Committee shall consist of ten (10) members appointed by the President/CEO or his or her designee ~~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.

B Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth of such members are appointed each year.

C The Age Group Development Committee shall identify and promote ideas to assist USA Swimming in developing Age Group swimmers and shall provide assistance in transitioning swimmers from Age Group to Senior.

G-12	ADOPTED	Effective at the Conclusion of the 2017 House of Delegates
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Location: (New) 506.7 Nominating Committee

506.7 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

.1 Membership: The Nominating Committee shall consist of nine (9) voting members and one non-voting ex-officio member.

A Two shall be athlete members (different genders) appointed by the Athletes Executive Committee with advice and consent of the Athletes Committee.

B Two shall be coaches; one shall be appointed by the Age Group Development Committee and one shall be appointed by the Senior Development Committee from among all coach members of USA Swimming.

C Two shall be current members of the Board of Directors, proposed by the Board Chair and approved by the Board of Directors.

D One shall be appointed by the USA Swimming Foundation Board of Directors.

E Two individuals (different genders) of independent background intended to enhance and complement the diversity of thought and perspective of the remaining composition of this committee (such as ethnicity, geography, business skills) shall be proposed by the Board Chair and approved by the Board of Directors.

- F The President/CEO or his or her designee shall be a non-voting member of the committee.
- G The Committee shall, at its first meeting of each nominations cycle, select a chairperson from among its own membership.
- .2 Terms of Nominating Committee members shall be three (3) years, staggered such that one-third (1/3) of its members are appointed each year. Members of the Nominating Committee shall not be eligible to be appointed to this committee once they have served two terms.
- .3 Duties of the Nominating Committee - The Nominating Committee shall:
 - A issue a call for nominations and prepare a recommended slate of potential Board members in accordance with procedures set forth in the Policy Manual.
 - B screen proposed candidates to ensure that they meet all requirements for Board membership as set forth in these Bylaws and in applicable Board policies.
 - C ensure that prospective Board members are informed about the Board's governing structure and of its expectations for individual Board member participation, including but not limited to: adherence to policies pertaining to Board Members' Code of Conduct; attendance expectations; advocating and voting for what is in the best interests of USA Swimming, its members and the sport, and not for any specific stakeholder groups; and not attempting to exercise individual authority over the President/CEO or any members of staff unless explicitly Board-authorized for a specific purpose.
 - D Nominating Committee members shall be ineligible for nomination to the Board.

G-13	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Page 133 – 507.1 Organization

507.1 ORGANIZATION

- .1 ~~All USA Swimming officers and all~~ voting members of the Board of Directors, the National Team Steering Committee, the National Team Athletes Committee, the Age Group Development Committee, the Rules & Regulations Committee, the Registration/Membership Committee, the Credentials/Elections Committee, the Senior Development Committee, and past USA Swimming Presidents or Board Chairs (as applicable) shall be members of the House of Delegates. Membership on any committee notwithstanding, USA Swimming employees shall not be members of the House of Delegates.
- .7 The Board Chair, in consultation with the National Team Steering Chair ~~Technical Vice Chair~~, shall appoint, on an annual basis, twenty-five (25) members selected from coaches who had athletes that qualified for the preceding Olympic Trials and from members that served as the manager or assistant manager on a national team or junior national team trip within the past four years. The appointments shall provide for a reasonable geographic representation of USA Swimming Membership.

G-14	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Page 135 – 507.2 Meetings

507.2 MEETINGS

- .7 Any action which may be taken at any regular or special meeting of the House of Delegates, or any division or committee thereof, except amendment or repeal of these Rules and Regulations, may be taken without a meeting. The Secretary of USA Swimming, or his or her designee ~~the division Vice Chair or committee chair~~, shall distribute a written ballot to every member entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval of the proposal, and provide a reasonable time within which to return the ballot. Approval by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed action within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast. When the proposed action to be voted upon concerns only a specific Zone(s) or a certain number of LSCs, as determined by the Board of Directors, the matter shall be voted upon only by eligible members within such Zone(s) or LSCs.
- .8 Resolutions of a legislative nature presented to the House of Delegates shall be subject to the same process as set forth for Amendments in Article ~~511~~ XXX.

G-15	ADOPTED	Effective at the Conclusion of the 2017 House of Delegates
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Location: (New) 507.3 Elections

507.3 ELECTIONS

- .1 The House of Delegates shall annually elect the number of members to the Board of Directors necessary to maintain the listed number of voting members.
- .2 No candidate shall be eligible for election unless he or she has signed a written commitment to adhere to USA Swimming's Bylaws and the Board policies then in effect and has, in the judgment of the Nominating Committee, exhibited a demonstrable connection to swimming.
- .3 Process
 - A The Nominating Committee shall issue a Call for Nominations, which may be self-nominating or by third party with written consent of the proposed nominee, and, upon review and vetting of proposed candidates, present to the House of Delegates a ballot including the names of qualified and proposed nominees at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of the House of Delegates. Accompanying the ballot, and in related correspondence sent to the Delegates, a limited space biography/candidate statement shall be distributed.
 - B The ballot shall include at least two, but no more than three, vetted nominees for each seat open for election.
 - C In addition to the Call for Nominations and vetting process, other members may self-nominate or be nominated by a third party with written consent of the proposed nominee by submitting their names to the Credentials/Elections Committee no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the meeting of the House of Delegates. Such candidates will have their names listed with no supporting information and will be indicated on the ballot as non-vetted candidates.
 - D Overt electronic or printed campaigning shall be prohibited.

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.

G-17	ADOPTED	Effective following the 2018 meeting of the House of Delegates
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Location: Various

102.10 OFFICIALS

.5 Officials for USA Swimming Championships

- A Officials for USA Swimming championship meets shall be assigned by the National Officials Chair with the approval of the ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee.

102.22 DISQUALIFICATIONS

- .1 A disqualification can be made only by the official within whose jurisdiction the infraction has been committed. Except for the Relay Take-off Judges when dual confirmation relay take-off judging, as provided in 102.13.6B, is used, the Referee, Stroke, Turn, or Relay Take-off Judge upon observing an infraction, shall immediately raise one hand overhead. If the official does not do so, there shall be no disqualification unless the ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ has directed that the meet be is being conducted under FINA procedures.
- .14 Video replay footage from cameras approved in writing in advance of the competition by the ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee may be used to review stroke or turn infractions called on deck. The official(s) reviewing the video may only confirm the call made on deck, overrule the call, or advise the Referee that the review proved inconclusive.

103.3 RACING COURSE DIMENSIONS

.2 Width.

- A /NC/ Eight or ten lanes, minimum width of 2.5 meters (8 feet 2-1/2 inches), from center line to center line of the lane dividers, with approximately 0.45 meters (1 foot 6 inches) of additional open water outside lanes 1 and 8 (or 10). The ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee may waive this requirement for National Championships.

103.13 /M/ DRONES — Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open-ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present.

Exceptions may be granted with prior written approval by the ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee.

103.21 AUTOMATIC OFFICIATING EQUIPMENT

.3 /NC/ Touch Pads

- E At the facilities in which competition to select USA Swimming National Teams for the Olympic Games and World Championships is held, the touch pads must be minimum 0.9 meters (2 feet 11-7/16 inches) high, 2.4 meters (7 feet 10-1/2 inches) wide and maximum one centimeter (3/8 of an inch) in thickness. Such pads shall be installed at end of the course and shall extend 0.3 meters each (11-3/16 inches) above and 0.6 meters (1 foot 11-5/8 inches) below the water surface. The ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee may waive this requirement for National Championships.

104.2 USA SWIMMING RECORDS

.2 American and United States Open Records

C Special Requirements and Conditions

- (6) Pending record claims properly documented and approved by the ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Times & Recognition Committee Chair or designee ~~may~~ shall be approved and declared effective immediately.
- (7) American and United States Open Records established at the USA Swimming National Championships, the U.S. Open, any World Cup event sponsored by USA Swimming, and at events conducted by FINA, shall, upon receipt of final results, proper completion of pool certification, and approval by the ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Times & Recognition Committee Chair or designee, be declared effective immediately unless a faster claim is pending.
- (8) Record claims not previously accepted and declared effective under (6) or (7) above shall be considered by the ~~Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee~~ Program Operations Vice Chair or designee for recommendation

and acceptance. Applications ruled incomplete may be reconsidered by the Times & Recognition Committee ~~Program Operations Vice-Chair~~ or designee and final action recommended to the Board of Directors.

- (9) Swimmers who establish a record shall be presented with a certificate signed by the Board Chair of USA Swimming and the ~~Program Operations Vice-Chair or designee~~ President/CEO or his or her designee(s).

5 LSC Records

- B **Reporting** — When a listed Age Group record is bettered, an official Age Group Record Application Form (provided by Headquarters to the LSC and posted on the USA Swimming website) shall be filled out, signed by the designated officials, and transmitted within thirty (30) days. The swimmer or the swimmer's representative shall be responsible for initiating the record validation and reporting procedures established by the Times & Recognition Committee ~~Program Operations Vice-Chair or designee~~.

202.1 JURISDICTION — As the National Governing Body for competitive swimming in the United States and as a Federation member of FINA, USA Swimming has the sole and exclusive authority to sanction or approve domestic and international swimming competition conducted within its jurisdiction. Each Local Swimming Committee (LSC) has been authorized by USA Swimming to issue the sanction or approval for all swimming competition and benefits, exhibitions, clinics and entertainment involving competitive swimming within its geographical boundaries, except that USA Swimming shall sanction national swimming competitions as defined by the President/CEO or his or her designee ~~Program Operations Division~~. *Additional requirements/conditions for sanction or approval, other than those listed in Article 202, may be established by a vote of the LSC House of Delegates in accordance with LSC Bylaws.*

202.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTION

- .9 Application for sanction must be accompanied by a copy of the meet announcement which must include the following:
- J The following statement: "Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open-ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present."

Exceptions may be granted with prior written approval by the Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~Program Operations Vice-Chair~~.

202.6 REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL

- .4 Approvals may be issued to member clubs or to LSCs for open competition conducted in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules if that competition has been specifically approved by the USA Swimming Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~Chair or his/her designee~~.

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 Programs & Events Committee 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 Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~Swimming Program Operations Vice-Chair or designee~~.

204.10 USA SWIMMING FUTURES CHAMPIONSHIPS — The USA Swimming Futures Championships shall be governed and conducted by USA Swimming Programs & Events Committee ~~Program Operations~~.

205.9 NATIONAL AGE GROUP RECOGNITION PROGRAM

- .3 The ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Times and Recognition Committee Chair or designee shall establish and distribute the specifications of the Recognition Program to the LSCs before the start of the subsequent reporting period. These procedures will include the reporting period, deadlines, awards to be given, and the expected publication date.
- .8 Each swimmer achieving the fastest reported time in each individual event and each member of the relay team achieving the fastest time in a relay event shall be awarded an appropriate certificate and an emblem, pin or similar memento by USA Swimming. Other awards will be determined and announced to the LSCs by the Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~Program Operations Vice~~.

Events Committee Chair or designee Chair.

206.4 DATES — Unless otherwise determined and announced by the National Team Director at the previous year's annual meeting, the dates shall be as follows:

- .3 **Open Water Championships** — Each event to be scheduled annually by ~~Program Operations~~ the President/CEO or his or her designee(s) in conjunction with the National Team Steering Committee.

207.2 USA SWIMMING U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS — The USA Swimming U.S. Open Championships shall be governed by the Senior Development Committee and conducted by the Programs & Events Committee ~~Program Operations~~. All USA Swimming member athletes who have achieved the qualifying time standards for one or more specific events are eligible to participate. The meet shall be conducted in years designated by the National Team Director.

207.3 USA SWIMMING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS — The USA Swimming National Championship meets and Open Water Championship meets shall be governed and conducted by the Programs & Events Committee ~~Program Operations~~. All USA Swimming member-athletes who have achieved the qualifying time standards for one or more specific events are eligible to participate.

207.4 USA SWIMMING JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS — The USA Swimming Junior National Championship meet shall be governed and conducted by the Programs & Events Committee ~~Program Operations~~.

207.5 TRIALS CLASS MEETS — Trials Class shall be the selection meets for United States teams for the Long Course World Championships and Olympic Games and may be held in conjunction with the USA Swimming National Championships. The Trials class meets shall be governed by the National Team Director and conducted by the Programs & Events Committee ~~Program Operations~~. The event format will be established by the National Team Director and may emulate the Olympic Games or Long Course World Championship program. The men's 800 meter freestyle and women's 1500 meter freestyle will be conducted if the Trials are held in conjunction with the National Championships. There shall be no relays or scoring in the Olympic Team Selection Meet. Touch pads shall conform to 103.21.3E. Only United States citizens eligible to represent the United States on the Olympic or Long Course World Championship teams may compete in these Trials.

207.6 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS

- .1 Other than for Trials Class meets, ~~The~~ time standards shall be established by the Senior Development Committee in consultation with the National Team Director. Time standards shall be designed to allow 900-1,000 swimmers in individual events at the USA Swimming Short Course Championships, the U.S. Open and the National Championships.
- .2 The Senior Development Committee shall develop, one (1) year in advance, the qualifying time standards for all National Championships/U.S. Open Championships, Junior National Championships, and Future Championships. Once approved by the committee, time standards which will be reported announced and made available to the membership House of Delegates by the Technical Vice Chair during the annual meeting or to the Board of Directors when established at a time other than the annual meeting. Qualifying time standards shall be specified in hundredths of a second, with nine one-hundredths being the constant.

207.7 PROOF OF ENTERED TIME

.3 Responsibility Clause

- A The coach, swimmer, or swimmer representative who enters a USA Swimming championship thereby attests that all times on the entry are true and correct achieved qualifying times for each event entered. He/she assumes all responsibility for false or incorrect times or times which are unacceptable under USA Swimming rules and shall be assessed a \$100 penalty payable to USA Swimming for each such time entered, unless absolved of the fine by the ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee or Board of Review. Additional action or penalty may be taken or levied as deemed appropriate by USA Swimming.
- C Appeal of fines are to be made to the ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee and/or Board of Review. Any appeal of the decision of the Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~Program Operations Vice Chair or designee~~ shall be in accordance with the provisions of Part Four, specifically Article 407.

207.8 ENTRY FORMS AND MEET ANNOUNCEMENT

- .1 The entry forms and meet announcement shall be prepared under joint direction of the ~~Program Operations Vice Chair,~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee, the Rules Chair, the Meet Director, and the President/Chief Executive Officer or his or her designee(s).
- .2 The meet announcement shall state qualifying times and procedures necessary for proof of entry times. (See 207.6) For a

USA Swimming Championship meet, ~~Program Operations~~ the President/CEO or his or her designee may permit bonus events. For each qualifying time achieved in an individual event, additional bonus events may be allowed. Requirements for bonus events will be specified in the meet announcement.

207.9 ENTRIES

- .6 ~~Program Operations~~ The Programs & Events Committee ~~reserves~~ has the right to challenge any submitted time.

207.10 PROGRAMS

- .2 **International Program** — Upon the recommendation of the National Team Director with the approval of the Programs & Events Committee Chair ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~, the USA Swimming National Championships may be conducted in a format with the order of events simulating the World Championship or Olympic program. The men's 800 and women's 1500-freestyle may be included in this format. All relays shall be conducted on a timed finals basis with all heats swum in the finals session.

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 General Meeting

- A A general meeting, chaired by the ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee or a designee, shall be held at all USA Swimming championship meets prior to the first day's competition. The Meet Referee, ~~All~~ participating coaches, ~~meet officials~~, ~~Program Operations Division chairs~~ or their designees and ~~coordinators~~, and representatives of each participating club are obligated to attend or be represented at this meeting.
- B At the discretion of the Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~the Program Operations Vice Chair~~, the preliminary sessions may be conducted in two courses.

.4 Eligibility Protests

- A An Eligibility Jury composed of three persons in attendance at each National Championships shall be appointed by the ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee prior to the start of the meet to consider protests pertaining to the eligibility of any swimmer to compete or to represent an organization. The Eligibility Jury shall consist of a swimmer, a coach and an official.

- .5 **Technical Rules Protests** — Prior to the start of the meet the ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee shall appoint a Technical Jury composed of at least one swimmer representative, at least one coach, and at least one, but not more than three other persons. Written protests involving technical rules, except disqualifications due to judgment decisions by the deck officials, shall be made to the Meet Referee within thirty (30) minutes of the protested act or occurrence. Decisions of the Meet Referee regarding these protests may be appealed to the Technical Jury, whose decision must be made the day of the protest and shall be final.

.6 Scratch Procedures

- F Notwithstanding the provisions of 207.11.6, the scratch procedures for a selection meet for the United States teams for the Olympic Games, the FINA World Championships, the Pan Pacific Championships, the Pan American Games or the World Student Games shall be established by the National Team Steering Committee and the ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee.

- .8 **Finals** — Except for the relay events, the 1000 and 1650-yard and 800 and 1500-meter freestyle events, there shall be C, B, and A (bonus, consolation and championship) final heats, with the consolation heats preceding the championship heat, in both short course and long course National Championships. The order of final heats for each meet shall be approved by the Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~Program Operations Vice Chair~~.

405.2 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

- .1 In those matters occurring during the course of an international meet the National Team Steering Chair or his/her designee shall make the investigation and report.
- .2 In those matters occurring during the course of a national or regional event the ~~Program Operations Vice~~ Programs & Events Committee Chair or designee ~~Chair~~ or his/her designee(s) shall make the investigation and report.

605.2 ZONE BYLAWS, ELECTIONS OF DIRECTORS AND VOTING

- .1 Each Zone shall adopt Bylaws which shall govern its affairs and shall be approved by the USA Swimming Secretary &

General Counsel or his/her designee.

- .2 Zone Directors shall be elected in accordance with ~~504.2~~ Zone Bylaws.
- .3 On all voting matters, each LSC is entitled to five votes, of which at least one vote must be designated to the LSC Athlete Representative(s). If no Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.

704.3 ENTRY FEES — The entry fees shall be determined by the Meet Director with the concurrence of the President/CEO or his or her designee(s) ~~Program Operations~~.

704.4 ENTRY PROCESS AND MEET ~~INFORMATION BOOK~~ ANNOUNCEMENT — The entry procedure shall be stated in the meet announcement. The meet announcement shall be prepared under joint direction of and approved by the National Team Steering Committee, the Meet Director, Programs & Events Committee Chair ~~Program Operations~~, and the USA Swimming Chief Executive Officer or his/her representative.

704.8 AWARDS

- .1-.5 [no changes]
- .6 The Meet Host may present additional individual and team awards with approval from ~~Program Operations~~ the President/CEO or his or her designee(s).

This is how Part Five will eventually look if the G items are adopted:
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Outline of the Projected Part Five

- Article 501 Preamble [no numbering changes]
- Article 502 Membership [no numbering changes]
- Article 503 Corporate Officers [no numbering changes]
- Article 504 Board of Directors
 - .1 General Membership
 - .2 Voting Board Members
 - .3 Terms of Office
 - .4 Board Officers
 - .5 Removal of Directors
 - .6 Vacancies
 - .7 Authority/Emergency Power
 - .8 Meetings
 - .9 Action Without a Meeting
- Article 505 Standing Committees of the USA Swimming Board of Directors
 - .1 Standing Committees
 - .2 Athletes Committee
 - .3 Investment Committee
 - .4 Audit Committee
 - .5 Credentials/Elections Committee
 - .6 National Board of Review Committee
 - .7 Nominating Committee
- Article 506 House of Delegates
 - .1 Organization
 - .2 Meetings
 - .3 Elections
- Article 507 Financial [no numbering changes]

Article 508 LSC Voting Requirements [no numbering changes]

Article 509 Indemnification [no numbering changes]

Article 510 Amendments

.1 Authority to Amend and Vote Required

Article 511 Dissolution [no numbering changes]

Article 512 Conflict of Interest [no numbering changes]

Article 513 Rules of the House of Delegates

.1 Operating Committees

.2 Amendments

R-1	ADOPTED	Effective May 1, 2018
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Location: Page 23 – Relays

101.7 RELAYS

.1-.3 [no changes]

4 Rules Pertaining to Relay Races

A-G [no changes]

H On relays, the second, third and fourth swimmers are prohibited from starting from the top of the adjustable back plate. A swimmer must have at least part of one foot in contact with the starting platform in front of the adjustable back plate during a relay exchange.

R-2	ADOPTED	Effective May 1, 2018
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Location: Page 48 –103.14 /M/ Starting Platforms

103.14 /M/ STARTING PLATFORMS

.1 Height.

A **Long course and short course meters:** The front edge of the starting platform shall be no less than 0.50 meters (1 foot 8 inches) nor more than 0.75 meters (2 feet 5-1/2 inches) above the surface of the water.

B **Short course yards:** The front edge of the starting platform shall be not higher than 2 feet 6 inches (0.762 meters) above the surface of the water.

.2 The front edge of the starting platform shall be flush with the face of the end walls.

.3 The top surface of the starting platform shall be not less than 0.50 by 0.50 meters (1 foot 8 inches square) and shall slope not more than 10 degrees from the horizontal. It may have an adjustable setting back plate. The entire surface of the platform shall be faced with permanent non-slip material. Handgrips for the forward start may be installed on the sides of the starting platforms.

.4 **Backstroke starting grips:** Starting platforms shall be equipped with firm starting grips located between 0.3 meters (12 inches) and 0.6 meters (24 inches) above water surface. The front edge of the grips shall be parallel to and flush with the face of the end wall.

.5 Starting platforms shall be clearly marked with lane numbers visible to competitors and officials. (See 103.5.3)

.6 Starting platforms shall be anchored to the deck or bulkhead to remain stable at all times.

R-3	ADOPTED	Effective May 1, 2018
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Location: Page 38 – 102.24 Timing Rules

102.24 TIMING RULES

.1-3 [no changes]

4 Determining Official Time

A Automatic Timing — When recorded by properly operating automatic timing equipment, the pad time shall be the official time.

B Semi-Automatic and Manual Timing — Whenever semi-automatic or manual timing is used, only valid times shall be used in calculating the official time. The times shall be determined as follows:

- (1) If two of the three valid button or watch times agree, that shall be the time for that timing system.
- (2) If three valid buttons or watches disagree, the time of the intermediate button or watch shall be the time for that timing system.
- (3) If only two valid button or watch times are available, the time shall be the average of those two buttons or the average of the two watch times. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no rounding.
- (4) If only one valid button or watch time is available, the time of that button or watch shall be the time for that timing system provided it is supported by other information unless that time conflicts with other information. If such a conflict exists, the Administrative Official shall gather as much data as possible and determine the time.

C-E [no changes]

R-4 ADOPTED Effective May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019 qualification period. Fastest time achieved will be listed on May 1, 2019 as the record for each event.

Location: Page 52 – 104.2 American and United States Open Records

2 American and United States Open Records

A Classification

- (1) American — May be established only by United States Citizens who are also U.S. Sports Citizens who achieve an official time in accordance with USA Swimming rules.
- (2) United States Open — May be established only within the geographical territory of the United States by any person eligible to compete under and achieving an official time in accordance with USA Swimming rules.

B Recognized Distances and Strokes (Men and Women)

- (1) **Short Course Yards** — Made only over courses 25 yards long

Freestyle	50, 100, 200, 500, 1000, 1650 yards
Backstroke	100, 200 yards
Breaststroke	100, 200 yards
Butterfly	100, 200 yards
Individual Medley	200, 400 yards
Freestyle Relay	200, 400, 800 yards
Mixed Gender Freestyle Relay	200, 400, 800 yards
Medley Relay	200, 400 yards
Mixed Gender Medley Relay	200, 400 yards
- (2) **Short Course Meters** — Made only over courses 25 meters long

Freestyle	50, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 meters
Backstroke	50, 100, 200 meters
Breaststroke	50, 100, 200 meters
Butterfly	50, 100, 200 meters
Individual Medley	100, 200, 400 meters
Freestyle Relay	200, 400, 800 meters
Mixed Gender Freestyle Relay	200, 400, 800 meters
Medley Relay	200, 400 meters
Mixed Gender Medley Relay	200, 400 meters

(3) Long Course — Made only over courses 55 yards or 50 meters long	
Freestyle	50, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 meters
Backstroke	50, 100, 200 meters
Breaststroke	50, 100, 200 meters
Butterfly	50, 100, 200 meters
Individual Medley	200, 400 meters
Freestyle Relay	200, 400, 800 meters
Mixed Gender Freestyle Relay	200, 400, 800 meters
Medley Relay	200, 400 meters
Mixed Gender Medley Relay	200, 400 meters

R-5	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 60 – (new) 202.4 Requirements for Sanction

Effective Date: Immediately

202.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTION — Sanctions are issued, withheld or withdrawn in accordance with the following regulations:

.1-.5 [no changes]

.6 No sanction shall be granted where unattached status is used as a basis by which a host club or LSC prohibits participation. However, a host club or LSC may require unattached swimmers to arrange for their own coach supervision before being allowed to participate.

[re-number remaining]

R-6	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 65 – (new) 202.7 Requirements for NCAA Meets

202.7 REQUIREMENTS FOR NCAA MEETS

.1 Times for individual and relay events achieved in NCAA bona fide competition as defined in the current NCAA Rules and Interpretations shall be regarded as approved times for USA Swimming purposes.

.2 Officiating shall comply with the requirements in the current NCAA Rule Book.

.3 Competition results are to be submitted electronically within 72 hours after the meet has ended to ncaa@usaswimming.org.

[re-number remaining]

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: 102.24 (Timing Rules), 103.3 (Racing Course Dimensions), and 103.14 (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.

R-12	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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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-14	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 96 – **Article 304 Code of Conduct**
Page 99 – **Article 305 Athlete Protection Policies**
Page 100 – **Article 306 Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements**
Page 101 – **Article 401 General**
Page 102 – **Article 403 Jurisdiction**
Page 105 – **405.2 Investigation of Complaints**
Page 115 – **411.2 Enforcement**

304.1-2 [no changes]

304.3 The following shall be considered violations of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct:

Measures to be adjudicated by the USA Swimming National Board of Review

- .1 Violation of the right to compete provisions set forth in Article 301.
- ~~.2 Violation of the anti-doping provisions set forth in 303.3.~~
- ~~.3~~ 2 Discrimination in violation of the Amateur Sports Act which requires that USA Swimming must provide an equal opportunity to athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in the sport of swimming. Athletes must be allowed to participate and compete to the fullest extent allowed by the Rules and Regulations. Discrimination against any member or participant on the basis of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, gender expression, genetics, mental or physical disability, or any other status protected by federal, state or local law, where applicable, is prohibited.
- ~~.4~~ 3 Violation of any of the Athlete Protection Policies set forth in Article 305.
- ~~.5~~ 4 Violation of any of the Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements set forth in Article 306 or the Prohibitions Against Retaliation for Good Faith Reporting of Abuse set forth in Article 307.
- ~~.6~~ 5 Conviction of, imposition of a deferred sentence for, or any plea of guilty or no contest at any time, past or present, or the existence of any pending charges, for (i) any felony; or (ii) any offense involving use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances; ~~;(iii) any crime involving sexual misconduct, or (iv) any criminal offense against a minor.~~
- ~~.7~~ A ~~Any inappropriate sexual conduct or advance, or other inappropriate oral, written, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature at any time, past or present, directed towards an athlete or any person under the age of eighteen (18) by (i) a coach member or other non-athlete member, or (ii) any other adult participating in any capacity whatsoever in the activities of USA Swimming (whether such adult is a member or not).~~
 - ~~B~~ Any act of sexual harassment, including without limitation unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other inappropriate oral, written, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature in connection with or incidental to a USA Swimming related activity by any person participating in the affairs or activities of USA Swimming (whether such person is a member or not) directed toward any member or other person participating in the affairs or activities of USA Swimming.
 - ~~C~~ A romantic or sexual relationship, even if it is a consensual relationship between adults, which began during the swimming relationship, between athletes and those individuals (i) having direct supervisory or evaluative control, or (ii) who are in a position of power and trust over the athlete. Except in circumstances where no imbalance of power exists, coaches have this direct supervisory or evaluative control and are in a position of power and trust over those athletes they coach. The prohibition on romantic or sexual relationships does not include those relationships where it can be demonstrated that there is no imbalance of power. For example, this prohibition does not apply to a relationship between two spouses or life partners which existed prior to the swimming relationship. For factors that may be relevant to determining whether an imbalance of power exists, consult the USOC's Safe Sport Policies at www.teamusa.org/Footer/ Legal/Governance Documents.
 - ~~D~~ Any peer to peer sexual abuse. For the purposes of the Code of Conduct, the term "peer to peer sexual abuse" shall mean any unwelcome physical conduct of a sexual nature directed towards a minor athlete by another minor athlete.
- ~~.8~~ 6 The sale or distribution of illegal drugs or the illegal sale or distribution of any substance listed on FINA's recognized list of banned substances.
- ~~.9~~ 7 The use of illegal drugs in the presence of an athlete, by a coach, official, trainer, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete.
- ~~.10~~ 8 The providing of alcohol to an athlete by a coach, official, trainer, manager or any other person where the athlete is under the legal age allowed to consume or purchase alcohol in the state where the alcohol is provided.
- ~~.11~~ 9 The abuse of alcohol in the presence of an athlete under the age of eighteen (18), by a coach, official, trainer, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete.
- ~~.12~~ Abuse
 - ~~A~~ Physical abuse of an athlete by any person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete. "Physical abuse" is defined as a non-accidental injury and/or an injury primarily caused by the gross negligence on the part of the person in a position of authority over the athlete.

~~B Bullying of an athlete by a coach member or other non-athlete member who is in a position of authority over that athlete.~~

~~.13 Bullying of a member or Participating Non-Member of USA Swimming by a non-athlete member. Allegations of Bullying of an athlete member by a coach member shall be investigated under 304.3.12. Bullying of an athlete member of USA Swimming by another athlete member shall not be considered a Code of Conduct violation, except in the most egregious and flagrant situation, but is nevertheless a serious matter to be handled by the applicable club(s) pursuant to its anti-bullying plan required under 305.6.~~

.14 0 For any USA Swimming member club or coach to knowingly:

A allow any person who has been placed on the USA Swimming list of "~~Individuals Permanently Suspended or Ineligible~~" sanctioned with a membership suspension by the Center for SafeSport or USA Swimming to coach or instruct any of its athlete members,

B aid or abet coaching or instruction of athletes by any person who has been placed on the USA Swimming list of "~~Individuals Permanently Suspended or Ineligible~~," sanctioned with a membership suspension by the Center for SafeSport or USA Swimming, or

C allow any person who has been placed on the USA Swimming list of "~~Individuals Permanently Suspended or Ineligible~~" sanctioned with a membership suspension by the Center for SafeSport or USA Swimming, to have an ownership interest in such USA Swimming club or its related entities.

Measures to be adjudicated by the USA Swimming Zone Boards of Review

.15 1 Any act of fraud, deception or dishonesty in connection with any USA Swimming-related activity.

.16 2 Any non-consensual physical contact, obscene language or gesture, or other threatening language or conduct directed towards any meet official and which is related to any decision made by such official in connection with a USA Swimming sanctioned competition

.17 3 Action, other than through general advertising, by a coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative, or employee of a swim club, or a USA Swimming or LSC employee, either through direct contact with an athlete or the encouragement of others, to recruit or otherwise encourage an athlete who is already a member of a USA Swimming member swim club to leave that club, unless the acting party receives prior written approval to recruit or encourage the athlete to change affiliation from the designated club representative of the athlete's existing USA Swimming-member swim club or contact is initiated by the athlete, the athlete's parent or authorized representative. General advertising includes any information that is:

A Distributed to an identifiable general population where there is a reasonable expectation that the majority of that population are not current members of USA Swimming, or

B Placed in or on any item that is sold.

In the event of a violation of this section, a sanction may be imposed against any coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative or employee of a swim club, or against any such club, or any combination thereof, as appropriate.

.18 4 Violation of any team misconduct rule as established by the USOC, USA Swimming, any Zone or LSC team authority.

.19 5 Any other material and intentional act, conduct or omission not provided for above, which is detrimental to the image or reputation of USA Swimming, a LSC or the sport of swimming.

Measure to be adjudicated by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency

.16 Violation of the anti-doping provisions set forth in 303.3.

Measure to be adjudicated by the U.S. Center for SafeSport

.17 Violation of the Safe Sport Code [see page xxx].

ARTICLE 305

ATHLETE PROTECTION POLICIES

The following policies related to Athlete Protection are mandatory components of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct:

305.1 Inappropriate touching between an athlete and an adult non-athlete member or Participating Non-Member (as defined in 401.1) is prohibited, including, but not limited to, excessive touching, hugging, kissing, ~~sexually-oriented behavior, sexually~~

~~stimulating or otherwise inappropriate games, and having an athlete sit on a non-family member adult's lap.~~

~~305.2 Any inappropriate sexual conduct or advance, or other inappropriate oral, written, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature at any time, past or present toward any person under the age of eighteen (18) by (i) a coach member or other non-athlete member, or (ii) any other adult participating in any capacity whatsoever in the activities of USA Swimming (whether such adult is a member or not) is prohibited.~~

[re-number remaining]

ARTICLE 306

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

~~306.1 It is every member's responsibility to promptly report any incident regarding sexual misconduct by a member as described in Article 304.3.7 to USA Swimming's Director of Safe Sport the Safe Sport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement to the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Reporting must occur when an individual has firsthand knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party. Various state laws may also require reporting to law enforcement or to a designated child protection agency.~~

ARTICLE 401

GENERAL

~~401.1 As a voluntary membership organization, where membership is a privilege and not a right, USA Swimming and Zones (as provided in Part Six), and the U.S. Center for SafeSport may censure, enjoin, place on probation, suspend for a definite or indefinite period of time with or without terms of probation, fine, or expel any member of USA Swimming, including any athlete, coach, manager, official, and member of any committee, as well as any person participating in any capacity in the affairs and/or attending activities of USA Swimming, the Zones or LSCs, whether such person is a member of USA Swimming or not (a "Participating Non-Member"), who has violated any of its rules or regulations, or who aids, abets, and encourages another to violate any of its rules or regulations, or who has acted in a manner which brings disrepute upon USA Swimming, the Zone, the LSC or the sport of swimming. USA Swimming may also conduct hearings on any matter affecting USA Swimming as the National Governing Body for swimming. For the purposes of Part Four, the term "days" shall mean calendar days; in the event that an applicable time period ends on a Saturday, Sunday, or any other day which is a national holiday on which United States Postal Service regular postal delivery is not available (collectively, a "Non-Business Day).~~

ARTICLE 403

JURISDICTION

~~403.1 JURISDICTION OF THE ZONE BOARD OF REVIEW — In matters involving a member or members of only one Zone, matters arising in regional or zone competition and any complaint alleging violations of 304.3.15~~1~~ through 304.3.19~~5~~ inclusive of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct involving one or more members or prospective members of the Zone, and/or one or more Participating Non-Members, and not brought by USA Swimming, shall be filed directly with the respective Zone. Any appeal of the Zone Board of Review's decision shall be made to the National Board of Review pursuant to Article 408 hereof.~~

The resolution of any dispute regarding jurisdiction of the Zone or the National Board of Review with regard to a particular case shall be determined by the Chair of the National Board of Review, which resolution shall be binding on all parties and non-appealable.

403.2 JURISDICTION OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

- .1 **Original and Exclusive Jurisdiction** — The National Board of Review has original and exclusive jurisdiction to hear:
 - A Any complaint involving athletes or other members of USA Swimming from more than one Zone and/or one or more Participating Non-Members either residing within more than one Zone (if more than one Participating Non-Member) or within a different Zone from the athlete(s) or other USA Swimming member(s); or
 - B Any complaint involving athletes or other members, or Participating Non-Members, during a national or international event; or
 - C Any complaint under 304.3.1 through 304.3.14~~0~~ against any member of USA Swimming, including any athlete, coach, manager, official, member of any committee, or a Participating Non-Member; or
 - D Any complaint initiated by USA Swimming, which shall be prosecuted by and may be appealed by the Chief Executive Officer-or,

E Any complaint under 304.3.17 that is not heard pursuant to the U.S. Center for SafeSport's *SafeSport Practices and Procedures for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement*.

.2 [no changes]

403.3 JURISDICTION OF THE U.S. CENTER FOR SAFESPORT

- .1 Original and Exclusive Jurisdiction – The U.S. Center for SafeSport has original and exclusive jurisdiction to hear any complaint under 304.3.17 against any member of USA Swimming, including any athlete, coach, manager, official, member of any committee, or a Participating Non-Member, , involving (a) sexual misconduct; or (b) any other prohibited conduct that is reasonably related to an underlying allegation of sexual misconduct.
- .2 Discretionary Jurisdiction – The U.S. Center for SafeSport has discretionary jurisdiction to hear any complaint under 304.3.3 through 304.3.4 upon a request made by USA Swimming.
- .3 U.S. Center for SafeSport Practices and Procedures – For any matter heard pursuant to Article 403.3, the U.S. Center for SafeSport's *SafeSport Practices and Procedures for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement* shall apply.

405.2 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

.1-2 [no changes]

- .3 In those matters involving an ~~alleged violation of 304.3.12 or 304.3.13~~ allegations of physical abuse of an athlete by a coach, a committee of three coaches appointed by the Board Chair of USA Swimming shall make a determination with such investigative assistance by the Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee as the committee may request and report as to whether the coach's conduct is outside the customary and acceptable bounds of coaching. In the event such matters are referred to and heard by the U.S. Center for SafeSport, the U.S. Center for SafeSport's *SafeSport Practices and Procedures for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement* shall apply.
- .4 In all other matters the Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee shall make the investigation and report.

411.2 ENFORCEMENT — Final decisions rendered by the Zone Board of Review ~~and~~ the National Board of Review, and the U.S. Center for SafeSport shall, when applicable, be recognized and fully enforced in all other Zones and LSCs of USA Swimming.

Note: Various housekeeping changes throughout the Rule Book to correct references are considered to be part of this legislation.

R-15	ADOPTED/AMENDED	Effective September 1, 2018
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Location: Page 122 – **502.4 Individual Memberships**
Page 123 – **502.7 Fees**

502.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- .1 Any individual may join USA Swimming as a member.
- .2 Athlete membership consists of ~~four~~ five categories:
 - A Annual (LSCs are required to offer this membership)
 - B Flex (offered at option of LSC)
 - ~~B~~ C Outreach (LSCs are required to offer this membership)
 - C D Individual Seasonal (offered at option of LSC)
 - D E Single Meet Open Water (offered at option of LSC)
- .3 Athlete members who register with an LSC and USA Swimming are eligible for sanctioned swimming competition. Flex members are eligible to compete in only two sanctioned competitions per registration year. Flex members may not compete at or above the LSC Championship level. An athlete member shall not be registered in more than one LSC simultaneously.
- .4 Flex members who transition to the Annual athlete membership category within the same calendar year, will be able to credit the Flex athlete membership cost to the Annual athlete membership cost.
- ~~.4~~ 5 Non-athlete membership consists of three classes: individual, family and life.

- .5 ~~6~~ Each class of membership (except life membership, seasonal membership and single-meet open water membership) is for a calendar year period. Individuals applying for calendar year membership on or after September 1 will receive membership valid through December 31 of the following year.
- .6 ~~7~~ An LSC shall not impose requirements for Individual Membership in addition to those set forth in Article 502. An LSC may require proof of birth date prior to competition in age classified events.

Effective Date: September 1, 2018

502.7 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 may be established. The local fee for the Outreach Membership may not exceed \$2 and the local fee for the Flex Membership may not exceed \$10.~~
- .2 An LSC may charge a fee for transfers.

R-16	ADOPTED	Effective September 1, 2018
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Location: Page 122 – **502.4 Individual Memberships**
Page 123 – **502.6 Privileges and Responsibilities of Membership**

502.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- .1-.3 [no changes]
- .4 Non-athlete membership consists of three classes: individual, family and life. Individual Non-athlete members are designated as Coaches, Junior Coaches, Officials or Other.

502.6 PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

- .5 ~~1~~ A coach member of USA Swimming must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. Junior Coach members must be age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17).
- .4 ~~2~~ All non-athlete members of USA Swimming must have satisfactorily completed criminal background checks and athlete protection education as required by USA Swimming. The criminal background check requirement is waived for Junior Coach members.
- .2 ~~3~~ All clubs, including seasonal clubs, shall ensure that all athletes and coaches participating in practices and USA Swimming sanctioned competition are members of USA Swimming.
- .3 ~~4~~ All referees, starters, administrative officials, chief judges, and stroke and turn judges must be non-athlete members of USA Swimming.
- .4 ~~5~~ Anyone who coaches swimmers at a USA Swimming practice or competition, must be a coach member or Junior Coach member of USA Swimming and must have satisfactorily completed safety training, criminal background checks and other coaches' education as required by USA Swimming. Junior Coach members are not required to complete a criminal background check but are subject to pre-employment screening.
- .6 Junior Coach members must always be under the direct visual supervision of a registered coach member.

[re-number remaining]

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.

R-19	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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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]

R-20	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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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);

R-21	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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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.

Referee	Assistant Referee
Administrative Referee or <u>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.

R-22	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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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

R-23	ADOPTED	Effective January 1, 2018
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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.~~

HK-1	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 26 – 102.5 Seeding, Lane Assignments, Swim-Offs, and Order of Heats

102.5 SEEDING, LANE ASSIGNMENTS, SWIM-OFFS, AND ORDER OF HEATS

- 1 **Preliminary Heats When Finals are Scheduled** — Entry times shall be listed by the meet committee with the fastest swimmer first and the slowest swimmer last. Swimmers whose submitted times are identical should be assigned places in the list by draw. Swimmers with no submitted times shall be considered the slowest and shall be placed at the end of the list by draw. Swimmers shall be seeded in lanes under the procedure outlined for finals seeding in 102.5. Swimmers shall be seeded in heats according to submitted times in the following manner:
 - A **Fewer than three heats**
 - (1) If there is only one heat, it shall be swum as scheduled during the preliminaries and finals.
 - (2) If there are two heats, the fastest swimmer shall be seeded in the second heat, next fastest in the first heat, next fastest in the second heat, next in the first heat, next in the second heat, next in the first heat, etc.
 - B **Three heats** — Except for 400y, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, next fastest in the second, next in the first. The fourth fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, the fifth in the second heat, and the sixth fastest in the first heat, the seventh fastest in the third heat, etc.
 - C **Four heats or more** — Except for 400y, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the last three heats of an event shall be seeded in accordance with B above. The heat preceding the last three heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers; the heat preceding the last four heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers, etc. Lanes

shall be assigned in descending order of submitted times within each heat, in accordance with the pattern outlined in 102.5.

- D For ~~400y~~, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the last two heats of an event shall be seeded in accordance with 102.5.1A(2).
- E **Exception** — When there are two or more heats in an event, there shall be a minimum of three swimmers seeded into any one preliminary heat, but subsequent scratches may reduce the number of swimmers in such heat to less than three

.2-6 [no changes]

HK-2	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 35 – **102.17 Timing Personnel and Their Duties**

102.17 TIMING PERSONNEL AND THEIR DUTIES

- .1 **Chief Timer** — The Chief Timer shall:
 - A Assure the assignment of Lane Timers to lanes and the designation of one timer on each lane to be the Head Lane Timer.
 - B On the starting signal, start a watch(es) on every race. The time of this watch shall be used if a Lane Timer's watch fails.
 - C Be responsible for delivering all manual watch times, including those of disqualified swimmers, to the ~~Timing Judge~~ Administrative Official.

.2-4 [no changes]

HK-3	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 122 – **502.4 Individual Membership**

502.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- .1.3 [no changes]
- .4 Non-athlete membership consists of ~~three~~ two classes: individual, ~~family~~ and life.
- .5-6 [no changes]

HK-4	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 130 – **506.3 Rules & Regulations Committee**

506.3 RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

- .1 The Rules & Regulations Committee shall consist of the following:
 - A The Officials Committee Chair, the Chair of the NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming Committee, the ~~Chair~~ Director of Sport – Swimming and Diving of the National Federation of High School Associations Swimming (NFHS) ~~Rules Committee~~, the Technical Vice Chair, the Program Operations Vice Chair, the immediate past Chair of the Rules & Regulations Committee, the USA Swimming representative to the FINA Open Water Swimming Technical Committee and the USA Swimming representative to the FINA Technical Committee, or their respective designees;

HK-5	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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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 shall appoint eight (8) members, at least five (5) of whom shall be coaches and the Athletes Vice Chair shall appoint two (2) of whom shall be athletes members.

.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 shall appoint (8) members, with at least one representative from each Zone and ~~A~~ at least five (5) of the members shall be coaches. The Athletes Vice Chair shall appoint and two (2) shall be athletes members.

.2-3 [no changes]

HK-6	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 137 – **511.1 Authority to Amend and Vote Required**

511.1 AUTHORITY TO AMEND AND VOTE REQUIRED — The Rules and Regulations may be altered, amended or repealed, subject to the provisions of 504.9 10, as follows:

- .1 The Rules and Regulations Committee may alter, amend, or repeal any portion of Part One or Part Seven at any time to conform to the rules of the Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA).
- .2 The USA Swimming House of Delegates may amend the Rules and Regulations at its annual meeting as follows:
 - A Parts One, Two, Three, Four, Six and Seven: by a majority vote.
 - B Part Five: by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Note: See 511.5 for late submitted legislation

CHANGES TO USA SWIMMING TECHNICAL RULES *[Informational Only]*

ADOPTED BY RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE TO CONFORM TO FINA TECHNICAL RULES

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 21, 2017

101.6 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY — The swimmer shall swim the prescribed distance in the following order: the first one-fourth, butterfly; the second one-fourth, backstroke; the third one-fourth, breaststroke; and the last one-fourth, freestyle.

- .1 **Start** — The forward start shall be used.
- .2 **Stroke** — The stroke for each one-fourth of the designated distance shall follow the prescribed rules for that stroke, except in the freestyle, the swimmer must be on the breast except when executing a turn.
- .3 **Turns**
 - A Intermediate turns within each stroke shall conform to the turn rules for that stroke, except that in the freestyle turn, the swimmer must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.
 - B The turns when changing from one stroke to another shall conform to the finish rules for the stroke just completed, and shall be as follows:
 - (1) **Butterfly to Backstroke** — The swimmer must touch as described in 101.3.5. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner, but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the back when the swimmer leaves the wall.
 - (2) **Backstroke to Breaststroke** — The swimmer must touch the wall while on the back. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall and the prescribed breaststroke form must be attained prior to the first arm stroke.
 - (3) **Breaststroke to Freestyle** — The swimmer must touch as described in 101.2.4. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner and must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.
- .4 **Finish** — The swimmer shall have finished the race when any part of his/her person touches the wall after the prescribed distance

101.7 RELAYS

- .1 **Freestyle Relay** — Four swimmers on each team, each to swim one-fourth of the prescribed distance using any desired stroke(s). Freestyle finish rules apply.
- .2 **Medley Relay** — Four swimmers on each team, each to swim one-fourth of the prescribed distance in the following order: first, backstroke; second, breaststroke; third, butterfly; and fourth, freestyle. Rules pertaining to each stroke used as described in 101.6 (Individual Medley) shall govern where applicable. At the end of each leg, the finish rule for each stroke applies in each case.
- .3-4 [no changes]

701.1 EVENTS/MEETS

- .1 [no change]
- .2 **Wets-Suit Events** — For open water swimming competitions in water with temperature below 20°C (68°F), men and women may use either swimsuits or wetsuits. When the water temperature is below 18°C (64.4°F), the use of wetsuits is compulsory. ~~Meet directors may request permission from their LSCs to allow the use of wet suits in any non-championship event. If approved, there shall be separate classification for wet-suit swimmers which shall be clearly stated in the meet announcement and on the accompanying entry form. Swimmers using wet suits shall be scored separately from swimmers competing without wet suits.~~
- .3 [no change]

CHANGES TO USA SWIMMING TECHNICAL RULES *[Informational Only]*

ADOPTED BY RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE TO CONFORM TO FINA TECHNICAL RULES

701.3 MARKING — Prior to the start, swimmers shall be marked with their race numbers on both upper arms and their upper backs. The swimmers shall be numbered vertically down the arms and horizontally across the upper backs. Swimmers shall be marked with their race numbers on both hands and/or their swim caps when competing in wetsuits. Depending on the finish system used, the Referee may also require numbering elsewhere on the body (hands or thighs). Paddlers and escort boats for escorted swims shall also be marked on both sides with the swimmer's race number so it is easily seen from either side.

701.4 SWIMWEAR

.1-.4 [no changes]

.5 Wetsuits are swimsuits made of material providing thermal insulation. Wetsuits for both men and women shall completely cover the torso, back, shoulders and knees and shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists or ankles. The thickness of material/s used shall be minimum 3mm and maximum 5mm. In addition, the outer surface of the wetsuit shall not include outstanding shapes, such as ridges, fins, etc.

**ADOPTED/AMENDED RESOLUTION
TO ESTABLISH THE FEE FOR THE FLEX MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY**

WHEREAS, USA Swimming desires to continue to *Build the Base* by growing and expanding participation at all levels of the sport.

WHEREAS, many USA Swimming teams already offer a low commitment, pre-competitive swimming programs.

WHEREAS, USA Swimming desires to provide a membership option for participants in these pre-competitive programs.

WHEREAS, the creation of a Flex membership category would provide an effective bridge to annual membership.

WHEREAS, the USA Swimming Board of Directors supports the development of a Flex membership category and has proposed legislation to create that category.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the USA Swimming House of Delegates approve a national membership fee of \$10 per year for the Flex membership category effective September 1, 2018.

**ADOPTED RESOLUTION
TO GRANT AN EXCEPTION TO THE 120-DAY RULE FOR ATHLETES DISPLACED
BY HURRICANE HARVEY**

September 16, 2017

Due to the extraordinary and monumental devastation and destruction of Hurricane Harvey, USA Swimming recognizes that member athletes have been displaced from their homes and clubs;

Further, USA Swimming believes enabling displaced athletes to be included as part of a team is important in recovery;

Therefore, be it resolved that, pursuant to Articles 507.2.8 and 511.1.2 of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming, USA Swimming establishes the following procedure to grant a temporary exception to the 120-day representation rule set forth in Article 203.3 of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming:

1. By November 1 or within thirty (30) days of beginning workouts with a new club, an athlete must submit the following information to USA Swimming Member Services for verification: His/her name, date of birth, Hurricane Harvey FEMA number, club most recently represented and club which he/she wishes to represent.
2. Member Services will notify the Rules & Regulations Committee Chair of the eligibility facts. The Chair, or his designee, shall make the final determination, which shall be binding without right of appeal.
3. Each USA Swimming-approved transfer request under this resolution shall be exempt from Article 203.3 (the 120-day rule) and transfer effective immediately.
4. Each athlete whose transfer is approved pursuant to this resolution may, at any time within one year of passage of this resolution, return immediately to representing his/her original club or, if the original club is disbanded, any other club in the original LSC.
5. This resolution will take effect immediately upon approval by the USA Swimming House of Delegates and expire at the close of business of the House of Delegates meeting in 2018.

**ADOPTED RESOLUTION
TO GRANT AN EXCEPTION TO THE 120-DAY RULE FOR ATHLETES DISPLACED
BY HURRICANE IRMA**

September 16, 2017

Due to the extraordinary and monumental devastation and destruction of Hurricane Irma, USA Swimming recognizes that member athletes have been displaced from their homes and clubs;

Further, USA Swimming believes enabling displaced athletes to be included as part of a team is important in recovery;

Therefore, be it resolved that, pursuant to Articles 507.2.8 and 511.1.2 of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming, USA Swimming establishes the following procedure to grant a temporary exception to the 120-day representation rule set forth in Article 203.3 of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming:

1. By November 1 or within thirty (30) days of beginning workouts with a new club, an athlete must submit the following information to USA Swimming Member Services for verification: His/her name, date of birth, Hurricane Irma FEMA number, club most recently represented and club which he/she wishes to represent.
2. Member Services will notify the Rules & Regulations Committee Chair of the eligibility facts. The Chair, or his designee, shall make the final determination, which shall be binding without right of appeal.
3. Each USA Swimming-approved transfer request under this resolution shall be exempt from Article 203.3 (the 120-day rule) and transfer effective immediately.
4. Each athlete whose transfer is approved pursuant to this resolution may, at any time within one year of passage of this resolution, return immediately to representing his/her original club or, if the original club is disbanded, any other club in the original LSC.
5. This resolution will take effect immediately upon approval by the USA Swimming House of Delegates and expire at the close of business of the House of Delegates meeting in 2018.