MAJOR LEGISLATION AND RULE CHANGES FOR 2008

1. The minimum depth for teaching racing starts was changed from five (5) feet to six (6) feet, effective February 15, 2007 (Article 103.2.2).

2. Marshals at swimming competitions are no longer required to be members of USA Swimming, effective September 29, 2007 (Article 202.3.3).

3. Articles 206 and 207 were updated to reflect current practice, with many provisions being moved to the USA Swimming Policy Manual.

4. New Article 509 provides for LSC financial reporting requirements.

5. The model LSC Bylaws under Part Six were amended to provide that athlete membership must constitute at least twenty percent of LSC Board of Review or Board of Review Panels. This is effective September 29, 2007, without any further action required on the part of any LSC. The legislation is mandatory and the bylaws of each LSC are deemed to have been amended by the adoption of the legislation.

6. Part 7 (Open Water) was updated.

DOPING CONTROL

All athletes should check the status of all medications they plan to take PRIOR to taking them. This includes Over the Counter and Prescription medications. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure that no prohibited substance enters his/her system.

The United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) offers a Drug Reference Line (1-800-233-0393) and a Drug Reference Online (www.usantidoping.org/dro) where athletes, coaches, parents and medical professionals may check to ensure that proper documentation is on file for their medications and that they are consuming medications that are permitted.

To comply with the World Anti-Doping Code, FINA, USOC and USADA have all amended their anti-doping rules. The current rules are available at the offices of USA Swimming or may be found online at the following websites:

- FINA www.fina.org
- USOC www.usoc.org
- USADA www.usantidoping.org

USA SWIMMING POLICY MANUAL

The USA Swimming Policy Manual is available on USA Swimming’s website: usaswimming.org (Volunteers/Governance).
2008 USA Swimming
Rules and Regulations

Published by:
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### PART SIX — Bylaws of the Local Swimming Committee

The USA Swimming House of Delegates has approved a model set of LSC Bylaws, which each LSC, within the flexibility granted in these Bylaws, is required to adopt. Part Six has been removed from the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, except for the following appendices.

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2008 Rules & Regulations
OFFICIAL GLOSSARY
Swimming Words and Terms

ADJACENT EVENTS — the next shorter and next longer distances of that stroke.

AGGREGATE TIME — times achieved by four individuals in separate starts which are added together to arrive at a relay time for entry purposes.

AMATEUR SPORTS ORGANIZATION — a not-for-profit corporation, club, federation, union, association, or other group organized in the United States which sponsors or arranges any amateur athletic competition.

ANCHORED (STARTING PLATFORM) — stable at all times without human aid.

APPROVAL — a permit issued by an LSC for meets conducted in conformance with USA Swimming technical rules in which both members and non-members may compete.

ATTACHED — an athlete member who represents a member club in competition after having met the requirements of Article 203.

BODY — the torso, including shoulders and hips.

CALM STATE OR SURFACE — normal level surface without turbulence.

CLOSED COMPETITION — competition open only to the members of one organization or group.

CLUB — an organization which has been accepted for membership in the Corporation and which operates on a year around basis.

COMPETITION — an athletic performance by an athlete, either individually or as part of a team or club.

COMPOSITE TIME — a time achieved in a relay event by four members of an organization.

CONFORMING TIME — qualifying time standard that corresponds to the meet competition course.

CONSOLATION — (finals) competition for the fastest of those who failed to qualify for the finals.

COURSE — designated distance over which the competition is conducted.

   LONG COURSE — 50 meters (55 yards to be recorded as 50 meters).
   SHORT COURSE — 25 yards or 25 meters.

DECK ENTERED MEET — meet where all entries are accepted on the first or later day of that meet and subsequently seeded into events.

DECK SEEDED MEET — meet where all entries are due prior to first day of meet and swimmers must declare availability to swim prior to the scratch deadlines.

DOMESTIC COMPETITION — any amateur athletic competition within the jurisdiction of USA Swimming which does not meet the definition of international competition.

DRAW — random selection by chance.

DUAL COMPETITION — competition between two clubs.

END OF COURSE — designated wall for racing turns and finishes.

EVENT — any race or series of races in a given stroke and/or distance. For competitive limits, one event equals one preliminary, or one preliminary plus its related final, or one timed final, or one time trial.
EX-OFFICIO — a member with full rights of membership unless otherwise limited by USA Swimming; ex-officio members cannot be counted to establish a quorum.

FINAL — any single race which determines final places and times in an event.

FINALS — the concluding session of each day of the meet in which the final race of each event is swum.

FINALIST — one who swims in a final race.

FIRST DAY OF MEET — day on which first competitive swimming event is conducted.

FOREIGN SWIMMER — an athlete member of a FINA member-country federation, other than USA Swimming, or an athlete member of USA Swimming who is not eligible to represent the United States in international competition due to FINA sports citizenship requirements. (See Sports Citizen).

FORWARD START — a forward entry facing the course.

FOUL — an instance of obstruction, interference, collision, or equipment malfunction which prevents the successful completion of a race.

HEADQUARTERS — USA Swimming’s office in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

HEATS — a division of an event in which there are too many swimmers to compete at one time.

PRELIMINARY HEATS — competition in which a number of heats are swum to qualify the fastest swimmers for the finals where final placing for the event will be determined.

TIMED FINAL HEATS — competition in which only heats are swum and final placings are determined by the times performed in the heats.

HORIZONTAL — parallel to the surface level of the water.

INITIAL DISTANCE — that first portion of a race for which an official time may be recorded but which is not in itself a completed event.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION — any amateur athletic competition between any athlete(s) or member organization(s) of USA Swimming, either individually or as part of a team, and any athlete(s) or member organization(s) (e.g., clubs) representing any foreign country.

INVITATIONAL COMPETITION — for those swimmers, organizations and clubs invited by the host.

JUNIOR OLYMPIC — a type of Age Group competition conducted by Zones and LSCs.

LANE — the specific area in which the swimmer is assigned to swim; e.g., lane one.

LANE LINE — continuous floating markers attached to a line stretched from the starting end to the turning end for the purpose of separating each lane.

LANE MARKINGS — the guide lines on the bottom of the pool and in the center of the lanes running from the starting end to the turning end.

LEG — (relay) the part of the relay event that is swum by a single team member.

LENGTH — extent of the course from end to end.

LSC (LOCAL SWIMMING COMMITTEE) — an administrative division of USA Swimming with supervisory responsibilities within certain geographic boundaries designated by USA Swimming.

MALFUNCTION — a mechanical or electronic failure; not a human failure by the swimmer.

MANUAL START — the start of any timing device by an individual in response to the same starting signal given to the swimmer(s).

MARK — (take your) starting position.
MAY — permissive, not mandatory.

MEET — a series of events held in one program.

MIXED CLASSIFICATION — meet in which events of Age Group and Junior, Senior, or any other classification are offered.

NATIONAL AGE GROUP (NAG) RECOGNITION TIME — an official time that better the tenth fastest time in a single age group (ages 11-17) as reported by the SWIMS database for the previous year.

NATIONAL TIME VERIFICATION — certification of a national qualifying time made by a swimmer and issued by a verification official of the area in which the meet was held. National Time Verifications (NTVs) shall be issued for any time that equals or better a national time standard or international trials time standard.

NON-CONFORMING TIME — qualifying time standard that does not correspond to the course that will be competed in a meet.

OBSERVED SWIM — a swim observed by assigned USA Swimming officials for conformance with USA Swimming technical rules in a meet conducted under other than USA Swimming rules.

OPEN COMPETITION — competition which any qualified club, organization or individual may enter.

PLACE JUDGES — two place judges, one on each side of the finish line, who will record the order of finish of all swimmers by lane.

POOL — the physical facility in which the competition is actually conducted.

POSTAL/INTERNET MEET — a swimming competition conducted in multiple pool locations with results compiled in a central location.

PRELIMINARY — session of the meet in which the heats are held.

PROGRAM — the order of events, including starting times and intermissions in a meet or portion thereof (See Session), sequentially listed by class of competition, sex, age group, distance, and stroke as set forth in meet announcement.

PROPULSIVE — having power to propel.

PROTECTED COMPETITION — any amateur athletic competition between any athlete or athletes officially designated by USA Swimming as representing the United States, either individually or as part of a team, and any athlete or athletes representing any foreign country where (a) the terms of such competition require that the entrants therein be teams or individuals representing the respective nations, and (b) the athlete or group of athletes representing the United States are organized and sponsored by USA Swimming and are selected by USA Swimming in accordance with a defined selection or tryout procedure that is open to all and publicly announced in advance. Except for domestic amateur athletic competition, which by its terms requires that entrants therein be expressly restricted to members of a specific class of amateur athletes such as those referred to in Section 4 of Article VII of the USOC Constitution, the term “protected competition” shall also include any domestic amateur athletic competition or event organized and conducted by USA Swimming which has been designated by USA Swimming in its selection procedure, and publicly announced in advance, as a competition or event directly qualifying successful competitors therein as an athlete representing the United States in a protected competition as defined in the immediately preceding sentence of this subsection.

RACE — any single swimming competition; i.e., preliminary, final, timed final.

RECORD ATTEMPT — swimming against time in a record attempt, unpaced by other swimmers. (Refer to Article 104 for record requirements).

REINSTATEMENT — return of all or limited rights of membership in USA Swimming.
REPORTABLE TIMES — times achieved in conformance with applicable USA Swimming rules which may be submitted to USA Swimming for recognition.

SANCTION — a permit issued by an LSC to a USA Swimming group member to conduct a meet in conformance with all USA Swimming rules.

SCISSOR — use of the top of the instep of one foot and the bottom of the other foot in the propulsive part of the kick.

SCRATCH (from an event) — withdraw an entry from competition.

SEASONAL CLUB — an organization which has been accepted for membership in USA Swimming and which operates on the basis of a period of time specified by the LSC.

SEED — to distribute the swimmers among the required number of heats and/or lanes, according to their submitted or preliminary times.

SEEDING — EVENTS SEEDED ON THE DECK — swimmers are called to report to the clerk of course for their event on the day of the meet. After scratches are determined, swimmers are seeded in the proper heats. PRE-SEEDED HEATS — swimmers are arranged in heats in events according to submitted times and heat sheets are prepared prior to the day of competition.

SESSION — any portion of a meet distinctly separated from other portions by locale, time, or type of competition, i.e., preliminaries and finals; morning and evening; Senior and Age Group, etc.

SHALL — mandatory.

SHOULD — recommended but not mandatory.

SIMULTANEOUSLY — occurring at the same time.

SPLIT TIME — time recorded from official start to completion of an initial distance within a longer event.

SPORTS CITIZEN — an athlete who has represented a nation other than the United States in international competition is a sports citizen of that nation and is considered ineligible to represent the United States until FINA requirements for changing sports citizenship (sport nationality) have been met. (See Foreign Swimmer)

STILL WATER — water contained within four walls, or landlocked, and has no perceptible current or movement other than that caused by wind or by other swimmers. (Circulatory systems should be off during competition.)

SUBMITTED TIMES — those filed with an entry, as having been previously achieved.

SWIMMING VENUE — the area located on the sides and ends of the pool, spectator area, team areas within the pool facility (e.g., portion of the building designated for teams and swimmers, or fenced area around outdoor pool), locker rooms, and such other areas as may be specifically designated by the host club or organization, meet director, or referee.

SUSPENSION — deprivation of all rights of membership in USA Swimming.

TIMED FINALS — competition in which only heats are swum and final placings are determined by the times performed in the heats.

TIME STANDARD — the time a swimmer must have previously achieved in order to compete in that event at any designated competition.

TOUCH — contact with the end of the course.

UNATTACHED — a member who competes but does not represent a USA Swimming member club or another FINA member Federation.

USA SWIMMING — United States Swimming, Inc., a Colorado corporation.
VERTICAL — at a right angle to the normal water level.

WALL — vertical portion of the pool, contiguous surfaces of the deck and overflow gutter, the front portion of the starting block or platform, or the touchpad at the end of the course.

WARNING SIGNAL — a starting pistol, bell, whistle, air horn, or other appropriate audible device.

WEBSITE — the official site maintained by USA Swimming on the internet.

Open Water Swimming Words and Terms

CHECK POINT — a point along the course where a swimmer’s progress is noted.

COUNTDOWN — the announcement at regular intervals of the time remaining before the start of the race.

DRAFTING OR SLIPSTREAMING — swimming behind or next to another swimmer or support craft for the purpose of taking advantage of the reduced water resistance created by the former’s wake.

ESCORT CRAFT — boats or paddle boards used for the swimmers’ safety and logistical support.

FINISH POINT — the physical location where the race terminates.

GREASE — substance used by the swimmers to reduce friction or reduce the loss of body heat during a swim.

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

LEAD BOAT — the boat used as a course guide for the swimmers, usually following the course a short distance in front of the leading swimmer.

NAVIGATIONAL AID — a device used to accurately measure and establish a course to be swum.

OPEN WATER SWIMMING — any competition that takes place in rivers, lakes or oceans.

PACING — an attempt by a person not participating in the race to enter water with the intent of providing moral support or otherwise assisting a swimmer in setting the tempo of the race.

PADDLER — a person on a paddle board or manually propelled craft who supports a swimmer or group of swimmers.

MEDICAL EVACUATION PLANS — written plans for the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency or need for medical intervention.

SUPPORT PERSONNEL — persons in the swimmer’s escort craft who provide for feeding, navigating, coaching and other supporting activities for a swimmer.

TURN — a point on the course where the swimmers reverse or change direction of the swim.

VENUE — geographical area and environs where the swim is conducted.

WAVE — the second or subsequent start used if the start area cannot accommodate all contestants at the same time.
All competitive swimming events held under USA Swimming sanction shall be conducted in accordance with the following rules that are designed to provide fair and equitable conditions of competition.

It is recommended that the LSC and regional short course and long course championships be held annually and that they be conducted under the rules governing National Championships (Article 207), subject to available facilities and personnel. Events other than such championships may use Article 207 as a guide, subject to local conditions and preferences.

It is not the purpose of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming (the National Governing Body) contained herein to set standards of care for the safety of the swimmer. The swimmer, the swim coach, the swim club and the local public entity or pool owner should address safety considerations where events are held.

ARTICLE 101
INDIVIDUAL STROKES AND RELAYS

101.1 STARTS

.1 Equipment — A loudspeaker start system conforming to 103.15, with or without an underwater recall device, and an electronic strobe signal visible to all manual timers and for forward and backstroke starts, shall be the preferred starting device. A .22 caliber starting pistol may be used.

.2 The Start

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

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

C On the Starter's command “take your mark”, the swimmers shall immediately assume their starting position, in the forward start, with at least one foot at the front of the starting platform or the deck. Swimmers starting in the water must have at least one hand in contact with the wall or starting platform. When all swimmers are stationary, the starter shall give the starting signal.
When a swimmer does not respond promptly to the command “take your mark”, the Starter shall immediately release all swimmers with the command “stand up” upon which the swimmers may stand up or step off the blocks.

**False Starts**

Any swimmer starting before the starting signal is given shall be disqualified if the Referee independently observes and confirms the Starter’s observation that a violation occurred. Swimmers remaining on the starting blocks shall be relieved from their starting positions with the “Stand up” command and may step off the blocks. The Starter shall restart the race upon signal by the Referee.

If the starting signal has been given before the disqualification is declared, the race shall continue without recall. If the Referee independently observes and confirms the Starter’s observation that a violation occurred, the swimmer or swimmers who have false started shall be disqualified upon completion of the race.

If the recall signal is activated inadvertently, no swimmer shall be charged with a false start and the Starter shall restart the race upon signal by the Referee.

A swimmer who would otherwise be charged with a false start may be relieved of the charge if the false start was caused by the swimmer’s reaction to the “stand up” command.

A swimmer shall not be disqualified for an illegal starting position at the start if the race is permitted to proceed. Enforcement of the correct starting position is the responsibility of the Starter.

Declared false start: swimmers reporting to the Referee prior to the start of their race and declaring their intent not to compete will be disqualified except as noted in 207.12.6D.

**Warning Signal** — With the exception of relays, in events 500 yards or longer, the Starter or a designee shall sound a warning signal over the water at the finish end of the lane of the leading swimmer when that swimmer has two lengths plus five yards or five meters to swim. As an alternative, a bell warning signal may be given over each lane by a lane judge or timer for that lane.

**Deliberate Delay or Misconduct**

Any swimmer who delays the start by entering the water or by willfully or deliberately disobeying a command to step on the blocks or to take a starting position, or for any other misconduct taking place at the start, may be disqualified from the event by the Starter with concurrence of the Referee.

The Referee shall disqualify a swimmer who fails to appear at the starting platform ready to swim in time for the initial start of his/her heat.

Such disqualification shall not be charged as a false start.

**BREASTSTROKE**

The forward start shall be used.

After the start and after each turn when the swimmer leaves the wall, the body shall be kept on the breast. It is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time. Throughout the race the stroke cycle must be one arm stroke and one leg kick in that order.
All movements of the arms shall be simultaneous and in the same horizontal plane without alternating movement.

The hands shall be pushed forward together from the breast on, under, or over the water. The elbows shall be under water except for the final stroke before the turn, during the turn and for the final stroke at the finish. The hands shall be brought back on or under the surface of the water. The hands shall not be brought back beyond the hip line, except during the first stroke after the start and each turn.

During each complete cycle, some part of the swimmer’s head shall break the surface of the water. After the start and after each turn, the swimmer may take one arm stroke completely back to the legs. The head must break the surface of the water before the hands turn inward at the widest part of the second stroke.

.3 **Kick** — After the start and each turn, a single butterfly kick, which must be followed by a breaststroke kick, is permitted during or at the completion of the first arm pull. Following which, all movements of the legs shall be simultaneous and in the same horizontal plane without alternating movement.

The feet must be turned outwards during the propulsive part of the kick. A scissors, flutter or downward butterfly kick is not permitted except as provided herein. Breaking the surface of the water with the feet is allowed unless followed by a downward butterfly kick.

.4 **Turns and Finish** — At each turn and at the finish of the race, the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water level. The head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during the last complete or incomplete cycle preceding the touch.

101.3 BUTTERFLY

.1 **Start** — The forward start shall be used.

.2 **Stroke** — After the start and after each turn, the swimmer’s shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast. The swimmer is permitted one or more leg kicks, but only one arm pull under water, which must bring the swimmer to the surface. It shall be permissible for a swimmer to be completely submerged for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and after each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface. The swimmer must remain on the surface until the next turn or finish. From the beginning of the first arm pull, the body shall be kept on the breast. Both arms must be brought forward over the water and pulled back simultaneously.

.3 **Kick** — All up and down movements of the legs and feet must be simultaneous. The position of the legs or the feet need not be on the same level, but they shall not alternate in relation to each other. A scissors or breaststroke kicking movement is not permitted.

.4 **Turns** — At each turn the body shall be on the breast. The touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface. Once a touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner desired. The shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall.

.5 **Finish** — At the finish, the body shall be on the breast and the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface.
101.4 BACKSTROKE

.1 Start — The swimmers shall line up in the water facing the starting end, with both hands placed on the gutter or on the starting grips. Standing in or on the gutter, placing the toes above the lip of the gutter, or bending the toes over the lip of the gutter, before or after the start, is prohibited.

.2 Stroke — The swimmer shall push off on his back and continue swimming on the back throughout the race. Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it is permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn, at the finish and for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and after each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface of the water.

.3 Turns — Upon completion of each length, some part of the swimmer must touch the wall. During the turn the shoulders may be turned past the vertical toward the breast after which a continuous single arm pull or a continuous simultaneous double arm pull may be used to initiate the turn. The swimmer must have returned to a position on the back upon leaving the wall.

.4 Finish — Upon the finish of the race, the swimmer must touch the wall while on the back.

101.5 FREESTYLE

.1 Start — The forward start shall be used.

.2 Stroke — In an event designated freestyle, the swimmer may swim any style, except that in a medley relay or an individual medley event, freestyle means any style other than butterfly, breaststroke or backstroke. Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it shall be permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface.

.3 Turns — Upon completion of each length the swimmer must touch the wall.

.4 Finish — The swimmer shall have finished the race when any part of his person touches the wall after completing the prescribed distance.

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.

.3 Turns

A Intermediate turns within each stroke shall conform to the turn rules for that 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.

.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 shall govern where applicable. At the end of each leg, the finish rule for each stroke applies in each case.

.3 Rules Pertaining to Relay Races

A No swimmer shall swim more than one leg in any relay event.

B When automatic relay take-off judging is used, each swimmer must touch the touchplate or pad in his/her lane at the end of the course to have finished his/her leg of the relay race.

C In relay races a swimmer other than the first swimmer shall not start until his/her teammate has concluded his/her leg.

D Any relay team member and his/her relay team shall be disqualified from a race if a team member other than the swimmer designated to swim that leg enters the pool in the area where the race is being conducted before all swimmers of all teams have finished the race. Exception: When an in-the-water start is required or such start is approved by the Referee.

E Each relay team member shall leave the water immediately upon finishing his/her leg, except the last member.

F In relay races the team of a swimmer whose feet have lost touch with the starting platform (ground or deck) before his/her preceding teammate touches the wall shall be disqualified.

G In relay races involving in-the-water starts, the team of a swimmer who has lost touch with the end of the course before his/her preceding teammate touches the wall shall be disqualified, unless the swimmer in default returns to the original starting point at the wall.

ARTICLE 102
CONDUCT AND OFFICIATING OF ALL SWIMMING COMPETITION

102.1 EVENTS — Meets should be planned to terminate within a maximum period of eight (8) hours of competitive events for any group of swimmers in any one day and to provide adequate meal, rest breaks and properly supervised sheltered rest areas. Refer to 205.3.1F for additional provisions.

.1 SENIOR EVENTS — The following events for National Championships are recommended for
LSC and other championship meets. Eligibility for these championships shall be determined by the LSCs involved.

**Short Course Events**
- 50-yard/meter freestyle
- 100-yard/meter freestyle
- 200-yard/meter freestyle
- 500-yard/400 meter freestyle
- 1000-yard/800-meter freestyle
- 1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle
- 100-yard/meter backstroke
- 500-yard/400 meter freestyle
- 1000-yard/800-meter freestyle
- 1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle
- 200-yard/meter backstroke
- 500-yard/400 meter freestyle
- 1000-yard/800-meter freestyle
- 1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle
- 200-yard/meter individual medley
- 100-yard/meter backstroke
- 500-yard/400 meter freestyle
- 1000-yard/800-meter freestyle
- 1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle
- 200-yard/meter individual medley

**Long Course Events**
- 50-meter freestyle
- 100-meter freestyle
- 200-meter freestyle
- 400-meter freestyle
- 800-meter freestyle
- 1500-meter freestyle
- 100-meter backstroke
- 200-meter backstroke
- 100-meter butterfly
- 50, 100, 200, 400/500 freestyle
- 50, 100, 200, 400/500, 800/1000, 1500/1650 freestyle
- 50, 100 backstroke
- 50, 100, 200 backstroke
- 50, 100 breaststroke
- 50, 100, 200 breaststroke
- 50, 100 butterfly
- 50, 100, 200 butterfly
- 100, 200 individual medley
- 100, 200, 400 individual medley
- 200 freestyle relay
- 200 medley relay
- 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 Years
- 200 freestyle relay
- 200 medley relay
- 10, 20, 40, 800 freestyle relay
- 10, 20, 40, medley relay

**2 AGE GROUP EVENTS** — Competitions may be composed of events selected from the following recognized list of events or other such events/meet types as may be sanctioned by the LSC.

**10 Years and Younger**
- 50, 100, 200, 400/500 freestyle
- 50, 100 backstroke
- 50, 100 breaststroke
- 50, 100 butterfly
- 100, 200 individual medley
- 200 freestyle relay
- 200 medley relay
- 1 kilometer open water
- 800/1000—pool

**11, 12 Years**
- 50, 100, 200, 400/500, 800/1000, 1500/1650 freestyle
- 50, 100, 200 backstroke
- 50, 100, 200 breaststroke
- 50, 100, 200 butterfly
- 100, 200, 400 individual medley
- 200 freestyle relay
- 200 medley relay
- 5, 10, 25 kilometer open water
- 4000/5000—pool

**13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 Years**
- 50, 100, 200, 400/500, 800/1000, 1500/1650 freestyle
- 10, 20, 40, 800 freestyle relay
- 10, 20, 40, medley relay

**3 OPEN WATER AND LONG DISTANCE POOL EVENTS** — The following events are recommended for Sectional, Zone, and LSC competitions. Competitions may be composed of events selected from the following list of events or other such events/meet types as may be sanctioned by the LSC. See Open Water Meet Manager’s Guide for additional options.

**10 Years and Younger**
- 1 kilometer open water
- 800/1000—pool

**11, 12 Years**
- 1, 3, 5 kilometer open water
- 1600/2000—pool

**13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 Years**
- 5, 10, 25 kilometer open water
- 4000/5000—pool

**4 CONSOLIDATED EVENTS** — As a local option, events may be sanctioned and seeded as a
single event, without regard to swimmers’ ages or gender, in the order of submitted entry times. Places, awards, and published results for these events may be separate for each age group and gender.

102.2 ENTRIES - GENERAL RULES

.1 In order to compete in a meet a swimmer must be entered in compliance with the event entry requirements stated in the meet announcement.

.2 In a preliminaries and finals meet a swimmer may compete in not more than three (3) individual events per day.

.3 In a timed finals meet a swimmer may compete in not more than five (5) individual events per day.

.4 If, due to conditions beyond the meet officials’ control (e.g., a thunderstorm), an event or events are postponed to a subsequent day of the meet, such postponed events shall not be included in the above events-per-day limitations.

.5 In a meet where a combination of preliminary and final events and timed finals are scheduled, a swimmer may compete in not more than three (3) individual events per day, unless entered exclusively in timed final events that day.

.6 The above limitations on individual events apply regardless of the classification mixture or if separate meets or time trials are being conducted. These, and additional limitations on entries which may be established by the LSC’s sanction or approval, shall be clearly stated in the meet announcement.

.7 In a mixed classification meet a swimmer may enter the same stroke and distance individual event in an age group and any other classification, provided the limit of events per day for the type of meet is not exceeded. The same entry time must be used for all repetitive entries.

.8 If a meet or an event has no qualifying time standards, a swimmer who has no official time for an event may enter that event with no submitted time.

102.3 SCRATCH PROCEDURES — Each swimmer shall become informed of the meet starting time and shall report to the proper meet authorities promptly upon call. Meet announcements and advance information shall specify check-in and scratch procedures for individual and relay events and penalties for violation of those procedures.

102.4 RELAYS

.1 Relay teams shall not compete unattached. In all cases relay teams must be composed of USA Swimming members of the same club, school or organization which is a member of USA Swimming. This requirement does not apply to relay teams representing an LSC at a Zone meet, or teams competing at the Olympic Festival and similar USA Swimming sanctioned or approved meets.

.2 Relays may be conducted on a timed final basis or with preliminaries and finals.

.3 Organizations entering two or more relay teams in an event shall designate them on the entry blank as Team A, Team B, etc.

.4 The best time of each relay team shall be entered on the entry blank for seeding purposes and no change in time will be permitted.

.5 First and last names of swimmers eligible to compete in relay events shall be entered in accordance with the meet information.
.6 The composition of a relay team may be changed between preliminaries and finals. All mem-
bers competing on a relay team disqualified during preliminaries shall be barred from further
competition in that event.

.7 Names of eligible relay swimmers and order of swimming shall be submitted to the clerk of
course or to the head lane timer. Any changes in names of the competing swimmers or their
order of swimming must be declared to the Head Lane Timer prior to the start of the heat in
which such relay team is entered. No changes will be permitted thereafter.

.8 The competing teams, first and last names of members and their ages, must be listed in the
meet results.

102.5 LANE ASSIGNMENTS — SEEDING — COUNTERS — ORDER OF HEATS

.1 Preliminary Heats When Finals are Scheduled — Entry times shall be assembled (listed)
by the meet committee with the fastest swimmer first and the slowest swimmer last. Swim-
mers 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 one heat, it may be seeded as a final heat and swum only during the final ses-
sion, at the Referee's discretion.
   (2) If 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 — 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 — 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 swim-
mers, etc. Lanes shall be assigned in descending order of submitted times within each
heat, in accordance with the pattern outlined in 102.5.

D 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 Swim-Offs — A swim-off is considered to be part of the total preliminary process of qualify-
ing for the finals. In no case may a swimmer with a faster time displace another who placed
ahead of him within a heat as the result of a decision by the referee or place judges in accor-
dance with Section 102.16. If this situation results in disputed qualifications, all swimmers
having times tied or within the disputed times shall swim-off to qualify for the disputed place
or places in the final. The swim-off shall be timed and judged in the same manner as the orig-
inal event unless a subsequent timing system malfunction requires that an adjustment be
made. For the seeding of finals, the time used for the swimmers involved shall be the time achieved in their original preliminary heats. This elimination may be held at any time set by the Referee, but not more than 45 minutes after the last heat of any event in which any one of these swimmers is competing in that session. In the case of a disqualification in a swim-off the swimmer so disqualified is relegated to the lowest qualifying position for which he/she is competing. Disqualification in a swim-off for a qualifying position shall not eliminate a swimmer from eligibility to compete in the accompanying finals, or as an alternate. If disqualifications leave a vacancy for the full complement of finalists, swim-offs shall be continued among the disqualified swimmers until a full complement of finalists is assured.

**Note:** It shall be the swimmer's responsibility to become acquainted with information pertaining to swim-offs, final events and the participants therein.

.3 **Finals** — In finals, the times to be considered are those times made in preliminary heats. If any qualifying swimmers have the same time their respective lanes shall be determined by draw. Lane assignments shall be made in descending order of qualifying times by placing the fastest swimmer or team in the center lane in a pool with an odd number of lanes, or in lanes 3, 4, or 5 respectively in pools having 6, 8, or 10 lanes. The swimmer having the next fastest time is to be placed in the lane to the left, then alternating the other swimmer(s) to the right and left in accordance with the submitted times. *(See chart below)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lanes in Pool</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 2 1 3 5 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 4 2 1 3 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 4 2 1 3 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 6 4 2 1 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 6 4 2 1 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 8 6 4 2 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

.4 **Timed Finals**

A **Heats** — The last heat shall be composed of the swimmers with the fastest submitted times, the next to last heat composed 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 .3 above. When there are two or more heats there shall be a minimum of three swimmers or relay teams seeded into the first heat. The last heat should be a full heat, but the requirement of seeding three swimmers or relay teams into the first heat may result in failure to fill the last heat.

B **Places** — In timed finals, places shall be determined on a time basis, subject to the order of finish within each heat and based upon the ranking system used at the meet. Any ties resulting from the procedure used shall be declared officially tied for awards and points, with no further attempt at resolution.

.5 **Seeding of 50 meter events in a 50 meter course** — 50 meter events swum in a 50 meter course shall be seeded as provided above. If the event is started at the turning end of the course, no change in the lane numbering shall be made, i.e., the lanes shall be numbered the same on both ends of the course.
.6 **Counters**

A A swimmer in any individual freestyle event of 16 or more lengths may appoint one counter to call lengths or indicate lengths by visual sign.

B Verbal counters shall be limited to one per swimmer and shall be stationed at the end of the course opposite the starting end. They may use watches and signal intermediate times to the swimmer.

C If visual counters are used, they may be stationed at the end or either side of the pool, beyond the halfway point toward the end of the course opposite the starting end. Visual counters may be lowered into the water at the end of the swimmer’s lane, provided that, in the opinion of the Referee, they neither physically aid the swimmer or interfere with another competitor or present any safety hazard.

D The count may be in ascending or descending order.

E In the event of official or counter error it is the responsibility of the swimmer to complete the prescribed distance.

.7 **Order of Heats**

A Preliminary Heats and Timed Finals — The normal order of heats may be reversed by swimming the fastest heats first. Women’s and men’s heats may be alternated.

B Finals — The order of heats during the finals of a preliminaries and finals meet may be reversed, with the B and C (consolation and bonus) heats, if any, swum following the A (final) heat. In the event of scratches, the empty lanes may be filled by moving the swimmers up in order from the slower heats and by using the available alternates in the slowest heat without reseeding the heats.

C All above changes in the order of heats shall be stated in the meet information.

102.6 **AWARDS** — When two or more swimmers tie for any place, duplicate awards shall be given to each of such tied swimmers. In such cases no awards shall be given for the place or places immediately following the tied positions. If two tie for 1st place, no award for 2nd place; if three tie for 1st place, no awards for 2nd or 3rd, and so on.

102.7 **SCORING**

.1 **Dual Meets**

| Individual events: 5-3-1-0 | Relays: 7-0 |

.2 **Triangular meets**

| Individual events: 6-4-3-2-1-0 | Relays: 8-4-0 |

.3 **All other meets** — Individual events (Individual point values shall be doubled for relays):

| 4-lane pools: 5-3-2-1 | 8-lane pools: 9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 |
| 5-lane pools: 6-4-3-2-1 | 9-lane pools: 10-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 |
| 6-lane pools: 7-5-4-3-2-1 | 10-lane pools: 11-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 |
| 7-lane pools: 8-6-5-4-3-2-1 |

When consolations and championship finals are swum, scoring shall be as follows for individual events (Individual point values shall be doubled for relays, even when relays are swum as timed finals):
### 6-lane pools (12 places):

| A (final): 16-13-12-11-10-9 |
| A (consolation): 7-5-4-3-2-1 |

### 9-lane pools (18 places):

| B (consolation): 10-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 |

### 7-lane pools (14 places):

| A (final): 18-15-14-13-12-11-10 |
| B (consolation): 8-6-5-4-3-2-1 |

### 10-lane pools (20 places):

| B (consolation): 11-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 |

### 8-lane pools (16 places):

| A (final): 20-17-16-15-14-13-12-11 |
| B (consolation): 9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 |

### LSC Options

For mixed classification meets, non-standard events, or when an additional (bonus) heat or only a single championship final heat is swum in some or all of the events, the LSC sanctioning the meet shall establish the scoring point values to suit the format of the meet. These point values shall be stated in the meet information.

### Ties

Where two or more swimmers tie for any place in any event the points credited to such place or places, if any, next in order shall be equally divided between such swimmers; i.e., if two tie for first place, the points to be credited to first place and the points to be credited to second place shall be added and divided one-half and one-half. If three tie for first place, the points credited to first, second and third places shall be added and divided one-third, one-third and one-third, and so on for four or more tying for first place. The same is true for those tying for second place, third place, and whatever places there may be.

### Disqualifications

When a relay team or individual swimmer is disqualified, the subsequent places will move up accordingly and points shall be awarded to conform to the new places. Consolation finalists shall not receive championship final placing. Alternates shall not receive consolation final placing.

### 102.8 CHANGE OF PROGRAM AND POSTPONEMENT

#### 1

The order of events, as stated in the meet announcement, shall not be changed. The announced arrangement of heats in any event shall not be added to or altered, except by the authority of the Referee, to the extent of consolidating the heats.

#### 2

At the Meet Referee’s discretion, events may be combined by age, gender, distance, and/or stroke provided there is at least one empty lane between such combined events.

#### 3

The entry provisions and starting time of any event, meet or portion thereof shall stand as stated in the meet announcement (except as permitted under .4 below) and may not be changed to an earlier time or date unless written notice of such change is delivered to each affected swimmer or his/her coach. If mailed, such notice must be postmarked no later than the entry deadline date stated on the meet announcement, and if lack of time prohibits mail notification, each affected swimmer must voluntarily agree in writing that they have been notified and is in accord with such change. Any affected swimmer or their coach may and should file a written protest with the Referee prior to running of event or meet if they do not agree to such change in time or date.

#### 4

**Postponement or Cancellation**

- If, prior to its commencement, unusual or severe weather or other conditions preclude the possibility of safely and effectively conducting a meet or an event, the meet committee may cancel or postpone it.
B Should a meet or event have actually commenced, and in the judgment of the Referee cannot safely and effectively continue because of weather conditions, or for some other compelling reason, the Referee, in his/her sole discretion, may suspend the meet or event until conditions warrant continuance. If circumstances do not warrant continuance, the Referee may cancel the meet or event, or postpone it to a future date or time, with the approval of the meet committee.

C A decision to cancel or postpone shall be final.

D Should an event have actually commenced but is terminated prior to an official finish, and is postponed to another time or date, it shall then be conducted between the swimmers who were officially competing in the event at the time of the termination.

E Entry fees for teams or swimmers may be refunded, in whole or part, at the discretion of the meet committee, upon cancellation of a meet or particular event. The decision of the meet committee on refunding may be appealed to the LSC Board of Review for hearing under the provisions of Part 4.

102.9 SWIMWEAR

.1 Design — The swimsuits worn for competition must be non-transparent and conform to the current concept of the appropriate. The Referee shall have authority to bar offenders from competition until they comply with this rule.

.2 Insignia — Swimmers may wear the insignia and/or name of the club or organization they represent or of which they are a member and the insignia of their FINA National Federation or Organizing Committees for Olympic, World, Continental or Regional Championships, except as otherwise provided in 202.6.3 for international competition and in FINA rules GR5 and GR6. Swimmers shall not be allowed to wear the insignia and/or name of any club or organization which they are not entitled to represent in open competition, if such action is objectionable to that club or organization.

.3 Advertising

A In the competition venue or complex of all events conducted by and under the control of USA Swimming or any LSC or division thereof, no swimsuit shall carry any visible marque or insignia in the form of advertising (except design or trademarks of members or Organizing Committees for Olympic, World, Continental and Regional Championships) other than the trademark on technical equipment or clothing, that is in excess of 16 sq. cm. (2.48 sq. in.) in area. A trademark may be repeated provided a name is used only once on a suit. Offenders may be barred from competition, until they comply with this rule.

B Products involving tobacco, alcohol or pharmaceuticals containing drugs banned under IOC or FINA rules may not be advertised under .3A above, but the advertiser’s name only may be used.

102.10 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 102.15.6B, 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 President has directed that the meet be conducted under FINA procedures.
.2 The Referee or designated official making a disqualification shall make every reasonable effort to seek out the swimmer or his/her coach and inform him/her as to the reason for the disqualification.

.3 Any swimmer who acts in an unsportsmanlike or unsafe manner within the swimming venue may be considered for appropriate action or penalty by the Referee.

.4 A swimmer must start and finish the race in the same lane.

.5 Standing on the bottom during a freestyle race shall not disqualify a swimmer, but a swimmer must not leave the pool, or walk, or spring from the bottom. Standing on the bottom during any other stroke shall result in disqualification.

.6 Obstructing another swimmer by swimming across or otherwise interfering shall disqualify the offender, subject to the discretion of the Referee.

.7 Any swimmer not entered in a race who enters the pool or course in the area in which said race is being conducted before all swimmers therein have completed the race shall be barred from the next individual event in which that swimmer is entered on that day or the next meet day, whichever is first.

.8 Dipping goggles in the water or splashing water on the competitor’s face or body prior to an event shall not be considered as entering the pool unless the Referee finds that such action is interfering with the competition.

.9 Should a foul endanger the chance of success of a swimmer(s), the Referee may allow the affected competitor(s) to reswim the event. In case of collusion to foul another swimmer, the Referee may, at his/her discretion, disqualify the swimmer for whose aid the foul was committed, as well as the swimmer committing the foul.

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

.11 Grasping lane dividers to assist forward motion is not permitted.

.12 For relay disqualifications, refer to 101.7.3.

.13 The time and/or place of any swimmer or relay team disqualified either during or following an event shall not be recorded in the results of that event. If awards have been made prior to the decision to disqualify they shall be returned and made to the proper recipient(s) and if points have been scored by those disqualified the event shall be rescored.

.14 Time and/or place officially recorded for a swimmer shall not be nullified for violations occurring subsequent to such performance.

102.11 PROTESTS

.1 Protests against the judgment decisions of starters, stroke, turn, place and relay take-off judges can only be considered by the Referee and the Referee’s decision shall be final.

.2 For consideration of all other protests lodged at the meet, the Referee may appoint a meet jury. The jury shall consist of not fewer than three (3) and not more than five (5) persons, at least one of whom shall be a coach and one an athlete.
102.11

.3 Protests made prior to the race contesting the eligibility of a swimmer to compete or to represent an organization shall be made to the Referee in writing. If a protest is not resolved, the Referee or the meet jury shall allow the swimmer to compete under protest and it shall be so announced before the race.

.4 All other competition-related protests, including protests concerning eligibility and representation, must be made to the Referee and submitted in writing within 30 minutes after the race in which the alleged infraction occurred.

.5 Except as provided in 102.11.1, the Referee's or the meet jury's ruling may be appealed as follows:

A Protests concerning interpretation of the rules in Part One and Part Seven of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations shall be submitted in writing within ten (10) days to the Chairman of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee who shall issue a ruling within five (5) days from the date of the receipt of such protest. This ruling shall be final and binding on all parties.

B All other protests, together with the Referee's or the jury's written decision, shall be submitted to the General Chairman, or designee, of the sanctioning LSC or, in the case of a National Championship or trials class meet, to the National Board of Review, in accordance with the Hearings and Appeals Section of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

.6 The official results of any protested race shall not be announced, the affected awards shall not be given, and points scored shall not be allocated until the protest is resolved or is withdrawn in writing.

102.12 OFFICIALS

.1 All officials accepting an invitation to officiate at a swimming meet should arrive promptly and report immediately to the meet director or meet referee.

.2 All officials acting in the capacity of Referee, Starter, or Stroke and/or Turn Judge at a swimming meet shall be certified in such position by their LSC prior to being assigned to officiate in that capacity. Uncertified trainees may perform the duties of such positions when they are under the direct supervision of a certified official. See Article 202 for USA Swimming membership requirements.

.3 For all swimming meets or time trials except dual meets there should not be fewer than the following officiating positions filled or approved by the LSC in authority. Officials other than the Referee may act in more than one officiating capacity only when sufficient qualified officials are not available, but no one may simultaneously time and judge the order of finish.

1 Referee
1 Starter
3 Timers per lane (one minimum if automatic equipment with touchpads is used)
1 Clerk of Course
2 Place Judges (optional if automatic or semi-automatic timing equipment is used)
2 Stroke Judges and 2 Turn Judges or 2 Stroke & Turn Judges
Relay Take-off Judges (if applicable)
1 Recorder
1 Timing Judge
1 Announcer
Timing Equipment Operators (as needed)
Marshal(s) (number determined by the LSC)
.4 Minimum Number of Officials Required for Dual Meets

1 Referee, who may also act as a stroke and turn judge.
1 Starter
1 Other stroke and turn judge (may be the Starter)
2 Recorders — one from each team.
1 Announcer.
3 Timers for each lane (one minimum if automatic timing equipment with touchpads is used)
1 Timing Judge
2 Place judges (optional if automatic or semi-automatic timing equipment is used)
Relay take-off judges (if applicable)
Timing Equipment Operators (as needed)
Marshal(s) (number determined by the LSC)
The visiting team may furnish officials as a courtesy, not a requirement.

.5 Officials For USA Swimming Championships

A Officials for USA Swimming championship meets shall be assigned by the National Officials Chairman with the approval of the Program Operations Vice President.

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

1 Referee
1 Administrative Referee
1 Starter
1 Chief Timer
1 Chief Judge
1 Stroke Judge per each side of pool
1 Timer/Relay Take-off Judge per lane (start end)
1 Recorder/Head Lane Timer per lane (start end)
1 Timer/Turn Judge per lane (start end)
1 Turn Judge per lane (turn end)
4 Relay Take-off Judges — two each side of pool
1 Recall Rope Operator
4 Marshals (minimum)

C In addition to the officials listed above, assistant referees, assistant chief judges, one additional stroke judge per each side of the pool and relief personnel may be assigned. In the event of insufficient officials, the Referee may modify or combine assignments, subject to the provisions of 102.12.3.

D Additional Required Meet Personnel

1 Clerk of Course
1 Announcer
2 Timing Equipment Operators
1 Computer Operator

102.13 REFEREE

.1 Shall have full authority over all officials and shall assign and instruct them; shall enforce all applicable rules and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the meet, the final settlement of which is not otherwise assigned by said rules; can overrule any meet official on a point of rule interpretation, or on a judgment decision pertaining to an action which the Referee has personally observed.

.2 The Referee has the authority to disqualify a swimmer(s) for any violation of the rules that the Referee personally observes and, except for false starts, shall at the same time raise one hand overhead. If the Referee does not make such a signal there shall be no penalty.
.3 Shall signal the starter that all officials are in position, that the course is clear, and that the competition can begin, before each race; shall assign marshals with specific instructions.

.4 Shall give a decision on any point where the opinions of the judges differ; shall have authority to intercede in a competition at any stage, to ensure that the racing conditions are observed.

.5 For LSC and local records only, may assign three (3) additional official timers on request to record a record attempt at initial distances in accordance with 102.16 and Article 104.

.6 When automatic or semi-automatic officiating equipment is used and an apparent malfunction occurs it shall be his/her responsibility to make an immediate investigation to determine whether the swimmer finished in accordance with the rules and/or if there was an actual equipment malfunction.

.7 May prohibit the use of any device that disrupts or interferes with the meet, such as a laser pointing device or artificial noisemaker.

.8 May modify any rule for a competitive swimmer who has a disability. Such modification shall be in accordance with Article 105 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

.9 When the meet sanction allows conducting the events by starting them from the alternate ends of a 50-meter course, the Referee shall establish the necessary administrative and officiating procedures to conform to Part One of the rules and local conditions.

.10 Refer to 102.11 concerning protests.

102.14 STARTER

.1 Preparation — The Starter shall stand within ten feet of the starting end of the pool and upon signal from Referee, shall assume control of swimmers until a fair start has been achieved.

.2 Optional Instructions — The Starter may:
   A Announce the event.
   B Advise the heat when a swimmer will be attempting to achieve a time at an initial distance.
   C For backstroke starts, give the command, "Place your feet."

102.15 JUDGES — Shall have jurisdiction over the swimmers immediately after the race has begun.

.1 Chief — An overall "Chief Judge" may assign and supervise the activities of all stroke, turn, place and take-off judges and may report their decisions, or if desired any judging category may have a designated "Chief". Any "Chief" may act as liaison for the judges and may serve simultaneously in one of the judging positions and shall assign those judges within the "Chief’s" category.

.2 Place Judge — At the discretion of the Referee, two place judges — one on each side of the course — shall be stationed near the finish and each shall judge the order of finish of all swimmers. A place judge shall record a tie if a place distinction cannot be made. Judging results shall be used only in accordance with 102.16.6C in determining the order of finish.

.3 Stroke Judge — Shall operate on both sides of the pool, preferably walking abreast of the swimmers during all strokes except freestyle, during which events they may leave poolside, at
the Referee’s discretion; shall ensure that the rules relating to the style of swimming designated for the event are being observed; and shall report any violations to the Referee on signed slips detailing the event, the heat number, the lane number, the swimmer’s name and the infraction.

.4 Turn Judge — Shall operate on both ends of the pool; shall ensure that when turning or finishing the swimmer complies with the turning and finishing rules applicable to the stroke used; and shall report any violations to the Referee on signed slips detailing the event, the heat number, lane number, the swimmer’s name and infraction observed.

.5 Jurisdiction of Stroke and Turn Judges — Before the competition begins the Referee shall determine the respective areas of stroke and turn responsibility and jurisdiction, which may include joint, concurrent, and coordinated responsibility and jurisdiction. The Referee shall insure that all swimmers shall have fair, equitable, and uniform conditions of judging.

.6 Relay Take-Off Judges —

A Relay take-off judges shall be assigned by the Referee and shall stand so that they can clearly see both the touch of the incoming swimmer(s) and the feet of the departing swimmer(s) as they leave the starting platform, and shall judge whether the swimmer is in contact with the platform when the incoming swimmer touches the end of the pool.

B If dual relay take-off judging is used, the lane and side take-off judges shall independently report infractions in writing without the use of the infraction hand signal. A relay will be disqualified only if the lane take-off judge has reported an infraction and the assigned side take-off judge has confirmed the same infraction.

C When automatic relay exchange judging equipment is in use, the system printout will provide the information to judge relay exchanges. Integrated back-up timing cameras may be reviewed by the Referee to confirm the automatic system’s results. When back-up timing cameras are not available, the Referee will determine the confirmation process.

.7 Infraction Signal — See 102.10.1 DISQUALIFICATIONS for the infraction signal.

102.16 TIMING

.1 Timing Systems — Every race in a swimming competition shall be timed with one or more of the following systems, listed in their preferred order of use:

A Automatic — A timing system that is started by an electric impulse generated by a starting device or a transducer capable of detecting a gun report and stopped at the finish by the swimmer touching the touchpad.

B Semi-Automatic — A timing system that is started by an electric impulse generated by a starting device or transducer capable of detecting a gun report and stopped by buttons pushed by timers at the finish touch of the swimmer.

C Manual — A timing system consisting of individual lane timers, each operating a manual watch that is both started and stopped by the timer as described in 102.16.3C. Only hand-held, battery powered, digital read-out type watches designed for timing purposes shall be used.

.2 Timing System Designation — Timing systems shall be designated in the order in which results are used as follows:
A **Primary System** — The primary system shall determine the official time of each swimmer unless a comparison of the primary with secondary and/or tertiary system times indicates a malfunction of the primary system. A primary system shall always be in place and shall consist of one of the following, listed in their preferred order of use:

2. Semi-Automatic, with three (3) or two (2) buttons per lane, each operated by a separate timer.
3. Manual, with three (3) or two (2) watches per lane, each operated by a separate timer.

B **Secondary System** — If manually operated watches are not the primary system, a secondary system of precedence equal to or lower than the primary system must be used. The secondary system may be:

1. Back-up timing cameras recording a minimum of 100 images per second. The cameras must be fully integrated with the timing system.
2. Semi-Automatic with one (1), two (2), or three (3) buttons, each operated by a separate timer.
3. Manual with one (1), two (2) or three (3) watches per lane, each operated by a separate timer.

C **Tertiary System** — Unless the primary system consists of manual watches or the secondary system includes at least one (1) manual watch per lane, a tertiary system of at least one (1) manual watch per lane shall be provided.

.3 **Timing Personnel and Their Duties** —

A **Chief Timer** — The Chief Timer shall:

1. Assure the assignment of Lane Timers to lanes and the designation of one timer on each lane to be the Head Lane Timer.
2. 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.
3. Be responsible for delivering all manual watch times, including those of disqualified swimmers, to the Timing Judge.

B **Head Lane Timer** — The Head Lane Timer shall:

1. Determine whether the swimmer or relay team is present and in the correct lane, heat and event, and that relay swimmers are swimming in the order listed.
2. Determine and record manual watch times or the absence of a swimmer or the relay team seeded in that lane.
3. Assign one timer to time relay splits and initial distance times if requested by the Chief Timer.
4. Report if the swimmer has delayed in touching or has missed the touch pad at the finish, or if there is reason to believe the semi-automatic or manual times may be inaccurate.
C **Lane Timers** — Officials assigned as Lane Timers may simultaneously operate two dis-similar devices (one watch and one button) but not two similar devices (two watches or two buttons). It is not within the Lane Timer’s jurisdiction to judge if the swimmer’s touch conforms to the applicable finish rules or if a relay take-off infraction has occurred unless assigned concurrent responsibility as a Lane Timer and Turn Judge or Relay Take-off Judge. Each timer shall:

1. Be in position at the start to have an unobstructed view and shall start the watch at the instant of observing the visual starting signal. If the visual starting signal is not observed, the watch shall be started upon hearing the sound of the starting signal.

2. Stand directly over the assigned lane at the finish to observe a touch above, at, or below the surface of the water and stop the watch and/or push the semi-automatic system button when any part of the swimmer’s body touches the wall.

3. Report the watch time to the Head Lane Timer or the designated recorder, report if a late or missed pad touch is observed; and, if requested, present the watch for inspection. Lane Timers shall not clear their watches until a command to “clear watches” is given or the Referee signals that the next heat is ready to start.

D **Timing Equipment Operator** — The Timing Equipment Operator shall be responsible for the automatic or semi-automatic timing equipment, including the electronic starting system and scoreboard (if used), and shall advise the Referee of any system problems that might affect the accuracy of times or whenever the touchpad is observed to have failed to record the finish when the swimmer completed the race. The timing equipment should be placed so that the operator is able to observe the finish of each race.

E **Timing Judge** — Under the direction of the Referee, the Timing Judge shall determine the official time for each swimmer as follows:

1. Receive and review the automatic and/or semi-automatic timing results from the Timing Equipment Operator and compare primary timing results with the back-up timing results to determine their validity.

2. Receive the times recorded by the Head Lane Timers from the Chief Timer and use those times to the extent needed to determine the official time for each swimmer.

3. Notify the Referee whenever a time obtained by the primary timing system cannot be used as the Official Time.

4. Record disqualifications approved by the Referee. A written record of all disqualifications signed by the Referee shall be given to the Recorder.

F **Recorder** — The Recorder shall:

1. Record the Official Times and disqualifications;

2. Determine the official Order of Finish;

3. Publish the results; and

4. May also determine the score of the meet.

.4 **Requirements for Official Time**

A **Performance Requirements**

1. An official time can be achieved only in USA Swimming sanctioned or USA Swim-
ming approved competition, or in an observed swim in accordance with all applicable rules. It may be achieved in:
(a) A preliminary or final heat.
(b) A swim-off held to determine qualifiers or alternates for consolation or final heats.
(c) A lead-off leg in a relay.
(d) A split time recorded from the official start to the completion of an initial distance with a legal finish within a longer event, provided the swimmer completes the event or the lead-off portion of the relay in compliance with applicable rules.
(e) A time trial or a record attempt.

(2) An official time for an event or a stroke can be achieved only in that event or stroke, or in an initial distance of such event or stroke (e.g. a backstroke time must be achieved in a backstroke event or the backstroke leg of a medley relay). Regardless of the stroke(s) used, times achieved in freestyle events can be recorded only as freestyle times.

B Timing Resolution — All timing systems, including manual watches, shall have a resolution of one one-hundredth of a second (0.01 second). Times from all systems shall be recorded to hundredths of a second. The digits representing thousandths shall be dropped with no rounding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIMARY TIMING SYSTEM</th>
<th>USE OF OFFICIAL TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
<td>- World, American and U.S. Open Records; - Initial distance splits and relay lead-off times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Timing for all purposes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 2</strong></td>
<td>- NTVs for 50m distances in a 50m pool; - National age group records; - NAG Recognition Times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Automatic with 3 buttons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 3</strong></td>
<td>- NTVs, except for 50m distances in a 50m pool; - LSC and other local records, unless prohibited by the LSC; - Initial distance splits and relay lead-off times for age group time standards (A, B, C times, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Automatic with 2 buttons, or Manual with 3 watches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 4</strong></td>
<td>- Zone, Regional, or LSC sponsored meet time standards, unless Timing System Level 3 is specified; - Age group time standards (A, B, C times, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual with 2 watches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C System Requirements for Specific Purposes

(1) The official time may be used for the purpose listed only if timed by a timing system of at least the level required for that use.

(2) World records can be established only when timed by an automatic timing system, or a semi-automatic system if the automatic system malfunctions.
A backup time adjusted for timing system differences as described in Section 102.16.5 may be used as an official time equal to the level of the timing system for which it has been adjusted.

D Backup Timing System Requirement — Except when the primary system consists of watches, backup timing shall be provided for all competitors. No swimmer shall be required to reswim a race due to equipment failure which results in unrecorded or inaccurate time or place. It is the meet director’s responsibility to provide the proper timing systems so that swimmers can expect to achieve official times that will satisfy the requirements of 102.16.4C.

E Use of Secondary and Tertiary Times — Secondary and tertiary times shall be recorded but shall not be used except to corroborate or correct missing or inaccurate primary/secondary results.

.5 Determination of 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, the times shall be determined as follows:

1. If two of the three button or watch times agree, that shall be the time for that timing system.

2. If all three buttons or watches disagree, the time of the intermediate button or watch shall be the time for that timing system.

3. If only two button or watch times are available, the time shall be the average of those two button or watch times. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no rounding.

4. If only one button or watch time is available, the time of that button or watch shall be the time for that timing system.

C Primary Timing System Malfunction — May have occurred if:

1. The difference between the time obtained by the primary system and the back-up system(s) is more than .30 second.

2. A late or missed touch is reported by an official observing the finish.

D Adjustment for the Timing System Difference — When the Referee determines that there is a malfunction of the primary timing system, the back-up time(s) shall be adjusted for the timing system difference prior to integrating them with accurate primary times in establishing the official times and determining the order of finish. The adjustment for timing system difference may be incorporated into the automatic or semi-automatic system by design or may be determined by calculating the consistent average difference between the primary and back-up systems used at that meet.

E Adjustment for Malfunction on a Lane — When a malfunction is confirmed on a lane, the back-up times for that lane shall be adjusted by calculating the average difference between valid primary and valid back-up times of the other lanes in that heat, or if nec-
Table 1 — EXAMPLE (LANE MALFUNCTION):

Primary - Automatic;
Secondary - Semi-automatic, three buttons (intermediate button time shown **bold**)
Tertiary - Manual, one watch.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LANE</th>
<th>PRIMARY PAD TIME</th>
<th>BUTTON A</th>
<th>BUTTON B</th>
<th>BUTTON C</th>
<th>WATCH TIME</th>
<th>PAD MINUS MIDDLE BUTTON</th>
<th>OFFICIAL TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>52.21</td>
<td>52.07</td>
<td>52.12</td>
<td>52.14</td>
<td>52.04</td>
<td>.09</td>
<td>52.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>52.18</td>
<td>52.01</td>
<td>51.91</td>
<td>52.06</td>
<td>51.95</td>
<td>.17</td>
<td>52.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>51.05</td>
<td>51.01</td>
<td>50.97</td>
<td>51.00</td>
<td>50.95</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>51.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>51.04</td>
<td>50.78</td>
<td>50.88</td>
<td>50.93</td>
<td>50.84</td>
<td>.16</td>
<td>51.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>51.96</td>
<td>51.30</td>
<td>51.35</td>
<td>51.38</td>
<td>51.27</td>
<td>.61*</td>
<td>51.46**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>51.65</td>
<td>51.57</td>
<td>51.56</td>
<td>51.59</td>
<td>51.55</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>51.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>52.27</td>
<td>52.13</td>
<td>52.18</td>
<td>52.13</td>
<td>52.10</td>
<td>.14</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>51.87</td>
<td>51.58</td>
<td>51.75</td>
<td>51.89</td>
<td>51.65</td>
<td>.12</td>
<td>51.87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*More than .30 of a second difference, late touch confirmed. **Adjustment calculation:

- Add the differences between pad and intermediate button time (excluding the malfunctioning lane); total = .81;
- Divide .81 by the number of valid lanes to determine an average: .81 divided by 7 = .11571; the digits after hundredths are dropped, leaving a timing system difference of .11;
- Add the timing system difference to the valid back-up time for Lane 5: 51.35 + .11 = 51.46 (the official time for Lane 5).

Table 2 — EXAMPLE (HEAT MALFUNCTION):

Primary - Automatic (Late manual start confirmed);
Secondary - Semi-automatic, three buttons (button time not valid);
Tertiary - Manual, one

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LANE</th>
<th>PRIMARY PAD TIME</th>
<th>WATCH TIME</th>
<th>WATCH TIME LESS PAD TIME</th>
<th>HEAT ADJUSTMENT*</th>
<th>OFFICIAL TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>52.12</td>
<td>55.14</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>+ 3.06</td>
<td>55.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>51.56</td>
<td>54.61</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>+ 3.06</td>
<td>54.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>51.09</td>
<td>54.18</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>+3.06</td>
<td>54.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>50.12</td>
<td>53.18</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>+3.06</td>
<td>53.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>49.78</td>
<td>52.90</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td>+3.06</td>
<td>52.84</td>
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<tr>
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<td>52.06</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>+3.06</td>
<td>52.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>52.21</td>
<td>55.30</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>+3.06</td>
<td>55.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>52.92</td>
<td>55.99</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>+ 3.06</td>
<td>55.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Adjustment calculation:

- Add the differences between the pad and watch times; total = 24.50;
- Divide 24.50 by the number of lanes to determine an average: 24.50 divided by 8 = 3.0625; the digits after hundredths are dropped, leaving a heat adjustment of 3.06;
- Add the adjustment factor of 3.06 seconds for late start of the primary system to each pad time to obtain the official time for that lane.
essary, using times from heats immediately preceding and/or following the heat. This shall be done by adding, or subtracting when appropriate, that average difference to the valid back-up time of the lane where the malfunction occurred. (See Table 1 on page 38)

F Adjustment for Malfunction Equally Affecting an Entire Heat — When, because of an early or late start, or other equipment or operator malfunction, the time of the automatic or semi-automatic primary timing system is equally incorrect for all the lanes in a heat, but the order of finish and thus the absolute difference of time between the swimmers is accurate, the times of the primary system shall be adjusted by calculating the average difference between the primary times and the valid back-up times and adding, or subtracting when appropriate, that difference to the primary times of every lane in that heat. (See Table 2 on page 38)

.6 Determining Order of Finish —

A Place and Ranking — The order of finish shall be by integration of official times including those times adjusted in accordance with 102.16.5.

B Ties — Official times identical to the hundredths shall be ties, with swim-offs as required to determine qualifiers or alternates for consolation or final heats.

C Judging — Judging shall only be used to change the order of finish produced by ranking the Official Times if:

(1) The swimmers competed in the same heat,

(2) Times obtained from properly operating automatic timing equipment are not available, and

(3) Both Place Judges observed a different relative order of finish and made a written record of their observation immediately following the conclusion of that heat.

Note: A different relative order of finish means there is agreement that a different swimmer finished ahead of another swimmer, there need not be agreement on their exact placement within the heat.

D Impact of Judging on Order of Finish — If judging changes the order of finish:

(1) In timed finals meets and the finals of preliminaries and finals meets, such placement by judges decision (JD) shall be indicated in the meet results and shall determine the order of finish.

(2) In the preliminaries of preliminaries and finals meets, in no case may a swimmer with a faster time displace a swimmer who was judged to have placed ahead of him within a heat according to 102.16.6.C. If this should result in disputed qualifications, all swimmers having times tied or within the disputed times shall swim-off for the disputed places in accordance with 102.5.2.

102.17 CLERK OF COURSE — The clerk of course shall be provided with a list of the names of all swimmers in all events including relay swimmers in the order in which they will swim.

102.18 MARSHALS — Shall wear identifying attire and enforce warm-up procedures and maintain order in the swimming venue. The marshal shall have full authority to warn or order to cease and desist, and, with the concurrence of the Referee, to remove, or have removed from the swim-
ming venue anyone behaving in an unsafe manner or using profane or abusive language, or whose actions are disrupting the orderly conduct of the meet.

102.19 SCORERS — In a scored meet, shall receive from the recorder(s) the order of finish in timed finals, or consolation finals and championship finals for each event. They shall compile team and high-point scores as applicable. The Recorder may also serve as the Scorer. (See 102.16.3F)

102.20 ANNOUNCER — The announcer shall make any announcements requested by the referee, the clerk of course or the meet management. Announcements may include: event; number of heats; lane, name and club affiliation of competitors; and results.

102.21 RECORDER OF RECORDS — Shall obtain from the official recorders all times made in each event, including preliminaries and finals, shall have proper application forms and shall duly process all record claims as set forth in Article 104.

102.22 PRESS STEWARD — Shall obtain from the clerk of course and the recorders the names of all swimmers in each event, the results of each finish with times or record performances, and keep the press and TV personnel thoroughly informed on all details of the competition during the meet.

102.23 MEET DIRECTOR — Shall be appointed by the meet host. The Meet Director’s responsibilities include, but are not limited to: procuring the awards; obtaining a sanction; preparing the facility; arranging for personnel, equipment (including appropriate timing equipment as specified in 102.16), and supplies necessary for meet operation; processing of entries; printing of programs; arranging for publicity and media coverage; preparing and distributing meet results and filing the LSC report.

102.24 MEET RESULTS — Copies of printed meet results shall be provided, as directed by the LSC, within fourteen (14) days after the meet. The results may also be provided on a computer disk or posted to a website. Meet results shall include the following information:

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

.2 Any scores, team or individual, if kept.

.3 For each individual event, the order of finish in preliminaries, finals and swim-offs, when applicable, listing the swimmer’s first and last name, age, club affiliation and official time; disqualified swimmers shall be listed last and indicated “DQ”, with no times listed. Time Trial results shall be provided in the above format, when applicable. If the meet is computerized and connected directly to or interfaced with the automatic timing system then all available initial distance times listed in 102.16.4A shall be provided upon request.

.4 For relays, in addition to the order of finish, affiliation, and official time, the swimmers’ first and last names, ages, the order in which they swam, and, if available, lead-off swimmer’s time, shall be included.

Note: First names may be abbreviated within the limitations of the printing or computer program.

102.25 TOBACCO PRODUCTS — Smoking and use of other tobacco products is prohibited on the pool deck, in the locker rooms, in spectator seating or standing areas, and in all areas used by swimmers, during the meet or during the warmup periods in connection with the meet.
102.26 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES — Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in all areas of the venue, including, but not limited to, pool deck, locker rooms, spectator seating or standing areas, and in all areas used by swimmers. Exceptions to this provision can be made only with the approval of the USA Swimming Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 103
FACILITIES STANDARDS

103.1 DEFINITIONS
.1 /M/ = Indicates mandatory requirement for all competition.
.2 /NC/ = Except as noted otherwise, indicates mandatory requirement for USA Swimming Championships and International Competition.
.3 /LSC/ = Predicated on facility availability, LSC’s may waive strict compliance with these requirements in sanctioning local competition.
.4 Where dimensions are given, the dimension listed first shall govern and dimensions given in parenthesis are for reference only.

103.2 WATER DEPTH
.1 /NC/ 2 meters (6 feet 7 inches) deep throughout the course.
.2. /M/ Teaching Racing Starts – Minimum water depth for teaching racing starts in any setting from any height starting blocks or the deck shall be 6 feet (1.84 meters) measured for a distance of 3 feet 3½ inches (1.0 meter) to 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from the end wall. (effective February 15, 2007)
.3 /M// Racing Starts – Minimum water depth for racing starts during practice and competition shall be measured for a distance 3’ 3½" (1.0 meter) to 16’5" (5.0 meters) from the end wall. Starting requirements and height of starting block shall be:
   A In pools with water depth less than 4’ (1.22 meter) at the starting end, the swimmer must start from within the water;
   B In pools with water depth 4’ (1.22 meter) or more at the starting end, starting platforms shall meet the height requirements of 103.12.1.

Note: Local, state and municipal statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, may have depth limitations in conflict with this section. The LSC and all Member Clubs should check for this at all times.

103.3 RACING COURSE DIMENSIONS
.1 /M/ Length.
   A Long Course: 50.00 meters (164 feet and 1/2 inch).
   B Short Course: 25.00 yards or 25.00 meters (82 feet and 1/4 inch).
   C Dimensional Tolerance: Against the required length, a tolerance of plus (+) 0.03 meters (1 and 3/16ths of an inch) in a vertical plane extending 0.3 meters (12 inches) above and 0.8 meters (2 feet, 7 and 1/2 inches) below the surface of the water at all points of both end walls.

2008 Rules & Regulations 41
When automatic officiating equipment touch pads are used at one or both ends, the course shall be of such length that ensures the required distance between the two touch pads or between either pad and the opposite end of the course.

When the racing course is fixed by the use of movable bulkheads, such bulkheads shall be designed to resist lateral deflection due to tension exerted by the attachment of the lane dividers to ensure the required course distance in all lanes.

See Article 104, Rules for Swimming Records, for course measurements certification requirements.

.2 Width.

A /NC/ Eight 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. Program Operations may waive this requirement for National Championships.

B /M/ Minimum lane width for competitive swimming shall be 7 feet (2.13 meters). /LSC/

103.4 /M/ RACING COURSE WALLS

.1 Permanent Course Walls — Walls enclosing the racing course shall be parallel and vertical. The end walls shall be at a right angle to the water surface and shall be constructed of solid material with non-slip surface that extends no less than 0.8 meters (2 feet 7 and 1/2 inches) below the water surface.

.2 Movable Bulkhead Course Walls — If a continuous recessed hand grip is provided at or near the water surface in a movable bulkhead, the horizontal dimension of the recess perpendicular to the bulkhead should be not less than six inches (.15 meters) and designed in a manner to prevent the swimmer’s fingers from contacting the back surface of the recess.

103.5 /M/ POOL AND BULKHEAD MARKINGS

.1 Pool bottom lane markers: Minimum 10 inch (25 centimeter) wide lines of a dark contrasting color (preferably black) shall be provided in the middle of each racing lane on the bottom of the pool. The lines should be uninterrupted the length of the course and shall end with a distinctive cross line 1.0 meters (3 feet 4 inches) long and the same width as the bottom marker. The line, including the cross line, shall terminate 2.00 meters (6 feet 7 inches) from each end wall. /LSC/

.2 End wall targets: Flush, non-slip targets in a shape of a “T” or a cross and the same width as the lane bottom markers shall be provided in the center of each lane on each end wall of the course and shall extend at least 3 feet 4 inches (1.0 meters) below the level of the water surface. It is recommended that the top edge of the deck be of a contrasting color to provide a visual target above water at the end of the course. /LSC/

.3 A The lanes shall be numbered from right to left as the swimmers stand facing the course. /LSC/

B Lane numbers shall clearly identify the lanes to officials stationed on each side of the course.

103.6 /M/ OVERFLOW RECIRCULATION SYSTEM — The pool water recirculation and overflow system shall maintain water level in line with the overflow rim of the pool gutters without creating
appreciable current or water turbulence and shall maintain smooth and calm water surface during competition. The pool recirculation system shall be turned off if, in the opinion of the Referee, the water movement interferes with the conduct of competition.

103.7 WATER AND AIR TEMPERATURE

.1 /M/ Water temperature between 25 to 28 degrees Celsius (77 to 82.4 degrees Fahrenheit) shall be maintained for competition.

.2 Air temperature within 8 feet above deck level in indoor facilities shall be not lower than 76 degrees Fahrenheit, with relative humidity maintained at about 60% and air velocity at about 25 feet per minute.

103.8 /M/ LADDERS — All ladders, steps or stairs within the racing course shall be recessed in the pool side walls or shall be removed during competition.

103.9 OTHER DECK EQUIPMENT

.1 Use of portable lifeguard chair stands and other deck fixtures is recommended and they should be removed from the competition area to allow free passage and unobstructed view for competitors and officials along all sides of the course. /LSC/

.2 /M/ 1 meter diving boards which overhang the racing course shall be hinged out of the way or removed during competition.

103.10 /M/ LIGHTING

.1 A minimum of one hundred (100) foot candle illumination level is required at the water surface over the entire course. Overhead light fixtures shall be located to avoid the casting of shadows by the pool walls over the racing course. /LSC/

.2 /NC/ At National Championships the same type and level of illumination that will be used for finals must be provided and maintained during the warmup period and preliminaries.

103.11 /M/ NO SMOKING SIGNS — No smoking indoors or outdoors shall be permitted in any area designated for swimmers and the facility shall be so posted.

103.12 /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 and 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. The entire surface of the platform shall be faced with permanent non-slip material.

.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.

2008 Rules & Regulations
Starting platforms shall be clearly marked with lane numbers visible to competitors and officials. (See 103.5.3)

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

Floating lane dividers shall extend the full length of the course and shall be attached at each end wall with recessed anchors so located that the center line of the cable securing the dividers shall be on the surface of the water with the bottom half uniformly submerged for its entire length. They shall:

A Separate the racing lanes. /M/

B Be outside the outermost lanes being used. /LSC/

Dividers shall consist of contiguous floats having a minimum diameter of 5 centimeters (2 inches) to a maximum diameter of 15 centimeters (6 inches). The color of the floats extending from the walls the distance of 5 meters for long course and 15 feet for short course shall be distinct from the rest of the floats. Distinctive colored floats, or markers extending around the full circumference of the floats, shall be placed at 15-meters (49' 2 1/2") from each end wall in both short course and long course pools. Additionally, in long course pools, a distinctive warning line or lane markers may be placed at a distance of 13 meters from each end wall. There shall be no exposed cables accessible to swimmers within the length of the racing course and the cable take-up spools and ratchet mechanisms shall be completely concealed with durable flexible covers. Damaged or broken floats shall be removed and replaced.

A single line of dividers between racing lanes shall be used in long course and short course meters competition. Multiple lines may be installed for short course yards competition, provided the width of water between dividers is not reduced to less than 7 feet. /LSC/

Minimum 11 centimeter diameter floats shall be required for National Championships.

Design: At least three triangular pennants six (6) to twelve (12) inches in width at the base and twelve (12) to eighteen (18) inches in vertical length, of two or more alternating and contrasting colors shall be suspended on a firmly stretched line over each lane during all warm-up periods and during competition for all backstroke, individual medley and medley relay events.

Location:

A Long course and short course meters: 5 meters (16 feet 5 inches) from each end of the course, a minimum of 1.8 meters (5 feet 11 inches) to a maximum of 2.5 meters (8 feet 3 inches) above the water surface.

B Short course yards: 15 feet (4.57 meters) from each end of the course, 7 feet (2.13 meters) above the water surface.

C Height shall be measured to the horizontal line from which the pennants are suspended.

For long course backstroke, individual medley, and medley relay events a firmly stretched 1/4 inch line without flags or pennants shall be suspended at midpoint of the course. /LSC/

An electronic sound generating device shall be provided to give the starting and recall signal. Loudspeakers may be mounted underneath or on the side of each starting platform, between every two platforms, on each side of the racing course,
or positioned behind the starting platforms in such a manner that equitable dispersion of sound to all lanes is assured. The device shall also activate a strobe light, or similar visual signal, located on the starter’s side of the course approximately 15 feet forward from the starting end, to indicate the start to manual timers and deaf and hard-of-hearing swimmers. The start system may include an underwater recall speaker and gun lap signal option.

103.16 /M/ RECALL DEVICE — A device to recall swimmers shall be provided. If a recall rope is used, it shall be placed at the mid-point of the course in long course facilities and at the turn end backstroke flags in short course facilities.

103.17 /LSC/ PACE CLOCKS — There shall be at least two large accurate timing devices or clocks, preferably located one on each side of the course, clearly visible to all swimmers. Dial type clocks shall be at least 3 feet in diameter with a sweep second and minute hands. If digital readout clocks are provided, minimum size of the digits shall be 6 inches.

103.18 AUTOMATIC OFFICIATING EQUIPMENT

.1 /NC/ See Section 102.16 for Automatic and Semi-Automatic Timing equipment types and performance requirements. Equipment powered directly from the utility line electrical service shall have the capability to automatically switch to stand-by battery power source in case of line power failure without affecting the continuity and accuracy of the timing system.

.2 /M/ Installation and safety: Equipment shall be installed so that it will not interfere with swimmers’ start, turns, or finish and the normal overflow functions of the pool water recirculation system. All deck-level wiring shall carry no more than 12 volts.

.3 /NC/ Touch Pads:

A Size and thickness: Recommended pad size shall be 6 feet 6 inches (2 meters) wide and not less than 2 feet (0.60 meters) deep. Minimum width of pads shall be 5 feet (1.52 meters). Thickness shall not exceed 3/8 of an inch (1 centimeter).

B Markings: Panel face markings shall conform and superimpose on pool end wall markings as closely as possible. Perimeter edges of the panel shall have a one-inch wide black border.

C Sensitivity: Panels shall stop the timing system instantaneously by a light hand touch anywhere on the flat surface facing the racing course and the upper edge but shall not be activated by water turbulence.

D Panels shall be installed and firmly anchored in the center of each lane and shall have no sharp edges, corners, or other protrusions on any exposed surfaces.

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 and 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 and 13/16 inches) above and 0.6 meters (1 foot, 11 5/8 inches) below the water surface. The Program Operations Vice President may waive this requirement for National Championships.

.4 Optional Accessories: Automatic officiating equipment may provide relay judging capability, automatic lap counting, split times’ readouts for all lanes, correction of erroneous touch, and
television equipment tie-in. Any corrections or impulses generated by the equipment operators shall be clearly identified on the results printout.

.5 Time display board (optional):
   A An automatic display board visible to all swimmers shall give a digital time read-out to two decimal places, displaying split times, final times, and places for all lanes. In the event of a tie, the place shall be displayed as a tie.
   B /NC/ A separate line of display for each lane meeting the above requirements shall be provided for National Championships.

103.19 /M/ ELECTRICAL SAFETY — All permanent or temporary electrical connections to the electronic loudspeaker start system, automatic officiating equipment, and other electrical or electronic devices operating on line voltages in the vicinity of the racing course shall be made only from a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFI) protected convenience receptacles or circuits. In the event such receptacles or circuits are not available in the facility used for competition, portable U.L. approved self-contained type GFI outlet fittings shall be provided (furnished and installed) at the non-protected convenience receptacles by the meet management, meet director, or the equipment operator(s) whenever such equipment is connected and in use.

ARTICLE 104
RULES FOR SWIMMING RECORDS

104.1 WORLD RECORDS
.1 May be established only in 25 meter and 50 meter pools and shall conform to the recognized distance, stroke and other current effective governing regulations of the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA).

.2 All claims shall be sent by facsimile transmission immediately following performance to the National Headquarters. Supporting evidence must be filed on official FINA World Record application forms, which must be in the National Headquarters within 21 days following performance. Responsibility for this filing shall rest with the meet recorder of records, official scorer, or LSC Records Chairman.

104.2 USA SWIMMING RECORDS
.1 General Requirements and Conditions for Records
   A The official time for establishing specific records must be achieved and determined in accordance with 102.16.
   B Record times registered by automatic equipment shall be submitted in hundredths of a second (two decimal places). If first place times are tied to a hundredth of a second, the results shall be declared to be a tie and the record shall be shared by each swimmer.
   C No record shall be considered which is applied for by or through a conference, league, LSC, allied member, or organizational member whose rules governing performance do not conform to Parts 1 and 2 of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

   Exception: When such rules do not conform to these rules but performance by the swimmer is claimed to conform to them, application may be made to the Executive...
Director or designee, for consideration. Such application must be supported by documentary or other evidence of performance as may be requested.

D For LSC and local records only, unless prohibited by the LSC, the Referee, if requested, for the purposes of recording record attempts at an initial distance for an individual event or for the lead-off leg of a relay, may for any lane:

(1) Permit the use of the split function button of digital manual watches where all three official lane timers on the lane are using digital watches with split function, or

(2) Assign three (3) additional official timers to the lane to time the record attempt.

Note: Performances in this category require the swimmer(s) to complete the full distance of the scheduled event in compliance with applicable rules including a legal finish at the initial distance.

E Should the first swimmer on a relay team complete his/her leg in a record time for that stroke/distance, his/her performance shall not be nullified by any disqualification of his/her team members.

F To be eligible for a record a swimmer must have won his/her heat. Only the time of the winner is recognized for record purposes even though another swimmer may have a faster time but is displaced by judge’s or ballot decision. If the judge’s or ballot decision results in a tie, all tied swimmers shall share the faster time of such finish. The requirement to win the heat does not apply:

(1) When age or representation is a condition for setting LSC or Age Group records;

(2) To a U.S. citizen setting an American record in competition with non-U.S. citizens; or

(3) When achieved as the lead-off leg in a relay race or at an initial distance.

G When established in a course utilizing one or more movable bulkheads for endwalls, the length of each lane must be measured in accordance with 104.2.2C(4)(c).

H Record Attempts Against Time

(1) Must be sanctioned by the LSC and conducted by the LSC Chairman or his/her duly appointed representative in accordance with all pertinent rules, and all information relative to such attempt must be public and available to any interested person for at least three (3) days before the event. Programs, schedules, facility and other relevant fixtures may not be changed thereafter except as provided in 102.8.

(2) All times achieved in such attempts shall be duly certified and made matter of record by the LSC or Record Chairman or their representative.

(3) Record attempts against time are not acceptable for 16 Best Times or age group records.

.2 American and United States Open Records

A Classification

(1) American — May be established only by United States citizens eligible to compete under and achieving 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
- 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
- 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
- Medley Relay: 200, 400 meters

C Special Requirements and Conditions

(1) Records established outside of the United States shall be applied for on official record application forms. When an American record results from a world record performance outside the United States, it shall be accepted as such upon formal approval by the FINA without further certification.

(2) When a record is claimed, an official record application form shall be filled out, signed by the designated officials, and transmitted to Headquarters with all supporting data, including official meet results and the primary printout tape from the automatic timing equipment, within 14 days after the performance.

(3) Pool Certification

(a) Record applications will not be accepted unless certification of course length accompanies them or is on file with USA Swimming.

(b) Pool certification shall be reported on the standard form available from the Executive Director.

(c) Certification data need only be filed once unless structural changes have occurred since original certification.
(4) **Pool Measurement**

(a) The exact length of the course, measured by a steel tape or other acceptable measuring device in feet and inches and fractions of an inch, or in meters and centimeters, must be attested to by an accredited surveyor or engineer.

(b) A statement of the conditions under which the course was measured must be included.

(c) Where a moveable bulkhead is used, course measurement of each lane must be confirmed at the conclusion of the session during which the time was achieved.

(5) Pending record claims properly documented and approved by the Vice President of Program Operations or designee may be approved and declared effective immediately.

(6) 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 the FINA, shall, upon receipt of final results, proper completion of pool certification, and approval by the Vice President of Program Operations or designee, be declared effective immediately unless a faster claim is pending.

(7) Record claims not previously accepted and declared effective under (5) or (6) above shall be considered by the Vice President of Program Operations or designee for recommendation and acceptance. Applications ruled incomplete may be reconsidered by the Vice President of Program Operations or designee and final action recommended to the Board of Directors.

(8) Swimmers who establish a record shall be presented with a certificate signed by the President of USA Swimming and the Vice President of Program Operations or designee.

### .3 National Age Group Records

**A Requirements**

(1) Only USA Swimming members, who are U.S. citizens representing a USA swimming club or competing unattached, are eligible to establish national Age Group records.

(2) Times submitted for Age Group records must comply with all the requirements of the National Age Group Recognition Program as listed in 205.8.1, .2 and .4.

**B Reporting** — When a listed Age Group record is bettered, an official Age Group Record Application Form (provided by Headquarters to the LSC) shall be filled out, signed by the designated officials, and mailed within thirty (30) days. The athlete or the athlete's representative shall be responsible for initiating the record validation and reporting procedures established by the Vice President of Program Operations or designee.
C **Recognition**

1. Upon receipt of the record application, a certificate of record achievement will be sent to all swimmers and members of relays whose time meets or betters the current National Age Group Record.

2. A certificate of achievement will be sent to all swimmers and members of relays whose time meets or betters the National Age Group record published in the current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

.4 **Zone Age Group Records**

A **Requirements** — Zone records must be achieved in Zone championship meets.

B **Reporting** — Each Zone shall determine the means of reporting Zone records.

C **Recognition** — Each Zone shall determine appropriate recognition for Zone records.

.5 **All-Star Times**

A **Requirements** — All-Star Records are relay times achieved in USA Swimming competition by swimmers from more than one USA Swimming Club but representing the same LSC. These times may be achieved in inter-LSC competition such as LSC dual meets and Zone competition. These times are not eligible for Top 10 relay consideration.

B **Reporting** — An appropriate record application form will be available from Headquarters when requested. This form shall be filled out, signed by the designated officials, and returned. Responsibility for this lies with the athlete, the meet director, recorder of records, or chief recorder of the meet at which the record is achieved.

C **Recognition** — A certificate of achievement will be sent to all members of a relay team whose time meets or betters the age group relay record published in the current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

.6 **LSC Records**

A **Requirements**

1. LSC Records must be achieved by LSC member swimmers in USA Swimming or FINA sanctioned competition. This competition can be at any level including Senior and international competition.

2. LSCs may elect to recognize times achieved by member swimmers in approved competition or in USA Swimming observed swims.

3. An LSC may establish All-Star records which would include All-Star relay performances achieved by swimmers representing the LSC in Zone, Regional, or dual meets involving All-Star teams. Individual times including lead-off splits should be recognized by the LSC with the swimmer's LSC club of record (or unattached if appropriate) for any LSC records, National records or NAG Recognition Times.

B **Reporting** — The LSC shall determine the method of reporting LSC records.

C **Recognition** — The LSC shall determine appropriate recognition for LSC records.
ARTICLE 105
GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIATING SWIMMERS WITH A DISABILITY IN USA SWIMMING MEETS

105.1 GENERAL

.1 Authority — The USA Swimming Rules & Regulations grant the Referee the authority to modify the rules for the swimmer with a disability. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. This section contains guidelines and suggestions for making such modifications.

.2 Responsibilities

A Athlete — The athlete (or the athlete's coach) is responsible for notifying the Referee, prior to the competition, of any disability of the athlete. The swimmer/coach shall provide any assistant(s) or equipment (tappers, deck mats, etc.) if required.

B Referee — The Referee's responsibilities include:

(1) Inquiring regarding the athlete's needs and determining what modifications will be required.

(2) Instructing the Starter and Stroke & Turn officials as to the accommodations to be made for that swimmer.

.3 Modifications — Some of the modifications which the Referee may make to accommodate the athlete with a disability are:

(1) A change in starting position.

(2) Reassignment of lanes within a heat, e.g., exchanging Lanes 2 and 7.

(3) Allowing the athlete's assistant(s) on the deck or in the water to assist with a start. Other allowable modifications are further described in this section under the type of disability.

.4 Use of ID Card for Swimmers with a Disability — All swimmers with a disability, who have an International Paralympic Committee authorized classification, will be issued an ID card listing their specific International Paralympic Committee swimming rule exceptions on the reverse of the card. Swimmers shall be judged under these specific exceptions.

105.2 BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

.1 Start — With an audible starting system, no modification is usually required for a blind or visually-impaired swimmer. They may, however, require assistance getting to and on the block. Should they feel insecure starting from the block or deck, an in-the-water start may be allowed.

.2 Turns and Finishes — A blind or visually-impaired swimmer is permitted to have a "tapper", which is a pole with a soft-tipped end. The swimmer is tapped with the "tapper" as notification of turns and the finish. Sound devices shall not be used. It is the swimmer's responsibility to provide the tapper(s) and operator(s), who shall be positioned within the confines of the swimmer's lane at the ends of the pool.
105.2

.3 Relay Take-Offs — A physical touch may be required to signal the relay swimmer when his/her
teammate has touched the wall. The specific method may be tailored to the swimmer’s prefer-
ence so long as it does not aid the swimmer’s take-off or interfere with the timing.

105.3 DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

.1 Deaf and hard of hearing swimmers require a
visual starting signal, i.e., a strobe light and/or
Starter’s arm signals. The Referee may reas-
sign lanes within the swimmer’s heat, i.e.,
exchanging one lane for another, so that the
strobe light or Starter’s arm signal can more
readily be seen by the deaf or hard of hearing
swimmer. Standard Starter’s arm signals are
shown in Figure 1. A false start rope is
required in the event of a recall.

.2 Strobe light location — The Starter shall
advise the swimmers about the location of the
strobe light and the light shall be located
where the swimmers can clearly see it for the
start. For backstroke starts, the light should be
positioned so that the swimmers don’t have to
turn their heads to look backwards.

105.4 MENTALLY IMPAIRED — A deck or in-the-water start is allowable and the swimmer may
be permitted to have an assistant on the deck when necessary. No other specific rule modifica-
tions are required other than patience and clarity in communicating instructions.

105.5 PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

.1 Start — Swimmers with physical disabilities:
A May take longer to assume their starting
position;
B May not be able to hold onto the starting
grips or gutter for a start;
C May need assistance on the deck or
from in the water to maintain a starting
position;
D May need to assume a modified starting
position on the blocks, deck, gutter or in the water in order to maintain their balance.
E For freestyle, breaststroke and butterfly, a forward start (facing the course) shall be used.
The Referee, however, may allow modifications such as the following:
(1) The swimmer may start from a sitting position on the block or on the deck;
(2) The swimmer may assume a starting position in the water, with or without assis-
tance;
(3) If the swimmer cannot use a hand and/or foot to maintain contact with the wall, some other part of the body may be used.

(4) For breaststroke and butterfly, after the start and after each turn, a swimmer who is unable to push off with the leg(s) may perform one asymmetrical stroke to attain the breast position.

Examples of modified starting positions are shown in Figures 2 through 5.

.2 Stroke/Kick — In judging the stroke or kick of a swimmer with a physical disability, the Referee and Stroke & Turn Judge should follow the general rule that: if a part of the body is absent or cannot be used, it is not judged; if it is used during the stroke or kick, it should be judged in accordance with the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

Judgments should be made based on the actual rule—not on the swimmer’s technique. For example, the breaststroke swimmer with one arm or leg shorter than the other, may have a non-symmetrical stroke or kick, but as long as the arm or leg action is simultaneous, it would meet that portion of the rule. No flotation devices should be permitted.

.3 Turn/Finishes — Touches shall be judged in the same manner as strokes and kicks, i.e., on the basis of the arm(s) and/or hand(s) that the swimmer can use. In breaststroke and butterfly events, the competitor must reach forward as if attempting a simultaneous two-hand touch. When a swimmer has a different arm length, only the longer arm must touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously. Swimmers with no arms or with upper limbs too short to stretch above the head may touch the wall with any part of the upper body.

.4 Relays — Relay swimmers who cannot exit the water immediately may be allowed to remain in the lane until all relays have finished so long as they do not interfere with the other swimmers or the timing equipment.
ARTICLE 201
CLASSES OF COMPETITION

201.1 COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATIONS — Swimming shall be conducted under the following classifications and participation is open to athletes from any country subject to further pertinent regulations in these rules and elsewhere.

.1 Senior — All athlete members of USA Swimming are eligible for the Senior Class.

.2 Age Group/Junior Olympic — All athlete members of USA Swimming 18 years old and younger grouped by ages. Where a program for swimmers ages 8 and under is conducted, it shall be for developmental purposes only and shall be subject to LSC procedures.

.3 Post Age Group — All athlete members of USA Swimming older than 18 years of age whom an LSC elects to include in its Age Group program.

.4 Open Water — All athlete members of USA Swimming are eligible for Open Water Swimming.

ARTICLE 202
SANCTIONS AND APPROVALS

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), as the administrative arm of USA Swimming, is authorized to issue the sanction or approval for all swimming competition and benefits, exhibitions, clinics and entertainment involving competitive swimming within its geographical boundaries. Sanction is not required for closed competition which is restricted to members of a single Group Member of USA Swimming, although it may be issued by the LSC upon proper application.

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

.1 Sanctions may only be issued to USA Swimming group members or LSCs and their subdivisions.

.2 No sanction for domestic competition will be issued to any organization or person whose interest in amateur athletic competition is purely commercial, or where the event is to be
promoted solely for the profit or the advertising value to be derived therefrom. Any income derived from sanctioned events must be used for the further promotion of swimming, for an approved charity, or for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.

.3 Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another. Any sanction so transferred shall be void for all purposes, and the LSC is empowered to deny further sanctions to any organization violating this provision.

.4 No further sanction shall be given to any organization which has failed to satisfy expense obligations to athletes or to award prizes as stated on its entry blank until the obligations are satisfied or the prizes awarded.

.5 No sanction will be granted for any event for which the word "Olympic," or any derivative thereof, is used in any manner in connection with said event unless consent is obtained from USA Swimming.

.6 All sanctions must be signed by a designated member of the LSC, and a record thereof must be retained.

.7 The following clause will appear on all sanction application forms and on all forms upon which official sanctions are granted: "In granting this sanction it is understood and agreed that USA Swimming shall be free from any liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of the event."

.8 Application for sanction must be accompanied by a copy of complete meet information, including a statement of the nature of prizes to be awarded.

.9 Application for sanction must be accompanied by a complete schedule of lanes and times for all warm-up procedures which must be adhered to by all participants. These must be distributed with meet information, posted throughout the pool area, announced periodically and on a regular basis, before and during a meet, and are to be monitored jointly by the Meet Director and the Meet Referee (or their special designees).

.10 The issuing LSC shall receive the following information regarding finances from every organization receiving a sanction (not applicable to events sponsored by USA Swimming):

A The LSC shall also require the organization to which a sanction has been granted to file, within 45 days after the event, a financial statement setting forth all receipts and disbursements in connection with the sanctioned event.

B The LSC may at any time require the organization to furnish, within 15 days after written request, all receipts and vouchers relating to the sanctioned event.

C No sanction to hold any athletic event of any kind shall thereafter be issued to an organization who has failed or refused to file with the LSC any statement or affidavit required under any subdivision of this section, until the statement or affidavit is filed, or until such time as the LSC may determine.

.11 The sanction fee shall be as established by the LSC; those for national and international meets shall be established by the USA Swimming Board of Directors.

.12 For the sole purpose of improving competitive swimming, and with the written approval of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee, an LSC may sanction events or meets...
for which waivers of specific provisions of Parts One or Two of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations have been granted for limited periods and under specified conditions.

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

.14 If an event is to be contested in more than one LSC’s or country’s jurisdiction, the application for sanction shall be submitted to the LSC in which the event begins. The sanctioning LSC shall notify the other LSC(s) and/or the governing body of the other country in which the event is being contested of details of the event.

202.3. CONDITIONS OF SANCTION — Any event for which a sanction is required according to 202.1 is subject to the following conditions:

.1 No swimmer who is not a member as provided in Article 302 will be allowed to compete or participate.

.2 At a sanctioned competitive event, USA Swimming athlete members must be under the supervision of a USA Swimming member coach during warm-up, competition, and warm-down. The Meet Director or Meet Referee shall assist the athlete in making arrangements for such supervision.

.3 All meet directors, referees, starters, and stroke and turn judges, serving in an official capacity in a sanctioned event, must be members of USA Swimming, and all persons acting in any coaching capacity in a sanctioned event must be coach members of USA Swimming.

.4 Announcements and entry blanks of sanctioned events must state that no entrant will be permitted to compete unless the entrant is a member as provided in Article 302. The announcements and entry blanks must state whether on-deck registration will be permitted and under what conditions.

.5 The membership (registration) number of each participant must be presented prior to or at the time of the event, and his/her affiliation must be printed before or after his/her name on the program.

.6 Entry blanks, advertising and the program must bear conspicuously the statement: “Held under the sanction of USA Swimming.”

.7 Conduct of the sanctioned event shall conform in every respect to all technical and administrative rules of USA Swimming.

.8 All organizations which have received a sanction for any meet where prizes are stated on entry blanks shall be required to send to the LSC, before the date of the meet, a copy of the entry blank, and must state the value of the prizes to be given for each event.

202.4. REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL — Approval of competition may be issued, withheld or withdrawn by an LSC in accordance with the following regulations:

.1 Approvals may be issued to either USA Swimming member clubs and LSCs or non-member clubs or organizations for meets conducted in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules.

.2 Both USA Swimming athlete members and non-USA Swimming athlete participants may compete in an approved meet.
.3 Written application for approval shall be made not later than the period established by the LSC prior to the competition. The LSC may establish a fee for processing such applications. Application for approval shall be accompanied by complete meet or event information and a statement of the nature and value of prizes to be awarded. Payment of a fee or expenses to the assigned USA Swimming officials shall not be a requirement for approval.

.4 No competition shall be approved unless a sufficient number of USA Swimming officials, certified by the LSC at a minimum of Stroke and Turn level, are present to observe and certify that the conduct of competition and all times achieved in such competition were in conformance with all applicable USA Swimming technical rules including, but not limited to, the following:

A Article 101 (all) or Article 105 (Disability) Start, individual stroke and relay rules

B 102.16.4 A (1) & (2) Requirements for official time/performance

C 102.16.4 B & C Timing Resolution (including table)

D 103.2.3, 103.3.1, 103.4 Minimum standards for facilities

E 103.12.1 & 2 and 103.14 or Article 702 (Open Water)

.5 The organization requesting approval shall permit USA Swimming officials to be on the deck at both ends of the course where they can properly view strokes and turns.

.6 No approval for domestic competition will be issued to any organization or person whose interest in amateur athletic competition is purely commercial, or where the event is to be promoted solely for the profit or the advertising value to be derived therefrom. Any income derived from approved events must be used for the further promotion of swimming, for an approved charity, or for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.

.7 Approvals issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another. Any approval so transferred shall be void for all purposes, and the LSC may deny further approval to any organization violating this provision.

.8 No further approval shall be given to any organization which has failed to satisfy expense obligations to athletes or to award prizes as stated on its entry blank or event information until the obligations are satisfied or the prizes awarded.

.9 No approval will be granted for any competition if the word “Olympic,” “World,” “National,” “United States of America” or any derivative thereof is used in any manner in connection with such competition unless consent for such usage is obtained from USA Swimming.

.10 The following clause will appear on all approval application forms and on all forms upon which official approvals are granted: “In granting this approval it is understood and agreed that USA Swimming shall be free and held harmless from any liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of the event.”

.11 Complete meet results shall be submitted to the LSC within a period of time established by the LSC.
.12 All approvals must be signed by an authorized representative of the LSC and a record thereof kept by the LSC.

.13 Approval may be withheld or withdrawn by the LSC if the competition was not conducted in accordance with the above requirements.

.14 If an event is to be contested in more than one LSC's or country's jurisdiction, the application for approval shall be submitted to the LSC in which the event begins. The LSC granting the approval shall notify the other LSC(s) and/or the governing body of the other country in which the event is being contested of details of the event.

202.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVED SWIMS — Swims may be observed by assigned USA Swimming officials for conformance with USA Swimming technical rules in a meet conducted under other than USA Swimming rules. 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 President 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 USA Swimming 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 President or designee.

.3 At least two USA Swimming observers, 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, when blanket observed (all swims observed), with USA Swimming rules specified in 202.4.4A, C, and D, and 103.3.1. 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.

202.6 INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

.1 Within the United States

A Sanctions for competitions within the United States that will include athletes with a foreign sport nationality as defined by FINA rule GR2.5, who will be competing representing their sport nationality or other FINA Continental Organization, must be reported to the USA Swimming national office. All invitations to foreign athletes to compete in the United States must be extended by USA Swimming.

B Any international amateur athletic competition within the United States as defined in Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (Act) which is sponsored by a sports organization or person other than USA Swimming must be sanctioned by USA Swimming's national office and such sanction must be granted unless there is clear and convincing evidence that holding or sponsoring the event would be detrimental to the best interest of swimming.
Factors to be considered in the determination of whether sponsoring the event would be detrimental to the best interest of swimming shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Review of audited or notarized financial reports of similar events, if any, conducted by the organization or person, including:
   
   (i) Financial guarantees of athlete expenses, both U.S. and foreign;
   
   (ii) Financial guarantees of any appearance money or prize money for athletes;
   
   (iii) Financial guarantees of acceptable accommodations and travel for athletes.

(b) Absence of substantial conflict with: (i) USA Swimming National Team programs, (ii) major USA Swimming competitions, (iii) major international swimming competitions such as the Olympic Games, World Championships, Pan Pacific Championships, Pan American Games and World University Games and (iv) FINA rules and events.

Upon determination by clear and convincing evidence that sponsoring the event would not be detrimental to the best interest of swimming, the sanction will be issued by USA Swimming upon full compliance by the organization with all the requirements of the Act, as it may be amended from time to time.

C Sanction fees for international events established by the Board of Directors of USA Swimming shall be paid to USA Swimming prior to the issuance of a sanction.

.2 Outside the United States

A All invitations for individual swimmers to compete abroad must be extended by the recognized FINA member of the inviting country through USA Swimming.

B All invitations for individual swimmers or teams who are members of USA Swimming must be through USA Swimming and in compliance with procedures established by the Olympic International Operations Committee.

C Approval for teams sponsored by an amateur sports organization or person other than USA Swimming is the responsibility of USA Swimming and must be granted unless there is clear and convincing evidence that holding or sponsoring the event would be detrimental to the best interest of swimming. USA Swimming shall advise any such organization or person requesting such foreign travel of the requirements for approval in accordance with Federal Law and the USOC Constitution.

.3 No team, individual or organization competing inside or outside the United States may use the letters “U.S.A.,” or any other designation that may indicate it as a team or individual representing the United States, on uniforms or competitive equipment or in any other manner, without the express written approval of USA Swimming issued through the office of the Executive Director. (See FINA GR2.4)

202.7 SWIM-A-THONS — All Swim-a-thon events are held under the exclusive jurisdiction of USA Swimming and must conform to rules and regulations established by USA Swimming. The participants may or may not be members of USA Swimming. Each LSC is responsible for the
monitoring of each Swim-a-thon event held within its geographical boundaries, including the taking of that action pursuant to the provisions of Article 401 as may be necessary to discipline any violation of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE 203
REPRESENTATION

203.1 In order for a swimmer to compete in USA Swimming competition as a representative of a club or educational institution, that organization must be a member in good standing of the LSC and USA Swimming or of FINA.

203.2 A swimmer need not reside within the geographical boundaries of the LSC in which the USA Swimming club he/she represents is located, but he/she must be registered in that LSC; a swimmer who has been released by his/her club pursuant to 203.4 to represent a secondary school, college or university, wherever located, during the school season, may retain membership in the LSC in which the swimmer’s club is located.

203.3 For a swimmer to represent a USA Swimming club in a competitive event, one hundred twenty (120) consecutive days must have elapsed without the swimmer having represented any other USA Swimming club in USA Swimming competition. This 120-day rule does not apply to representation in closed competition if it is sanctioned or approved by the LSC.

203.4 A swimmer registered with a USA Swimming non-school club who wishes to compete for a secondary school, college or university shall be automatically released without notice by his/her club upon commencement of his/her season to compete for that school in school competition, and upon termination of such school swimming season he/she shall be immediately eligible to represent the USA Swimming non-school club of his/her choice (subject to the 120-day rule in 203.3.). It is the swimmer’s responsibility to ascertain his/her compliance with scholastic governing bodies’ rules and regulations.

203.5 When transferring between LSCs or clubs the swimmer shall submit a completed transfer form in accordance with USA Swimming and LSC procedures. When transferring from one club to another within the same LSC, the procedural requirements established by the LSC shall be followed.

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.

203.7 An unattached competitor is a registered swimmer who represents no club, educational institution or other organization.

203.8 All applications for changes of registration must be accompanied by a reasonable fee to be determined by the local registration committee in the LSC in which the swimmer will be registered after the change of registration.
203.9

.1 A swimmer who is a member of another Federation may compete in USA Swimming sanctioned competition with written permission of his/her Federation to do so. Except as provided in Sections 207.10.7 and the USA Swimming Policy Manual, the swimmer may swim for a USA Swimming club or team with the consent of the swimmer’s Federation, in which event the swimmer shall remain a member of the swimmer’s Federation, under its control and supervision. The swimmer shall register with USA Swimming, and be subject to the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming (including specifically Article 303 of the Rules and Regulations).

.2 An athlete who has competed for an organization within a foreign federation must provide official documentation from that federation confirming his/her last day representing that organization in competition. One hundred and twenty (120) consecutive days must elapse after a swimmer represents any organization before he/she can represent a USA Swimming club. If documentation is not provided at the time of registration, the one hundred and twenty (120) days will commence from the date of registration. Foreign athletes who are competing for a secondary school, college or university shall be automatically released to represent, in accordance with 203.4.

ARTICLE 204
SENIOR PROGRAM

204.1 OBJECTIVES — Senior Swimming is the program through which USA Swimming provides fair and open competition for its members who are striving to qualify for participation in National Swimming Championships. It is designed to afford maximum opportunity for participation, provide an educational experience, enhance physical and mental conditioning, and develop a pool of talented athletes for international competition.

Achievement of these goals will be accomplished by drawing upon and cooperating with all agencies conducting organized swimming programs, by encouraging maximum participation by coaches, parents, officials and community groups; and by conducting a motivational entity in the form of an outstanding National Championship program, to include the recognition of achievement in all facets of the program — athletes, coaches, officials and support staff.

204.2 ELIGIBILITY — All registered swimmers are eligible for the Senior Class.

204.3 EVENTS AND PROGRAMS — Senior events and programs shall be those listed in 102.1.1.

204.4 DUAL MEETS — Dual meets are encouraged between clubs and LSCs. Suggested Events in Senior Dual Meets:

50, 100, 200, 400/500 freestyle; 100/200 backstroke; 100/200 breaststroke; 100/200 butterfly; 200/400 IM; 400 medley relay; 400 freestyle relay.

204.5 ENTRY FEES — Entry fees in Senior Competition shall be determined by the LSC.

204.6 AWARDS — Meet hosts and swimmers should be aware that high school or college eligibility may be affected by prize cost or value.
204.7 LSC SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP MEET — LSC Senior Championship meets should be conducted by each LSC. Such meets should be conducted both short course and long course, where such facilities are available, and shall conform to the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

204.8 REGIONAL MEETS — The LSCs may make arrangements to compete on a regional basis in accordance with the regional alignment as listed in Appendix 6-C.

204.9 SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

.1 Each Zone shall designate its Sections.

.2 Dates of Sectional Championships shall be determined by each Section.

.3 USA Swimming shall provide a bid form, financial and operating agreements and all other documents related to the responsibilities of the meet host and conduct of the event. Each Section shall notify the Zone Directors of bid winners for the following year’s meets by the close of the annual meeting of USA Swimming’s House of Delegates.

.4 There shall be at least two (2) Spring and one (1) Summer Sectional meets in each Zone.

.5 There shall be not more than sixteen (16) Spring and sixteen (16) Summer meets.

.6 Sectional Championship sites shall be selected by the Sections and approved by the respective Zone Directors.

.7 The meet format shall be determined by the Section.

.8 Sectional Championships shall be scored.

.9 Time standards for Sectional meets shall be established by each Section, to accommodate no fewer than 400 participants.

ARTICLE 205
AGE GROUP PROGRAM

205.1 AGE GROUP SWIMMING OBJECTIVES — Age Group swimming is the program through which USA Swimming provides fair and open competition for its registered swimmers ages 18 years and younger. It is designed to encourage maximum participation, provide an educational experience, enhance physical and mental conditioning, and develop a rich base of swimming talent.

Achievement of these goals will be enhanced by an environment which encourages participation by the maximum number of competitors, coaches, qualified officials, parents, and school and community groups. By providing recognition for all participants, a healthy motivation for self-improvement and advancement is attained.

205.2 ELIGIBILITY

.1 Eligibility to compete in a particular age group shall be determined by the swimmer’s date (not hour) of birth.

.2 Age on the first day of the meet shall determine the swimmer’s age for the entire meet except as follows:
A In a preliminaries and finals meet, when the preliminaries are separated from the finals by more than two days, swimmers shall compete at the age they are on the first day of the finals.

B In a timed finals meet that covers more than one weekend, swimmers shall compete at the age they are on the first day of each continuous session of the meet.

.3 When an Age Group Meet is scheduled over two weekends the younger age groups must compete on the first weekend.

.4 A swimmer must compete in the age group events corresponding to the swimmer's age, except when competing in consolidated events (102.1.4), mixed classification meets (102.2.7), and in events combined by the Referee (102.8.2).

.5 USA Swimming Group Members may establish their own age group eligibility requirements for seasonal closed competition. Times achieved in competition conducted under different age group eligibility rules shall be recognized as official USA Swimming times only if achieved in conformance with 205.2.1 and .2.

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 meets, the program in all other age group competition shall be planned to allow the events for swimmers 12 years and younger to be completed in four (4) hours or less for a timed finals session or in a total of eight (8) hours or less per day for a preliminaries and finals meet.

.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.

205.4 ENTRY FEES — Entry fees in Age Group swimming meets shall be determined by the LSC.

205.5 AWARDS — Official awards for Age Group events shall be established by the LSC. The cost per award to an individual shall not exceed $25.00. However, meet hosts and swimmers should be aware that high school or college eligibility may be affected by prize cost or value.
205.6 ZONE AGE GROUP PROGRAM — Zone Age Group Championship Meet — Each zone must conduct at least one Age Group Championship meet, recommended to be long course if only one is conducted.

.1 The meet shall be restricted to age group competition.

.2 Those events in 102.1.2 are recommended for use for zone meets. Each zone shall select their events from the list of events in 102.1.2. A zone, at its option, may open its oldest age group at any competition to Post Age Group swimmers, or may include events specifically for those swimmers.

.3 Time standards or entry requirements shall be set for each zone meet in accordance with the needs of the swimmers of that zone by the zone committee.

.4 Eligibility: Participation in the zone championship meets shall be restricted to registered swimmers of that zone.

.5 Awards: Shall be provided at least 1st through 8th place, and any other as designated by the national sponsor if any.

205.7 LSC AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

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

.2 Two meets shall be conducted annually, short course and long course (where such facilities are available).

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

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

.5 An LSC, at its option, may conduct an Open Water Age Group Championship in accordance with Part Seven / Open Water Swimming.

205.8 NATIONAL AGE GROUP RECOGNITION PROGRAM

.1 Times submitted for recognition shall be achieved in the recognized events in 102.1.2 and in accordance with 102.16.4C in any USA Swimming Sanctioned or Approved competition, USA Swimming Observed Swims, or meets sanctioned by FINA or FINA members and accepted for national times reporting by USA Swimming. These meets must be conducted between September 1 of one calendar year and August 31 of the next calendar year.

.2 A swimmer must be a USA Swimming athlete member at the time of the swim.

.3 The Vice President of Program Operations 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.

.4 If the times are achieved in a meet conducted in a continuous session overlapping the start of a reporting period, the last day of the meet shall be the last day of the reporting period for that meet.
.5 Each LSC shall be responsible for submitting all official times achieved within its boundaries for consideration.

.6 An Awards list shall be published for both short and long course competition.

.7 No club’s relay team may be listed more than once, unless that club has an additional relay or relays comprised of four different swimmers. If the club has an additional relay entitled to listing with a change of one, two or three individual swimmers from a higher listed relay, those additional swimmers will be listed after the club’s higher ranked team members.

.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 Vice President of Program Operations.

ARTICLE 206
AWARDING USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS
AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

206.1 GENERAL — USA Swimming Championships shall be conducted annually.

.1 A short course yard (25 yard) National Championships shall be conducted the week following Thanksgiving.

.2 A long course National Championship meet shall be conducted every summer, except when there is a Trials Class meet in the summer and that Trials Class meet is not in accordance with 206.4.2 (at the traditional time at the end of the summer). The end of the summer meet during those summers shall be called the U.S. Open.

.3 USA Swimming Open Water Individual and Team Championships shall be held in the 5 kilometer, 10 kilometer, and 25 kilometer distances.

206.2 FACILITIES

.1 Facilities awarded USA Swimming Championships and International competition must meet the mandatory standards of Article 103 and shall have a separate warm-up pool. Facilities where competition to select USA Swimming National Teams for certain international competition is held shall also conform to the requirements stated in 103.18.3E.

.2 Open water venues must meet the mandatory standards of Article 702.

206.3 AWARD OF EVENTS

.1 USA Swimming National Championships, Trials class, U.S. Open, Open Water Championships and Disability Championships shall be contracted for by the USA Swimming Executive Director or his/her designee in accordance with Article 206 and Article 207, after approval by the Board of Directors.

.2 The National Team Head Coach/General Manager may elect not to conduct one or more USA Swimming Championships in any year upon approval by the Board of Directors.
206.4 **DATES** — Unless otherwise determined and announced by the National Team Head Coach/General Manager at the previous year’s annual meeting, the dates shall be as follows:

.1 Short Course Yards National Championships – To start the Thursday following Thanksgiving.

.2 Summer National Championships and U.S. Open (when held) – To end no later than the second Saturday in August;

.3 Disability Championships — To be scheduled annually by Program Operations.

.4 Open Water Championships—Each event to be scheduled annually by Program Operations in conjunction with the Steering Committee.

206.5 **METHOD OF GRANTING AWARD**

.1 A USA Swimming Championship may be awarded either to an LSC in good standing or to an organization approved by the Board of Directors of the LSC for the purpose of assuming full responsibility to conduct the USA Swimming Championship as agreed to in writing. The LSC may also assign the contract to conduct the championship to a member in good standing of that LSC who shall then assume the full responsibility for the championship as agreed to in writing.

.2 The award process shall be conducted by the Executive Director in accordance with the provisions of the USA Swimming Policy Manual.

**ARTICLE 207**

**USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

207.1 **GENERAL** — USA Swimming may conduct USA Swimming National Championships, Trials class meets, U.S. Open Championships, Open Water Championships and USA Swimming Disability Championships. The designation of each of these championships shall include the name of the national sponsor, if any, for that meet.

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 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 Head Coach/General Manager.

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 Program Operations. All USA Swimming member-athletes who have achieved the qualifying time standards for one or more specific events are eligible to participate.

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

207.4 USA SWIMMING JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS — The USA Swimming Junior National Championship meet shall be governed and conducted by Program Operations.

.1 The Junior National Championships will be swum long course during the summer season. The dates and place of competition will be determined by the Senior Development Committee. The meet should be scheduled to be held after the summer National Championships.

.2 All USA Swimming athlete members 18 years of age and under who have met the qualifying time standard for a specific event, are eligible to participate.

.3 The Junior National Championships program will be determined annually by the Senior Development Committee.

207.5 USA SWIMMING DISABILITY CHAMPIONSHIPS — The USA Swimming Disability Championship meet shall be governed and conducted by Program Operations. Program Operations shall request International Paralympic Swimming Committee approval of the competition. All USA Swimming member athletes with a disability who have achieved the qualifying time standards for one or more specific events are eligible to participate.

207.6 TRIALS CLASS MEETS — Trials Class shall be the selection meets for United States teams for the Long Course World Championship 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 Head Coach/General Manager and conducted by Program Operations. The event format will be established by the National Team Head Coach/General Manager 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 103.1 8.3E. Only United States citizens eligible to represent the United States on the Olympic or Long Course World Championship teams may compete in these Trials.

207.7 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS

.1 The time standards shall be established by the Senior Development Committee in consultation with the National Team Head Coach/General Manager. Time standards shall be designed to allow 900-1000 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. Opens which will be reported to the House of Delegates by the Technical Vice President 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.
207.8 PROOF OF ENTERED TIME — Procedures for obtaining proof of time shall conform to the current edition of the USA Swimming SWIMS Time Module Policy Manual. Official times achieved in accordance with the requirements of 102.16.4 may be used to enter the meet.

.1 Individual Events — All individual entry times must be made during the correct qualifying period specified in 207.10.4D and must be proven prior to the scratch deadline for that event through the SWIMS database.

.2 Relay Events — Times for each entered relay team must be submitted with the entry. This entered time must be proven prior to the scratch deadline for each entered relay team, in aggregate or as a team, through the SWIMS database. For the purpose of proving times, a club may name a swimmer on only one of its relay teams in each event. Once the relay team or teams have been proven, any swimmer listed by that organization on the entry form is eligible to compete on that relay team.

.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 Vice President of Program Operations or designee or Board of Review. Additional action or penalty may be taken or levied as deemed appropriate by USA Swimming.
   B Such penalty shall also be levied against any USA Swimming verification officer who knowingly entered such a false time(s) into the SWIMS Database.
   C Appeal of fines are to be made to the Vice President of Program Operations or designee and/or Board of Review. Any appeal of the decision of the Vice President of Program Operations or designee shall be in accordance with the provisions of Part Four, specifically Article 406.

207.9 ENTRY FORMS AND OFFICIAL MEET INFORMATION

.1 The entry forms and information shall be prepared under joint direction of the Program Operations Vice President, the Rules Chairman, the Meet Director, and the Executive Director.

.2 The meet information shall state qualifying times and procedures necessary for proof of entry times. (See 207.8) For a USA Swimming Championship meet, Program Operations 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 information.

.3 Entry fees shall be $10.00 for individual events and $25.00 for relay teams.

207.10 ENTRIES

.1 A swimmer and/or relay team will be officially entered when the entry blanks or electronic entries are received by USA Swimming prior to the meet entry deadline.


207.10

.2 An unattached swimmer shall be identified in competition with the LSC in which the swimmer is registered.

.3 In National Championships a swimmer may enter and compete, except as provided in 102.2.2, in any number of individual events in which he/she has met the qualifying time standards.

.4 Entry times for individual and relay events shall:

A Be the best competitive times of swimmers except as otherwise provided in this Article 207 or the USA Swimming Policy Manual.

B Be achieved in accordance with 102.16.4, Requirements for Official Time.

C Be submitted to hundredths of a second.

D Be achieved during the following qualification periods —

(1) USA Swimming National Championship/U.S. Open – from July 1 of the year prior to the meet until the entry deadline.

(2) USA Swimming Short Course Yards National Championships – from November 1 of the year prior to the meet until the entry deadline.

E Athletes who have qualified for the Olympic Trials within the current quadrennium in a specific event may swim that event in all USA Swimming National Championships and U.S. Open events preceding the next Olympic Trials, even if they have not re-qualified for the USA Swimming Nationals or U.S. Open in that specific event.

.5 Only swimmers and relay teams listed on the official entry shall be eligible to compete. No changes in submitted times, corrections or changes of events entered, or additional entries shall be allowed. Typographical or transcription errors which can be readily verified by entry data or National Times Data Base data may be corrected if attested to by the swimmer, coach, or the swimmer's representative prior to the scratch deadline.

.6 Program Operations reserves the right to challenge any submitted time.

.7 In order to score at USA Swimming National Championships, a swimmer must be eligible to represent the United States in international competition.

.8 Relay Entries

A A club may enter no more than two relay teams in each relay event.

B Only swimmers listed on the entry form for an organization shall be eligible to compete for that organization in relay events.

207.11 PROGRAMS

.1 Time Trials — At all USA Swimming National Championships and Trials Class meets, Time Trials will be conducted on a time available basis for swimmers participating in the meet. These Time Trials shall be held under a separate sanction of the LSC where the meet is held and shall conform to the following conditions and format, subject to the time limitations specified in 207.11 and 207.12:
A A swimmer is limited to a maximum of two Time Trials during the course of the championships.

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

C Entry fees for Time Trials shall be the same as those established for the corresponding National Championships.

.2 International Program — Upon the recommendation of the National Team Head Coach/General Manager with the approval of the OIOC and Program Operations, 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.

207.12 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 President or a designee, shall be held at all USA Swimming championship meets prior to the first day's competition. All participating coaches, meet officials, Program Operations Division committee chairs and coordinators, and representatives of each participating club are obligated to attend or be represented at this meeting.

B Only business pertinent to the administrative conduct of that championship meet and its events may be considered and finalized at this meeting by a vote of those in attendance and no changes shall be made thereafter. Only material contained in Article 207 may be changed.

C It is the obligation of every athlete entered in the meet to attend or be represented at this meeting and to become acquainted with the changes, if any, and the decisions made at this meeting.

.2 Schedule

A Except as otherwise stated in the USA Swimming Policy Manual, a minimum of two (2) hours must elapse between the end of the last preliminary heat and the start of the first race in the finals on any one day, during which time the pool must be available for warm-up. Starting times for the preliminary and finals sessions shall be published in the meet information and reviewed at the general meeting. Starting times shall be as consistent as possible throughout the meet. At the general meeting a schedule shall be made available for the first day's competition, including starting times for the first race in each preliminary event and for each race in the finals. Each day a schedule shall be made available for the following day's competition including all the same information. No event shall start prior to the time established for that event or race.

B At the discretion of the Program Operations Vice President, the preliminary sessions may be conducted in two courses.
3 Warm-up Schedule — A schedule of lanes, times and warm-up procedures which must be adhered to shall be established and must be distributed during the general meeting.

4 Eligibility Protests

A An Eligibility Jury composed of three persons in attendance at each National Championship shall be appointed by the Program Operations Vice President 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 an athlete, a coach and an official.

B All protests made prior to or during the championship shall be submitted to the Eligibility Jury on a form prescribed by USA Swimming and accompanied by a $50 fee, which shall be returned if the protest is upheld. The $50 fee shall not be required for protests submitted by the Registration Committee or LSC Registration Chairpersons.

C Protests shall be heard by the jury and, if possible, decisions rendered before the start of events on the day in which the protested swimmer competes, but no later than the last night of the championships. The opportunity to be heard shall be given to both the party lodging the protest and the party or parties charged.

D Until the Eligibility Jury renders a decision, the swimmer may compete under protest. An announcement to this effect shall be made prior to the race. The results of any race conducted under protest shall not be announced, nor prizes awarded, nor points scored until the jury has determined if and how their decision may affect the final scoring or awards.

E The decision of the jury may be appealed by either party to the National Board of Review, pursuant to Article 401. Protests submitted after the last day of the championships shall be submitted directly to the National Board of Review.

F Any such decision of the National Board of Review shall be published on the USA Swimming website.

5 Technical Rules Protests — Prior to the start of the meet the Program Operations Vice President or designee shall appoint a Technical Jury composed of at least one athlete 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 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.

The jury cannot adjudicate judgment decisions, which can only be considered by the Referee under Section 102.13.

6 Scratch Procedures

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

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, 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. 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 Scratching from finals:

(1) Any swimmer qualifying for a C, B or A (bonus and consolation final or) final race in an individual event who fails to compete in said final shall be barred from further competition for the remainder of the meet, except as noted in paragraph E. A declared false start under 101.1.3F or deliberate delay of meet under 101.1.5 is not permitted and will be regarded as a failure to compete.

(2) In the event of withdrawal or barring of a swimmer from competition the Referee shall fill the C, B, or A (bonus and consolation final or) final, when possible, with the next qualified swimmer(s). First and second alternates shall be announced along with the final qualifiers. These alternates shall not be penalized if unavailable to compete in the finals.

(3) Where C and B (bonus and consolation) finals have not been swum and a barring or withdrawal is known to the Referee, the Referee shall reseed the C, B and A (bonus final and consolation final and the) final, if necessary, to insert the alternate(s) in the appropriate lane(s), filling all lanes in the final.

(4) If the C and B (bonus and consolation) finals have already been contested, the (championship) final shall be swum without reseeding for the empty lane(s).

E Exceptions for Failure to compete — No penalty shall apply for failure to withdraw or compete in an individual event if:

(1) The Referee is notified in the event of illness or injury and accepts the proof thereof.

(2) A swimmer qualifying for a C, B or A (bonus or consolation final or) final race based upon the results of the preliminaries notifies the Referee within thirty (30) minutes after announcement of the qualifiers for that race that they may not intend to compete and further declares their final intentions within thirty (30) minutes following their last individual preliminary event.

(3) It is determined by the Referee that failure to compete is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the swimmer.

.7 Seeding

A Entrants in the 1000yd/800m and 1650yd/1500m freestyle must check in and confirm their intention to compete prior to the scratch deadline in order to be seeded. Seeded heat sheets shall be published at the conclusion of the finals the evening before, except that in the five-day format, seeded heat sheets for the 800m freestyle shall be published two hours prior to the scheduled starting time for that event.

B Seeding individual events when using non-conforming and bonus times shall be as follows:
(1) All conforming times will be arranged in time order.

(2) In a long course championship meet, non-conforming short course meter times will be arranged in time order followed by non-conforming yard times; in a short course meet, non-conforming long course times shall precede non-conforming short course times.

(3) Conforming bonus times, if permitted, will be arranged in time order after the times that meet the qualifying standards, in the precedence specified in (2) above.

(4) Non-conforming bonus times, if permitted, will be arranged in time order after the times that meet the qualifying standard and after conforming bonus times, in the precedence specified in (2) above.

(5) After arranging the times as provided above, the event will be seeded in normal fashion.

.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 Program Operations Vice President.

.9 **Scoring** — Except for Trials Class meets, scoring at the USA Swimming National Championships shall be mandatory.

A Foreign national teams entered in the National Championships will not be scored for team awards.

B Foreign swimmers may not score points for a USA Swimming team at the USA Swimming National Championships, but, subject to USA Swimming representation requirements, may represent that team and receive awards.

C Scoring at the USA Swimming National Championships will be on a sixteen (16) place basis. Individual events: 20, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Relay events receive double these point values.

D To be eligible for Combined Men's and Women's Team Awards, a team must have scored points in both the Men's Team and Women's Team Categories.

**207.13 AWARDS**

.1 **Team Awards**

Women's Team Champion *(high point women's team)*

Women's Team Runner-up Champion *(second highest)*

Women's Team Top Ten *(third through tenth)*

Men's Team Champion *(high point men's team)*

Men's Team Runner-up Champion *(second highest)*

Men's Team Top Ten *(third through tenth)*

Men's & Women's Team Champion *(high combined points)*
Men’s & Women’s Runner-up Team Champion (second highest)
Men’s & Women’s Combined Team Top 25 (third through twenty-fifth)

USA Swimming National Championship only:
William A. Lippman, Jr., USA Swimming—Combined Team Champion Cup (perpetual trophy)

.2 Individual and Relay Awards

A Medals shall be awarded to all place winners in the A (championship) final and to the top eight (8) place winners in timed final events of any USA Swimming championship.

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

C In each National Championship meet a championship gold medal and/or appropriate award shall be awarded to the man and woman swimmer scoring the greatest number of points in individual events.
APPENDIX 2-A

2008 CHAMPIONSHIP MEET SITES AND DATES

5K Open Water Nationals
May 30
Fort Myers, Florida

25K Open Water Nationals
June 3
Fort Myers, Florida

U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Swimming
June 29 – July 6
Omaha, Nebraska

U.S. Open (LCM)
July 29 – August 2
Minneapolis, Minnesota

10K Open Water Nationals
August 3
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Speedo Junior National Championships (LCM)
August 4-8
Minneapolis, Minnesota

ConocoPhillips Short Course National Championships (SCY)
December 4-6
Atlanta, Georgia
### 2008 Time Standards

#### 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials
**June 29 – July 6**
Omaha, Nebraska

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Qualifying period is April 1, 2005 through entry deadline
Qualifying times in Long Course Meters

#### 2008 U.S. Open
**July 29 – August 2**
Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Qualifying period is July 1, 2007 to entry deadline
The 2009 World Championship Trials and Short Course National Championships standards will be published after the April Steering meeting.
### 2008 SPEEDO JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (LCM)
August 4-8
Minneapolis, Minnesota


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Qualifying period is July 1, 2007 to entry deadline
The 2009 World Championship Trials and Short Course National Championships standards will be published after the April Steering meeting.
## APPENDIX 2-B

### 2007-2008 NATIONAL AGE GROUP RECOGNITION TIMES

#### GIRLS - LONG COURSE METERS

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### 2007-2008 NATIONAL AGE GROUP RECOGNITION TIMES

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## 2007-2008 National Age Group Recognition Times

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PART THREE
RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES,
CODE OF CONDUCT

ARTICLE 301
MEMBER RIGHTS

301.1 Except as provided in 301.2, no individual or organizational member of USA Swimming, nor any organization affiliated with USA Swimming, may deny or threaten to deny any eligible amateur swimmer, coach, trainer, manager, official or administrator the opportunity to participate in any international swimming competition approved by USA Swimming, if selected by USA Swimming or one of its members. In addition, except as provided in 301.2, no individual or organizational member of USA Swimming, nor any organization affiliated with USA Swimming, may censor or otherwise penalize subsequent to the event any swimmer, coach, trainer, manager, official or administrator for having participated in any such international swimming competition approved by USA Swimming.

301.2 An educational institution which a swimmer is attending at the time of such international competition may deny the swimmer the opportunity to participate only if said educational institution reasonably determines that such participation would either:

.1 Prevent the swimmer from meeting the academic requirements which are applicable to all students who participate in the swimmer’s particular course of study.

.2 Jeopardize the swimmer’s or the educational institution’s performance in the established program in the particular sport in which the swimmer competes, provided that the international competition occurs during the scheduled competitive season of the educational institution.

301.3 Any swimmer, coach, trainer, manager, official or administrator who alleges that he or she has been denied or is about to be denied, by a person or an organization affiliated with USA Swimming, a right as set forth in 301.1, shall immediately inform the Executive Director, who shall promptly cause an investigation to be made and steps to be taken to settle the controversy without unnecessary delay. Such steps shall include, but shall not be limited to, advising the Secretary General of the U.S. Olympic Committee, and submitting the matter to the American Arbitration Association for binding arbitration.

301.4 Whenever a swimmer, or party acting on his/her behalf, informs the Executive Director of an alleged violation of the swimmer’s right to participation as set forth in 301.1, the Executive Director shall review all the related evidence of the case and make a report, with a preliminary recommendation, to the National Board of Review within thirty (30) days, or sooner if the situation requires. The Board of Review shall review the case and the preliminary recommendation of the Executive Director and take whatever action it deems appropriate. Any of the parties involved in the action who are dissatisfied with the decision of the National Board of Review may appeal said decision under the provisions set forth in Article 408.
ARTICLE 302
ATHLETE REGISTRATION

302.1 REGISTRATION — All swimmers competing in events sanctioned by USA Swimming must be registered as athlete members of USA Swimming. Athlete members must meet the rules of eligibility contained in Article 303. No swimmer alleged to be ineligible shall be denied the right to register and compete without being afforded the opportunity to refute the allegations relating to his/her possible ineligibility, pursuant to Parts Four and/or Six.

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 card valid through December 31 of the following year.

.2 Outreach membership — Annual membership with specially-reduced fees.

.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 athlete must compete unattached. Single-meet membership is not valid for competition at or above the Zone Championship meet.

302.3 APPLICATION/RENEWAL — Athlete membership applications and payment as set forth in 502.5 shall be submitted to the Registration Chair of the LSC who, upon approval, shall issue a membership card. The Registration Chair may designate deputy registrars to accept applications on behalf of the chair and forward for approval.

302.4 FALSE REGISTRATION — A host LSC may impose a fine of up to $100.00 per event against a member coach or a member club submitting a meet entry which indicates a swimmer is registered with USA Swimming when that swimmer or the listed club is not properly registered. The host LSC will be entitled to any fines imposed.
ARTICLE 303
ELIGIBILITY

303.1 It shall be the responsibility of all USA Swimming members to comply with the rules and regulations of USA Swimming and the Rules, Constitution and Bureau decisions of FINA, as well as to avoid acting in any manner which brings disrepute upon USA Swimming or upon the sport of swimming.

303.2 Except as provided for in Section 203.9, only athlete members of USA Swimming are eligible to compete.

303.3 As a member National Governing Body of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), and as a member Federation of Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA), USA Swimming is obligated to adhere to the anti-doping rules of the USOC and FINA. In addition, USOC Bylaw Chapter XXIII, Section 2(G) provides that, as a condition of membership in the USOC, each National Governing body shall comply with the procedures pertaining to drug testing and adjudication of related doping offenses of the independent anti-doping organization designated by the USOC to conduct drug testing. The USOC has designated the United States Anti-Doping Agency (“USADA”) as that organization. The current anti-doping rules of the USOC, FINA and USADA are available at the offices of USA Swimming or online at the following websites:

- FINA  www.fina.org
- USOC  www.usoc.org
- USADA  www.usantidoping.org

As a condition of membership in USA Swimming, it is the responsibility of each athlete member of USA Swimming to comply with the anti-doping rules of the FINA, USOC and USADA and to submit, without reservation or condition, to in-competition and out-of-competition doping controls conducted by either the FINA or USADA. (Out-of-competition doping controls by USADA may take place at USA Swimming elite-level camps, training sessions at USOC facilities, or with no advance notice any time for athletes designated by USA Swimming and USADA for inclusion in USA Swimming’s no advance notice testing pool.)

Pursuant to USOC Bylaw Chapter XXIII, Section 2(G), the management of positive and elevated test results for USA Swimming athletes has become the responsibility of USADA. Any inconsistent provisions elsewhere in USA Swimming rules are hereby superseded. USA Swimming will, without further process, enforce and publish any sanction communicated to USA Swimming by USADA resulting from adjudication of a doping control under the USADA Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing.

303.4 A swimmer shall cease to be eligible to compete in events conducted by USA Swimming or its LSCs, or by any FINA Federation, while under suspension or if expelled by USA Swimming for violations of this Part Three.

303.5 A swimmer may be registered for USA Swimming and Masters Swimming at the same time. Membership in U.S. Masters Swimming does not imply or presume membership in USA Swimming.

303.6 A swimmer declared ineligible for any reason may be reinstated pursuant to the provisions of Article 404.
ARTICLE 304
CODE OF CONDUCT

304.1 The mission of USA Swimming is to encourage participation and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of swimming. USA Swimming grants the privilege of membership to individuals and organizations committed to that mission. The privilege of membership may, therefore, be withdrawn or denied by USA Swimming at any time where USA Swimming determines that a member or prospective member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of the organization or the best interest of the sport and those who participate in it.

In order to assist all members to better serve the interests of those who participate in swimming, USA Swimming has adopted this Code of Conduct.

304.2 Any member or prospective member of USA Swimming may be denied membership, censured, placed on probation, suspended for a definite or indefinite period of time with or without terms of probation, fined or expelled from USA Swimming if such member violates the provisions of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct, set forth in 304.3, or aids, abets or encourages another person to violate any of the provisions of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct.

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

.1 Violation of the right to compete provisions set forth in 301.1 through 301.4.

.2 Violation of the anti-doping provisions set forth in 303.3 or 303.4.

.3 Discrimination in violation of Part Five of the USA Swimming Corporate Bylaws or any other section of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, or in violation of Section 201(b)(6) of the Amateur Sports Act which requires that USA Swimming must provide: "an equal opportunity to amateur athletes; coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, or national origin*;"

.4 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, (ii) any offense involving use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances, or (iii) any crime involving sexual misconduct;

.5 Any sexual contact or advance or other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior or action directed towards an athlete by a coach, official, trainer, or other person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete;

.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;

.7 The use of illegal drugs in the presence of an athlete, by a coach, official, trainer of, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over, that athlete;

.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;

.9 The abuse of alcohol in the presence of an athlete under the age of 18, by a coach, official, trainer of, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete;
.10 Physical abuse of an athlete by any person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete;

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

.12 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;

.13 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 compete for or become a member of the swim club with which the acting party is affiliated, unless the acting party receives prior written approval to recruit or encourage the athlete from the coach 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.

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

.15 Any other act, conduct or omission not provided for in 304.3.1 through 304.3.11 above, which is detrimental to the image or reputation of USA Swimming, a LSC or the sport of swimming.
PART FOUR
HEARINGS AND APPEALS

ARTICLE 401
GENERAL

401.1 As hereinafter set forth, USA Swimming may censure, 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, member of any committee, or any person participating in any capacity whatsoever in the affairs of USA Swimming, 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 or upon the sport of swimming. USA Swimming may also conduct hearings on any matter affecting USA Swimming as the National Governing Body for swimming.

ARTICLE 402
NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

402.1 The Chairman of the National Board of Review shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Executive Committee. A committee, consisting of the President, the General Counsel and the Chairman of the National Board of Review shall appoint other members of the National Board of Review. The term of the Chairman shall be two years with no limit on the number of terms the Chairman may serve. Each case submitted to the National Board of Review shall be assigned by the Chairman of the National Board of Review to a panel of no less than three members, one of whom shall be an athlete representative, to hear and decide the case. The appointment of the members of each National Board of Review panel hearing a case shall be confirmed by the President and the General Counsel.

ARTICLE 403
JURISDICTION

403.1 JURISDICTION OF THE LSC – In matters involving a member or members of only one LSC, matters arising in regional or zone competition and any complaint alleging violations of Articles 304.3.11 through 304.3.15 inclusive of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct involving one or more members or prospective members of one LSC, and not brought by USA Swimming, shall be filed directly with the LSC. The procedures and rules to be followed for hearing shall be as set forth under the LSC Board of Review provisions in the LSC Bylaws. Any appeal of the LSC Board of Review’s decision shall be made to the National Board of Review pursuant to Article 407 hereof.
403.2 JURISDICTION OF USA SWIMMING

.1 Original and Exclusive Jurisdiction – The National Board of Review has original and exclusive jurisdiction to hear:

A Any complaint where athletes or other members of USA Swimming from more than one LSC are involved; or

B Any complaint involving athletes or other members during a national or international event; or

C Any complaint under Articles 304.3.1 through 304.3.10 against any member of USA Swimming, including any athlete, coach, manager, official, member of any committee, or any person participating in any capacity whatsoever in the affairs of USA Swimming; or

D Any complaint initiated by USA Swimming, which shall be prosecuted by and may be appealed by the Executive Director.

.2 Discretionary Jurisdiction

A Upon a majority vote of the USA Swimming Board of Directors or the USA Swimming Executive Committee, the USA Swimming National Board of Review may be assigned exclusive and immediate jurisdiction at any stage of any matter within the purview of this Article 403 when the best interests of USA Swimming will be served thereby, or when compliance with regular USA Swimming or LSC procedures would not be likely to produce a sufficiently early decision to do justice to the affected parties.

B If discretionary jurisdiction is so assigned, the National Board of Review shall comply in every instance with all requirements of procedural due process as set forth in these Rules and Regulations. The National Board of Review may set such procedural time limitations as it may deem necessary in order to reach a decision, which will do justice to the affected parties under particular circumstances.

C In all cases, where USA Swimming is not a party, the National Board of Review may assess fees and costs against any party.

ARTICLE 404

AUTHORITY OF THE BOARDS OF REVIEW

404.1 The LSC Board of Review shall have the authority set forth in the Bylaws of the LSC and the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

404.2 The National Board of Review shall have the authority to:

.1 Impose and enforce penalties for any violation of the rules and regulations, administrative or technical, of USA Swimming;

.2 Determine the eligibility and right to compete of any athlete;

.3 Vacate, modify, sustain, reverse or stay any decision or order properly submitted on appeal, or remand the matter for further action;
.4 Investigate any election impropriety or cause for removal of a national officer or national committee member and take corrective action;

.5 Interpret any provision of the rules and regulations of USA Swimming with the exception of the technical rules (Part One);

.6 Review any revocation, suspension, reinstatement of membership or challenge the granting or denial of membership;

.7 Issue such interim orders, prohibitory or mandatory in nature, as may be necessary pending a final decision of the Board; and

.8 Reinstate any athlete to amateur status. (Note: This relates only to USA Swimming domestic competition and NOT international competition. It must be read in light of current FINA rules on re-qualification.)

ARTICLE 405
PROCEDURES FOR FILING AND INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

405.1 FILING COMPLAINTS – All complaints under Article 403.2.1A through D above shall set forth the allegations and be filed with the Executive Director of USA Swimming, who shall promptly initiate an investigation of the matter as set forth below.

405.2 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

.1 In those matters occurring during the course of an international meet the Olympic International Operations Committee Coordinator 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 Vice President of Program Operations or his/her designee shall make the investigation and report;

.3 In those matters involving an alleged violation of Article 304.3.10 by a coach, a committee of three coaches appointed by the President of USA Swimming shall make the investigation and report;

.4 In all other matters the Executive Director or his/her designee shall make the investigation and report.

405.3 DISPOSITION OF INVESTIGATION - After the initial investigation is completed, the President of USA Swimming may decide to either (i) cause further investigation into the alleged violations to be conducted; (ii) seek to mediate the complaint; (iii) take interim action as set forth below. Either the President or Chairman of the National Board of Review may then decide to assign the matter to the National Board of Review for hearing or jointly decide to dismiss the complaint.

405.4 EMERGENCY HEARING - After the initial investigation, depending on the severity of the alleged misconduct, the President may order an emergency hearing before the National Board of Review to determine if the member should be suspended pending the outcome of a full hearing before the National Board of Review. If an emergency hearing is ordered, the National Board of Review shall conduct the hearing and publish its results within twenty-one (21) days. Until such time as the National Board of Review makes a decision all proceedings shall be confidential and not subject to disclosure to anyone other than the parties to the review and witnesses.
ARTICLE 406
HEARING PROCEDURE

406.1 NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

.1 Matters under original jurisdiction of the National Board of Review shall be instituted by a written complaint served upon the Executive Director. An investigation of the matter will be conducted in accordance with Article 405. If the results of the investigation warrant referring the case to a National Board of Review, the Executive Director shall send a copy of the written complaint together with the results of the investigation to the Chairman of the National Board of Review.

.2 The Chairman will set a hearing date, which shall be not less than fifty (50) nor more than seventy-five (75) calendar days from the date of mailing the Notice of Hearing. The Notice of Hearing will include:

A The name of the Respondent(s);
B A written statement of charges, which will be set forth in sufficient detail to give the Respondent(s) sufficient notice of the charges and the facts supporting the charges;
C The name of the Petitioner(s);
D The date the Response is due;
E The date, time and place of the hearing;
F The names of the members of the National Board of Review;
G The possible penalties;
H The right of appeal and the time limit to file for an appeal;
I Any other general information, including the right to be represented by counsel, to have witnesses testify, and to submit any and all evidence which is relevant to the issues.

.3 The Chairman will mail the Notice of Hearing, together with a copy of the written Complaint received by the Executive Director to the parties. The Respondent(s) shall have thirty (30) calendar days from the date of mailing to submit a written Response to the charges. The Response shall be mailed to the Chairman and the Petitioner(s).

.4 The Petitioner(s) shall have ten (10) calendar days from the date of mailing of the Response to submit a written Reply. The Reply shall be mailed to the Chairman and the Respondent(s).

.5 Upon showing of good cause, the Chairman may decrease or increase the time limits for any of the foregoing.

.6 Hearing

A For hearings conducted other than through the receipt of written statements, the National Board of Review shall cause a recording or transcription to be made of the proceedings.

B The hearing may proceed in the absence of any party who fails to be available at the appointed time and judgment shall not be reached merely because of the person’s absence. If the National Board of Review determines that the hearing cannot proceed
without the absent party, the National Board of Review may adjourn the hearing and reschedule it for such time as the absent party can be present.

C The hearing shall be opened by the recording of the place, time and date of the hearing, and the presence of the National Board of Review, parties, counsel, if any, and any other witnesses or observers.

D Each party may then present an opening statement setting forth generally the party’s view of the issues in dispute, the relief sought and what they hope to prove by the presentation of evidence.

E Petitioner may then present his/her claims, proofs, and witnesses, who shall be subject to cross-examination by the other party. Respondent may then present his/her claims, proofs, and witnesses, who shall also be subject to cross-examination by the other party.

F Petitioner may then be allowed an opportunity to rebut any testimony or evidence presented by the Respondent after the Respondent’s presentation.

G The National Board of Review may question any person at any time. The National Board of Review has the discretion to vary these procedures, but shall afford all parties a full and equal opportunity to present any material or relevant proofs.

H Upon the request of either party or the determination of the National Board of Review, the hearing may be closed.

.7 A decision may be rendered by the National Board of Review at the time of the hearing and reduced to writing within three (3) business days in which event a written decision will be mailed to the parties within five (5) business days after the hearing. Otherwise, the National Board of Review shall reach a decision as soon as administratively practicable (not more than 15 business days after the conclusion of the hearing) and shall mail the written decision within five (5) business days thereafter. The written decision shall set forth the right of appeal.

.8 The National Board of Review shall have the authority to stay the enforcement of its decision during the time allowed for appeal, with the decision going into effect automatically if no appeal is perfected during the allowable period.

.9 All mailing shall be by (a) United States certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested or (b) overnight express delivery.

ARTICLE 407

APPEAL

LSC BOARD OF REVIEW TO NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

407.1 PROCEDURE

.1 Every appeal to the National Board of Review shall be instituted by a Petition served upon the Executive Director and shall be accompanied by a $250 non-refundable filing fee payable to USA Swimming. The Petition on appeal shall set forth the grounds for appeal, citing factual and legal issues in as much detail as possible.
.2 The Executive Director shall send a copy of the Petition on appeal to the Respondent and Chairman of the National Board of Review immediately upon receipt. The Respondent shall within 30 days following receipt of the Petition file a written Response with the Executive Director, the Petitioner and the Chairman. The Petitioner may within 10 days following receipt of a copy of the Response file a written Reply. The written Response and written Reply shall be filed with the Executive Director, the opposing party(s) and the Chairman. The Chairman may decrease or increase the time limits for any of the foregoing upon request of either party and if circumstances should warrant it.

.3 A final and binding decision shall be rendered as soon as administratively practicable (not more than 15 business days) after the final hearing by a majority of the acting panel based on the record submitted on appeal and on evidence submitted at such hearing as may be required by the panel. A written decision shall be sent to all parties. The National Board of Review may, in cases where USA Swimming is not a party, assess costs against any party.

.4 Petitions once reviewed and decided shall not be reopened for consideration by the National Board of Review, except by direction of the Board of Directors of USA Swimming, or upon showing of sufficient cause to the Chairman of the National Board of Review.

.5 The President and the Chairman of the National Board of Review shall each have the power and authority, acting alone, to deny or reject an appeal when, in their respective judgment, the appeal is without merit or was not filed by a real party in interest.

.6 The appeal to the National Board of Review shall be on the basis of the record and written briefs filed with it, unless the National Board of Review shall at its discretion order a de novo hearing. In the event the National Board of Review orders a de novo hearing, the hearing procedure shall be as set forth in Article 406.

ARTICLE 408

APPEAL

NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

408.1 PROCEDURE

.1 Any real party in interest, including any officer of the Corporation or the Executive Director, may appeal any decision of the National Board of Review as follows:

A Matters heard by the National Board of Review pursuant to its original jurisdiction, heard de novo or heard pursuant to its discretionary jurisdiction, may be appealed to the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days of the date of the mailing of its written decision.

B Matters heard by the National Board of Review on appeal from an LSC Board of Review, other than any matter included in 408.1.1A, shall be heard only upon the granting of a petition from a real party in interest. Unless a majority of the President, General Counsel and the Athlete’s Vice President (or their respective designees) shall determine, based upon the record below, that an appeal will have sufficient merit and be of such general application as to justify an appeal to the Board of Directors, the petition shall be denied and the matter shall be final, with no further appeal allowed.
The Petition on appeal is to be served upon the Executive Director and shall be accompanied by a $250 filing fee payable to USA Swimming.

The Petition shall set forth the grounds for appeal, citing factual and legal issues in as much detail as possible.

Unless the Board of Directors by majority vote decides otherwise, the review by the Board of Directors shall be on the basis of the record and written briefs and shall not be a de novo hearing. The Board of Directors, or its authorized representative, may establish a hearing panel consisting of at least five members to hear any appeal, including appeals conducted as de novo hearings. The decision of the hearing panel shall be final with the same force and effect as if the full Board of Directors heard the matter.

USA Swimming Board of Directors may, in cases where USA Swimming is not a party, assess fees and costs against the losing party.

ARTICLE 409
FULL FAITH AND CREDIT

409.1 Final decisions rendered by any LSC shall, when applicable, be recognized and fully enforced in all other LSCs of USA Swimming.

ARTICLE 410
STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF NATIONAL BOARDS OF REVIEW AND APPELLATE BODIES

410.1 STANDARDS OF CONDUCT – Members of National Board of Review panels and Board of Directors appeals panels (collectively, “Review Members”) shall:

.1 Uphold the integrity and independence of the National Board of Review or Appellate Body;
.2 Avoid any impropriety or the appearance of impropriety in connection with service as a Review Member and swimming-related activities generally; and
.3 Perform the duties of a Review Member impartially and diligently.

410.2 GROUNDS FOR RECUSAL – Review Members shall recuse themselves from participating in any matter pending before the National Board of Review or Board of Directors:

.1 In which their impartiality might reasonably be questioned;
.2 Where they have a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party in the pending matter or have personal knowledge of disputed evidentiary facts concerning the pending matter (other than knowledge obtained as a Review Member or known generally to a substantial portion of the membership of USA Swimming);
.3 Where they or a member of their family are a party or are likely to be a material witness in the pending matter;
.4 Where they or a member of their family have an interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding; or
Where they or a member of their family have served or are serving as counsel in the pending matter or are members of a law firm that served or is serving as counsel in the pending matter.

RECUSAL BY MEMBER – Review Members shall recuse themselves as soon as they become aware of facts that give rise to the duty to do so by giving notice to the National Board of Review Chairman, or in the case of the Chairman, the General Counsel.

RECUSAL/DISQUALIFICATION REQUESTED BY PARTY – By written notice to the Presiding Officer of the review board panel or the National Board of Review Chairman, any party may request that a Review Member recuse himself or be disqualified from serving on the pending matter stating the reasons for recusal or disqualification with specificity. Such notice shall be given at least ten (10) Business Days prior to the scheduled date of the hearing on such matter or, if the party sustains the burden of proving good cause for the lateness of the notice, as soon as reasonably possible after discovery of the reason for the need for recusal. The named Review Member shall reach a decision on the matter and notify the National Board of Review Chairman or the General Counsel of that decision within five (5) Business Days of receipt of the party's notice. If the member's decision is not in favor of recusal, then the Chairman or the General Counsel may, if appropriate, disqualify the member from participating in the pending matter. If there is no disqualification, the hearing shall be conducted as scheduled and, if it is a hearing before the National Board of Review, the party giving the notice may appeal the disqualification decision, together with the hearing decision, pursuant to Article 408.

SUBSTITUTION FOR RECUSED OR DISQUALIFIED MEMBER – In the event of a recusal or a disqualification, a substitute Review Member shall be appointed in the same manner as the original Review Members were appointed.
PART FIVE
CORPORATE BYLAWS OF USA SWIMMING

ARTICLE 501
PREAMBLE

501.1 Description of Organization United States Swimming, Inc., a Colorado corporation, is the National Governing Body for swimming in the United States, and is referred to herein as USA Swimming. USA Swimming is responsible for the conduct and administration of swimming in the United States, and is affiliated with the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA), the international federation for aquatics, through United States Aquatic Sports, Inc. (USAS). As a member National Governing Body (NGB) of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), USA Swimming shall submit to binding arbitration conducted in accordance with the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association in any controversy involving its recognition as a National Governing Body, as provided for in Article VIII of the USOC Constitution, or involving the opportunity of any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official to participate in international amateur competition, as provided for in Article IX of the USOC Constitution.

501.2 Open Meetings All meetings of USA Swimming, its LSCs, divisions and committees, shall be open to all members of USA Swimming, except in those situations where by majority vote of the meeting body it would be in the best interests of USA Swimming to hold closed session (e.g., those relating to personnel or legal matters).

501.3 Eligibility No conditions or restrictions to eligibility for participation in open competitive events may be imposed unless otherwise set forth in these Rules and Regulations. It is the intent and purpose of USA Swimming to provide an equal opportunity to eligible athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in athletic competition within its jurisdiction, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, disability, or national origin.

501.4 Robert's Rules of Order At all meetings of USA Swimming, its LSCs, divisions and committees, Robert's Rules of Order shall be the governing procedural rules, unless otherwise modified in these Bylaws or by policy adopted by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors. See Appendix 5-A for the USA Swimming Table of Organization.

ARTICLE 502
MEMBERSHIP

502.1 Classes of Membership The membership of USA Swimming shall consist of two classes: group members, including clubs, seasonal clubs and other organizations interested in competitive swimming; and individual members, including athletes and non-athletes.
502.2  Group Membership

.1 Club Membership
   A Club membership is for a calendar year. A club applying for membership on or after September 1 will receive membership valid through December 31 of the following year.
   B An LSC may provide for a seasonal club membership for the period established by the LSC pursuant to Article 302.2.3. Seasonal clubs may not compete at or above the Zone Championship level.

.2 Organizational Membership
   A The Board of Directors may establish classes of organizational membership.
   B Any organization which is interested in competitive swimming, on either the national, state, or local level, may join USA Swimming.

502.3  Individual Membership

.1 Any individual may join USA Swimming as a member.

.2 Athlete members who register with an LSC and USA Swimming are eligible for swimming competition. An athlete member shall not be registered in more than one LSC simultaneously.

.3 Non-athlete membership consists of three classes: individual, family, and life.

.4 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 credentials through the following year.

502.4  Privileges and Responsibilities of Membership

.1 All members of the House of Delegates or Board of Directors and all members of any committee, sub-committee, or division of USA Swimming, appointed or elected, must hold an individual membership pursuant to the provisions of this Article, unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors.

.2 All clubs, including seasonal clubs, shall ensure that all athletes and coaches participating in USA Swimming sanctioned competition are members of their LSC and USA Swimming.

.3 All coaches of USA Swimming clubs, including seasonal clubs, shall join USA Swimming as coach members and shall satisfactorily complete safety training and background screening required by USA Swimming.

.4 The coach of record for a USA Swimming member club must be at least 18 years of age.

.5 All coaches of USA Swimming clubs, including seasonal clubs, who register for the first time as a coach member, shall complete coaches education required by USA Swimming prior to receiving their coach membership for the second year.

.6 Only members of USA Swimming are eligible to receive credentials at National Championships.
All clubs which register for the first time as a year-round club member shall comply with the New Club Membership Requirements established by USA Swimming.

### 502.5 Fees

.1 The annual fee for each class of membership is composed of the following elements:
   - 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.

.2 An LSC may charge a fee for transfers.

### 502.6 Delinquent Dues and Fees

If any member or the legal representative of any member has secured a court judgment against any other member for non-payment of financial obligations due such member in the normal and usual course of activities or business associated with membership in and of swimming, that member’s membership rights may be suspended only after a hearing before the LSC Board of Review until the judgment is satisfied.

### 502.7 Conflict of Interest

Conflict of interest and ethical practices of USA Swimming shall be as follows:

.1 If any officer, or 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 Each Officer, member 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.

### Article 503

#### Officers

503.1 Officers All USA Swimming officers, except the Secretary, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. The elected officers shall be President, Treasurer, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Program Development, Vice President of Program Operations, Technical Vice President and Athletes Vice President.

.1 The Athletes Vice President shall be elected by and from the Athletes Committee members of the House of Delegates.

503.2 Vice Presidents

.1 The vice presidents 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.

.2 Whenever the President is unable to perform his/her duties, the Vice President of Administration shall perform the duties.

.3 The Technical Vice President must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a coach at a Junior, Sectional, or National Championships.

503.3 Treasurer The Treasurer shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the Board of Directors; those specified in the USA Swimming Policy Manual or specifically set forth in Article 508.2 of these Bylaws.

503.4 Secretary The Secretary of USA Swimming shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Secretary shall perform such duties as is customary for such office, and, in addition, shall be responsible for the legal affairs of USA Swimming under the direction of the Board. The Secretary shall have voice but no vote in any of the affairs of USA Swimming.

503.5 Duties of Officers The officers 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.

503.6 Term of Office The elected officers shall hold office for two years or until their successors are elected and qualified. Their term of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are elected. Each officer is eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms. An individual may hold only one elective office at any one time. No person so elected for successive terms is eligible for re-election to the same office until after the lapse of two years following the terms of office to which that person was last elected (portions of those terms served to fill a vacancy in the office shall not be considered in the computation of time for this purpose).

503.7 Vacancies Any vacancy that may occur in an office of USA Swimming caused by death, resignation, incapacity or other reason, may be filled permanently or temporarily by the President with the consent of the Executive Committee to fill out the unexpired term of a permanent vacancy or until the individual is able to resume the duties of the office in the event of a temporary vacancy. An appointment to fill a permanent or temporary vacancy shall be with the full rights of the office.

ARTICLE 504
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

504.1 General Membership Eight (8) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA Swimming and the Secretary (appointed by the Board). Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the House of Delegates, representing LSCs within each of the four zones. The Chairman of the Olympic International Operations Committee shall also be a member.

504.2 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:
Both coach and non-coach Zone Directors will be elected by the members present (with each LSC entitled to three votes) at their Zone meeting in the appropriate year.

No director elected to two successive terms is eligible for re-election to that office until after a lapse of two years.

For the purposes of casting its three votes, an LSC may send one or more delegates to the Zone meeting.

The election of zone members to the Board of Directors shall be based upon the zones in which the proposed Directors maintain their residency.

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 amateur 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 President and the Athletes Executive 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.

Any organization which is a member of USA Swimming pursuant to 502.2, and which conducts, on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of swimmers to represent the United States in international amateur swimming competition, a national program or regular national amateur athletic competition, and ensures that such representation shall reflect the nature, scope, quality and strength of the programs and competitions of such amateur 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.

The immediate Past President 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.

Directors shall hold office for two 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 504.2.

Any vacancy that may occur on the Board of Directors caused by death, resignation, incapacity or other reason may be filled permanently or temporarily by a majority vote of
the remaining 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.

504.8 Authority 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 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 Safety Education 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 President 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.

504.9 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 President, or any three officers, 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.

.1 The presence of a majority of the 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.

.2 A summary of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors as approved by the Executive Director and the President shall be distributed to the membership within one month of each meeting. Distribution shall be accomplished using the USA Swimming website.

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 It shall consist of the officers of USA Swimming and one additional athlete member from the Board of Directors to be selected by the Athletes Committee, acting with 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 President 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.

ARTICLE 506
COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

506.1 Committees and Coordinators
.1 Standing committees of USA Swimming 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 Committee members shall serve four year terms;
   B Committee members' terms shall be staggered so that one-fourth of all non-athlete members are appointed each year by the President following the annual meeting of the corporation;
   C Committees shall consist of volunteer members of USA Swimming who are not voting members of the Board of Directors. The President may appoint voting members of the Board of Directors as Ex-Officio, non-voting members of committees that are normally appointed by the President. Athlete members and non-voting members of the Board of Directors shall be exempt from this rule.
      (1) Committees that shall not be affected by this limitation are the Olympic International Operations Committee and any Athletes Committees.
   D 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 President, in consultation with the Committee Chair, shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term.
   E Committee members shall be subject to removal prior to the expiration of a term only by the Board of Directors;
   F 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 amateur swimming within ten (10) years preceding his/her appointment.
   G An appointed 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 President shall appoint all committee chairmen for one year terms.
.4 The Board of Directors may establish special committees and coordinators to satisfy pro-
gramming needs. Committee and coordinator details shall be outlined in the USA Swimming Policy Manual.

.5 The following shall be responsible to the President: Governance Committee.

.6 The following shall be responsible to the Administration Vice President: Rules & Regulations and Credentials/Elections.

.7 The following shall be responsible to the Technical Vice President: Olympic International Operations Committee, Senior Development Committee, Steering Committee, and Age Group Development Committee.

.8 The following shall be responsible to the Athletes’ Executive Vice President: Athletes

.9 The following shall be responsible to the Treasurer: Investment and Audit Committees.

.10 The following shall be responsible to the Secretary: Chairman, National Board of Review

.11 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.

.12 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 selected pursuant to Articles 506.2.3 and 507.1. The Athletes Vice President shall chair this committee.

.2 Members of the Athletes Committee must be current athlete members of USA Swimming and must have:

A Competed at a USA Swimming sanctioned event while 18 years of age or younger within the past ten (10) years; or

B Competed at any USA Swimming championship meet defined in Article 207 within the past ten (10) years; or

C Represented USA Swimming in competition at any of following meets within the past ten (10) years: Olympics, World Championships, Short Course World Championships, World University Games, Pan Pacific Championships, or Pan American Championships.

.3 Athletes Executive Committee The Athletes Executive Committee (AEC) shall be a 12-person subcommittee of the Athletes Committee and is charged with leading the business of the Athletes Committee. The AEC shall be chaired by the Athletes Vice President, and is composed of the following additional members:

A Six (6) vice chairs elected by the Athletes Committee each to a two-year term, but no more than two consecutive terms, in even-numbered years (Executive, Financial, National Operations, Education/Development, LSC Coordinator and Administrative);

B A National Team Vice Chair elected by the Athletes Committee the year of the Summer Olympics to a four-year term;

C The USOC Athletes Advisory Council representative for USA Swimming;

D The immediate past-Athletes Vice President; and
E Two (2) at-large appointees elected by the AEC.

.4 If a member of the Athletes Executive Committee cannot fulfill the requirements of his/her position, including attendance at the annual meeting, an alternate shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term, pursuant to procedures established by the Athletes Committee.

.5 The Athletes Vice President shall appoint representatives to serve terms on each committee of USA Swimming except Athletes, Athletes Executive, Investment, Olympic International Operations, and Counselors committees.

.6 Whenever, under these Bylaws, the Athletes Executive Committee is empowered to elect or appoint one or more representatives, the Athletes Committee shall establish written criteria for eligibility for such representation, unless such criteria is otherwise set forth in the Rules and Regulations. The Athletes Committee may establish written criteria for the internal governance of the committee. Such criteria so established shall be published in the Athletes Committee Manual included in the USA Swimming Policy Manual.

506.3 Olympic International Operations Committee

.1 The Olympic International Operations Committee shall be formed at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates in the year preceding the Olympic Games and the terms of the newly elected members shall commence on the day following the conclusion of the Olympic Games and end the last day of the next Olympic Games.

.2 There shall be a maximum number of fifty (50) members in the Committee elected or selected as follows:

A Athlete members shall be elected by the Athletes Committee in such numbers as to constitute twenty percent (20%) of the Committee and presented to the House of Delegates for approval;

B The Board of Directors in its sole discretion may invite those organizations which directly or indirectly provide potential members of the Olympic Swimming Team to appoint members to the Committee, the number representing Allied members to be determined by the Board. Such organizations must have joined USA Swimming as organizational members pursuant to 502.2;

C The President of USA Swimming, the Program Operations Vice President, the Technical Vice President and the Steering Committee shall be members of the Committee;

D That number of members necessary to bring the Committee membership to a total of fifty (50) shall be elected by the House of Delegates.

.3 Organizations entitled to appoint members to the Committee shall submit the names of their appointees in writing to the national office at least thirty (30) days prior to the first official meeting of the quadrennium at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates in which elections to the Committee are held. A written list of those appointees approved by the Board of Directors shall be distributed to the appointing organizations and to the House of Delegates no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to that session of the House of Delegates in which the elections are held.

.4 The Committee is responsible for all international competition by USA Swimming. It shall develop and administer all international competition for the National Teams and shall monitor all other international programs for National Teams. It shall select swimmers and staff of

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all National Junior, National Senior, and National Open Water Teams; arrange for and conduct developmental programs to aid National Teams; arrange for and conduct training camps; approve foreign invitations; develop schedules for foreign competition; and develop a budget.

506.4 Rules & Regulations Committee

.1 The Rules & Regulations Committee shall consist of the following:

A The Officials Committee Chairman, the Chairman of the NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming Committee, the Chairman of the High School Swimming (NFHS) Rules Committee, the Technical Vice President, the Program Operations Vice President, the immediate past Chair of the Rules and 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;

B A sufficient number of active athletes appointed by the Athletes Committee so as to constitute twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee;

C A representative, or his/her designee, from each Allied member, 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;

D Eight (8) members appointed by the President, none of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors, and at least three of whom shall be coaches; and

E The Executive Director, the Secretary/General Counsel of the Corporation, and others appointed by the Rules & Regulations Committee Chairman, as ex-officio members with voice but no vote.

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

.3 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.

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

506.5 Investment Committee

.1 There shall be an Investment Committee of five (5) persons. Two (2) of the members shall be the President and Treasurer. The remaining three (3) members shall be appointed jointly by the President and Treasurer 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 chairman by the President and Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Directors. At least one (1) of the appointed members shall be an athlete.

506.6 Governance Committee

.1 Membership: The Governance Committee shall consist of eight members appointed by the
President, sufficient athlete appointments to constitute at least 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 of such members are appointed each year.

.3 Responsibility: The Governance Committee shall:
A Be responsible for the review of governance practices by the Board of Directors, the House of Delegates and the various committees;
B Review compliance with the Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act and the U.S. Olympic Committee Constitution and Bylaws; and
C Be available for mentoring and consulting to the Board of Directors and the committees on the responsibilities and accountabilities of membership on those groups.

506.7 Audit Committee
.1 Membership: The Audit Committee shall consist of five members appointed by the President, as follows: an Executive Committee member, a 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.

.2 Each member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth of the members are appointed each year.

.3 Responsibility: The Audit Committee shall be responsible for:
A Reviewing and accepting the annual audited statements, accompanying opinion letter, and management letter;
B Making a recommendation for acceptance to the Board of Directors; and
C Evaluating the internal controls of the corporation.

506.8 Credentials/Elections Committee
.1 Membership: The Credentials/Elections Committee shall consist of twelve (12) non-athlete members appointed by the President and a sufficient number of athlete members as to constitute at least 20% of the voting membership.

.2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term.

.3 Responsibility: The Credentials/Elections Committee shall certify delegates at the annual meeting of the corporation, supervise elections held at the annual meeting, and certify results of elections held at the annual meeting.

506.9 Steering Committee
.1 Membership: The Steering Committee shall consist of:
A Eight (8) coaches selected by the National Team Head Coach/General Manager;
B Two athletes selected by the Athletes Committee, one female/one male, both former USA Olympic Team members; and
C The National Team Head Coach/General Manager, the OIOC Coordinator, the Technical Vice-President, the Chair of the Senior Development Committee, and the Chair of the Sports Medicine Committee who shall all be ex-officio members of the Committee with voice but no vote.

.2 Term: Members of the Steering Committee shall serve a term commencing with appointment or election and extend until the last day of the next Olympic Games.

.3 Responsibility: The Steering Committee shall operate under the direction of the National Team Head Coach/General Manager 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.

.4 Operation: The Steering Committee shall operate according to policies adopted and published in the OIOC Policy Manual.

506.10 Senior Development Committee

.1 The Senior Development Committee shall consist of ten members appointed by the President, at least five of whom shall be coaches and two of whom shall be athletes.

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

.3 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 Age Group to National Team.

506.11 Age Group Development Committee

.1 The Age Group Development Committee shall consist of ten members appointed by the President, with at least one representative from each Zone. At least five of the members shall be coaches and two shall be athletes.

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

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

ARTICLE 507
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

507.1 Organization

.1 All USA Swimming officers and all voting members of the Board of Directors, the Olympic International Operations 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 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.

.2 Ten athlete representatives, five (5) per year and each serving a two (2) year term, elected by those athletes competing at the USA Swimming SCY National Championships shall be
members of the House of Delegates. The athlete representatives and their alternates must
at the time of their election be engaged in amateur senior swimming, or have competed in
senior National Championships within five (5) years preceding their election. The President
may appoint, from a slate of nominees submitted by the Athletes Committee, such further
members so as to bring the total athlete representation in the House of Delegates to twenty
percent (20%).

.3 The following from each LSC shall be members of the USA Swimming House of Delegates:
the chairman of its Administrative, Senior, and Age Group divisions; the athletes’ repre-
sentative to the LSC; the coaches’ representative to the LSC; and its General Chair. An alternate
for each of the delegates may also be elected. Information that may be of assistance to
the House of Delegates at its next meeting shall be provided in a conspicuous place on the
website.

.4 Any organization, as set forth in Article 502.2.2, which conducts a program in competitive
swimming, or which is composed of persons joined together in support of swimming or some
aspect of it, may make application for membership to USA Swimming. The Board of Direc-
tors or its designee shall determine whether an organization meets the criteria set forth in
this Article and may recommend ratification of membership by the House of Delegates.
Additionally, if the organization is national in character, the Board of Directors or its designee
may recommend to the House of Delegates that the organization be allowed to appoint a
maximum of five members to the House of Delegates.

.5 The United States delegates to, and swimming technical committee members of, the Feder-
ation Internationale de Natation Amateur and the Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas
shall automatically be members of the House of Delegates.

.6 Each of the Armed Forces may appoint one member, provided it is actively engaged in
senior swimming activity.

.7 The President shall be empowered to appoint up to ten percent (10%) of the total member-
ship as members of the House of Delegates. One fourth (1/4th) of all those appointed shall
be appointed in equal numbers from members, other than athletes, of the five (5) LSCs hav-
ing the largest number of registered athletes as of the September 1 of the prior calendar
year.

.8 All members of the House of Delegates shall serve until their successors are selected,
except that membership may be terminated by resignation filed with the Secretary. All LSC
members must be elected on or before July 1st of each year and written certification thereof
must be sent to the Secretary on or before July 15th. No substitution of a member may be
made unless written certification thereof is given to the convention credentials committee
chairman on or before the House of Delegates is called to order.

507.2 Meetings

.1 The annual meeting of the House of Delegates shall be held at any date, time, and place, as
may be fixed in the notice of such meeting.

.2 Special meetings of the House of Delegates may be held at any time, pursuant to a resolu-
tion of either the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

.3 A written notice of all meetings of the House of Delegates, stating the time and place
thereof, shall be given to each member by mailing it to each member’s last known address
at least thirty (30) days before the meeting; a written notice of any special meeting of mem-

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bers, stating the time, place and the objectives thereof, shall be mailed to each member at least fifteen (15) days before the meeting; such notice may be waived in writing by any member at any meeting before or after such meeting. The attendance of a member at any meeting without protesting the lack of notice prior to or at the commencement of the meeting shall be deemed a waiver of notice.

.4 The presence of those duly registered and eligible to vote at any meeting of the House of Delegates shall constitute a quorum.

.5 Each member shall have one vote on each matter submitted to the House of Delegates. There shall be no voting by proxy. At all meetings of the House of Delegates only those members duly certified and present shall be permitted to vote.

.6 The numerical outcome of each balloted vote shall be available to the candidates upon request.

.7 Meetings of the divisions listed in Article 507.1.1 shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the House of Delegates and at such other times as the vice presidents of the respective divisions determine. The notice of provisions of Article 507.2.3 are applicable to meetings of the divisions. Members of the House of Delegates shall be deemed to be members of any Operations Committee, except the Olympic International Operations Committee.

.8 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 the division Vice President or committee chairman, 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.

.9 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 510.

ARTICLE 508
FINANCIAL

508.1 Fiscal Year The Corporation shall have a fiscal period for tax and accounting purposes commencing on the first day of January in each year.

508.2 General Financial Procedures The Treasurer shall supervise the preparation of the USA Swimming annual budget by the Executive Director and staff and shall be responsible for presenting such budgets to the Board of Directors for approval and to the House of Delegates for adoption at the USA Swimming annual meeting. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual financial report to be presented to the House of Delegates at the annual meeting. If requested by the USA Swimming Board of Directors or auditors, the Treasurer and the USA Swimming Managing Direc-

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tor of Financial Affairs 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 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 deem appropriate. The rules governing their respective operations shall be set forth in the USA Swimming Policy Manual. The fund previously established under these Bylaws, and known as the “USA Swimming Athlete Assistance Fund” shall continue. The “USA Swimming Athlete Assistance Fund” shall provide assistance and/or recognition to USA Swimming athletes who show potential for international swimming competition.

ARTICLE 509
LSC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

509.1 LSC Model By-Laws: Each LSC, in accordance with its By-Laws, which are based on the “LSC Model By-Laws”, adopted and amended from time to time by the USA Swimming of House of Delegates, shall meet the reporting requirements to USA Swimming contained within the “LSC Model By-Laws”, including, but not limited to a copy of (1) the annual closing Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expense and (2) the corresponding federal income tax return (Form 990). The Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expense shall be audited or reviewed by an outside auditor or the LSC Finance Committee.

509.2 Financial Requirements: Annually, a copy of the financial reports listed above shall be forwarded to USA Swimming headquarters within five (5) months after the close of the fiscal year for the LSC. Upon submission of a request to extend the time to file its federal income tax return, an LSC may be granted additional time to meet its financial reporting requirements to USA Swimming equal to the extension period (typically three months), provided that the LSC submit a copy of the request for extension with the IRS to USA Swimming at the time the extension is filed and the IRS grants such an extension.

509.3 Suspension of LSC Voting: Should an LSC not be current, including extensions, with its financial reporting requirements to USA Swimming as of 45 days prior to the annual meeting of the USA Swimming House of Delegates, the Board of Directors may, with written notice, suspend
the LSC from voting at the House of Delegates meeting, said suspension of votes applying only to the LSC positions entitled to vote in the House of Delegates, excluding any at-large members of the LSC.

ARTICLE 510
INDEMNIFICATION

510.1 Indemnification Each person who is or was a director, officer, or employee of USA Swimming (including the heirs, executors, administrators or estate of such person) shall be indemnified by USA Swimming to the full extent permitted by the Non-profit Corporation Law of the State of Colorado, or of any state in which the act or omission indemnified against occurred, against any liability, cost or expense incurred by him/her in his/her capacity as director, officer, or employee, or arising out of his/her status as a director, officer, or employee (including serving at the request of USA Swimming as a director, trustee, officer, employee or agent of another corporation).

510.2 Insurance USA Swimming may maintain insurance, at its expense, to protect itself and any such person against any such liability, cost or expense. For the purpose of this Article 509, references to “USA Swimming” include all constituents absorbed in a consolidation or merger as well as the resulting or surviving corporation.

510.3 LSC Requirements: The Board of Directors may set certain requirements, including the adoption of financial controls. Any such requirements shall be published in the minutes and communicated to all LSCs via mail or e-mail. Failure to adopt such requirements may result in a penalty to the LSC.

ARTICLE 511
AMENDMENTS

511.1 Authority to Amend and Majority Required The Rules and Regulations may be altered, amended or repealed at an annual meeting of the USA Swimming House of Delegates as follows, except that the Rules & Regulations Committee may alter, amend or repeal any portion of Part One at any time to conform to the rules of the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA):

.1 Parts One, Two, Three, Four, Six and Seven: by a majority of the House members present and voting.

.2 Part Five: by two-thirds (2/3) of the House members present and voting.

Note: See 511.5 for late submitted legislation.

511.2 Amendments Proposed

.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 chairman 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 510.5). 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.

511.6 Effective Date All amendments to Part One of these Rules and Regulations approved as prescribed shall become effective on May 15 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 512
DISSOLUTION

512.1 Dissolution If deemed advisable by the members, USA Swimming may be dissolved pursuant to the applicable provisions of the corporation laws of the State of Colorado.

512.2 Distribution of Assets Upon the dissolution of USA Swimming, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of USA Swimming, dispose of all the assets of USA Swimming exclusively for the purposes of USA Swimming or to such organization or organizations as shall qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
USA SWIMMING TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

USA Swimming’s Standing Committees and Coordinators —

* denotes an elective office;
# denotes elected by Olympic International Operations Committee;
double lined box denotes Executive Committee members
PART SIX

BYLAWS

OF THE LOCAL SWIMMING COMMITTEE

The USA Swimming House of Delegates has approved a model set of LSC Bylaws, which each LSC, within the flexibility granted in these Bylaws, is required to adopt. The USA Swimming House of Delegates retains its authority over these Bylaws, including, in accordance with Article 510, the right to amend.

The model LSC Bylaws are available from the USA Swimming National Office. Bylaws of individual LSCs are available directly from the LSC or the USA Swimming National Office.

Note: It is intended that the LSC shall continue to have the status of an organization which is exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and to which contributions, bequests and gifts are deductible for federal income, estate and gift tax purposes under sections 170(c)(2), 2055(a)(2) and 2522(a)(2) thereof, respectively. The Bylaws shall be construed and all powers and activities of the LSC shall be limited accordingly. Notwithstanding any provision of these Bylaws, the LSC shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization having such status. If incorporated, the Articles of Incorporation of the LSC shall also effect the purposes of this clause.

APPENDIX 6-A

LSC REGISTRATION CODES

| AD | Adirondack       | LE | Lake Erie       | OR | Oregon |
| AK | Alaska           | ME | Maine           | OZ | Ozark  |
| AM | Allegheny Mountain | MD | Maryland       | PC | Pacific |
| AZ | Arizona          | MR | Metropolitan    | PN | Pacific Northwest |
| AR | Arkansas         | MI | Michigan        | PV | Potomac Valley |
| BD | Border           | MA | Middle Atlantic | SI | San Diego-Imperial |
| CC | Central California | MW | Midwestern     | SN | Sierra Nevada |
| CO | Colorado         | MN | Minnesota       | SR | Snake River |
| CT | Connecticut      | MS | Mississippi     | SC | South Carolina |
| FL | Florida          | MV | Missouri Valley | SD | South Dakota |
| FG | Fl. Gold Coast   | MT | Montana         | ST | South Texas |
| GA | Georgia          | NE | New England     | SE | Southeastern |
| GU | Gulf             | NJ | New Jersey      | CA | Southern California |
| HI | Hawaiian         | NM | New Mexico      | UT | Utah |
| IL | Illinois         | NI | Niagara         | VA | Virginia |
| IN | Indiana          | NC | North Carolina  | WT | West Texas |
| IE | Inland Empire    | ND | North Dakota    | WV | West Virginia |
| IA | Iowa             | NT | North Texas     | WI | Wisconsin |
| KY | Kentucky         | OH | Ohio            | WY | Wyoming |
| LA | Louisiana        | OK | Oklahoma        |     |        |
APPENDIX 6-B

ZONE ALIGNMENT


Southern Zone — Border, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Gulf, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Texas, South Carolina, South Texas, Southeastern, West Texas, West Virginia.

Central Zone — Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Lake Erie, Michigan, Midwestern, Minnesota, Missouri Valley, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Ozark, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

Western Zone — Alaska, Arizona, Central California, Colorado, Hawaiian, Inland Empire, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Pacific, Pacific Northwest, San Diego-Imperial, Sierra Nevada, Snake River, Southern California, Utah, Wyoming.

Zone Administration — The Zone Age Group Junior Olympic Championship Meet shall be conducted and administered by the Zone Championship Committee. (See USA Swimming Policies and Procedures for Zone Committee.)

APPENDIX 6-C

REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

In order to reduce the travel distances for athletes and to provide equitable quality competition the LSCs may make arrangements to compete on a regional basis as follows:

Region 1 Adirondack, Connecticut, Maine, Metropolitan, New England, New Jersey, Niagara
Region 2 Allegheny Mountain, Maryland, Middle Atlantic, Potomac Valley, Virginia
Region 3 Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Southeastern
Region 4 Florida, Florida Gold Coast
Region 5 Hawaiian
Region 6 Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Lake Erie, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia
Region 7 Iowa, Midwestern, Minnesota, Wisconsin
Region 8 Arkansas, Missouri Valley, Oklahoma, Ozark
Region 9 Gulf, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Texas, South Texas, West Texas
Region 10 Arizona, Border, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah
Region 11 North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
Region 12 Inland Empire, Montana, Oregon, Pacific Northwest, Snake River
Region 13 Central California, Pacific, San Diego-Imperial, Sierra Nevada, Southern California
Region 14 Alaska
APPENDIX 6-D

DESCRIPTION OF LSC BOUNDARIES

ADIRONDACK — That portion of New York State east of the counties of Oswego, Onondaga, Cortland and Broome; and north of the counties of Sullivan, Orange and Dutchess.

ALASKA — State of Alaska.

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN — That portion of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania west of the counties of Potter, Clinton, Centre, Huntingdon and Bedford; the counties of Hancock, Brook, Ohio and Marshall in the State of West Virginia; and the counties of Columbiana, Jefferson and Belmont in the State of Ohio.

ARKANSAS — State of Arkansas, and Bowie County, Texas.

ARIZONA — State of Arizona.

BORDER — In the State of Texas, the counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, Presidio, Brewster, Terrell and Crockett.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA — In the State of California, the counties of Merced, Mariposa, Mono, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Kern and Inyo; excluding the City of Bishop and the community of Mammoth Lakes.

COLORADO — State of Colorado.

CONNECTICUT — State of Connecticut.

FLORIDA — That portion of the State of Florida east of the Apalachicola River and including Gulf County, except for the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and the part of Hendry east of Route 833.

FLORIDA GOLD COAST — In the State of Florida, the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and the part of Hendry east of Route 833.

GEORGIA — State of Georgia, and Chambers and Russell counties in the State of Alabama.

GULF — That portion of the State of Texas bounded on the north by and including the counties of Shelby, Nacogdoches, Angelina, Houston, Leon and Robertson; and on the west by and including the counties of Brazos, Grimes, Waller, Fort Bend, Wharton, Colorado and Matagorda.

HAWAIIAN — State of Hawaii.

ILLINOIS — State of Illinois, except the counties of Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, Jackson and Vermilion.

INDIANA — State of Indiana, except Floyd and Clark counties, and including Vermilion County, Illinois.

INLAND EMPIRE — That portion of the State of Idaho north of and including Idaho County; and that portion of the State of Washington east of and including the counties of Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas, Yakima, and the part of Klickitat east of Highway 97 and including the City of Goldendale.

KENTUCKY — Commonwealth of Kentucky except the counties of Campbell, Kenton and Boone; and including Floyd and Clark counties in the State of Indiana.

LAKE ERIE — In the State of Ohio, the counties of Seneca, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Wayne, Summit, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Tuscarawas, Ashtabula, Trumbull and Mahoning.

LOUISIANA — State of Louisiana.

MAINE — State of Maine.

MARYLAND — State of Maryland, except Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

METROPOLITAN — That portion of New York State south of and including the counties of Sullivan, Orange and Dutchess.

MICHIGAN — State of Michigan.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC — That portion of the State of New Jersey south of Mercer and Monmouth counties; the State of Delaware; and that portion of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania east of and including the counties of Potter, Clinton, Centre, Huntingdon and Bedford.

MIDWESTERN — State of Nebraska except the counties of Sioux, Scotts Bluff, Banner, Kimball, Dawes, Box Butte, Morrill, Cheyenne, Sheridan, Garden and Deuel; and including the counties of Lyon, Osceola, Sioux, O'Fallon, Plymouth, Cherokee, Woodbury, Ida, Monona, Crawford, Harrison, Shelby, Pottawattamie, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont and Page in the State of Iowa.

MINNESOTA — State of Minnesota, except for Polk and Pennington counties; and including the counties of St. Croix, Dunn and Pierce in the State of Wisconsin.

MISSISSIPPI — State of Mississippi.

MISSOURI VALLEY — In the State of Missouri, the counties west of and including Schuyler, Adair, Macon, Randolph, Audrain, Callaway, Cole, Moniteau, Morgan, Benton, Hickory, Polk, Greene, Christian and Taney; the State of Kansas; Texas County, Oklahoma; and Hansford County, Texas.

MONTANA — State of Montana, except Dawson and Wibaux counties.

NEW ENGLAND — The states of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

NEW JERSEY — That portion of the State of New Jersey north of and including Mercer and Monmouth counties.

NEW MEXICO — State of New Mexico.

NIAGARA — That portion of New York State west of and including the counties of Oswego, Onondaga, Cortland and Broome.

NORTH CAROLINA — State of North Carolina, except the counties of Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck.

NORTH DAKOTA — State of North Dakota, Dawson and Wibaux counties in the State of Montana, and Polk and Pennington counties in the State of Minnesota.

NORTH TEXAS — That portion of the State of Texas east of the counties of Hardeman, Foard, Knox, Haskell, Jones, Callahan, Brown, Mills and Lampasas; and north of the counties of Bell, Milam, Robertson, Leon, Houston, Angelina, Nacogdoches and Shelby; and excluding Bowie County.
OHIO — State of Ohio, except the counties of Seneca, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Wayne, Summit, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Tuscarawas, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana, Jefferson, Belmont, Washington and Lawrence; and including the counties of Campbell, Kenton and Boone in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

OKLAHOMA — State of Oklahoma, except Texas County.

OREGON — State of Oregon, except Malhuer County; and in the State of Washington, the counties of Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania, and the part of Klickitat west of Highway 97, excluding the City of Goldendale.

OZARK — That portion of the State of Missouri east of and including the counties of Scotland, Knox, Shelby, Monroe, Ralls, Pike, Montgomery, Osage, Miller, Camden, Dallas, Webster, Douglas and Ozark; and the counties of Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe and Jackson in the State of Illinois.

PACIFIC — In the State of Nevada, the counties of Lyon, Douglas, Carson City, Storey, and the part of Washoe lying south of the northerly boundary of the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation; and in the State of California, the counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Contra Costa, San Francisco, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, Tuolomne, and Alpine, and the parts of: Solano and Sacramento counties south of Highway 12, including the communities of Vallejo and Benicia and excluding the communities of Fairfield, Suisun City and Rio Vista; San Joaquin County south and west of the line created by Highway 12 to Interstate 5 to Eight Mile Road to Highway 99 to Highway 4, including the City of Stockton; Stanislaus and Calaveras counties south of Highway 4; El Dorado County east of Highway 89; and the City of Bishop in Inyo County and the community of Mammoth Lakes in Mono County.

The Solano Community College pool in Solano County and any pool between Eight Mile Road and Hammer Lane in San Joaquin County shall be available for the use of the Pacific Swimming and Sierra Nevada Swimming LSCs and their respective club members, and both LSCs may sanction swimming events at these pools under their own rules and regulations.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST — That portion of the State of Washington west of the counties of Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas and Yakima; north of Skamania County; and north and west of Cowlitz County.

POTOMAC VALLEY — Montgomery and Prince George’s counties in the State of Maryland; the District of Columbia; and Arlington and Fairfax counties and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL — San Diego and Imperial counties in the State of California.

SIERRA NEVADA — In the State of Nevada, the counties of Humboldt, Pershing, Churchill, Mineral, Lander and the part of Washoe lying north of the northerly boundary of the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation; and in the State of California, the counties of Siskiyou, Modoc, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Tehama, Plumas, Glenn, Butte, Sierra, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Nevada, Placer, Yolo and Amador; and the parts of: Solano and Sacramento counties north of Highway 12, including the communities of Fairfield, Suisun City and Rio Vista and excluding the communities of Vallejo and Benicia; San Joaquin County north and east of the line created by Highway 12 to Interstate 5 to Eight Mile Road to Highway 99 to Highway 4, excluding the City of Stockton; Stanislaus and Calaveras counties north of Highway 4; and El Dorado County west of Highway 89.
The Solano Community College pool in Solano County and any pool between Eight Mile Road and Hammer Lane in San Joaquin County shall be available for the use of the Pacific Swimming and Sierra Nevada Swimming LSCs and their respective club members, and both LSCs may sanction swimming events at these pools under their own rules and regulations.

**SNake river** — That portion of the State of Idaho south of Idaho County; the counties of Elko, White Pine and Eureka in the State of Nevada; and Malhuer County, Oregon.

**South Carolina** — State of South Carolina.

**South Dakota** — State of South Dakota.

**South Texas** — That portion of the State of Texas bounded on the west by and including the counties of Val Verde, Sutton and Schleicher; on the north by and including the counties of Menard, Mason, Llano, Burnet, Lampasas and Bell; and on the east by and including the counties of Milam, Burleson, Washington, Austin, Fayette, Lavaca, Jackson and Calhoun.

**Southeastern** — State of Tennessee; the State of Alabama, except Chambers and Russell counties; and that portion of the State of Florida west of the Apalachicola River, excluding Gulf County.

**Southern California** — In the State of California, the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange and Riverside; and in the State of Nevada, the counties of Clark, Lincoln, Nye and Esmeralda.

**Utah** — State of Utah.

**Virginia** — Commonwealth of Virginia, except Arlington and Fairfax counties and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church; and including the counties of Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck in the State of North Carolina.

**West Texas** — That portion of the State of Texas bounded on the south by and including the counties of Reeves, Pecos, Crane, Upton, Reagan, Irion, Tom Green, Concho, McCulloch and San Saba; on the west by the State of New Mexico and by and including Loving and Winkler counties; on the north by Hansford County and the State of Oklahoma; and on the east by the State of Oklahoma, and by and including the counties of Hardeman, Foard, Knox, Haskell, Jones, Callahan, Brown and Mills.

**West Virginia** — State of West Virginia, except the counties of Hancock, Brook, Ohio and Marshall; and including Lawrence and Washington counties in the State of Ohio.

**Wisconsin** — State of Wisconsin, except the counties of St. Croix, Dunn and Pierce.

**Wyoming** — State of Wyoming; and the counties of Sioux, Scotts Bluff, Banner, Kimball, Dawes, Box Butte, Morrill, Cheyenne, Sheridan, Garden and Deuel in the State of Nebraska.
APPENDIX 6-E

REDISTRICTING PROCEDURES

.1 Change in LSC Club Affiliation. If a club wishes to change from one LSC to another LSC which is contiguous and where no other club geographically intervenes, and if by two-thirds (2/3) vote the House of Delegates of each LSC approves, such transfer shall be effective ninety (90) days after receipt of written notice by the national headquarters. Club approval of change in affiliation shall be a majority vote of its General Membership at a regular club meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose; the vote is to be duly certified by the club’s president.

.2 Change in LSC Territory. If two-thirds (2/3) of the number of clubs in a contiguous area within an LSC wish to affiliate with a neighboring and contiguous LSC, and should the House of Delegates of each LSC by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and voting in a regular or special meeting of each, or by mail vote by a majority of those members of each House of Delegates eligible to vote, approve the change, the change in territorial jurisdiction shall include all clubs in the area and shall become effective at commencement of the next succeeding fiscal year of USA Swimming. Club approval of change in affiliation shall be a majority vote of its General Membership at a regular club meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose; the vote is to be duly certified by the club’s president.

.3 Formation of a new LSC. If two thirds (2/3) of the number of clubs in a contiguous area within an LSC wish to form a new and independent LSC, and should the House of Delegates of the LSC, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and voting in a regular or special meeting or by mail vote by a majority of those members eligible to vote, approve the change, the proposed formation of the new LSC shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Rules & Regulations Committee. Such request must be received by the chairman prior to April 1. The committee shall make a recommendation to the House of Delegates at the next annual meeting for its approval or disapproval. Should approval be granted, the formation of the new LSC shall become effective at the commencement of the month following the meeting or October 1, whichever is earlier. Club approval of change in affiliation shall be a majority vote of its General Membership at a regular club meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose; the vote is to be duly certified by the club’s president.

Should approval be granted, the formation of the new LSC shall become effective at commencement of the next succeeding fiscal year of USA Swimming. The change shall include all clubs in the specified contiguous area. At the time of the effective date the net assets of the old LSC (after payment of or provision for all debts) shall be divided with the new LSC in ratio to the number of registered athletes in each LSC territory as of August 31 of the preceding calendar year.

During the period of time between that when the new LSC is approved by the House of Delegates and January 1 of the following year, the President shall appoint a governing ad hoc committee of no less than seven (7) members from among USA Swimming members of the new LSC, including one athlete and one coach, to be charged with the responsibility of (a)
notifying all clubs within the new LSC to elect at least one delegate and alternate to the new LSC House of Delegates; (b) scheduling and noticing in writing a meeting of the new LSC House of Delegates as soon as conveniently possible after January 1; (c) providing an agenda for the first meeting to permit the orderly election of officers and directors, adoption of Bylaws, appointment of committees and their respective chairmen; and (d) attending to such other matters as may be necessary to permit the new LSC to become a fully functioning administrative unit of USA Swimming.

.4 Change in Zone Affiliation. If an LSC by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the House of Delegates or by mail vote of a majority of those members eligible to vote, approves a change moving the LSC from one Zone to another, that change shall become effective at the close of the next USA Swimming annual meeting unless that change is rejected by either of the two Zones involved.

.5 Change in Regional Alignment. If an LSC, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the LSC House of Delegates or by a mail vote of the majority of those members eligible to vote, approves a change moving the LSC from one region to another region contiguous to the LSC, that change shall become effective at the close of the next USA Swimming annual meeting upon approval of a majority of the USA Swimming House of Delegates present and voting.

.6 Review. Should the House of Delegates of any LSC mentioned in subsections (1), (2), or (3), or any Zone mentioned in subsection (4), or a region mentioned in subsection (5), disapprove the proposed changes, the proponents must submit the matter to the Rules & Regulations Committee. Such appeal must be at least one hundred (100) days prior to the next regular or special meeting of the USA Swimming House of Delegates.

Submission to the Committee shall be in writing; shall contain the name of the proponent(s), the name(s) of the club(s) involved, a record of vote(s) taken at any level certified in writing by an appropriate officer; and shall contain a summary of the rationale for the proposed change(s).

The Committee shall study the matter and hold a public hearing thereon at the time of the next annual meeting of the USA Swimming House of Delegates. The Committee shall then make recommendations to the House for its final determination.

Note: Redistricting procedures are the responsibility of the Rules & Regulations Committee.
PART SEVEN
OPEN WATER SWIMMING

USA Swimming Rules and Regulations apply to open water competition, unless specifically indicated otherwise in Part Seven. Swimmers, coaches, clubs, and local public entities should address safety considerations where events are held. Some safety provisions are contained in the USA Swimming Open Water Meet Directors Guidelines.

ARTICLE 701
CONDUCT AND OFFICIATING OF THE COMPETITION

701.1 EVENTS/MEETS

.1 Recommended individual events are listed in 102.1.3. Additional event options are listed in the Open Water Meet Manager's Guide.

.2 Wet-Suit Events - 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 information and on the accompanying entry form. Swimmers using wet-suits shall be scored separately from swimmers competing without wet-suits.

.3 Team Events – Team events may be conducted in various formats concurrently with individual events, with the results achieved in the individual event used to compute the team scoring as announced in the meet information.

.4 Internet Distance Challenge

A A National Internet Distance Challenge shall be conducted annually. Except for .4C(4) below, swims must take place between September 1 and August 1.

B Times submitted from a 25-meter course shall be converted and integrated with yard times.

C Events

(1) Age-Group in 25-yard/meter pools -- Swim own age in following distances: 9,10-year-olds-1000 yards/800 meters; 11,12-year-olds–2000 yards/1600 meters; 13,14, 15,16, 17,18-year-olds–3000 yards/2400 meters;

(2) Senior --5000 yards/4000 meters in 25 yard/meter pools;

(3) One-Hour Swim for Distance (Age-Group and Senior) in 25 yard/meter pools;

(4) Ten-Kilometer Swim (Age-Group starting with the 13-14 age group, and Senior) in 50 meter pools (may be contested anytime from April 16 of the current year through April 15 of the next year).

D Awards

(1) Age-Group - First through sixth places;

(2) Senior – First through tenth places;
(3) Teams (Clubs) - First three places using 16-place scoring based on the composite score of any club’s individual members’ scores;

(4) With the concurrence of USA Swimming, meet hosts may offer additional awards and incentives.

701.2 RULES

.1 All open water competitions shall be freestyle events.

.2 The Host Committee must declare in the meet information the policy for abandonment.

.3 In long-distance pool events over three miles, it is permissible for a swimmer to leave the water for brief periods because of pool safety and health considerations. When re-entering the water the swimmer shall resume the event commencing with the last completed length, using an in-water start with a push off the wall. A dive entry is not permitted.

.4 The Start

A Events may be started either:

(1) In-water - competitors stand or tread water in a depth sufficient for them to commence swimming on the start signal;

(2) From the beach - contestants line up and run into the water from the shore on the Starter’s signal; or

(3) From a fixed platform – competitors’ positions on the platform are determined by random draw and they commence racing on the start signal (See 103.2.3-Water Depth).

B The start signal shall be both audible and visible.

C When the start for Men’s and Women’s competitions is staggered, the Men’s events shall always start before the Women’s events.

D If, in the opinion of the Referee, an unfair advantage has been gained by someone at the start, that swimmer may be disqualified.

E Prior to the start all escort safety crafts shall be stationed so as to avoid interference with any competitor. If catching up to their swimmers from behind, the craft shall navigate in such a way as to avoid maneuvering through the field of swimmers.

.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 video system with slow motion and recall facilities including timing equipment.

.6 Escort Safety Craft

A Escort safety craft shall maintain a constant position at the sides of their swimmers and shall maneuver so as to avoid obstructing or placing themselves directly in front of another swimmer.

B Each escort safety craft shall contain a race judge, a person of the swimmer's choosing, and the minimum crew required to operate the escort safety craft.
C Coaching and the giving of instructions by a swimmer’s representative on escort safety craft or platforms is permitted. No whistles may be used by coaches.

.7 Time Limits – In all Open Water events, time limits shall be published in the meet information and shall apply as follows from the finish time of the first swimmer. Events with age group divisions will have the time applied by age group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Events under 25KM</th>
<th>not less than 30 minutes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B Events of 25 KM</td>
<td>not less than 60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Events of over 25 KM</td>
<td>not less than 120 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

701.3 MARKING — Prior to the start, entrants shall be marked with their race numbers on both upper arms and their backs. Paddlers and escort boats for individual swimmers 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 No swimmer shall be allowed to use or wear any device that may be an aid to his/her speed, endurance, or buoyancy. A maximum of two (2) caps may be used.

.2 Except as provided in 701.1.2, wet-suits, flotation aids or any similar items, and anything used to maintain body heat, except a reasonable application of body grease, are not allowed.

701.5 DISQUALIFICATIONS — A swimmer shall be disqualified for:

.1 Willfully or intentionally delaying or impeding the progress of another swimmer. (Note: Incidental contact, especially at the start of the event, shall not be a basis for disqualification.);

.2 Failing to swim or complete the prescribed course. Competitors who do not finish the course within the time limit shall be removed from the water except that the Referee may allow a competitor outside the time limit to complete the course but not participate in any points or prizes awarded;

.3 Receiving assistance by pulling on the cables, line markers, buoys, or buoy lines (Note: Incidental contact shall not be a basis for disqualification.);

.4 Receiving propulsive aid from anyone in boats or other escort craft of any kind;

.5 Walking or pushing off the bottom or objects thereon. (Note: Pushing off at the start or walking at the finish where an on-shore finish is employed is permitted.);

.6 Violating the swimwear rules. No swimmer shall be permitted to use or wear any device which may be an aid to his/her speed, endurance or buoyancy. Goggles, a maximum of two (2) caps, nose clip, and earplugs may be used;

.7 Receiving aid from a non-competing person in the form of pacing;

.8 Taking an unfair advantage by slipstreaming an escort safety craft (Race judges shall instruct swimmers who are taking unfair advantage by pacing or slipstreaming with escort safety craft to move clear.);

.9 Actions of his/her escort safety craft or coach that interfere with another swimmer’s progress or for failure of his/her craft or coach to heed the instruction of an assigned official;

.10 Receiving support from any fixed or floating object or touching or being touched by his/her escort safety craft or the crew. (Standing on the bottom during the race shall not disqualify the swimmer. Incidental contact while giving food or liquid to a swimmer shall not result in disqualification.)
701.6 DISQUALIFICATION PROCEDURE — If, in the opinion of the Referee or Assistant Referee, any swimmer or escort safety craft commits any of the infractions in this section, the following procedure shall apply:

.1 First Infringement – A yellow flag and a card bearing the swimmer’s number shall be raised by the Referee to indicate and to inform the swimmer that he is in violation of the Rules. Whistles may be used by the Referee to get the swimmer’s attention.

.2 Second Infringement – A red flag and a card bearing the swimmer’s number shall be raised by the Referee to indicate and to inform the swimmer that he is, for the second time, in violation of the Rules. The swimmer shall be disqualified. He must leave the water immediately and be placed in an escort craft and take no further part in the race. Whistles may be used by the Referee to get the swimmer’s attention.

.3 The Referee may disqualify a swimmer without prior warning if in his opinion the action of the swimmer or escort craft is deemed to be unsportsmanlike. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include intentionally striking another swimmer and refusal to re-round a turn mark after being advised the mark was missed.

701.7 THE MEET DIRECTOR shall determine the course for an open water event.

701.8 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Official</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Referee</td>
<td>Assistant Referee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Referee</td>
<td>Announcer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Officer</td>
<td>Medical Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Officer</td>
<td>Clerk of Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter</td>
<td>Chief Timer and 3 timers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Finish Judge and 2 finish judges</td>
<td>Recorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race Judge (one per competitor in escorted races)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turn Judge (one at each change in the direction of the course)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

701.9 THE REFEREE

.1 Shall ensure that all participants, coaches, and event support personnel are briefed about the course, safety procedures and any site-specific rules applying to the event;

.2 Shall have the authority to stop the race or to change the distance and/or race course due to safety concerns or unforeseen circumstances;

.3 Shall have the authority to use any video or electronic or mechanical judging devices in judging the finish order or in making other rulings.

.4 Shall conduct a random draw for assignment of the Race Judges in escorted swims.

.5 Shall signal by a raised flag and a series of short blasts on a whistle that the start is imminent and when satisfied that the swimmers are ready, indicate by pointing the flag at the Starter that the competition may commence;

.6 May elect to start the race in waves whereby each wave (heat) is separated at the start from the previous wave by a set time interval. Swimmers’ times shall be adjusted by the starting time interval and their order of finish shall be determined on the basis of the adjusted time.
May segregate competitors into the men's and women's or other classifications (e.g., by age group), either by the position at the starting line or by separate time of start.

701.10 THE ASSISTANT REFEREE shall perform all duties assigned by the Referee.

701.11 THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFEREE shall be responsible for all administrative matters assigned by the Referee.

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

701.13 THE MEDICAL OFFICER
.1 Shall be responsible to the Referee for all medical aspects related to the competition and competitors;
.2 Shall inform the local medical facilities of the nature of the competition and ensure that all casualties can be evacuated to them at the earliest opportunity;
.3 Shall advise the Referee in conjunction with the Safety Officer, if conditions are unsuitable for staging the competition and/or make recommendations for the modification of the course or the manner in which the competition is conducted.

701.14 THE COURSE OFFICER
.1 Shall be responsible for the accuracy of the survey establishing the distance of the course;
.2 Prior to the commencement of competition, shall inspect with the Referee and Safety Officer the course to ensure that all points are correctly marked and all equipment has been correctly installed and is in working order;
.3 Shall ensure that Turn Judges are in position prior to the start of the competition and report this to the Assistant Referee; and
.4 Shall serve as pilot in the lead boat when one is used.

701.15 THE CLERK OF COURSE
.1 Shall assemble and instruct the competitors prior to the competition and ensure proper reception for the competitors at the finish;
701.15

.2 Shall ensure that each competitor is correctly marked with his/her race number and that all swimmers have trimmed fingernails and are not wearing any jewelry including watches;

.3 Shall be certain all swimmers are present, in the assembly area, at the required time prior to the start; and

.4 Shall keep competitors and officials informed of the time remaining before the start at suitable intervals and at one minute intervals for the last five minutes.

701.16 THE STARTER

.1 Shall assume a position clearly visible to all competitors;

.2 On a signal from the Referee, shall raise a distinctive flag to a vertical position; and

.3 Holding the arm straight, shall simultaneously bring the arm holding the flag down and shall activate an audible signal to signify the start.

701.17 THE RACE JUDGE

.1 Shall be positioned in the escort boat so as to be able to observe his or her appointed swimmer at all times to ensure compliance with the rules of competition and that any violations are recorded and reported to the Referee;

.2 Shall have the authority to order a swimmer from the water upon expiration of the time limit or when so ordered by the Referee;

.3 Shall ensure that the assigned swimmer does not take unfair advantage or commit unsportsmanlike impedance of another swimmer and, if the situation requires, instruct the swimmer to maintain clearance from any other swimmer; and

.4 Shall immediately inform the Referee if the assigned swimmer withdraws from the event and shall record the completed distance and the time of the withdrawal.

701.18 THE TURN JUDGE

.1 Shall be positioned so as to ensure that all swimmers comply with the turn and other change-of-course procedures.

.2 Shall record any violation of the turn procedures and indicate to the Referee any infraction at the time it is observed.

701.19 THE CHIEF TIMER

.1 Shall assign at least three Timers to their positions for the start and finish;

.2 Shall brief the Timers on their duties and the details of their assignment;

.3 Shall ensure that a time check is made to allow all persons to synchronize their watches with the official race clock, if applicable, at least 15 minutes before start time;

.4 May arrange for the use of automatic or semi-automatic timing devices in addition to watches.

701.20 THE CHIEF FINISH JUDGE

.1 Shall assign each Finish Judge to a position;

.2 Shall brief Finish Judges on their duties and the details of their assignment;

.3 After the race, shall collect the signed results sheets from each Finish Judge and determine the order of finish and deliver the results to the Referee or his or her designee.
**701.21 THE FINISH JUDGE**

.1 Shall be positioned in line with and where he/she can have a clear view of the finish, and

.2 Shall record the finish place of each swimmer.

**701.22 THE RECORDER** shall record withdrawals from the competition, enter results on official forms, and maintain the record for team awards as appropriate.

**ARTICLE 702**

**VENUE STANDARDS**

**702.1 THE COURSE**

.1 The course shall be measured as accurately as possible with the available navigational or survey equipment.

.2 The course shall be in water that is subject to only minor currents or tide and may be salt or fresh water.

.3 With the exception of beach starts and beach finishes, the minimum depth of water at any point on the course shall be 1.4 meters.

.4 Quarter mile (440 yards) straightaway - shall be delineated by a cable with floats stretched between two stationary pylons or platforms fixed in the water. The distance between the anchoring points shall be plus or minus six inches, measured from the outer edge of the turning point with a minimum of five meters between the turning point and any obstruction.

**702.2 WATER TEMPERATURE** — The water temperature should be a minimum of 16°C (60° F).

**702.3 THE START** — The start line shall be clearly defined by either overhead apparatus or by removable equipment at water level.

**702.4 TURNS/CHANGES IN COURSE**

.1 All turns and other changes in direction on the course shall be clearly indicated.

.2 A clearly marked craft or platform for a turn judge shall be securely fixed in position at all locations where alterations in direction on the course occur and in such a manner as not to obstruct the swimmers’ view or negotiation of the turn, while providing a clear view of the swimmers’ turns for the officials.

**702.5 THE FINISH**

.1 The final approach to the finish shall be clearly defined with markers of a distinctive color. The area leading to the finish apparatus should be clearly marked by rows of buoys which narrow as they get closer to the finish wall. Escort safety craft should be stationed at the approach to and entrance of the finish lane to ensure that only the escort craft authorized to do so enter or cross this entrance.

.2 The finish line shall be clearly defined and marked by a vertical surface at least five meters wide. The finish apparatus, where possible, should be a stationary panel securely fastened in place so as to not be moved by wind, tide, or force of the swimmer striking it.
ARTICLE 703
RECORDS

703.1 Because of differences in courses, currents and other physical factors, records for open water events are not maintained except in the four mile event swum on a quarter-mile straightaway course. For long distance events swum in a pool, records are maintained as U.S. Open Records.

703.2 Open Water and Long Distance U.S. Open individual and team records for men and women may only be achieved in a sanctioned or approved event and will be maintained as indicated below:

.1 Time/Distance Events:
   A One-Hour Swim (25 Yard Pool)
   B 12- and 24-Hour Swim (50 Meter Pool)

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

ARTICLE 704
USA SWIMMING OPEN WATER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

704.1 START AND FINISH

.1 An in-water start and an in-water finish are required.

.2 Video taping of the finish shall be provided for meets from which National Teams are selected.

704.2 ABANDONMENT – Where emergency conditions require a race to be halted before it is completed, the following shall apply:

.1 5K & 10 K events: In the event of abandonment, the race should be re-started at the earliest possible time and the full distance completed.

.2 25K events – If the race is abandoned prior to the lead swimmer reaching the 12.5K point, the race should be re-started and the full distance completed at the most appropriate time as decided by the meet committee. If the race is abandoned after the 12.5K point, the race shall be considered complete. The final placings of all swimmers shall be determined by the Meet Referee.

.3 Situations not covered above shall be determined by the Meet Committee.

704.3 ENTRY FEES — The entry fees shall be determined by the Meet Director with the concurrence of Program Operations.

704.4 ENTRY BLANKS AND MEET INFORMATION BOOK — The entry blank and meet information booklet shall be prepared under joint direction of and approved by the Steering Committee, the
Meet Director, Program Operations, and the USA Swimming Executive Director or his/her representative.

704.5 RESULTS — shall be submitted to the Steering Committee, USA Swimming, and posted on the USA Swimming web site.

704.6 TEAM EVENT ENTRIES

.1 Clubs may enter more than one team in each category. Prior to the start of the competition coaches shall designate the category (men’s, women’s, mixed) and the team (A, B, C, etc.) in which their swimmers will compete.

.2 When participating concurrently in individual and team events, no participant shall compete in more than two team events, one of which may be as a member of his/her gender-specific team and the other as a member of a mixed-gender team.

704.7 SCORING — Scoring of individual events will be on a sixteen (16) place basis: 20, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

.1 Team Events - team events shall be scored in men’s, women’s and mixed-gender categories.

.2 National Event Club Championship

   A A club champion shall be determined by totaling the scores of individual club members in the event. Club champions will be named in the following categories: Women’s, Men’s and Combined.

   B To be eligible for the Combined Men’s and Women’s Club Championship, a club must have scored points in both the men’s and women’s events.

704.8 AWARDS

.1 Individual champions shall be determined and awarded in women’s and men’s competitions. Medals shall be awarded to all first through eighth place finishers in each individual event.

.2 The male and female swimmers 18 years of age and younger attaining the highest finish position shall be designated as the USA Swimming 18 and under Open Water Swimming Champion in each contested event and shall receive the appropriate USA Swimming Championship medals.

.3 Team Event medals shall be awarded to team event members placing first through third.

.4 Awards shall be given to the top three clubs: men’s, women’s and combined where the following criteria are met:

   A Men’s or Women’s — In order for awards to be given within a specific gender, that gender shall have a minimum of 16 competitors from at least three clubs starting the race.

   B Combined — To be eligible for this award, a club must have scored points in both the men’s and women’s races, and there must have been a minimum of three clubs participating in each gender’s race.

.5 The Meet Host may present additional individual and team awards with approval from Program Operations.

704.9 ELIGIBILITY — Qualifying times and/or qualifying criteria may be established by the Meet Director with the concurrence of the Steering Committee.
704.10 PROOF OF TIME — Any swimmer entered in any USA Swimming National Championship 10 kilometers or longer may be required to show proof of having achieved a time of 18 minutes or better in the 1500 meter freestyle for men or 19 minutes or better in the 1500 meter freestyle for women.
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN USA SWIMMING AND USMS RULES

USMS follows USA Swimming’s Technical Rules articles 101, 102 and 105, with the following exceptions [USMS-Swimming Reference in brackets]:

MS 1. Starts, Strokes, and Relays

MS 1.1 Forward start. The forward start may be taken from the starting block, the pool deck or a push from the wall. The forward start or the backstroke start shall be used for freestyle events. The starter’s long whistle indicates that the swimmer must take a position with at least one foot at the front of the platform, the edge of the pool, or on the wall before the command “Take your mark”. The backstroke start may be used as the in-the-water start during freestyle events. [USMS 101.1.1 and 101.5.1]

MS 1.2 Butterfly. The breaststroke or whip kick may be used exclusively or interchangeably with the dolphin kick at any time during the race. However, when the breaststroke or whip kick is used, the arms must be recovered over the top of the water with each breaststroke or whip kick, except after the last such kick before the turn or finish. After the start and after each turn, if the breaststroke or whip kick is used, only one kick is allowed prior to the arm pull that brings the swimmer to the surface. [USMS 101.3.2 and 101.3.3]

MS 1.3 Relays. Relay swimmers who cannot exit the water quickly enough to prevent interference with automatic officiating equipment may hold on to the lane line until all relays have finished, allowing them to exit the pool more slowly or via the ladders at the conclusion of the race. [USMS 101.7.3E]

MS 2. Swimming Competition

MS 2.1 Personnel. The minimum personnel at USMS sanctioned or recognized Masters swimming meets shall include the following: one referee, one starter, two stroke and turn judges, two timers per lane (if automatic timing is not being used). The referee and starter may double as stroke and turn judges, but the referee and starter may not be the same person. The referee shall be certified as a stroke and turn judge, starter or referee by a USMS-approved certifying body. Note: USMS does not use place judges. [USMS 103.1 and 103.2]

MS 2.2 Warm-up. If there is no other warm-up/warm-down area available in pools of five lanes or more, one lane shall be set aside for warm-up/warm-down during the conduct of the meet. In pools of four or fewer lanes, swimmers shall be allowed to swim to the other end of the pool at the end of each heat and a warm-up/warm-down period must be offered at least once during each half hour of competition. [USMS 102.4.1]

MS 2.3 Relays. First and last names of eligible relay swimmers, their ages, and order of swimming shall be submitted to the clerk of course or to the head lane timer. [USMS 102.9.5]

MS 2.4 Timed finals. All Masters events held in meters pools (short course or long course) are conducted on a timed-final basis. Short course yards meets, except for National Championships, MAY be conducted on a basis other than timed finals (e.g., trials/finals basis). If trials/finals are offered, competitors are limited to three individual events per day. [USMS 102.10.1 and 102.6]
MS 2.5 Seeding.

**MS 2.5.1** Age groups, genders, and events of the same distance 200 yards or longer may be combined so that no swimmer has to swim alone and lanes may be filled. [USMS 102.10.1B]

**MS 2.5.2** Seeding at meets other than National Championship meets may be either fast-to-slow or slow-to-fast. Seeding may differ for sprint and distance events. [USMS 102.10.1D]

MS 2.6 Records and Top Ten.

**MS 2.6.1** Record applications and Top Ten submissions shall not be accepted unless certification of course length accompanies them or is on file with USMS or USA Swimming. [USMS 105.1.6A]

**MS 2.6.2** USMS records may only be established by USMS members in sanctioned or recognized competition. Because swimmers from different age groups and genders may compete in the same heat or event, winning the heat or event is not required to establish a record. [USMS 105.1.1]

**MS 2.6.3** Relay leadoff split times will be considered for records or Top Ten times, provided the swimmers complete the event without being disqualified, and provided automatic timing is used. [USMS 103.13.1C, 103.13.3, 105.2.2A and D, and 105.3.7A and D]

**MS 2.6.4** If swimmers want their initial splits as part of a longer individual event to be submitted for records or Top Ten times, they must notify the referee, in writing, prior to the conclusion of the meet. However, for backstroke initial splits and relay leadoff legs to count, notification must be made prior to the swim so that officials may verify that a legal finish was performed at the initial distance and that for relays the second swimmer did not start in the water. [USMS 103.13.1B(1) and (2); 103.13.1D; 105.2.2B, C, and E; and 105.3.7B, C, and E]

**MS 2.6.5** Required documentation for USMS records includes the referee’s signature, as well as the printout from the automatic or semiautomatic (with three buttons) timing equipment or the time card bearing times and signatures from three timers. [USMS 105.3.10]

MS 2.7 Scratch procedures. Swimmers or relay teams not reporting for or competing in an event are not penalized. [none]

MS 2.8 Protests. Protests arising from competition shall be made within 30 minutes after the race in which the alleged infraction took place. If the protest is not resolved immediately, the protester shall at that time file a written protest with the Chair of the Local Masters Swimming Committee (LMSC) or the Chair’s representative having jurisdiction over the event. If the LMSC does not satisfactorily resolve the protest within 10 days, the protestor may appeal in writing to the USMS Rules Committee Chair within the next five days for final adjudication, whose final decision shall then be binding on all parties. Protests concerning interpretation of the rules in Part 1: Swimming Rules and the Glossary shall be submitted in writing (on paper or in an electronic file) within 10 days to the USMS Rules Committee Chair. [USMS 102.16.5 and 102.16.4]

MS 2.9 Eligibility. The eligibility of a participant for a particular age group will be determined for all meters meets (both short course and long course) by the swimmer’s age as of December 31 of the year of competition. For short course yards meets, eligibility will be determined by the swimmer’s age as of the last day of the meet. [USMS 102.2]
SWIMMING RECORDS

LONG COURSE METERS—MEN

50 FREESTYLE
WORLD: 21.64 Alexander Popov, RUS Moscow, RUS 06-16-00
AMERICAN: 21.76 Gary Hall Jr., Phoenix Indianapolis, Ind. 08-15-00
U.S. OPEN: 21.76 Gary Hall Jr., Phoenix Indianapolis, Ind. 08-15-00

100 FREESTYLE
WORLD: 47.84sf Pieter van den Hoogenband, NED Sydney, AUS 09-19-00
AMERICAN: 48.17sf Jason Lezak, USA Long Beach, Calif. 07-10-04
U.S. OPEN: 48.17sf Jason Lezak, USA Long Beach, Calif. 07-10-04

200 FREESTYLE
WORLD: 1:43.86 Michael Phelps, USA Melbourne, AUS 03-27-07
AMERICAN: 1:43.86 Michael Phelps, USA Melbourne, AUS 03-27-07
U.S. OPEN: 1:44.98 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Indianapolis, Ind. 07-31-07

50 BACKSTROKE
WORLD: 24.80 Thomas Rupprath, GER Barcelona, ESP 07-27-03
AMERICAN: 24.84 Randall Bal, USA Paris, FRA 08-02-07
U.S. OPEN: 25.59s Neil Walker, Texas Indianapolis, Ind. 08-11-00

1500 FREESTYLE
WORLD: 14:34.56 Grant Hackett, AUS Fukuoka, JPN 07-29-01
AMERICAN: 14:45.29 Larsen Jensen, USA Athens, GRE 08-21-04
U.S. OPEN: 14:48.34 Grant Hackett, AUS Indianapolis, Ind. 04-06-03

800 FREESTYLE
WORLD: 7:38.65 Grant Hacket, AUS Montreal, CAN 07-27-05
AMERICAN: 7:45.63 Larsen Jensen, USA Montreal, CAN 07-27-05
U.S. OPEN: 7:49.75 Eric Vendt, Club Wolverine Indianapolis, Ind. 07-31-07

400 FREESTYLE
WORLD: 3:40.08 Ian Thorpe, AUS Manchester, GBR 07-30-02
AMERICAN: 3:44.11 Klete Keller, USA Athens, GRE 08-14-04
U.S. OPEN: 3:44.19 Klete Keller, Club Wolverine Long Beach, Calif. 07-07-04

1000 FREESTYLE
WORLD: 52.98 Aaron Peirsol, USA Melbourne, AUS 03-27-07
AMERICAN: 52.98 Aaron Peirsol, USA Melbourne, AUS 03-27-07
U.S. OPEN: 53.01 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Indianapolis, Ind. 07-31-07

300 BUTTERFLY
WORLD: 2:08.50 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Victoria, CAN 08-20-06
AMERICAN: 2:08.50 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Victoria, CAN 08-20-06
U.S. OPEN: 2:08.74 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Irvine, Calif. 08-15-06

100 BREASTSTROKE
WORLD: 59.13 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Irvine, Calif. 08-01-06
AMERICAN: 59.13 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Irvine, Calif. 08-01-06
U.S. OPEN: 59.13 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Irvine, Calif. 08-01-06

800 BREASTSTROKE
WORLD: 7:38.65 Grant Hacket, AUS Montreal, CAN 07-27-05
AMERICAN: 7:45.63 Larsen Jensen, USA Montreal, CAN 07-27-05
U.S. OPEN: 7:49.75 Eric Vendt, Club Wolverine Indianapolis, Ind. 07-31-07

200 BREASTSTROKE
WORLD: 2:08.50 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Victoria, CAN 08-20-06
AMERICAN: 2:08.50 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Victoria, CAN 08-20-06
U.S. OPEN: 2:08.74 Brendan Hansen, Longhorn Irvine, Calif. 08-15-06

400 BUTTERFLY
WORLD: 22.96 Roland Schoeman, RSA Montreal, CAN 07-25-05
AMERICAN: 23.21 Ian Crocker, USA Montreal, CAN 07-25-05
U.S. OPEN: 23.85 Bryan Jones, Texas Aquatics Austin, Texas 03-29-01

100 BUTTERFLY
WORLD: 50.40 Ian Crocker, USA Montreal, CAN 07-30-05
AMERICAN: 50.40 Ian Crocker, USA Montreal, CAN 07-30-05
U.S. OPEN: 50.76 Ian Crocker, Longhorn Long Beach, Calif. 07-13-04

200 BUTTERFLY
WORLD: 1:52.09 Michael Phelps, USA Melbourne, AUS 03-28-07
AMERICAN: 1:52.09 Michael Phelps, USA Melbourne, AUS 03-28-07
U.S. OPEN: 1:53.71 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Columbia, Mo. 02-16-07
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Swimmer</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY WORLD</td>
<td>1:54.98</td>
<td>Michael Phelps, USA</td>
<td>Melbourne, AUS</td>
<td>03-29-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY AMERICAN</td>
<td>1:54.98</td>
<td>Michael Phelps, USA</td>
<td>Melbourne, AUS</td>
<td>03-29-07</td>
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<tr>
<td>200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>1:55.94</td>
<td>Michael Phelps, No. Baltimore</td>
<td>College Park, Md.</td>
<td>08-09-03</td>
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<td>400 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY WORLD</td>
<td>4:06.22</td>
<td>Michael Phelps, USA</td>
<td>Melbourne, AUS</td>
<td>04-01-07</td>
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<td>400 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY AMERICAN</td>
<td>4:06.22</td>
<td>Michael Phelps, USA</td>
<td>Melbourne, AUS</td>
<td>04-01-07</td>
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<tr>
<td>400 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>4:08.41</td>
<td>Michael Phelps, No. Baltimore</td>
<td>Long Beach, Calif.</td>
<td>07-07-04</td>
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<tr>
<td>400 FREESTYLE RELAY WORLD</td>
<td>3:12.46</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Melbourne, AUS</td>
<td>08-18-06</td>
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<td>400 FREESTYLE RELAY AMERICAN</td>
<td>3:12.46</td>
<td>(Michael Phelps, Neil Walker, Cullen Jones, Jason Lezak)</td>
<td>Victoria, CAN</td>
<td>08-18-06</td>
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<td>400 FREESTYLE RELAY U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>3:14.20</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Indianapolis, Ind.</td>
<td>04-06-03</td>
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<tr>
<td>800 FREESTYLE RELAY WORLD</td>
<td>7:03.24</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Melbourne, AUS</td>
<td>03-30-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800 FREESTYLE RELAY AMERICAN</td>
<td>7:03.24</td>
<td>(Michael Phelps, Ryan Lochte, Klete Keller, Peter Vanderkaay)</td>
<td>Melbourne, AUS</td>
<td>03-30-07</td>
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<td>800 FREESTYLE RELAY U.S. OPEN</td>
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<td>USA</td>
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<td>08-05-05</td>
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<td>USA</td>
<td>Athens, GRE</td>
<td>08-21-04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3:30.68</td>
<td>(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Jason Lezak)</td>
<td>Athens, GRE</td>
<td>08-21-04</td>
</tr>
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<td>400 MEDLEY RELAY U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>3:34.24</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Indianapolis, Ind.</td>
<td>04-06-03</td>
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<tr>
<td>LONG COURSE METERS—WOMEN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 FREESTYLE WORLD</td>
<td>24.13sf</td>
<td>Inge de Bruijn, NED</td>
<td>Sydney, AUS</td>
<td>09-22-00</td>
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<tr>
<td>50 FREESTYLE AMERICAN</td>
<td>24.53</td>
<td>Dana Torres, Coral Springs</td>
<td>Indianapolis, Ind.</td>
<td>06-04-07</td>
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<td>50 FREESTYLE U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>24.50</td>
<td>Inge de Bruijn, NED</td>
<td>Federal Way, Wash.</td>
<td>07-23-00</td>
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<tr>
<td>100 FREESTYLE WORLD</td>
<td>53.30</td>
<td>Britta Steffen, GER</td>
<td>Budapest, HUN</td>
<td>08-02-06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 FREESTYLE AMERICAN</td>
<td>53.40</td>
<td>Natalie Coughlin, USA</td>
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<td>Amanda Weir, Swim Atlanta</td>
<td>Irvine, Calif.</td>
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<td>30.63 Jessica Hardy, USA Melbourne, AUS 04-01-07</td>
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<td>26.50ps Dara Torres, Stanford Indianapolis, Ind. 08-09-00</td>
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<td><strong>400 Freestyle Relay</strong></td>
<td>3:35.22 (Petra Dallman, Daniela Goetz, Britta Steffen, Annika Liebs)</td>
<td>3:35.68 (Natalie Coughlin, Lacey Nymeyer, Amanda Weir, Kara Lynn Joyce)</td>
<td>3:37.67 (Libby Lenton, Shayne Reese, Alice Mills, Jodie Henry)</td>
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**Short Course Meters—Men**

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### 200 Freestyle Relay

**World:** 1:25.03  
Netherlands, Trieste, ITA  
(Mark Veens, Mija Zastrow, Gija Damen, Johan Kenkhuys)

**American:** 1:25.69  
 Stanford, East Meadow, N.Y.  
(Ben Wildman-Tobriner, Peter Marshall, Andrew Schnell, Bobby O'Bryan)

**Open:** 1:23.75  
Auburn, East Meadow, N.Y.  
(George Bovell, Ryan Wochomurka, Derek Gibb, Fred Bousquet)

### 400 Freestyle Relay

**World:** 3:09.57  
Sweden, Athens, GRE  
(Johan Nystrom, Lars Frolander, Mattias Ohlin, Stefan Nystrand)

**American:** 3:09.96  
USA, Indianapolis, Ind.  
(Nick Brunelli, Neil Walker, Nate Dusing, Jason Lezak)

**Open:** 3:08.75  
Auburn, East Meadow, N.Y.  
(George Bovell, Ryan Wochomurka, Derek Gibb, Fred Bousquet)

### 800 Freestyle Relay

**World:** 6:52.66  
Australia, Perth, AUS  
(Kirk Palmer, Grant Hackett, Grant Brits, Kenrick Monk)

**American:** 7:01.33  
USA, Athens, GRE  
(Josh Davis, Neil Walker, Scott Tucker, Chad Carson)

**Open:** 7:01.42  
Michigan, East Meadow, N.Y.  
(Peter Vanderkaay, Davis Tarwater, Andrew Hurd, Dan Ketchum)

### 200 Medley Relay

**World:** 1:34.46  
Germany, Dublin, IRE  
(Thomas Rupprath, Mark Warnecke, Fabian Friedrich, Carsten Dehmlow)

**American:** 1:34.58  
Texas, East Meadow, N.Y.  
(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Garrett Weber-Gale)

**Open:** 1:34.25  
Auburn, East Meadow, N.Y.  
(Doug Van Wie, Mark Gangloff, Fred Bousquet, Derek Gibb)

### 400 Medley Relay

**World:** 3:25.09  
USA, Indianapolis, Ind.  
(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Jason Lezak)

**American:** 3:25.09  
USA, Indianapolis, Ind.  
(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Jason Lezak)

**Open:** 3:25.09  
USA, Indianapolis, Ind.  
(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Jason Lezak)

### Short Course Meters—Women

#### 50 Freestyle

**World:** 23.58  
Marleen Veldhuis, NED, Berlin, GER  
11-17-07

**American:** 23.82  
Dara Torres, USA, Berlin, GER  
11-17-07

**Open:** 24.21p  
Kara Lynn Joyce, Georgia College Station, Texas  
03-18-04

#### 100 Freestyle

**World:** 51.70  
Libby Lenton, AUS, Melbourne, AUS  
08-09-05

**American:** 52.81  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal, College Station, Texas  
03-20-04

**Open:** 52.67  
Libby Lenton, AUS, Indianapolis, Ind.  
10-09-04

#### 200 Freestyle

**World:** 1:53.29  
Libby Lenton, AUS, Sydney, AUS  
11-19-05

**American:** 1:54.04  
Lindsay Benko, USA, Moscow, RUS  
04-07-02

**Open:** 1:54.64  
Josefin Lilhage, SWE, East Meadow, N.Y.  
02-11-05

#### 400 Freestyle

**World:** 3:56.09  
Laure Manaudou, FRA, Trieste, ITA  
12-10-05

**American:** 3:59.53  
Lindsay Benko, USA, Berlin, GER  
01-26-03

**Open:** 4:01.36  
Sachiko Yamada, JPN East Meadow, N.Y.  
01-31-04

#### 800 Freestyle

**World:** 8:08.00  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish, Essen, GER  
10-14-07

**American:** 8:08.00  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish, Essen, GER  
10-14-07

**Open:** 8:12.19  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish, East Meadow, N.Y.  
02-03-06

#### 1500 Freestyle

**World:** 15:32.90  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish, Essen, GER  
10-12-07

**American:** 15:32.90  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish, Essen, GER  
10-12-07

**Open:** 15:43.31  
Petra Schneider, GDR, Gainesville, Fla.  
01-10-82

#### 50 Backstroke

**World:** 26.83  
Hui Li, CHN, Shanghai, CHN  
12-02-01

**American:** 27.08  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal, East Meadow, N.Y.  
11-22-02

**Open:** 27.08  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal, East Meadow, N.Y.  
11-22-02
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<td>56.51</td>
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<td>50 BREASTSTROKE</td>
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<td>30.29f</td>
<td>Tara Kirk, Stanford College</td>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>03-19-04</td>
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<td>25.33</td>
<td>Anna-Karin Kammerling, SWE</td>
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<td>Yang Yu, CHN</td>
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<td>Mary T. Meagher, USA</td>
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<td>200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY</td>
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<td>2:07.79</td>
<td>Allison Wagner, USA</td>
<td>Mallorca, ESP</td>
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<td>Kaitlin Sandeno, Southern Cal</td>
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<td>400 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY</td>
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<td>Yana Klochkova, UKR</td>
<td>Paris, FRA</td>
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<td>3:31.66</td>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>AMERICAN</td>
<td>7:47.55</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Moscow, RUS</td>
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<td>7:47.72</td>
<td>USA</td>
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200 MEDLEY RELAY

WORLD: 1:47.44 Netherlands Trieste, ITA 12-10-05
(Arinka Schreuder, Moniek Nijhuis, Inge Dekker, Marleen Veldhuis)

AMERICAN: 1:49.71 Arizona Indianapolis, Ind. 03-17-00
(Beth Botsford, Amanda Beard, Amy Boua, Denali Knapp)

U.S. OPEN: 1:49.02 Auburn College Station, Texas 03-19-04
(Jenni Anderson, Laura Swander, Margaret Hoelzer, Eileen Coparropa)

400 MEDLEY RELAY

WORLD: 3:51.84 Australia Shanghai, CHN 04-07-06
(Tayliah Zimmer, Jade Edmistone, Jessicah Schipper, Libby Jenton)

AMERICAN: 3:55.68 USA Indianapolis, Ind. 10-09-04
(Haley Cope, Tara Kirk, Jenny Thompson, Kara Lynn Joyce)

U.S. OPEN: 3:54.95 Australia Indianapolis, Ind. 10-09-04
(Sophie Edington, Brooke Hanson, Jessica Schipper, Libby Lenton)

SHORT COURSE YARDS—MEN

50 FREESTYLE

AMERICAN: 18.87r Ben Wildman-Tobriner, Stanford Minneapolis, Minn. 03-15-07

U.S. OPEN 18.69 Cesar Cielo, Auburn Minneapolis, Minn. 03-15-07

100 FREESTYLE

AMERICAN: 41.62 Anthony Ervin, Cal Athens, Ga. 03-30-02

U.S. OPEN 41.17 Cesar Cielo, Auburn Minneapolis, Minn. 03-15-07

200 FREESTYLE

AMERICAN: 1:32.08 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Austin, Texas 03-03-06

U.S. OPEN 1:31.20 Simon Burnett, Arizona/GBR Atlanta, Ga. 03-24-06

500 FREESTYLE

AMERICAN: 4:08.60 Peter Vanderkaay, Michigan Atlanta, Ga. 03-23-06

U.S. OPEN 4:08.60 Peter Vanderkaay, Michigan Atlanta, Ga. 03-23-06

1000 FREESTYLE

AMERICAN: 8:42.64 Robert Margalis, Saint Petersurg Aquatics Clearwater, Fla. 03-01-07

U.S. OPEN 8:42.64 Robert Margalis, Saint Petersburg Aquatics Clearwater, Fla. 03-01-07

1650 FREESTYLE

AMERICAN: 14:26.62 Chris Thompson, Michigan College Station, Texas 03-24-01

U.S. OPEN 14:26.62 Chris Thompson, Michigan College Station, Texas 03-24-01

100 BACKSTROKE

AMERICAN: 44.60r Ryan Lochte, Florida Atlanta, Ga. 03-24-06

U.S. OPEN 44.60r Ryan Lochte, Florida Atlanta, Ga. 03-24-06

200 BACKSTROKE

AMERICAN: 1:36.81 Ryan Lochte, Daytona Beach Atlanta, Ga. 12-01-07

U.S. OPEN 1:36.81 Ryan Lochte, Daytona Beach Atlanta, Ga. 12-01-07

100 BREASTSTROKE

AMERICAN: 51.56 Michael Alexandrov, Northwestern Minneapolis, Minn. 03-15-07

U.S. OPEN 51.56 Michael Alexandrov, Northwestern Minneapolis, Minn. 03-15-07

200 BREASTSTROKE

AMERICAN: 1:51.74 Brendan Hansen, Texas Austin, Texas 03-03-06

U.S. OPEN 1:51.74 Brendan Hansen, Texas Austin, Texas 03-03-06

100 BUTTERFLY

AMERICAN: 44.72 Ian Crocker, Texas Austin, Texas 02-27-04

U.S. OPEN 44.57 Albert Subirats, Arizona Minneapolis, Minn. 03-15-07

200 BUTTERFLY

AMERICAN: 1:39.70 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Austin, Texas 03-03-06

U.S. OPEN 1:39.70 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Austin, Texas 03-03-06

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

AMERICAN: 1:40.08 Ryan Lochte, Daytona Beach Atlanta, Ga. 11-29-07

U.S. OPEN 1:40.08 Ryan Lochte, Daytona Beach Atlanta, Ga. 11-29-07

400 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

AMERICAN: 3:36.26 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Austin, Texas 03-02-06

U.S. OPEN 3:36.26 Michael Phelps, Club Wolverine Austin, Texas 03-02-06

200 FREESTYLE RELAY

AMERICAN: 1:16.49 Stanford Athens, Ga. 03-28-02
(Randall Bal, Peter Marshall, Andrew Schnell, Bobby O'Bryan)

U.S. OPEN 1:14.71 Auburn Minneapolis, Minn. 03-15-07
(Cesar Cielo, Matt Targett, Scott Goodrich, Bryan Lundquist)
400 FREESTYLE RELAY  
AMERICAN: 2:49.80  
Texas College Station, Texas  
(Nate Dusing, Ian Crocker, Tommy Hannan, Jamie Rauch)  
U.S. OPEN: 2:47.70  
California Minneapolis, Minn.  
(Duje Draganja, Mike Cavic, Jonas Tilly, Rolandas Gimbutis)

800 FREESTYLE RELAY  
AMERICAN: 6:12.43  
Club Wolverine Atlanta, Ga.  
(Michael Phelps, Peter Vanderkaay, David Tarwater, Chris DeJong)  
U.S. OPEN: 6:12.43  
Club Wolverine Atlanta, Ga.  
(Michael Phelps, Peter Vanderkaay, David Tarwater, Chris DeJong)

200 MEDLEY RELAY  
AMERICAN: 1:24.00  
Longhorn Austin, Texas  
(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Neil Walker)  
U.S. OPEN: 1:23.37  
Auburn Minneapolis, Minn.  
(Scott Goodrich, David Maras, Alexei Puninski, Cesar Cielo)

400 MEDLEY RELAY  
AMERICAN: 3:02.94  
Longhorn Austin, Texas  
(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Neil Walker)  
U.S. OPEN: 3:02.47  
Longhorn Austin, Texas  
(Aaron Peirsol, Brendan Hansen, Ian Crocker, Neil Walker)

SHORT COURSE YARDS—WOMEN

50 FREESTYLE  
AMERICAN: 21.46  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Atlanta, Ga.  
U.S. OPEN: 21.46  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Atlanta, Ga.

100 FREESTYLE  
AMERICAN: 46.85  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Atlanta, Ga.  
U.S. OPEN: 46.85  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Atlanta, Ga.

200 FREESTYLE  
AMERICAN: 1:41.66  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Long Beach, Cal.  
U.S. OPEN: 1:41.66  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Long Beach, Cal.

500 FREESTYLE  
AMERICAN: 4:33.33  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish  
Germantown, Md.  
U.S. OPEN: 4:33.33  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish  
Germantown, Md.

1000 FREESTYLE  
AMERICAN: 9:21.57  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish  
Fairfax, Va.  
U.S. OPEN: 9:21.57  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish  
Fairfax, Va.

1650 FREESTYLE  
AMERICAN: 15:37.17  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish  
Fairfax, Va.  
U.S. OPEN: 15:37.17  
Kate Ziegler, The Fish  
Fairfax, Va.

100 BACKSTROKE  
AMERICAN: 49.97  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Austin, Texas  
U.S. OPEN: 49.97  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Austin, Texas

200 BACKSTROKE  
AMERICAN: 1:49.52  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Austin, Texas  
U.S. OPEN: 1:49.52  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Austin, Texas

100 BREASTSTROKE  
AMERICAN: 57.77  
Tara Kirk, Palo Alto Stanford  
Austin, Texas  
U.S. OPEN: 57.77  
Tara Kirk, Palo Alto Stanford  
Austin, Texas

200 BREASTSTROKE  
AMERICAN: 2:05.73  
Tara Kirk, Palo Alto Stanford  
Austin, Texas  
U.S. OPEN: 2:05.73  
Tara Kirk, Palo Alto Stanford  
Austin, Texas

100 BUTTERFLY  
AMERICAN: 50.01  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Austin, Texas  
U.S. OPEN: 50.01  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Austin, Texas

200 BUTTERFLY  
AMERICAN: 1:51.91  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Auburn, Ala.  
U.S. OPEN: 1:51.91  
Natalie Coughlin, Cal  
Auburn, Ala.

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY  
AMERICAN: 1:53.91  
Maggie Bowen, Auburn  
Austin, Texas  
U.S. OPEN: 1:53.91  
Maggie Bowen, Auburn  
Austin, Texas

400 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY  
AMERICAN: 4:02.28  
Summer Sanders, Stanford  
Austin, Texas  
U.S. OPEN: 4:02.28  
Summer Sanders, Stanford  
Austin, Texas
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<td>03-08-07</td>
<td>Lara Jackson, Lacey Nymeyer, Anna Turner, Lindsey Kelly</td>
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<td>U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>1:27.23</td>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
<td>03-08-07</td>
<td>Lara Jackson, Lacey Nymeyer, Anna Turner, Lindsey Kelly</td>
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<td>400 FREESTYLE RELAY</td>
<td>3:12.13</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>03-10-07</td>
<td>Emily Silver, Erin Reilly, Jessica Hardy, Dana Vollmer</td>
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<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
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<td>Emily Silver, Erin Reilly, Jessica Hardy, Dana Vollmer</td>
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<td>800 FREESTYLE RELAY</td>
<td>7:00.89</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>03-09-07</td>
<td>Dana Vollmer, Emily Silver, Blake Hayter, Erin Reilly</td>
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<td>U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>7:00.25</td>
<td>Gainesville, Fla.</td>
<td>02-16-05</td>
<td>Maureen Farrell, Caroline Burckle, Mareetta Uhle, Leah Retrum</td>
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<td>200 MEDLEY RELAY</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
<td>03-09-07</td>
<td>Hailey DeGolia, Annie Chandler, Lara Jackson, Lindsey Kelly</td>
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<td>U.S. OPEN</td>
<td>1:36.09</td>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
<td>03-09-07</td>
<td>Hailey DeGolia, Annie Chandler, Lara Jackson, Lindsey Kelly</td>
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<td>400 MEDLEY RELAY</td>
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<td>California</td>
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<td>Lauren Rogers, Jessica Hardy, Dana Vollmer, Emily Silver</td>
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<td>3:30.18</td>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
<td>03-08-07</td>
<td>Lauren Rogers, Jessica Hardy, Dana Vollmer, Emily Silver</td>
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For up-to-date records, please visit the Times Section of www.usaswimming.org.
## USA SWIMMING NATIONAL AGE GROUP RECORDS
### (LONG COURSE - METERS)

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<td>MR</td>
<td>28.59</td>
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<td>27.71</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>Kris Humphries</td>
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<td>MR</td>
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<td>MN</td>
<td>Kris Humphries</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Beisel</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>2:16.37</td>
<td>200 m. Free</td>
<td>2:12.18</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>Adam Hinshaw</td>
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**2008 Rules & Regulations**
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AMERICAN LONG DISTANCE SWIMMING RECORDS

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Ron Neugent 1984 1:16:21.54 Qtr.-Mile Straightaway
Tobie Smith 1990 1:21:22

Drew Sutherland 2002 1:47:29.99 5 Mile
Allison McInturff 2002 1:48:52.47

Ray Peden 1984 4:06:48.70 10 Mile
Stacy Chanin 1984 4:37:39.20

Ray Peden 1984 6:19:00.30 15 Mile
Stacy Chanin 1984 7:19:10.50

Ray Peden 1984 11:24:42.40 20 Mile
Stacy Chanin 1984 13:13:08.00

Ray Peden 1984 12:04:31.70 Marathon
Stacy Chanin 1984 13:48:58.30

Jim Barber 1997 1:05:07.99 5 Kilometer
Briley Bergen 2001 1:02:24.40

Jim Barber 1997 3:21:23.27 15 Kilometer
Briley Bergen 2001 3:10:06.07

Jim Barber 1997 4:34:57.98 20 Kilometer
Briley Bergen 2001 4:15:34.03

Jim Barber 1997 5:50:05.08 25 Kilometer
Briley Bergen 2001 5:23:18.43

Jim Barber 1997 7:05:27.99 30 Kilometer
Penny Lee Dean 1978 6:48:26.00

Jim Barber 1997 8:23:29.06 35 Kilometer
Penny Lee Dean 1978 7:57:11.00

Gary Brinkman 1985 6135 Yards One Hour Swim
Tiffany Cohen 2001 5700 yards

AGE GROUP DISTANCE RECORDS

MEN
Brooks Stovall, SE 1998 11:08.17 9 Year 1000 Yard
Dan Jorgensen, CA 1983 29:04.74 15 Year 3000 Yard

Nicholas Caldwell, FL 2005 21:26.03 11 Year 1000 Yard
Nicholas Caldwell, FL 2006 20:23.14 12 Year 2000 Yard
Nicholas Caldwell, FL 2007 29:25.00 13 Year 3000 Yard

Nicholas Caldwell, FL 2005 21:26.03 11 Year 1000 Yard
Nicholas Caldwell, FL 2006 20:23.14 12 Year 2000 Yard
Nicholas Caldwell, FL 2007 29:25.00 13 Year 3000 Yard

Jeff Kostoff, CA 1984 28:45.61 16 Year 3000 Yard
Dan Jorgensen, CA 1983 29:04.74 15 Year 3000 Yard

Dan Jorgensen, CA 1985 28:25.53 17 Year 3000 Yard
John Millen, GA 1983 48:44.53 Open 5000 Yard

MEN
Univ. of Arkansas 1983 2:48:48.15 Qtr.-Mile Straightaway
(3 x Four Miles)

So. Illinois University 1985 18,305 yards 3 Hour Swim
(3 x One Hour)

TEAM EVENTS
Univ. of Arkansas 1983 2:57:17.06

Univ. of Arkansas 1983 2:57:17.06

Shelby Taylor
Leith Weston
Tammy Ditter

Tiffany Cohen
Vera Baker
Florence Barker

WOMEN
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2001 11:00.04 10 Year 1000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2003 20:58.57 12 Year 2000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2005 30:36.18 14 Year 3000 Yard

Chelsea Franklin, FL 2002 21:47.87 11 Year 1000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2003 20:58.57 12 Year 2000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2005 30:36.18 14 Year 3000 Yard

Kim Brown, CA 1986 30:00.32 15 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2005 29:49.89 16 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2006 29:37.89 18 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2005 50:05.00 Open 5000 Yard

WOMEN
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2001 11:00.04 10 Year 1000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2003 20:58.57 12 Year 2000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2005 30:36.18 14 Year 3000 Yard

Kim Brown, CA 1986 30:00.32 15 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2005 29:49.89 16 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2006 29:37.89 18 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2005 50:05.00 Open 5000 Yard

WOMEN
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2001 11:00.04 10 Year 1000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2003 20:58.57 12 Year 2000 Yard
Chelsea Franklin, FL 2005 30:36.18 14 Year 3000 Yard

Kim Brown, CA 1986 30:00.32 15 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2005 29:49.89 16 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2006 29:37.89 18 Year 3000 Yard
Kate Ziegler, PV 2005 50:05.00 Open 5000 Yard

2008 Rules & Regulations