USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

2019 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO USA SWIMMING RULES & REGULATIONS

Prepared by Clark Hammond (Chair),
Mickey Smythe (Secretary)

Version: September 14, 2019 / Meeting Packet

1. The legislative items will be considered in block order.

2. Section A contains items which have been withdrawn by the maker. If there is no objection from the House, the items will be considered withdrawn.

3. Sections B will be considered as omnibus motions, except for those items pulled for discussion. Within the block, delegates will be given the opportunity to pull items. Section C will be considered one item at a time. Changes to the rules adopted because of changes by FINA are informational only and are not included in any block.

4. Items pulled will be considered in numerical order after the respective omnibus motion.

5. Omnibus motions are in the affirmative as motions to approve the block of items.

6. Other motions should generally be stated in the affirmative.

7. Any amendment requires simple majority for approval. The subsequent amended main motion will require the original percentage (majority, 2/3 or 90%). An entirely new item will require 90% for adoption.

8. If you wish to speak, please move to an available microphone. Once recognized by the Chair, please identify yourself by name and LSC or committee.

9. When a badge count is used, please raise your hand high and keep it still until the count is complete. During a badge count, please do not move from your original position.

10. A main motion may only have two amendments pending at any one time.
The makers have requested these items be withdrawn. If there is no objection, a motion authorizing withdrawal of these items will be considered passed EXCEPT if pulled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R-22</td>
<td>To direct resolution of conflict involving Officials to the local level</td>
<td>304.3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-26</td>
<td>To update current wetsuit rules</td>
<td>701.1.3 (new)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Considered as a block EXCEPT for any items pulled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>R&amp;R Rec</th>
<th>Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R-1</td>
<td>To update definitions</td>
<td>Glossary</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-2</td>
<td>To clarify the 120 day rule and the definitions of closed and open competitions</td>
<td>Glossary and 203.3</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-3</td>
<td>To remove the incentive to illegally compose a relay for the purpose of getting an official time for the lead-off swimmer</td>
<td>Glossary, 102.24.1 A (1)(c), 104.2.1 E</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-4</td>
<td>To eliminate confusing language</td>
<td>101.1.3 C</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-5</td>
<td>To clarify seeding procedures for distance events, 400y, 400m/500y or longer, with 3 or more heats</td>
<td>102.5.1 D</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-6</td>
<td>To eliminate the Zone Board of Review structure and extend jurisdiction to the National Board of Review</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-7</td>
<td>To clarify that therapeutic elastic tape is prohibited</td>
<td>102.8.1 E</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-8</td>
<td>To provide additional income for professional U.S. athletes by modifying advertising rules for swimsuits, caps and goggles</td>
<td>102.8.3 A (1), (2) &amp; (3)</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-9</td>
<td>To allow certified USA Swimming or YMCA officials to observe swims in LSC meets authorized for observation from positions other than the end of the pool</td>
<td>202.8.4</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-10</td>
<td>To align with current practices</td>
<td>204.10, 207.2, 207.3 &amp; 207.4</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-11</td>
<td>To allow the Senior Development Committee and USA Swimming’s National Event Director the ability to schedule Futures as seen best for the athletes</td>
<td>204.10.2 &amp; .3</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-12</td>
<td>To allow flexibility when providing awards for fastest reported national age group times in individual and relays events</td>
<td>205.9.8</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-13</td>
<td>To align with current practice of entries submitted via OME (Online Meet Entry)</td>
<td>207.8.1</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-14</td>
<td>To align with current practice for International Programs</td>
<td>207.10.2</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-15</td>
<td>To align with current practice regarding the General Meeting</td>
<td>207.11.1 A</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-16</td>
<td>To align with current practice regarding the scratch rule</td>
<td>207.11.6 E (4) &amp; F</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-17</td>
<td>Remove from the Rulebook as conduct of distance and relay events should be covered in the meet announcement</td>
<td>207.11.8</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-18</td>
<td>To align USA Swimming Rules with U.S. Center for SafeSport-required Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Polices and direct resolution to the local level</td>
<td>304.3.3 &amp; Article 305</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-19</td>
<td>To delete redundant language between USA Swimming Code of Conduct and U.S. Center for SafeSport Code regarding failure to report as the Center has exclusive jurisdiction of the matter</td>
<td>304.3.4</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-20</td>
<td>To delete redundant language between USA Swimming Code of Conduct and USA Swimming Criminal Background Check Policy</td>
<td>304.3.6</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-21</td>
<td>To delete redundant language between USA Swimming Code of Conduct and U.S. Center for SafeSport Code regarding aiding and abetting as the Center has exclusive jurisdiction over the matter</td>
<td>304.3.11</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-23</td>
<td>To direct resolution of team conflict to the local level and provide NBOR with jurisdiction over appeals arising from LSC Affiliation Agreements and National Team Honor Codes</td>
<td>304.3.15 &amp; 403.2.1 G (new) &amp; F (new)</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R-24</td>
<td>To omit consideration of image or reputation in the assessment of potential bad acts</td>
<td>304.3.16</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-25</td>
<td>To update reporting requirements consistent with federal law</td>
<td>306.1</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-27</td>
<td>To align with FINA as selection for junior international open water competition is determined by the swimmer’s age as of December 31</td>
<td>701.2 (new)</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HK-1</td>
<td>To move adopted language from the 2018 House of Delegates to the appropriate article</td>
<td>103.5.3 (new)</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each item considered separately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RES 1</td>
<td>Regarding USA Swimming Club Membership Fee Increase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to Robert, “an amendment must be germane to be in order. To be germane, an amendment must in some way involve the same question that is raised by the motion to which it is applied. A secondary amendment must relate to the primary amendment in the same way. An amendment cannot introduce an independent question; but an amendment can be hostile to, or even defeat, the spirit of the original motion and still be germane.”
USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE
PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

R-1  ACTION:  Adopted  Defeated  Adopted/Amended  Tabled  Postponed  Pulled
Location:  Page 14 – Official Glossary
Proposed by:  Rules & Regulations Committee
Purpose:  To update definitions.
Recommendation:  The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

BONUS (C) FINAL — the third fastest heat of swimmers competing in Finals.

CONSOLATION (B) FINAL — the second fastest heat of swimmers competing in Finals.

FINALS — a session of a meet in which the concluding heats of an event are contested which may include championship, consolation, or bonus finals.

• Championship (A) Final – the fastest heat of swimmers competing in Finals
• Consolation Final(s) – the second fastest and subsequent heats of swimmers competing in Finals for which team selection, scoring points and/or prize money are awarded
• Bonus Final(s) – any finals heat in which no points or placement prizes are awarded

R-2  ACTION:  Adopted  Defeated  Adopted/Amended  Tabled  Postponed  Pulled
Location:  Page 14 – Official Glossary
Page 67 – 203.3 Representation
Proposed by:  Rules & Regulations Committee
Purpose:  To clarify the 120 day rule and the definitions of closed and open competitions.
Recommendation:  The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

CLOSED COMPETITION
• Competition exclusively among members of a single club
• Competition or series of competitions within an independent organization open only to members of that organization, such as:
  o YMCA competition
  o Summer league competition
  o Conference competition
• Closed competition does not include representing a group within USA Swimming such as LSC, Zone, Region, or Section, nor does it include dual meets, invitationals or other meets where only certain clubs are invited to participate

OPEN COMPETITION — competition that is not otherwise defined as a closed competition in which any qualified club, organization or individual may enter.

OPEN EVENT – an event in which any qualified individual may compete, regardless of age.

203.3  For a swimmer to represent a USA Swimming club in a competitive event, one hundred twenty (120) consecutive days must have elapsed before the swimmer is permitted to represent any other USA Swimming club in USA Swimming open or closed competition. The 120-day count shall begin on the day following the last date the athlete represented a USA Swimming club in open competition.
Location: Page 14 – Official Glossary
Page 39 – 102.24 Timing Rules
Page 51 – 104.2 USA Swimming Records

Proposed by: Rules & Regulations Committee

Purpose: To remove the incentive to illegally compose a relay for the purpose of getting an official time for the lead-off swimmer.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

RELAY — a race in which each four eligible team members each swims a specified portion of the course.

102.24 TIMING RULES

.1 Requirements for Official Time

A Performance Requirements

(1) An official time can be achieved only in USA Swimming sanctioned or USA Swimming approved competition, or in an observed swim in accordance with all applicable rules. It may be achieved in:

(a) Any heat.

(b) A swim-off.

(c) A lead-off leg in a relay swum by four eligible relay members; the lead-off swimmer’s time shall not be nullified by a subsequent disqualification of his/her team members.

(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 - .5 [no changes]

104.2 USA SWIMMING RECORDS

.1 General Requirements and Conditions for Records

A-D [no changes]

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

.2 - .5 [no changes]
relieved from their starting positions with the "stand up" command and may step off the blocks.

B 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.

C 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.

D 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.

E 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 207.11.6D(1).

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**R-5** ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

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**Location:** Page 26 – 102.5 Seeding, Lane Assignments, Swim-Offs, and Order of Heats

**Proposed by:** Officials Committee

**Purpose:** To clarify seeding procedures for distance events, 400y, 400m/500y or longer, with 3 or more heats.

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

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

.1 Preliminary Heats When Finals are Scheduled — Entry times shall be listed by the meet committee with the fastest swimmer first and the slowest swimmer last. Swimmers whose submitted times are identical should be assigned places in the list by draw. Swimmers with no submitted times shall be considered the slowest and shall be placed at the end of the list by draw. Swimmers shall be seeded in lanes under the procedure outlined for finals seeding in 102.5. Swimmers shall be seeded in heats according to submitted times in the following manner:

A Fewer than three heats

(1) If there is only one heat, it shall be swum as scheduled during the preliminaries and finals.

(2) If there are two heats, the fastest swimmer shall be seeded in the second heat, next fastest in the first heat, next fastest in the second heat, next in the first heat, etc.

B Three heats — Except for 400y, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, next fastest in the second, next in the first. The fourth fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, the fifth in the second heat, and the sixth fastest in the first heat, etc.

C Four heats or more — Except for 400y, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the last fastest three heats of an event shall be seeded in accordance with B above. The heat preceding the last fastest three heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers; the heat preceding the last fastest four heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers, etc. Lanes shall be assigned in descending order of submitted times within each heat, in accordance with the pattern outlined in 102.5.

D For 400y, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the last fastest two heats of an event shall be seeded in accordance with 102.5.1A(2). The heat preceding the last fastest two heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers; the heat preceding the last fastest three heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers, etc. Lanes shall be assigned in descending order of submitted times within each heat, in accordance with the pattern outlined in 102.5.

E Exception — When there are two or more heats in an event, there shall be a minimum of three swimmers seeded into any one preliminary heat, but subsequent scratches may reduce the number of swimmers in such heat to less than three.

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.2 .6 [no changes]
R-6  ACTION: Adopted  Defeated  Adopted/Amended  Tabled  Postponed  Pulled

113 Location: Various
114 Proposed by: Board of Directors
115 Purpose: To eliminate the Zone Board of Review structure and extend jurisdiction to the National Board of Review.
116 Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.
117 Effective Date: Immediately

118 102.7 POSTPONEMENTS AND CHANGES IN PROGRAM
119 .1-.3 [no changes]
120 .4 Postponement or Cancellation
121 A-F [no changes]
122 G 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 Administrative Review Board or Zone Board of Review National Board of Review for hearing under the provisions of Part Four.

126 102.23 PROTESTS
127 .1-.5 [no changes]
128 .6 Except as provided in 102.23.1, the Referee’s or the meet jury’s ruling may be appealed as follows
129 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 Chair 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.
130 B All other protests, together with the Referee’s or the jury’s written decision, shall be submitted to the Zone Board of Review for the Zone in which the sanctioning LSC is located or, in the case of a National Championship or trials class meet, to the National Board of Review, in accordance with Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations.

ARTICLE 402
BOARD OF REVIEW MEMBERSHIP

402.1 ZONE BOARD OF REVIEW The selection and composition of the membership of the Zone Board of Review shall be governed by the Required Zone Board of Review Procedures.

[re-number remaining]

ARTICLE 403
JURISDICTION

403.1 JURISDICTION OF THE ZONE BOARD OF REVIEW In matters involving a member or members of only one Zone, matters arising in regional or zone competition and any complaint alleging violations of 304.3.12 through 304.3.16 inclusive of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct involving one or more members or prospective members of the Zone, and/or one or more Participating Non-Members, and not brought by USA Swimming, shall be filed directly with the respective Zone. Any appeal of the Zone Board of Review’s decision shall be made to the National Board of Review pursuant to Article 408 hereof. The resolution of any dispute regarding jurisdiction of the Zone or the National Board of Review with regard to a particular case shall be determined by the Chair of the National Board of Review, which resolution shall be binding on all parties and non-appealable.

[re-number remaining]

403.2 JURISDICTION OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

.1 Original and Exclusive Jurisdiction — The National Board of Review has original and exclusive jurisdiction to hear:
A-B [no changes]
C Any complaint under 304.3 through 304.3.146 against any member of USA Swimming, including any athlete, coach, manager, official, member of any committee, or a Participating Non-Member
ARTICLE 404
AUTHORITY OF BOARDS OF REVIEW

404.1 ZONE BOARD OF REVIEW — The Zone Board of Review shall have the following power and authority:

1. Remedies and Penalties — The Zone Board of Review, after conducting such hearings as it may determine to be necessary or helpful, may, among other remedies, with regard to a party named in the Notice of Hearing and Petition:

A. Dismiss the Petition with or without permission to refill;
B. Censure or fine a party;
C. Establish a period of probation, with or without conditions;
D. Prohibit or mandate future actions, inaction or conduct;
E. Determine the results of, or require a rerun of, any election held by the Zone or any constituent element thereof;
F. Vacate, modify, sustain, reverse, remand or stay any decision or order of a House of Delegates, Board of Directors, officer, division or committee, or coordinator of a LSC within the Zone;
G. With the exception of the technical rules (Parts One and Seven), interpret any provision of (i) the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming (to the extent not preempted by FINA or USA Swimming Rules and Regulations); (ii) the USA Swimming Code of Conduct, the Required LSC Bylaws, other policies, rules, regulations and procedures of USA Swimming, the Zone or the LSC; and (iii) the Amateur Sports Act and other applicable laws, rules and regulations; as well as adjudicate alleged inconsistencies and claims of supremacy and invalidity with respect to the foregoing;
H. Deny, grant, suspend or restore membership in the Zone and USA Swimming;
I. Deny, grant, suspend or restore membership in the respective LSC and USA Swimming for a definite or indefinite period of time, with or without terms of probation, or expel any Group Member or Individual Member of the respective LSC and USA Swimming, including any administrator, athlete, coach, trainer, manager, meet director, official, officer, Board Member, House of Delegates representative of a Group Member, coordinator, chair or member of any committee or sub-committee;
J. Prohibit for a definite or indefinite period of time the participation by a Participating Non-Member in the affairs or activities of USA Swimming, the Zone, the respective LSC, its Group Members or other LSCs and their Group Members;
K. Assess costs, including any filing fee and attorneys’ fees and expenses, to the prevailing party or refund any filing fee paid by the prevailing party (except as otherwise set forth below);
L. Issue such interim orders, prohibitory or mandatory in nature, as may be necessary pending a final decision of the Board; and
M. Assess sanctions in any combination of the foregoing or assess any other remedies deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

2. Preliminary Hearing and Temporary Orders — In appropriate cases, the Zone Board of Review, after an initial investigation and/or a preliminary hearing, may make in its discretion temporary orders for the good of the sport of swimming. The temporary order may encompass any remedy or order permissible in a final decision and may include, by way of example, suspending membership, granting the right to participate or coach in a competition, permitting a swimmer to compete subject to protest, or offering or ordering the parties to attempt to resolve their differences pursuant to mediation or other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms prior to any hearing before the Zone Board of Review. These orders may be made effective pending full hearings by the Zone Board of Review or the conclusion of administrative or judicial proceedings of other bodies addressing the same or similar issues or on other terms as determined by the Zone Board of Review.

3. Grounds for Imposition — The Zone Board of Review may fashion remedies and orders and impose penalties with respect to any Group or Individual Member of the Zone, or Participating Non-Member residing within the Zone (1) who has violated any of the regulations, rules, policies or procedures of the LSC, Zone, USA Swimming or FINA, including any of the responsibilities of membership set forth in the Required LSC Bylaws, (2) who aids, abets, instigates or encourages another to violate any of such regulations, rules or policies, (3) who is responsible for any such violation by another, or (4) who has acted in a manner which has brought, or may bring, into disrepute the LSC, the Zone, USA Swimming or the sport of swimming.
ARTICLE 406

ZONE BOARD OF REVIEW HEARINGS AND PROCEDURES

[Delete entire Article and re-number remaining]

ARTICLE 408

APPEAL FROM ZONE BOARD OF REVIEW TO NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

[Delete entire Article and re-number remaining]

ARTICLE 413

REQUIRED ZONE BOARD OF REVIEW PROCEDURES

[Delete entire Article and re-number remaining]

[And other such housekeeping edits as may be required in 304, 409, 411, 412.1, 412.2, and 412.3]

[Amend Required LSC Bylaws to remove all Zone Board of Review references]

R-7 ACTION:     Adopted     Defeated     Adopted/Amended     Tabled     Postponed     Pulled

Location:    Page 30 – 102.8 Swimwear

Proposed by:    Rules & Regulations Committee

Purpose:    To clarify that therapeutic elastic tape is prohibited.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

102.8 SWIMWEAR

.1 Design

A - D     [no changes]

E No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device, substance or swimsuit to help his/ her speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, power bands, adhesive substances, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the Referee. Therapeutic elastic tape is prohibited. Any other kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee.

R-8 ACTION:     Adopted     Defeated     Adopted/Amended     Tabled     Postponed     Pulled

Location:    Page 30 – 102.8 Swimwear

Proposed by:    National Steering Committee

Purpose:    To provide additional income for professional U.S. athletes by modifying advertising rules for swimsuits, caps and goggles.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

Effective Date:    January 1, 2020

102.8 SWIMWEAR

.1-2     [no changes]

.3 Advertising

A Advertising means the normal display of the name, designation, trademark, logo, or any other distinctive sign of the manufacturer of the item or any other advertiser permitted in accordance with this rule. FINA labeling and the USA Swimming logo or club logo shall not be considered as advertisements. Logos of the swimwear manufacturer shall be considered as advertising and are included in the limits described in (1) through (3) below. In the competition venue or complex of all events conducted by and under the control of USA Swimming or any LSC or division thereof, advertising
appearing on swimwear is allowed as follows:

(1) **Swimsuits** — A total of two three separate advertising logos of a maximum size of 30 square centimeters (4.65 sq. in.) each, measured as worn, shall be permitted.

(2) **Caps** — A total of two three separate advertising logos of a maximum size of 20 square centimeters (3.1 sq. in.) each, as measured as applied, shall be permitted. A club logo is not considered as advertising and is not subject to the size limitations.

(3) **Goggles** — A total of two three separate advertising logos of a maximum size of 6 square centimeters (.9 sq. in.) each, as measured as applied, shall be permitted, but only on the spectacle frame or band.

B Body advertising in the form of temporary tattoos or other embellishments is not allowed.

C Advertising for the following shall not be allowed:

(1) Products involving tobacco, nicotine, psychoactive cannabinoids, alcohol or pharmaceuticals containing substances banned under IOC or FINA rules;

(2) Political statements; and

(3) Any products or services that would be counter to the values of the sport or bring disrepute to USA Swimming.

D Swimmers in violation of the above provisions may be barred from the competition venue until they comply. However, any swimmer who competes in an event wearing swimwear in violation of these advertising provisions shall not be subject to disqualification.

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**R-9 ACTION:** Adopted

**Location:** Page 65 – 202.8 Requirements for Observed Swims

**Proposed by:** Times & Recognition Committee

**Purpose:** To allow certified USA Swimming or YMCA officials to observe swims in LSC meets authorized for observation from positions other than the end of the pool.

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

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

.1-.3 [no changes]

.4 Where the technical rules of the stroke differ from USA Swimming as defined in Article 101, at least two observers from USA Swimming and/or the YMCA, who shall be certified Stroke & Turn Judges assigned or approved by the LSC, must be present, one at each end of the course, on deck and in position to observe the strokes where the rules differ, in order to verify compliance of the swim or swims with that part of the USA Swimming rule that differs from the organization’s rule.

Where the technical rules as listed in Article 101 are identical to those of the organization under whose rules the meet is being conducted, the judgment of the organization officials shall be sufficient. The times should be entered, upon request, into SWIMS, the National Times Database.

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**R-10 ACTION:** Adopted

**Location:** Page 70 – 204.10 USA Swimming Futures Championships

**Proposed by:** Program & Events Committee

**Purpose:** To align with current practices.

**Recommendation:** The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.
The USA Swimming Futures Championships shall be governed and conducted by USA Swimming and conducted by the Program & Events Committee.

.1-.3 [no changes]

The USA Swimming U.S. Open Championships shall be governed and conducted by the Senior Development Committee and USA Swimming and conducted by the Program & Events Committee. 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 Managing Director.

The USA Swimming National Championship meets and Open Water Championship meets shall be governed and conducted by USA Swimming and conducted by the Program & Events Committee. 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 swimmers from beyond eighth (8th) place in a specific event, this rule also applies to the B and C (consolation and bonus) final(s) in that event. Finals will be seeded accordingly.

The USA Swimming Junior National Championship and Junior National Open Water Championships meet(s) shall be governed and conducted by USA Swimming and conducted by the Program & Events Committee.

.1-.3 [no changes]

To allow the Senior Development Committee and USA Swimming’s National Event Director the ability to schedule Futures as seen best for the athletes.

To allow flexibility when providing awards for fastest reported national age group times in individual and relays events.

The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

Location: Page 70 – 204.10 USA Swimming Futures Championships

Proposed by: Senior Development Committee

Purpose: To allow the Senior Development Committee and USA Swimming’s National Event Director the ability to schedule Futures as seen best for the athletes.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

The USA Swimming Futures Championships shall be governed and conducted by USA Swimming and conducted by the Program & Events Committee.

The Futures Championships will be swum long course during the summer season. The dates, place of competition and number of competitions to be held will be determined by the Senior Development Committee based on the recommendations of USA Swimming’s National Events staff.

The meets should be scheduled to be held during the same week as the USA Swimming Junior National Championships.

LSCs will be assigned to a specific Futures meet based upon the recommendation from the Senior Development Committee.

To allow flexibility when providing awards for fastest reported national age group times in individual and relays events.

The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

Location: Page 78 – 205.9 National Age Group Recognition Program

Proposed by: Program & Events Committee

Purpose: To allow flexibility when providing awards for fastest reported national age group times in individual and relays events.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.
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 Program & Events Committee Chair or designee.

R-13 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

Location: Page 76 – 207.8 Entry Forms and Meet Announcement
Proposed by: Program & Events Committee
Purpose: To align with current practice of entries submitted via OME (Online Meet Entry).
Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

207.8 ENTRY FORMS AND MEET ANNOUNCEMENT

1. The entry forms and meet announcement shall be prepared under joint direction of the Program & Events Committee Chair or designee, the Rules Chair, the Meet Director, and the President/Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee(s).

2. The meet announcement shall state qualifying times and procedures necessary for proof of entry times. (See 207.6 and 207.7) For a USA Swimming Championship meet, the President/CEO or his/her designee may permit bonus events. For each qualifying time achieved in an individual event, additional bonus events may be allowed. Requirements for bonus events will be specified in the meet announcement.

R-14 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

Location: Page 77 – 207.10 Programs
Proposed by: Program & Events Committee
Purpose: To align with current practice for International Programs.
Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

207.10 PROGRAMS

1. [no changes]

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

R-15 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

Location: Page 78 – 207.11 Administrative Conduct of USA Swimming Championships
Proposed by: Program & Events Committee
Purpose: To align with current practice regarding the General Meeting.
Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

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

1. General Meeting

A. A general meeting, chaired by the Program & Events Committee Chair or designee, shall be held at all USA Swimming
championship meets prior to the first day's competition. The Meet Referee, all participating coaches, and representatives of each participating club are obligated to attend or be represented at this meeting responsible for all information disseminated at the 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.

C It is the obligation of every swimmer 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.

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<th>R-16</th>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>Page 78 – 207.11 Administrative Conduct of USA Swimming Championships</td>
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<td>Proposed by:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purpose:</td>
<td>To align with current practice regarding scratch rule.</td>
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<td>Recommendation:</td>
<td>The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.</td>
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207.11 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT OF USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS — The administrative rules for the conduct of the National Championships and Open Water Championships are specified herein. Additional rules for Open Water Championships are listed in Article 704.

.1 - .5 [no changes]

.6 Scratch Procedures

A – D [no changes]

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.

(4) The swimmer pays a re-entry fee for each preliminary event in which he or she failed to compete. The re-entry fee shall be established by the National Team Steering Committee and the Program & Events Committee Chair or designee and published in the meet announcement.

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

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<th>ACTION:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Purpose:</td>
<td>Remove from the Rulebook as conduct of distance and relay events should be covered in the meet announcement.</td>
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Championships are listed in Article 704.

.1-.7  [no changes]

.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 & Events Committee Chair or designee.

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<th>R-18</th>
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<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Page 94 – Article 304 Code of Conduct</td>
<td>Page 96 – Article 305 Athlete Protection Policies</td>
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<td>Proposed by:</td>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purpose:</td>
<td>To align USA Swimming Rules with U.S. Center for SafeSport required Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies and direct resolution to the local level.</td>
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**ARTICLE 305
MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION PROTECTION POLICIES**

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

305.1 Inappropriate touching between an athlete and an adult non-athlete member or Participating Non-Member (as defined in 401.1) is prohibited, including, but not limited to, excessive touching, hugging, kissing, and having an athlete sit on a non-family member adult’s lap.

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

305.3 Any rubdown or massage performed on an athlete by any adult member or Participating Non-Member, excluding the spouse, parent, guardian, sibling, or personal assistant of such athlete, is prohibited unless such adult is a licensed massage therapist or other certified professional. Any rubdown or massage performed at a swim venue by a licensed professional must be conducted in open/public locations and must never be done with only the athlete and licensed massage therapist in the room. Even if a coach is a licensed massage therapist, the coach shall not perform a rubdown or massage of an athlete under any circumstances.

305.4 Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone camera, is not allowed in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms.

305.5 Employees and volunteers of USA Swimming, Zones, LSCs and member clubs who interact directly and frequently with athletes as a regular part of their duties and individuals with any ownership interest in a member club must be non-athlete members of USA Swimming and satisfactorily complete criminal background checks as required by USA Swimming. This does not apply to volunteers such as timers, marshals, computer operators, etc., who only have limited contact with athletes during a meet. Any individual who is banned, currently suspended or ineligible for membership is prohibited from serving as a timer, marshal, or computer operator, or otherwise being on deck at any time in connection with a USA Swimming activity.

305.6 TRAVEL

Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an athlete unless the coach is the parent, guardian, sibling, or spouse of that particular athlete.
2. Team managers and chaperones must be members of USA Swimming and have successfully passed a USA Swimming-required criminal background check.

3. When only one athlete and one coach travel to a competition, the athlete must have his/her parent’s (or legal guardian’s) written permission in advance to travel alone with the coach.

4. Clubs and LSCs shall develop their own travel policies. USA Swimming will provide a model club travel policy as an example. Club travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults traveling with the club.

305.7.1 Clubs shall establish their own action plans for implementing USA Swimming’s anti-bullying policy the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (see page ____). USA Swimming shall provide a model plan as an example which shall serve as the default for any club that fails to establish its own plan. Club anti-bullying plans must be reviewed and agreed to annually by all athletes, parents, coaches and other non-athlete members of the club.

305.8.2 Clubs shall establish their own electronic communication/social media anti-bullying policy. USA Swimming shall provide a model policy as an example, which shall serve as the default for any club that fails to establish its own policy. Club electronic communication anti-bullying policies should be reviewed and agreed to annually by all athletes, parents, coaches and other non-athlete members of the club.

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R-19 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

Location: Page 94 – Article 304 Code of Conduct

Proposed by: Board of Directors

Purpose: To delete redundant language between USA Swimming Code of Conduct and U.S. Center for SafeSport Code regarding failure to report as the Center has exclusive jurisdiction of the matter.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

Effective Date: Immediately

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

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

.1-3 [no changes]

.4 Violation of any of the Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements set forth in Article 306 or the Prohibitions against Retaliation for Good Faith Reporting of Abuse set forth in Article 307.

[re-number remaining and appropriate references]

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R-20 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

Location: Page 94 – Article 304 Code of Conduct

Proposed by: Board of Directors

Purpose: To delete redundant language between USA Swimming Code of Conduct and USA Swimming Criminal Background Check Policy.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

Effective Date: Immediately

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

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

.1-5 [no changes]

.6 Conviction of, imposition of a deferred sentence for, or any plea of guilty or no contest at any time, past or present, or the existence of any pending charges, for (i) any felony or (ii) any offense involving use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances.
ACTION:     Adopted     Defeated     Adopted/Amended     Tabled     Postponed     Pulled
Location:     Page 94 – Article 304 Code of Conduct
Proposed by:     Board of Directors
Purpose:     To delete redundant language between USA Swimming Code of Conduct and U.S. Center for SafeSport Code regarding aiding and abetting as the Center has exclusive jurisdiction over the matter.
Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.
Effective Date:     Immediately

304.3 The following shall be considered violations of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct:
Measures to be adjudicated by the USA Swimming National Board of Review
.1-10 [no changes]
.11 For any USA Swimming member club or coach to knowingly:
    A allow any person who has been sanctioned with a membership suspension by the Center for SafeSport or USA Swimming to coach or instruct any of its athlete members,
    B aid or abet coaching or instruction of athletes by any person who has been sanctioned with a membership suspension by the Center for SafeSport or USA Swimming or
    C allow any person who has been sanctioned with a membership suspension by the Center for SafeSport or USA Swimming to have an ownership interest in such USA Swimming club or its related entities.

WITHDRAWN PENDING APPROVAL OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
Location:     Page 94 – Article 304 Code of Conduct
304.3 The following shall be considered violations of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct:
Measures to be adjudicated by the USA Swimming National Board of Review
.1-12 [no changes]
.13 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.

ACTION:     Adopted     Defeated     Adopted/Amended     Tabled     Postponed     Pulled
Location:     Page 94 – Article 304 Code of Conduct
Proposed by:     Board of Directors
Purpose:     To direct resolution of team conflict to the local level and provide NBOR with jurisdiction over appeals arising from LSC Affiliation Agreements and National Team Honor Codes.
Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.
Effective Date:     Immediately

304.3 The following shall be considered violations of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct:
Measures to be adjudicated by the USA Swimming National Board of Review

1.14 [no changes]

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

[re-number remaining]

403.2 JURISDICTION OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

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

A-E [no changes]

F Any appeal initiated pursuant to adverse action taken by the USA Swimming Board of Directors against an LSC for alleged violations of an LSC Affiliation Agreement.

G Any appeal initiated pursuant to adverse action taken against an athlete for alleged violations of the applicable USA Swimming Honor Code.

R-24 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

Location: Page 94 – Article 304 Code of Conduct

Proposed by: Board of Directors

Purpose: To omit consideration of image or reputation in the assessment of potential bad acts.

Recommendation: The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.

Effective Date: Immediately

306.1 Pursuant to federal law, it is every member’s responsibility to promptly immediately (i.e., within 24 hours) report any incident of child abuse, including physical or sexual abuse, as described in the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement to law enforcement and the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Reporting (720-531-0340) must occur when an individual has firsthand knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party. Various state laws may also require reporting to law enforcement or to a designated child protection agency.

306.2 Filing a knowingly false allegation of child abuse and sexual misconduct is prohibited and may violate state criminal law and civil defamation laws. Any person making a knowingly false allegation of sexual misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary action by USA Swimming.
### 701.1 EVENTS/MEETS

#### 1 Recommended individual events are listed in 102.1.3.

#### 2 Wetsuit Events: 5k and greater — For open water swimming competitions in water with temperature below 20°C (68°F), men and women may use either swimsuits or wetsuits. When the water temperature is below 18°C (64.4°F), the use of wetsuits is compulsory.

#### 3 Wetsuit Events: less than 5k — For open water swimming competitions in water with temperature below 20°C (68°F), men and women may use either swimsuits or wetsuits.

#### 4 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 announcement.

### 701.2 ELIGIBILITY

- Age for Open Water Zone Championships shall be determined by the swimmer’s age as of December 31 of that year.

**Proposed by:** Open Water Committee

**Purpose:** To align with FINA as selection for junior international open water competition is determined by the swimmer’s age as of December 31.

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

### 103.5 /LSC/ POOL AND BULKHEAD MARKINGS

#### 1 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.
- **B** /LSC/ Be outside the outermost lanes being used.

#### 2 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 short course meters and 15 feet for short course yards 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 feet 2-1/2 inches) from each end wall in both short course and long course pools. A fixed mark shall be placed on any wall or the deck adjacent to an outside lane to correctly align the 15-meter buoys for judging underwater starts/turn distances. The mark on the wall or deck will be considered the default marking for officiating purposes. 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. Damaged or broken floats shall be removed and/or replaced, to the extent possible.
RESOLUTION
REGARDING USA SWIMMING CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 2020 for the 2021 Membership Year

"WHEREAS, we desire that the United States continue to be recognized as the #1 swimming nation in the world; and

WHEREAS, USA Swimming desires to continue to be recognized as being among the flagship National Governing Bodies in the U.S. Olympic Committee’s family of sports; and

WHEREAS, the current fee schedule for USA Swimming clubs is set at $70 per membership year; and

WHEREAS, club membership fees have been a funding source for USA Swimming’s successful efforts over the past decade to meet the objectives of Building the Base, Promoting the Sport, and Achieving Sustained Competitive Success in International Competition; and

WHEREAS, USA Swimming’s club membership fees have not been adjusted for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, USA Swimming also seeks to continue the expansion of its programs, services and support for clubs, including Safe Sport and insurance;

WHEREAS, the USA Swimming Board of Directors has approved the proposal to increase club membership fees to the following levels beginning with the 2021 membership year:

• For existing clubs from $70 to $250
• For new, first-year clubs only, from $70 to $500
• For seasonal clubs from $40 to $70

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the USA Swimming House of Delegates approve a fee increase for annual club members beginning in the 2021 membership year."
2.6 PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

.1 A Coach member of USA Swimming must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. Junior Coach members must be age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17).

.2 All non-athlete members of USA Swimming must have satisfactorily completed criminal background checks and athlete protection education as required by USA Swimming. The criminal background check requirement is waived for Junior Coach members.

.3 All adult members of USA Swimming, including athletes, and junior coach members must have satisfactorily completed athlete protection education as required by the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

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

.5 All referees, starters, administrative officials, chief judges, and stroke and turn judges must be non-athlete members of USA Swimming.

.6 Employees and volunteers of USA Swimming, Zones, LSCs and member clubs who interact directly and frequently with athletes as a regular part of their duties and individuals with any ownership interest in a member club must be non-athlete members of USA Swimming. This does not apply to volunteers such as timers, marshals, computer operators, etc., who only have limited contact with athletes during a meet; however, any individual who is banned, currently suspended or ineligible for membership is prohibited from serving as a timer, marshal, or computer operator, or otherwise being on deck at any time in connection with a USA Swimming activity.

[re-number remaining]

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

.1-.2 [no changes]

.3 Three “athlete representatives” (as defined in the then-current USOC Bylaws) directly elected by the Athletes Committee athletes who meet the same standards as an “athlete representative” shall be voting members.