

USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS
 SEPTEMBER, 2007

No.	Description	Location	Recommendation
R-1	Provide for warning signal for individual freestyle events of 16 or more lengths	101.1.4	Rejection
R-2	Clarification of breaststroke rules	101.2	Approval
R-3	Clarify wording for backstroke turn	101.4	Approval
R-4	Add 50 back, breast, and fly to senior long course events and to 13-18 age group events and to 3-day and 5-day programs	102.1.1&.2 207.11	Withdrawn
R-5	Simplify requirements for filling out relay cards	102.4	Approval
R-6	Eliminate requirement that fastest time of competitor be used for entry into event	102.5.1 102.5.4	Approval
R-7	Ratify and extend Board's action raising water depth for teaching racing starts to 6-foot minimum	103.2	Approval
R-8	Create spring Junior National series in lieu of spring sectionals	204.9 207.4	Postponed pending feedback from Senior Development
R-9	To change Top 16 Recognition to be more flexible	205.8	Not yet reviewed
R-10	Rewrite of Article 206 and 207	206 and 207	Pending
R-10A	Drop Spring Championships, add U.S. Open in place of summer Nationals when there is a Trials class meet earlier in the summer (General)	206.1	
R-10B	Move language to Policy	206.2	
R-10C	Update to reflect current practice	206.3	
R-10D	Update & move some language to Policy	206.4-206.7	
R-10E	Update to reflect current practice	207.1-207.6	
R-10F	Update & move some language to Policy	207.7	
R-10G	Move language to Policy	207.8	
R-10H	Move language to Policy	207.9	
R-10I	Update & move some language to Policy	207.10	
R-10J	Update & move some language to Policy	207.11	
R-10K	Update & move some language to Policy	207.12	
R-10L	Update & move some language to Policy	207.13	
R-11	Remove "Chief Financial Officer" from description of Treasurer	503.3	Approval
R-12	To add independent directors to Board of Directors	504.1	Postponed pending referral to the Board of Directors
R-13	Attendance requirement for ex-officio members of Board of Directors	504.5	Approval
R-14	Give Board rather than House of Delegates sole authority for budget approval	504.8 508.2	Approval

R-15	To control the membership of current Board of Director members on USA-S committees	506.1.2	Approval
R-16	To create a Nominating Committee	506.1 506.13 (new)	<i>Postponed pending referral to the Board of Directors</i>
R-17	Change IRC from a Standing Committee to a Policy Committee	506.1 506.4	Approval
R-18	Change Officials Committee from a Standing Committee to a Policy Committee	506.1	Approval
R-19	To expand the role of the Governance Committee to include ethics	506.7	<i>Postponed pending referral to the Board of Directors</i>
R-20	Clarify role of Audit Committee	506.8.3	Approval
R-21	To change composition of the Steering Committee	506.10.1	Approval
R-22	Retired		
R-23	To change Steering Committee composition to be in compliance with Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act	506.10.1	Approval
R-24	Eliminate Program Endowment Fund	508.5	Approval
R-25	Provide for LSC financial reporting requirements	509 (new)	Approval
R-26	Presented only if R-25 is defeated. Provide for requirements for LSCs in order to retain insurance coverage	509.3	<i>Postponed pending referral to the Board of Directors</i>
R-27	Clarify a clumsy sentence in LSC Bylaws template	604.8.1	Approval
R-28	Change scoring options for open water meets	701.1.3	<i>No recommendation pending referral</i>
R-29	To align OW rules with FINA	701.2	<i>No recommendation pending referral</i>
R-30	Allow for disqualification rather than re-start when there is an unfair start	701.2 701.15	<i>No recommendation pending referral</i>
R-31	Align open water disqualifications with FINA	701.5	<i>No recommendation pending referral</i>
R-32	Define OW disqualification procedure (FINA)	701.6 (new)	<i>No recommendation pending referral</i>
R-33	Duties of Course Officer	701.13	<i>Not yet reviewed</i>
R-34	Duties of Clerk of Course for OW	701.14	<i>Not yet reviewed</i>
R-35	Duties of Recorder for OW	701.21(new)	<i>Not yet reviewed</i>
R-36	Align OW course requirements with FINA	702.1	<i>Not yet reviewed</i>
R-37	Align OW water temperature with FINA	702.2	<i>Not yet reviewed</i>
R-38	Align requirements for OW finish venue with FINA	702.5	<i>Not yet reviewed</i>
R-39	Establish abandonment policy for OW National Champs	704.2 (new)	<i>No recommendation pending referral</i>
HK-1	Correct name of Steering Committee	506.3.2	Approval
HK-2	Replace U.S. Open with SCY National Championships	507.1.2	<i>Not yet reviewed</i>
HK-3	Clarify description of Pacific Northwest	Appendix 6D	Approval

USA SWIMMING
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
2007 USA SWIMMING RULES & REGULATIONS

R-1 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 19-20 ARTICLE 101.1 STARTS

Proposed by: Kevin Russell, Arizona Swimming

Purpose: The proposed language for 101.1.4 would be consistent with 102.5.6A, which says, "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." The current language for 101.1.4 does not call for a warning signal for the short course 400 meter individual freestyle event, an event for which a counter may be used. The proposed change would have counters and warning signals used on the same events.

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends rejection because this proposal is inconsistent with FINA rules which do not provide for a warning signal for the 400 meter free.*

101.1.4 Warning Signal — For individual freestyle events of 16 or more lengths, ~~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.

R-2 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 20-21 ARTICLE 101.2 BREASTSTROKE

Proposed by: Rules and Regulations Committee

Purpose: To clarify that the body must be on the breast from the time the feet leave the wall; to eliminate the inference that an upward butterfly kick is not permissible; to eliminate the inference that the body must be wholly submerged in order to take a single butterfly kick; and, to clarify that the allowed single butterfly kick must be during or at the end of the first arm pull.

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

101.2. BREASTSTROKE

.1 Start- The forward start shall be used.

.2 Stroke - After the start and after each turn when the swimmer leaves the wall, ~~From the beginning~~

40 ~~of the first arm stroke after the start and after each turn~~ the body shall be kept on the breast. It is
41 not permissible to roll onto the back at any time. Throughout the race the stroke cycle must be
42 one arm stroke and one leg kick in that order. All movements of the arms shall be simultaneous
43 and in the same horizontal plane without alternating movements.

44
45 The hands shall be pushed

46
47 During each complete

48
49 .3 Kick – After the start and each turn, a single ~~downward~~ butterfly kick, which must be followed by
50 a breaststroke kick, is permitted ~~while wholly submerged~~ during or at the completion of the first
51 arm pull. Following which, all movements of the legs shall be simultaneous and in the same
52 horizontal plane without alternating movement.

53
54 The feet must be turned outwards....

55
56 *No further changes...*

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R-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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60 **Location:** Page 21-22 ARTICLE 101.4 BACKSTROKE

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62 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee

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64 **Purpose:** To change the wording to be more consistent with the FINA language and to make it
65 clearer that following the arm pull the turn must be initiated.

66
67 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

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69 **101.4 BACKSTROKE:**

70
71 .1 *No change*

72
73 .2 *No change*

74
75 .3 Turns – Upon completion of each length, some part of the swimmer must touch the wall. During
76 the turn, the shoulders may be turned past vertical toward the breast after which a continuous
77 single arm pull or a continuous simultaneous double arm pull may be used to initiate ~~execute~~ the
78 turn. The swimmer must have returned to a position on the back upon leaving the wall.

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80 .4 *No change*

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R-4 **WITHDRAWN PENDING APPROVAL OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

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Location: Page 23-24 **ARTICLE 102.1 EVENTS**
Page 75 **ARTICLE 207.11 PROGRAMS**

Proposed by: Chip Carrigan, Age Group Chair, Ohio Swimming

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Purpose:

1. Increase Athlete Membership in USA Swimming
2. Increase Athlete Membership retention, targeting the 13 & over athletes (see graph below – source: USA Swimming Membership Statistics).
3. Align Article 102 more closely FINA Rule SW12.1 (&.2) as recognized events.
4. Supports USA Swimming’s Core Objective of “Build The Base”.

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Article 104.2 USA Swimming Records already recognize these 3 events as listed in **104.2.2 American and United States Open Records** in:

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1. **104.2B Recognized Distances and Strokes (Men and Women)**
 - a. (2) Short Course Meters
 - b. (3) Long Course Meters.
2. FINA recognizes these 3 events in:
 - a. Long Course Meters (50M)
 - b. Short Course Meters (25M)
3. FINA recognizes these events as World Records in FINA Youth World Championships Records

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Why Now: The 2005 – 2008 National Age Group Motivational Times will be adjusted following the 2008 Long Course Season. Having statistical data available for the 50 meter events from the Long Course 2008 season will simplify establishing the 2009 – 2012 National Age Group Motivational Times.



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Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee has postponed making a recommendation pending input from Age Group and Senior Development Committees.*

163 **Day Two**

164 **Preliminaries**

- 165 400-yard/meter individual medley
- 166 50-yard/meter freestyle
- 167 200-yard/meter breaststroke
- 168 100-yard/meter backstroke
- 169 50-meter butterfly
- 170 500-yard/400-meter freestyle
- 171 400-yard/meter medley relay

Finals

- 400-yard/meter individual medley
- 50-yard/meter freestyle
- 200-yard/meter breaststroke
- 100-yard/meter backstroke
- 50-meter butterfly
- 500-yard/400-meter freestyle
- 400-yard/meter medley relay

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173 **Day Three**

174 **Preliminaries**

- 175 200-yard/meter backstroke
- 176 50-meter breaststroke
- 177 100-yard/meter freestyle
- 178 200-yard/meter butterfly
- 179 400-yard/meter freestyle relay
- 180 1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle

Finals

- 1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle
- 200-yard/meter backstroke
- 50-meter breaststroke
- 100-yard/meter freestyle
- 200-yard/meter butterfly
- 400-yard/meter freestyle relay

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182 **.2 Five Day Program**

183

184 **Day One**

- Women's 800-meter freestyle
- Men's 800-meter freestyle

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187 **Day Two**

- Women's 100-meter freestyle
- Men's 100-meter freestyle
- Women's 200-meter breaststroke
- Men's 200-meter breaststroke
- Women's 200-meter backstroke
- Men's 200-meter backstroke
- Women's 200-meter butterfly
- Men's 200-meter butterfly

195

196 **Day Three**

- Women's 200-meter freestyle
- Men's 200-meter freestyle
- Women's 50-meter backstroke
- Men's 50-meter backstroke
- Women's 400-meter individual medley
- Men's 400-meter individual medley
- Women's 50-meter butterfly
- Men's 50-meter butterfly
- Women's 800-meter freestyle relay
- Men's 800-meter freestyle relay

206

207 **Day Four**

- Women's 100-meter backstroke
- Men's 100-meter backstroke
- Women's 400-meter freestyle
- Men's 400-meter freestyle
- Women's 100-meter breaststroke
- Men's 100-meter breaststroke

212

213		Women's	100-meter butterfly
214		Men's	100-meter butterfly
215		Women's	400-meter freestyle relay
216		Men's	400-meter freestyle relay
217			
218	Day Five	Women's	200-meter individual medley
219		Men's	200-meter individual medley
220		<u>Women's</u>	<u>50-meter breaststroke</u>
221		<u>Men's</u>	<u>50-meter breaststroke</u>
222		Women's	1500-meter freestyle
223		Women's	50-meter freestyle
224		Men's	50-meter freestyle
225		Men's	1500-meter freestyle
226		Women's	400-meter medley relay
227		Men's	400-meter medley relay
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R-5 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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231 **Location:** Page 25-26 ARTICLE 102.4 RELAYS

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233 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee

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235 **Purpose:** To simplify requirements for filling out relay cards.

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237 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

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239 **102.4 RELAYS**

240
241 .7 ~~First and last~~ Names of eligible relay swimmers, ~~their ages,~~ and order of swimming shall be
242 submitted to the clerk of course or to the head lane timer. Any changes in the names of the
243 competing swimmer or their order of swimming must be declared to the Head Lane Timer prior
244 to the start of the heat in which such relay team is entered. No changes shall be permitted
245 thereafter.
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R- 6 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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249 **Location:** Page 26-27 ARTICLE 102.5 LANE ASSIGNMENTS – SEEDING – COUNTERS –
250 ORDER OF HEATS

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252 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee

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254 **Purpose:** Any requirements for entering times should be covered in the meet announcement, not
255 mandated in Rules and Regulations.

256
257 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

258
259 **102.5 LANE ASSIGNMENTS — SEEDING — COUNTERS — ORDER OF HEATS**

260
261 **.1 Preliminary Heats When Finals are Scheduled** — ~~In order to assure seeded positions, the best~~
262 ~~competitive times of all entries must be submitted. These Entry times shall be assembled (listed) by~~
263 the meet committee with the fastest swimmer first and the slowest swimmer last....

264 *No further change*

265
266 **.4 Timed Finals**

267
268 A Heats — ~~In order to assure seeded positions, the best competitive times of all entries must be~~
269 ~~submitted. The last heat shall be composed of the swimmers with the fastest submitted times, the~~
270 next to last heat composed of the next fastest swimmers, etc....

271 *No further change...*

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R-7 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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275 **Location:** Page 43 **ARTICLE 103.2 WATER DEPTH**

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277 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors

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279 **Purpose:** In February, 2007, pursuant to Article 504.8, the Board of Directors amended Rule
280 103.2.2 regarding minimum water depth for teaching racing starts. This is now
281 brought before the House of Delegates so that the action can be ratified and extended.

282
283 **Effective Date:** Immediately

284
285 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

286
287 **103.2 WATER DEPTH —**

288
289 .1 /NC/ 2 meters (6 feet 7 inches) deep throughout the course.

290
291 .2. /M/ Teaching Racing Starts – Minimum water depth for teaching racing starts in any setting from any
292 height starting blocks or the deck shall be ~~5 6~~ feet (~~1.53~~ 1.84 meters) measured for a distance of 3 feet
293 3 1/2 inches (1.0 meter) to 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from the end wall.

294
295 .3 /M// Racing Starts – Minimum water depth for racing starts during practice and competition shall be
296 measured for a distance 3' 3 1/2" (1.0 meter) to 16'5" (5.0 meters) from the end wall. Starting
297 requirements and height of starting block shall be:

298
299 A In pools with water depth less than 4' (1.22 meter) at the starting end, the swimmer must start
300 from within the water;

301
302 B In pools with water depth 4' (1.22 meter) or more at the starting end, starting platforms shall meet
303 the height requirements of 103.12.1.

304
305 **Note:** Local, state and municipal statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, may have depth
306 limitations in conflict with this section. The LSC and all Member Clubs should check for this at all
307 times.

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R-8 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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Location: **Page 65 ARTICLE 204.9 Sectional Championships**
 Page 70 ARTICLE 207.4 USA Swimming Junior National Championships

Proposed by: George Homewood, on behalf of Virginia Swimming

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Purpose: Sectional meets in many areas have not lived up to their initial potential. The proposed change would create a new Junior National series in the spring with one meet in each zone and consistent course length and time standards for each meet. Decisions on course length and time standards would be left to Program Operations and Senior Development Committee and could change from year to year if the needs of competitive progression warrant.

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Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee has postponed making a recommendation pending input from Senior Development Committee.*

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326

204.9 SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

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

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332

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

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

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.2 The Spring Junior National Series will consist of one meet swum in each Zone, either long course or short course as determined by Program Operations in consultation with the Athletes' Executive Committee provided that all meets in the series in a single year shall be swum in the same course and with the same time standards. The dates and places of competition will be determined by the Senior Development Committee. The series should be scheduled to be held before the USA Swimming Spring Championships and provide an opportunity for progression to the USA Swimming Spring Championships.

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Renumber existing .2 and .3 as .3 and .4 respectively.

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R-9 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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Location: **Page 67 ARTICLE 205.8 NATIONAL TOP 16 TIMES REPORTING AND RECOGNITION**

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Proposed by: Suzanne Heath, on behalf of the Times & Recognition Committee
 Tony Young, on behalf of Age Group Development Committee

355 **Purpose:** To provide the flexibility in allowing changes within the program to be made more
356 easily. It's also to reflect the changes which have occurred with the loading of all official
357 times into SWIMS

358
359 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*
360

361 **205.8 ~~National Top 16 Times Reporting and Recognition~~ National Age Group Recognition Program**
362

363 .1 Times submitted for recognition shall be achieved in the recognized events in 102.1.2 and in
364 accordance with 102.16.4C, in any USA Swimming Sanctioned or Approved competition, USA
365 Swimming Observed Swims, or meets sanctioned by FINA or FINA members and accepted for
366 national times reporting by USA Swimming. These meets must be conducted between September 1
367 of one calendar year and August 31 of the next calendar year.

368
369 .2 A swimmer must be a USA Swimming athlete member at the time of the ~~reportable swim in order to~~
370 ~~be ranked in the National Top 16 Times.~~

371
372 .3 The Vice President of Program Operations or designee shall establish and distribute the ~~reporting~~
373 ~~procedures~~ specifications of the Recognition Program to the LSCs before the start of the subsequent
374 reporting period. These procedures will ~~shall~~ include the reporting period, ~~method of submission,~~
375 deadlines, awards to be given, and the expected publication date.

376
377 .4 If the ~~reportable~~ times are achieved in a meet conducted in a continuous session overlapping the start
378 of a reporting period, the last day of the meet shall be the last day of the reporting period for that
379 meet.

380
381 .5 Each LSC shall be responsible for submitting all ~~reportable~~ official times achieved within its
382 boundaries for consideration.

383
384 .6 ~~The Top 16 Times tabulation shall be published for short and long course competition.~~ An Awards
385 list shall be published for both short and long course competition.

386
387 .7 No club's relay team may be listed more than once unless that club has an additional relay or relays
388 comprised of four different swimmers. If the club has an additional relay entitled to listing with a
389 change of one, two, or three individual swimmers from a higher listed relay, those additional
390 swimmers will be listed after the club's higher ranked team members.

391
392 .8 Each swimmer achieving the fastest reported time in each individual event and each member of the
393 relay team achieving the fastest time in a relay event shall be awarded an appropriate certificate and an
394 emblem, pin, or similar memento by USA Swimming. ~~Those ranked second through 16th will be~~
395 ~~awarded a certificate with their name and ranking. At the option of the LSC, a swimmer achieving a~~
396 ~~Top 16 reportable time, but not listed in the final tabulation as an individual or as a member of a relay,~~
397 ~~will receive a certificate of recognition. Other awards will be determined and announced to the LSCs~~
398 by the Vice President of Program Operations.
399

R-10 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

Location: **Pages 68-83 ARTICLES 206 AND 207**

Proposed by: Senior Development Committee and Rules and Regulations Committee

Purpose: To re-write Articles 206 and 207. The purpose of the re-write is threefold: (1) as recommended by the National Team Head Coach/General Manager, Spring Championships would be dropped from the current schedule and the U.S. Open added in place of summer National in years when there is a Trials Class meet held earlier in the summer; (2) update these sections to reflect current practice; (3) transfer some verbiage to the USA Swimming Policy Manual so that the Board of Directors can act quickly to make adjustments suggested by Program Operations Division, the National Team Division, Steering, and/or the Director of National Events relative to procedural matters.

Recommendation: *The Rules and Regulations Committee is still in the process of reviewing this.*

The following text is complete so that the entire re-write is visible. It is broken down into different legislative items for ease of discussion at the House of Delegates, but the text is continuous.

Note: Items to be relocated to the Policy Manual are **highlighted**. Items that are being changed or deleted to clarify, reflect current practice, or eliminate redundancy are in “**strikethrough**” and “**underline**.”

Items are broken down as follows:

R-10A ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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ARTICLE 206
AWARDING USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS
AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

- 400
401 **206.1 GENERAL** — USA Swimming Championships shall be conducted annually.
402
403 .1 A short course yard (25 yard) National Championships shall be conducted the week following
404 Thanksgiving.
405
406 ~~.2 A long course meet shall be conducted in the spring, except that in the year of the Summer Olympic~~
407 ~~Games or when a national team selection meet is held, the format, type and dates of the meet shall be~~
408 ~~determined by the National Team Head Coach/General Manager.~~
409
410 .2 A long course National Championship meet shall be conducted every summer, except when there is a
411 Trials Class meet in the summer and that Trials Class meet is not in accordance with 206.4.3 (at the
412 traditional time at the end of the summer). The end of the summer meet during those summers shall

413 be called the U.S. Open.

414

415 ~~4.3~~ USA Swimming Open Water Individual and Team Championships shall be held in the 5 kilometer,
416 10 kilometer, and 25 kilometer distances.

417

418

R-10B ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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420 **206.2 FACILITIES**

421

422 .1 Facilities awarded USA Swimming Championships and International competition must meet the
423 mandatory standards of Article 103 and shall have a separate warm-up pool. Facilities where
424 competition to select USA Swimming National Teams for certain international competition is held
425 shall also conform to the requirements stated in 103.18.3E.

426

427 ~~2~~ Facilities with movable bulkheads shall be required to demonstrate to the Program Operations
428 Vice President, or his/her designee, prior to submitting a bid for a USA Swimming Championship,
429 the ability to meet all measurements and tolerances as specified in 103.3, 103.4 and 103.5. Written
430 confirmation of this demonstration shall accompany the championship meet bid.

431

432 ~~3.2~~ Open water venues must meet the mandatory standards of Article 702.

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434

R-10C ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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436 **206.3 AWARD OF EVENTS**

437

438 .1 USA Swimming ~~spring championships~~, nationals championships, Trials class, U.S. Open, Open
439 Water Championships and Disability Championships shall be contracted for by the USA Swimming
440 Executive Director or his/her designee in accordance with Article 206 and Article 207, after approval
441 ~~of the contract~~ by the Board of Directors.

442

443 .2 ~~In an Olympic or Pan American year Program Operations may elect not to conduct one or more USA~~
444 ~~Swimming Championships. Such decision must be made at the annual meeting of USA Swimming in~~
445 ~~the second calendar year preceding such Olympic or Pan American year. In the event of such decision~~
446 ~~said division may elect to name and rank the individual national champions for that year based upon~~
447 ~~the final results of the related Olympic or Pan American Trials. Place awards will not be made.~~
448 Program Operations, in consultation with the National Team Head Coach/General Manager, may
449 elect not to conduct one or more USA Swimming Championships in any year upon approval by the
450 Board of Directors.

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R-10D ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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454 **206.4 DATES** — Unless otherwise determined and announced by the National Team Head
455 Coach/General Manager at the previous year's annual meeting convention, the dates shall be as follows:

456

457 .1 Short Course Yards National Championships – To start the Thursday following Thanksgiving.

458

459 ~~.2 Spring Championships — To start the Tuesday following the fourth Thursday of March;~~

460

461 ~~3.2~~ Summer National Championships and U.S. Open (when held) — To end no later than the second
462 Saturday in August;

463

464 .4.3 Disability Championships — To be scheduled annually by Program Operations.

465

466 .5.4 Open Water Championships—Each event to be scheduled annually by Program Operations in
467 conjunction with the Steering Committee.

468

469 **206.5 METHOD OF GRANTING AWARD**

470

471 .1 A USA Swimming Championship may be awarded either to an LSC in good standing or to an
472 organization approved by the Board of Directors of the LSC for the purpose of assuming full
473 responsibility to conduct the USA Swimming Championship as agreed to in writing. The LSC may
474 also assign the contract to conduct the championship to a member in good standing of that LSC who
475 shall then assume the full responsibility for the championship as agreed to in writing.

476

477 .2 ~~A bidder shall be provided by the Executive Director with a bid form, financial and operating~~
478 ~~agreements, and all other documents related to the responsibilities of the awardee in relation to~~
479 ~~conduct of the event. The award process shall be conducted by the Executive Director in accordance~~
480 ~~with the provisions of the USA Swimming Policy Manual.~~

481

482 ↻ A USA Swimming spring championship, National, Trials class, U.S. Open, and Disability
483 Championship bids shall be returned to the Executive Director by June 1. Acceptance or rejection
484 of the bid will be determined by July 1. At this time, all bids will be categorized by the Executive
485 Director and the bidding parties shall be notified.

486

487 B Bids for Open Water Championships shall be returned to the Executive Director by June 1 of the
488 year preceding the event. Acceptance or rejection of the bids shall be determined by the
489 Executive Director in cooperation with the Steering Committee.

490

491 C The bids shall be presented to the Board of Directors for acceptance. The contract shall be
492 executed by all involved parties, including but not limited to the bidder, the President or Secretary
493 of USA Swimming, the Program Operations Vice President, the LSC General Chairman and such
494 other entity as may be designated.

495

496 **206.6 CONTRACTS** — ~~There shall be a contract between USA Swimming and meet hosts, under terms~~
497 ~~and conditions approved by the Board of Directors.~~

498

499 ~~206.7 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS~~

- 500
- 501 ~~.1 An LSC may apply for an award of international competition only if it is currently fully paid in dues~~
- 502 ~~and fees owed to USA Swimming.~~
- 503
- 504 ~~.2 The applicant shall be provided by the Executive Director with financial and operating agreements~~
- 505 ~~and all other documents relating to the conduct of the meet.~~
- 506
- 507 ~~.3 Should there be more than one bidder to sponsor a particular international event, the Olympic~~
- 508 ~~International Operations Committee shall decide the award.~~
- 509
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R-10E ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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ARTICLE 207
USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

515 **207.1 GENERAL** — USA Swimming ~~shall~~ may conduct USA Swimming ~~spring championships,~~

516 National Championships, Trials class meets, U.S. Open Championships, Open Water Championships and

517 USA Swimming Disability Championships. The designation of each of these championships shall include

518 the name of the national sponsor, if any, for that meet.

519

520 **207.2 USA SWIMMING ~~SPRING~~ U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS** — The USA Swimming ~~spring~~

521 ~~championships~~ U.S. Open Championships shall be governed by the Senior Development Committee and

522 conducted by Program Operations. All USA Swimming member athletes ~~who are members of a USA~~

523 ~~Swimming member club (attached or unattached), and~~ who have achieved the qualifying time standards

524 for one or more specific events are eligible to participate. The meet shall be conducted in years

525 designated by the National Team Head Coach/General Manager.

526

527

528 **207.3 USA SWIMMING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

529 The USA Swimming National Championship meets and Open Water Championship meets shall be

530 governed and conducted by Program Operations. All USA Swimming member-athletes who have

531 achieved the qualifying time standards for one or more specific events are eligible to participate. If the

532 following USA Swimming team selection trials are held in conjunction with the USA Swimming

533 National Championships, only United States citizens eligible to represent the United States in

534 international competition ~~make such teams~~ will be allowed to compete in the A (championship) finals

535 from which team selections are chosen: Pan American Games Trials, and Pan Pacific Championship

536 Trials. Foreign swimmers may compete in all relays, but in individual preliminary events and B and C

537 (consolation and bonus) finals only. When the selection of more than one of the above teams necessitates

538 picking athletes from beyond eighth (8) place in a specific event, this rule also applies to the B and C

539 (consolation and bonus) final in that event. Finals will be seeded accordingly.

540

541 **207.4 USA SWIMMING JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS** — The USA Swimming Junior

542 National Championship meet shall be governed and conducted by Program Operations.

543

- 544 .1 The Junior National Championships will be swum long course during the summer season. The dates
- 545 and place of competition will be determined by the Senior Development Committee. The meet should

546 be scheduled to be held after the summer National Championships.

547
548 .2 All registered swimmers 18 years of age and under who have met the qualifying time standard for a
549 specific event, are eligible to participate.

550
551 .3 The Junior National Championships program will be determined annually by the Senior Development
552 Committee.

553
554 **207.5 USA SWIMMING DISABILITY CHAMPIONSHIPS** — The USA Swimming Disability
555 Championship meet shall be governed and conducted by Program Operations. Program Operations shall
556 request International Paralympic Swimming Committee approval of the competition. All USA Swimming
557 member athletes with a disability who have achieved the qualifying time standards for one or more
558 specific events are eligible to participate.

559
560 **207.6 TRIALS CLASS MEETS** — Trials Class shall be the selection meets for United States teams for
561 the Long Course World Championship and Olympic Games and may be held in conjunction with the
562 USA Swimming National Championships. The Trials class meets shall be governed by the National Team
563 Head Coach/General Manager and conducted by Program Operations. The event format will be
564 established by the National Team Head Coach/General Manager and may emulate the Olympic Games or
565 Long Course World Championship program. The men's 800-meter freestyle and women's 1500-meter
566 freestyle will be conducted if the Trials are held in conjunction with the National Championships. There
567 shall be no relays or scoring in the Olympic Team Selection Meet. Touch pads shall conform to 103.1
568 8.3E. Only United States citizens eligible to represent the United States on the Olympic or Long Course
569 World Championship teams may compete in these Trials.

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R-10F ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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573 **207.7 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS**

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575 .1 ~~USA Swimming spring championship and National Championships and U.S. Open~~ qualifying time
576 standards will be determined from performances at the respective ~~spring winter~~ and summer
577 championship meets for all swimmers and may be based on world rankings so that they will be of
578 ~~comparable quality for all events.~~ The time standards ~~formulas~~ shall be established by the Senior
579 Development Committee in consultation with the National Team Head Coach/General Manager.
580 Time standards shall be designed to allow 900-1000 swimmers in individual events at the USA
581 Swimming ~~spring short course championships, the U.S. Open and the National Championships.~~

582

583 ~~.2 Time standards for foreign swimmers who are representing a foreign team or country shall be the~~
584 ~~National Championships time standards.~~

585

586 ~~.3.2 At each annual meeting at the USAS Convention, The Senior Development Committee shall develop~~
587 ~~one (1) year in advance~~ Program Operations shall approve the qualifying time standards for all
588 National Championships ~~one (1) year in advance.~~ which will be reported to the House of Delegates by
589 the Technical Vice President during the annual meeting. Qualifying time standards shall be specified
590 in hundredths of a second, with nine one-hundredths being the constant. ~~At the first meeting of the~~
591 ~~House of Delegates, the Program Operations Vice President shall submit the written report of these~~
592 ~~time standards.~~

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~~.4 The Senior Development Committee shall approve at each annual meeting the qualifying time standards for the spring championships one (1) year in advance. Qualifying time standards shall be specified in hundredths of a second, with nine one hundredths being the constant. At the first meeting of the House of Delegates, the Technical Vice President shall submit the written report of these time standards.~~

R-10G ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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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 207.10.4C 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 ~~on the entry form~~. 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. The time of any swimmer recorded while legally representing a USA Swimming club, secondary school, college or university within the appropriate time frame may be used in proving an aggregate relay-entry time and that swimmer does not need to be entered in the championship in question.
- .3 Foreign swimmers, who are representing a foreign team or country, must meet the established National Championships time standards and provide official meet results with the entry form.
- .4 The above requirements shall be made a part of the official entry form for all USA Swimming championships and other meets at which proof-of-time is required through the SWIMS database.

5.3 Responsibility Clause

- A The coach, swimmer, or swimmer representative who enters a USA Swimming championship thereby attests that all times on the entry ~~form~~ 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 entered such a false or incorrect 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

640 designee shall be in accordance with the provisions of Part Four, specifically Article 406.
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R-10H ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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644 **207.9 ENTRY FORMS AND OFFICIAL MEET INFORMATION**
645

- 646 .1 The entry forms and information shall be prepared under joint direction of the Program Operations
647 Vice President, the Rules Chairman, the Meet Director, and the Executive Director. Printing,
648 distribution and mailing and posting to the USA Swimming Web Site of the entry forms and meet
649 information will be the responsibility of USA Swimming. All data shall be approved in writing by the
650 Program Operations Vice President prior to printing and distribution.
651
- 652 ↯ The entry blanks shall conform exactly to the standard format agreed upon by Program Operations,
653 and no other shall be used.
654
- 655 ↯ One set of the entry forms and meet information shall be sent by first class mail at least 90 days prior
656 to the meet entry closing date to all LSC General Chairmen, LSC Senior Chairmen, LSC Coaches
657 Representatives, LSC Registration Chairmen, and permanent LSC offices. At the same time, the entry
658 forms and meet information shall be posted on the USA Swimming Web Site. Entry forms and meet
659 information may be requested from the USA Swimming National Events Department.
660
- 661 .4.2 The meet information shall state qualifying times and procedures necessary for proof of entry times.
662 (See 207.8) For a USA Swimming Championship meet, Program Operations may permit bonus
663 events. For each qualifying time achieved in an individual event, additional bonus events may be
664 allowed. Requirements for bonus events will be specified in the meet information.
665
- 666 .5 The meet information shall state that foreign swimmers must comply with all meet entry
667 requirements.
668
- 669 .6 The meet director's telephone number shall be included in the information book.
670
- 671 .7.3 Entry fees shall be \$10.00 for individual events and \$25.00 for relay teams.
672
- 673 .8 Program Operations shall establish a closing date for entries in all USA Swimming championship
674 events which shall be at least one week before the first day of competition. For USA Swimming
675 spring championships and National Championships, a later fax entry deadline of 11:59 p.m. (local
676 time at the host site) two (2) days prior to the start of the meet may be established and published in
677 the meet information book for qualifying times that are first achieved after the entry deadline and
678 prior to the fax entry deadline.
679
- 680 .9 It shall be the responsibility of the meet host/local organizing committee to ship the submitted entry
681 forms to the Executive Director immediately following the championships. Those entry forms will be
682 retained for a period of one year.
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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.
- .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 achieved in accordance with 102.16.4, Requirements for Official Time.
 - B Be submitted to hundredths of a second.
 - C ~~Be achieved during the following qualification periods —~~
 - (1) ~~Qualifying entry times for the USA Swimming spring championship shall be achieved from February 1 of the prior year until the entry deadline for the USA Swimming spring championship.~~
 - (2) ~~Qualifying entry times f~~For the USA Swimming National Championship ~~shall~~ be achieved from July 1 of the year prior to the Nationals until the entry deadline for the USA Swimming National Championship.
 - D Athletes who have qualified for the Olympic Trials within the current quadrennium in a specific event may swim that event in all USA Swimming ~~spring championship~~, National Championships and U.S. Open events preceding the next Olympic Trials, even if they have not re-qualified for the USA Swimming ~~spring championship~~, Nationals or U.S. Open in that specific event.

→ Times achieved at an altitude of 3,000 feet or above may be adjusted as follows:

Time Adjustment

Event Distance	3000-4250 Feet	4251-6500 Feet	Above6500 Feet
200	.50 Sec.	1.20 Sec.	1.60 Sec.
400 or 500	2.50 Sec.	5.00 Sec.	7.00 Sec.
800 freestyle relay	2.00 Sec.	4.80 Sec.	6.40 Sec.
800 or 1000	5.00 Sec.	10.00 Sec.	15.00 Sec.
1500 or 1650	11.00 Sec.	23.00 Sec.	32.50 Sec.

- (1) Subtract the time indicated above from the actual time achieved at altitude. This is the time to be used on the entry form and seeding will be based on that time. Information relative to the adjustment accompanying the entry form must include name of swimmer, event, date of

732 performance, elevation location, actual time, corrected time and signature of coach.

733
734 (2) A swimmer or relay may use the above adjustments to meet the national qualifying time
735 standard and seeding will be based upon that time.

736
737 ~~.6 Entries are acceptable using either 25 yard, 25 meter or 50 meter times.~~

738
739 ~~.7.5~~ Only swimmers and relay teams listed on the official entry ~~form~~ shall be eligible to compete. No ~~and~~
740 ~~no~~ changes in submitted times, corrections or changes of events entered, or additional entries shall be
741 allowed. Typographical or transcription errors which can be readily verified by entry data or National
742 Times Data Base data may be corrected if attested to by the swimmer, coach, or the swimmer's
743 representative prior to the scratch deadline.

744
745 ~~.8~~ Any swimmer who qualifies for the 1000 or 1650-yard freestyle or the 800 or 1500-meter freestyle
746 may enter at his/her fastest time or at the time standard, if entered in two or more events on the day of
747 the distance freestyle.

748
749 ~~.9~~ In USA Swimming ~~spring championships~~ and National Championships, swimmers entered in the
750 800/1000 and 1500/1650 freestyle do not need to enter their best times, but may enter themselves at
751 the time performed at the meet distance (SC-SC, LC-LC) at the previous USA Swimming ~~spring~~
752 ~~championships~~ or National Championships, provided they have made the short course yard, short
753 course meter, or long course meter standard during the appropriate qualifying period. Swimmers will
754 be seeded at their entered times.

755
756 ~~.10.6~~ Program Operations reserves the right to challenge any submitted time.

757
758 ~~.11~~ Foreign swimmers, who are not members of USA Swimming, may enter national championships
759 provided they have met all qualifying requirements including submission of proof of entered times.
760 ~~These foreign athletes must meet the time standards. Foreign swimmers must be members of USA~~
761 ~~Swimming, and must be members of a USA Swimming registered club to compete in the USA~~
762 ~~Swimming spring championships. (See also 207.8.3 and 207.12.13B)~~

763
764 ~~.12.7~~ All swimmers ~~entered in the USA Swimming spring championships~~ are eligible for scoring. In
765 order to score at USA Swimming National Championships, a swimmer must be eligible to represent
766 the United States in international competition.

767
768 **.13 Relay Entries**

769
770 A A club may enter no more than two relay teams in each relay event.

771
772 B Only swimmers listed on the entry form for an organization shall be eligible to compete for that
773 organization in relay events.

774
775 C Relay teams shall indicate on the entry ~~form~~ whether they elect to be entered at their provable
776 time or at the lowest priority non-conforming time standard. The time for each relay may be
777 submitted as a composite or an aggregate time. Only times achieved in the same course (i.e. all
778 short course or all long course) may be used for aggregate relay times.

779
780 D A completed relay entry ~~form~~ listing the competing relay swimmers, their first and last names,
781 ages, and order of swimming, shall be returned to the clerk of course for each competing relay.

782 Upon reporting to the starting blocks, immediately prior to the start of the relay heat in which
783 such team is entered, the completed relay entry form shall be handed to the head lane timer. No
784 change will be permitted thereafter and failure to present the head lane timer with written list of
785 relay swimmers shall prevent such team from competing.

786
787 E A fine of \$100 will be imposed on the organization obtaining deck credentials for each relay-only
788 swimmer who does not compete in a USA Swimming ~~spring championship~~ or National
789 Championship relay. No penalty shall apply if the Referee is notified prior to the event and
790 accepts proof that failure to compete was due to the relay-only swimmer's illness or injury, or to
791 circumstances beyond the swimmer's control.
792

R-10J ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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794 **207.11 PROGRAMS**

795
796 **.1 Three-Day Program**

797
798 **Day One**

799 **Preliminaries**

800 100-yard/meter breaststroke
801 200-yard/meter freestyle
802 100-yard/meter butterfly
803 200-yard/meter individual medley
804 800-yard/meter freestyle relay
805 1000-yard/800-meter freestyle

Finals

1000-yard/800-meter freestyle
100-yard/meter breaststroke
200-yard/meter freestyle
100-yard/meter butterfly
200-yard/meter individual medley
800-yard/meter freestyle relay

806
807 **Day Two**

808 **Preliminaries**

809 400-yard/meter individual medley
810 50-yard/meter freestyle
811 200-yard/meter breaststroke
812 100-yard/meter backstroke
813 500-yard/400-meter freestyle
814 400-yard/meter medley relay

Finals

400-yard/meter individual medley
50-yard/meter freestyle
200-yard/meter breaststroke
100-yard/meter backstroke
500-yard/400-meter freestyle
400-yard/meter medley relay

815
816 **Day Three**

817 **Preliminaries**

818 200-yard/meter backstroke
819 100-yard/meter freestyle
820 200-yard/meter butterfly
821 400-yard/meter freestyle relay
822 1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle

Finals

1650-yard/1500-meter freestyle
200-yard/meter backstroke
100-yard/meter freestyle
200-yard/meter butterfly
400-yard/meter freestyle relay

823
824 **.2 Five Day Program**

825
826 **Day One**

Women's	800-meter freestyle
Men's	800-meter freestyle

827
828

829	Day Two	Women's	100-meter freestyle
830		Men's	100-meter freestyle
831		Women's	200-meter breaststroke
832		Men's	200-meter breaststroke
833		Women's	200-meter backstroke
834		Men's	200-meter backstroke
835		Women's	200-meter butterfly
836		Men's	200-meter butterfly
837			
838	Day Three	Women's	200-meter freestyle
839		Men's	200-meter freestyle
840		Women's	400-meter individual medley
841		Men's	400-meter individual medley
842		Women's	800-meter freestyle relay
843		Men's	800-meter freestyle relay
844			
845	Day Four	Women's	100-meter backstroke
846		Men's	100-meter backstroke
847		Women's	400-meter freestyle
848		Men's	400-meter freestyle
849		Women's	100-meter breaststroke
850		Men's	100-meter breaststroke
851		Women's	100-meter butterfly
852		Men's	100-meter butterfly
853		Women's	400-meter freestyle relay
854		Men's	400-meter freestyle relay
855			
856	Day Five	Women's	200-meter individual medley
857		Men's	200-meter individual medley
858		Women's	1500-meter freestyle
859		Women's	50-meter freestyle
860		Men's	50-meter freestyle
861		Men's	1500-meter freestyle
862		Women's	400-meter medley relay
863		Men's	400-meter medley relay

- 864
- 865 A Women's events shall precede men's except as indicated.
- 866
- 867 B All relays shall be conducted on a timed final basis with the two fastest heats swum in the final
- 868 session. Others to be held during the preliminary heats.
- 869
- 870 C The 800 meter freestyle on day one shall be conducted on a timed final basis. In facilities where
- 871 women's and men's events are conducted in the same course they shall be swum as follows:
- 872
- 873 (1) Women's heats — slowest-to-fastest.
- 874
- 875 (2) Men's heats — slowest-to-fastest.
- 876
- 877 D The 1500 meter freestyle events on Day 5 shall be conducted during the preliminaries on a timed
- 878 final basis, the heats swum slowest to fastest, with the single fastest heat swum in the final

879 session. In facilities where women's and men's events are conducted in the same course all heats
880 during the preliminaries shall be swum alternately women/men as follows:

- 881
- 882 (1) Second-fastest men's heat last.
 - 883
 - 884 (2) Second-fastest women's heat next-to-last.
 - 885
 - 886 (3) Third-fastest men's heat third-from-last.
 - 887
 - 888 (4) Third-fastest women's heat fourth-from-last and continuing until all heats are swum.
 - 889
 - 890 (5) In the event of an unequal number of women's and men's heats, the excess slow heats will
 - 891 be swum first, then the remaining heats will be swum as indicated in (1) through (4) above.
 - 892

893 The starting time for each preliminary heat shall be scheduled so that the second fastest heat
894 of the men's 1500-meter freestyle is concluded 60 minutes before the evening finals session
895 is scheduled to begin.

896

897 .3 **Time Trials** — At all USA Swimming ~~spring championships~~, National Championships and Trials
898 Class meets, Time Trials will be conducted on a time available basis for swimmers participating in
899 the meet. These Time Trials shall be held under a separate sanction of the LSC where the meet is held
900 and shall conform to the following conditions and format, subject to the time limitations specified in
901 207.11 and 207.12:

- 902
- 903 A A swimmer is limited to a maximum of two Time Trials during the course of the championships.
 - 904
 - 905 B At the USA Swimming ~~spring championships~~, National Championships and Trials Class meets, a
906 swimmer must be entered in the meet with a proved time (individual event or relay) to be eligible
907 to participate in the Time Trials.
 - 908

909 C Except as noted in (4) below, Time Trials shall be swum in the order listed under the meet
910 program as follows:

- 911
- 912 (1) First Day: that day's events, followed by the remaining events in the meet, except on the first
913 day of the Modified Four-Day Program, when only that day's events will be swum.
 - 914
 - 915 (2) Second and all subsequent days except the final day: that day's events, followed by the events
916 of the remaining day(s) of the meet, followed by the events of the previous days.
 - 917
 - 918 (3) Final Day: that day's events; that day's 1500-meter/1650-yard freestyle events may be swum,
919 followed by events of the previous days if time permits.
 - 920
 - 921 (4) Exception: For long course championships, on the day the 50-meter freestyle is contested, the
922 50-meter freestyle Time Trials will be the first event in the Time Trial program. On all other
923 days, the 50-meter freestyle will be the last event of the Time Trial program.
 - 924

925 DC Entry fees for Time Trials shall be the same as those established for the corresponding national
926 championships.

927

928 .4 **International Program** — Upon the recommendation of the National Team Head Coach/General

929 Manager with the approval of the OIOC and Program Operations, the USA Swimming ~~spring~~
930 ~~championships and~~ National Championships may be conducted in a format with the order of events
931 simulating the World Championship or Olympic program. The men's 800 and women's 1500-
932 freestyle may be included in this format. All relays shall be conducted on a timed finals basis with all
933 heats swum in the finals session.
934
935

R-10K ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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937 **207.12 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT OF USA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS** — The
938 administrative rules for the conduct of the national championships and Open Water Championships are
939 specified herein. Additional rules for Open Water Championships are listed in Article 704.
940

941 **.1 General Meeting**

942
943 A A general meeting, chaired by the Program Operations Vice President or a designee, shall be held
944 at all USA Swimming championship meets prior to the first day's competition. All participating
945 coaches, meet officials, Program Operations Division committee chairs and coordinators, and
946 representatives of each participating club are obligated to attend or be represented at this meeting.
947

948 B Only business pertinent to the administrative conduct of that championship meet and its events
949 may be considered and finalized at this meeting by a vote of those in attendance and no changes
950 shall be made thereafter. Only material contained in Article 207 may be changed.
951

952 C It is the obligation of every athlete entered in the meet to attend or be represented at this meeting
953 and to become acquainted with the changes, if any, and the decisions made at this meeting.
954

955 ↷ Computerization — The organization(s) conducting the championship shall compile entry lists, heat
956 sheets, final sheets, and final results, by computer.
957

958 ↷ Entry List — An entry list, by event, with submitted times shall be distributed to the coaches,
959 swimmers, and officials on the morning of the day preceding the meet and copies shall also be
960 available at the general meeting on the night preceding the meet.
961

962 ↷ Credentials — Credentials for national championships will be provided at no charge for participating
963 athletes and officials who are members of USA Swimming. Credentials for coaches, managers and
964 chaperones to serve as admittance passes to national championships shall be issued to those persons
965 listed on the submitted team roster according to the following schedule and is based upon the total
966 size of the team. There shall be a surcharge of \$20.00 per person for spectator passes, which money
967 shall become the property of the meet host. For clubs that wish to bring one certified massage
968 therapist with their teams, a \$50.00 surcharge will apply if the massage therapist exceeds the deck
969 pass formula below. These funds shall become the property of the meet host. All massage therapists
970 must be non-athlete members of USA Swimming.
971

972 A 1-3 swimmers in individual events, or 1-only relay team with any number of alternates: 1 deck
973 pass; 1 spectator pass.
974

975 B 4-6 swimmers in individual events: 2 deck passes; 1 spectator pass.

- 976
977 C 7-9 swimmers in individual events: 3 deck passes; 1 spectator pass.
978
979 D 10-20 swimmers in individual events: 4 deck passes; 2 spectator passes.
980
981 E 21-30 swimmers in individual events: 5 deck passes; 2 spectator passes.
982
983 F 31-40 swimmers in individual events: 6 deck passes; 3 spectator passes.
984
985 G 41-50 swimmers in individual events: 7 deck passes, 3 spectator passes.
986
987 H 51 or more swimmers in individual events: 8 deck passes; 5 spectator passes.
988
989 I Unattached swimmers with a team shall be included in above schedule even if listed on separate
990 entry blank.

991
992 J Unattached swimmers not with a team: 1 deck pass; 1 spectator pass.
993

- 994 ↵ Heat Sheets — Heat sheets for each preliminary and finals session shall be made available to coaches
995 and/or team representatives no less than one hour before the beginning of each session. Complete
996 results from each session shall be made available one hour prior to the next session.
997

998 .6 **Schedule**
999

1000 A Except as otherwise stated in 207.11.2D, a minimum of two (2) hours must elapse between the
1001 end of the last preliminary heat and the start of the first race in the finals on any one day, during
1002 which time the pool must be available for warm-up. Starting times for the preliminary and finals
1003 sessions shall be published in the meet information and reviewed at the general meeting. Starting
1004 times shall be as consistent as possible throughout the meet. At the general meeting a schedule
1005 shall be made available for the first day's competition, including starting times for the first race in
1006 each preliminary event and for each race in the finals. Each day a schedule shall be made
1007 available for the following day's competition including all the same information. No event shall
1008 start prior to the time established for that event or race.
1009

1010 B At the discretion of the Program Operations Vice President, the preliminary sessions may be
1011 conducted in two courses.
1012

- 1013 .7 **Warm-up Schedule** — A schedule of lanes, times and warm-up procedures which must be adhered
1014 to shall be established and must be distributed during the general meeting.
1015

1016 .8 **Eligibility Protests**
1017

1018 A An Eligibility Jury composed of three persons in attendance at each national championship shall
1019 be appointed by the Program Operations Vice President or designee prior to the start of the meet
1020 to consider protests pertaining to the eligibility of any swimmer to compete or to represent an
1021 organization. The Eligibility Jury shall consist of an athlete, a coach and an official.
1022

1023 B All protests made prior to or during the championship shall be submitted to the Eligibility Jury on
1024 a form prescribed by USA Swimming and accompanied by a \$50 fee, which shall be returned if
1025 the protest is upheld. The \$50 fee shall not be required for protests submitted by the Registration

1026 Committee or LSC Registration Chairpersons.

1027

1028 C Protests shall be heard by the jury and, if possible, decisions rendered before the start of events on
1029 the day in which the protested swimmer competes, but no later than the last night of the
1030 championships. Opportunity shall be given for both the party lodging the protest and the party or
1031 parties charged to be heard.

1032

1033 D Until the Eligibility Jury renders a decision, the swimmer may compete under protest. An
1034 announcement to this effect shall be made prior to the race. The results of any race conducted
1035 under protest shall not be announced, nor prizes awarded, nor points scored until the jury has
1036 determined if and how their decision may affect the final scoring or awards.

1037

1038 E The decision of the jury may be appealed by either party to the National Board of Review,
1039 pursuant to Article 401. Protests submitted after the last day of the championships shall be
1040 submitted directly to the National Board of Review.

1041

1042 ~~F~~ Any such decision of the National Board of Review shall be published in the next issue of Splash.
1043 If such decision requires any adjustment to the results of the championships, the adjusted results
1044 shall also be published.

1045

1046 .9 **Technical Rules Protests** — Prior to the start of the meet the Program Operations Vice President or
1047 designee shall appoint a Technical Jury composed of at least one athlete representative, at least one
1048 coach, and at least one, but not more than three other persons. Written protests involving technical
1049 rules, except disqualifications due to judgment decisions by the deck officials, shall be made to the
1050 Meet Referee within 30 minutes of the protested act or occurrence. Decisions of the Meet Referee
1051 regarding these protests may be appealed to the Technical Jury, whose decision must be made the day
1052 of the protest and shall be final. The jury cannot adjudicate judgment decisions, which can only be
1053 considered by the Referee under Section 102.13.

1054

1055 .10 **Scratch Procedures**

1056

1057 ~~A~~ Scratches prior to the seeding of heats shall be confirmed by properly filling out and depositing a
1058 scratch card in the scratch box, available at the general meeting prior to the first day's events and
1059 available at the pool for all subsequent days' events.

1060

1061 ~~BA~~ The scratch deadline for the first day's events shall be fifteen (15) minutes after the general
1062 meeting is adjourned. The scratch deadline for all subsequent days' events shall be thirty (30)
1063 minutes after the time established for the start of the finals sessions.

1064

1065 ~~EB~~ In all events where preliminary heats are necessary, after the heats have been seeded, any
1066 swimmer who fails to compete in an individual event heat in which such swimmer entered and
1067 has not been scratched in accordance with sub-paragraphs A and B above will be barred from all
1068 further individual and relay events of that day. Additionally that swimmer shall not be seeded in
1069 any individual events on succeeding days unless that swimmer declares an intent to swim prior to
1070 the close of the scratch box for that day's events.

1071

1072 ~~DC~~ Scratching from finals:

1073

1074 (1) Any swimmer qualifying for a C, B or A (bonus and consolation final or) final race in an
1075 individual event who fails to compete in said final shall be barred from further competition

1076 for the remainder of the meet, except as noted in paragraph E. A declared false start under
1077 101.1.3F or deliberate delay of meet under 101.1.5 is not permitted and will be regarded as a
1078 failure to compete.

1079
1080 (2) In the event of withdrawal or barring of a swimmer from competition the Referee shall fill the
1081 C, B, or A (bonus and consolation final or) final, when possible, with the next qualified
1082 swimmer(s). First and second alternates shall be announced along with the final qualifiers.
1083 These alternates shall not be penalized if unavailable to compete in the finals.

1084
1085 (3) Where C and B (bonus and consolation) finals have not been swum and a barring or
1086 withdrawal is known to the Referee, the Referee shall reseed the C, B and A (bonus final and
1087 consolation final and the) final, if necessary, to insert the alternate(s) in the appropriate
1088 lane(s), filling all lanes in the final.

1089
1090 (4) If the C and B (bonus and consolation) finals have already been contested, the
1091 (championship) final shall be swum without reseeding for the empty lane(s).

1092
1093 E DExceptions for Failure to compete — No penalty shall apply for failure to withdraw or compete in
1094 an individual event if:

1095
1096 (1) The Referee is notified in the event of illness or injury and accepts the proof thereof.

1097
1098 (2) A swimmer qualifying for a C, B or A (bonus or consolation final or) final race based upon
1099 the results of the preliminaries notifies the Referee within thirty (30) minutes after
1100 announcement of the qualifiers for that race that they may not intend to compete and further
1101 declares their final intentions within thirty (30) minutes following their last individual
1102 preliminary event.

1103
1104 (3) It is determined by the Referee that failure to compete is caused by circumstances beyond the
1105 control of the swimmer.

1106
1107 **.11 Seeding**

1108
1109 A Entrants in the 1000yd/800m and 1650yd/1500m freestyle must check in and confirm their
1110 intention to compete prior to the scratch deadline in order to be seeded. Seeded heat sheets shall
1111 be published at the conclusion of the finals the evening before, except that in the five-day format,
1112 seeded heat sheets for the 800m freestyle shall be published two hours prior to the scheduled
1113 starting time for that event. The swimmers shall be listed in the meet program in the order of
1114 submitted times, beginning with the fastest.

1115
1116 B Seeding individual events when using non-conforming and bonus times shall be as follows:

1117
1118 (1) All conforming times will be arranged in time order.

1119
1120 (2) In a long course championship meet, non-conforming short course meter times will be
1121 arranged in time order followed by non-conforming yard times; in a short course meet, non-
1122 conforming long course times shall precede non-conforming short course times.

1123
1124 (3) Conforming bonus times, if permitted, will be arranged in time order after the times that
1125 meet the qualifying standards, in the precedence specified in (2) above.

- 1126
1127 (4) Non-conforming bonus times, if permitted, will be arranged in time order after the times that
1128 meet the qualifying standard and after conforming bonus times, in the precedence specified
1129 in (2) above.
1130
1131 (5) After arranging the times as provided above, the event will be seeded in normal fashion.
1132
1133 .12 **Finals** — Except for the relay events, the 1000 and 1650-yard and 800 and 1500-meter freestyle
1134 events, there shall be C, B, and A (bonus, consolation and championship) final heats, with the
1135 consolation heats preceding the championship heat, in both short course and long course National
1136 Championships. The order of final heats for each meet shall be approved by the Program Operations
1137 Vice President.
1138
1139 .13 **Scoring** — Except for Trials Class meets, scoring at the USA Swimming ~~spring championships and~~
1140 National Championships shall be mandatory.
1141
1142 A ~~Foreign national teams will not be permitted in the USA Swimming spring championships.~~
1143 Foreign national teams entered in the National Championships will not be scored for team
1144 awards.
1145
1146 B ~~Foreign swimmers may score points for a USA Swimming registered club at the USA~~
1147 ~~Swimming spring championships, but must be a member of that club.~~ Foreign swimmers may not
1148 score points for a USA Swimming team at the USA Swimming National Championships, but,
1149 subject to USA Swimming representation requirements, may represent that team and receive
1150 awards.
1151
1152 C Scoring at the USA Swimming ~~spring championships and~~ National Championships will be on a
1153 sixteen (16) place basis. Individual events: 20, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
1154 Relay events receive double these point values.
1155
1156 D To be eligible for Combined Men’s and Women’s Team Awards, a team must have scored points
1157 in both the Men’s Team and Women’s Team Categories.
1158
1159 ~~.14 Final Results — USA Swimming will provide final meet results to all participating teams and LSC~~
1160 ~~times and records volunteers within two weeks of the completion of the Championships.~~
1161
1162

R-10L ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
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1163
1164 **207.13 AWARDS**
1165

1166 .1 **Team Awards**
1167

- 1168 Women’s Team Champion (high point women’s team)
1169
1170 Women’s Team Runner-up Champion (second highest)
1171
1172 Women’s Team Top Ten (third through tenth)

- 1173
1174 Men's Team Champion (high point men's team)
1175
1176 Men's Team Runner-up Champion (second highest)
1177
1178 Men's Team Top Ten (third through tenth)
1179
1180 Men's & Women's Team Champion (high combined points)
1181
1182 Men's & Women's Runner-up Team Champion (second highest)
1183
1184 Men's & Women's Combined Team Top 25 (third through twenty-fifth)
1185

1186 **USA Swimming National Championship only:**

- 1187
1188 William A. Lippman, Jr., USA Swimming—Combined Team Champion Cup
1189 (*perpetual trophy*)
1190

1191 **.2 Individual and Relay Awards**

- 1192
1193 A Medals shall be awarded to all place winners in the A (championship) final and to the top eight
1194 (8) place winners in timed final events of any USA Swimming championship.
1195
1196 B First-place medal to be awarded to the 18 & under swimmer placing highest in each individual
1197 event at each USA Swimming National Championship. If no 18-and-under swimmer scores in the
1198 A, B, or C finals, the highest placing 18-and-under swimmer from preliminaries will be
1199 recognized as the National 18-and-under Champion for that event.
1200
1201 C In each national championship meet a championship gold medal and/or appropriate award shall
1202 be awarded to the man and woman swimmer scoring the greatest number of points in individual
1203 events. If two or more are tied duplicate awards shall be provided. If this occurs, the original
1204 award is given to the swimmer scoring the most first and second places and the duplicate award,
1205 if not then available, shall be sent within thirty days to the proper swimmer.
1206
1207 ~~D Where two or more swimmers tie for any place, duplicate awards shall be given to each of such~~
1208 ~~swimmers, and in such case no award shall be given for the place or places immediately~~
1209 ~~following the tied positions.~~
1210
1211 ~~E Each member of an award-winning relay team shall receive identical awards.~~
1212
1213

R-11 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

- 1214
1215 **Location:** Page 118 503.3 Treasurer
1216
1217 **Proposed by:** Peter Carney, Treasurer, on behalf of the Board of Directors
1218
1219 **Purpose:** The Managing Director of Financial Affairs, rather than the Treasurer, functions as the
1220 Chief Financial Officer of USA Swimming. The former is paid full time and manages a

1221 supporting staff while the latter is a part time volunteer. This legislation aligns our By-
1222 Laws with current reality and practice.

1223
1224 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

1225
1226 **503.3 Treasurer** The Treasurer ~~shall be the Chief Financial Officer of USA Swimming, and~~ shall have
1227 all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the Board of Directors; those specified
1228 in the USA Swimming Policy Manual or specifically set forth in Article 508.2 of these Bylaws.

1229
1230

R-12 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

1231
1232 **Location:** **Page 118 ARTICLE 504.1 General Membership**

1233
1234 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors

1235
1236 **Purpose:** To add independent directors to the Board of Directors (an action highly recommended
1237 by the USOC).

1238
1239 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee has postponed making a recommendation*
1240 *pending referral to the Board of Directors*

1241
1242 **504.1 General Membership** Eight (8) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA
1243 Swimming and the Secretary (appointed by the Board). Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone
1244 by members of the House of Delegates, representing LSCs within each of the four zones. The Chairman
1245 of the Olympic International Operations Committee shall also be a member. Up to three independent
1246 directors may be appointed by the Board of Directors.

1247
1248 .1 A director will not be considered independent if at any time during the two years preceding
1249 commencement of or during his or her term or position as a director:

1250
1251 A the director was employed by or held any paid position or any volunteer governance position with
1252 the corporation or a corporation member LSC;

1253
1254 B an immediate family member of the director was employed by or held any paid position or any
1255 volunteer governance position with the corporation or a corporation member LSC;

1256
1257 C the director was affiliated with or employed by the corporation's outside auditor or outside
1258 counsel;

1259
1260 D an immediate family member of the director was affiliated with or employed by the corporation's
1261 outside auditor or outside counsel as a partner, principal or manager; or

1262
1263 E the director was a member of the corporation's House of Delegates.

1264
1265 .2 A director will not be considered independent if at any time during the two years preceding
1266 commencement of or during his or her term or position as a director the director receives any
1267 compensation from the corporation, directly or indirectly. For purposes of this rule, compensation
1268 does not include reimbursement of out of pocket expenses incurred for the benefit of the corporation

1269 or receipt of any benefits, subsidies or payments generally available to athletes or elite athletes to
1270 support their training.

1271
1272 .3 A director will not be considered independent if at any time during the two years preceding
1273 commencement of or during his or her term or position as a director the director is an officer, member
1274 of senior management, controlling shareholder, or partner of a corporation or partnership or other
1275 business entity that does business with the corporation.

1276
1277 .4 A director will not be considered independent if at any time during the two years preceding
1278 commencement of or during his or her term or position as a director the director or the director's
1279 spouse is an officer, employee, director, or trustee of a nonprofit organization to which the
1280 corporation or USA Swimming Foundation makes payments in any year in excess of five percent of
1281 the organization's consolidated gross annual revenues, or \$100,000, whichever is less.

1282
1283 .5 The Governance Committee may determine that, in its judgment, a director who does not meet these
1284 guidelines strictly nonetheless, under all the facts and circumstances, does not have a relationship
1285 with the corporation or any organization, entity, or individual associated with the corporation that
1286 would interfere with the perception or reality of the director's independent judgment, and that such a
1287 person may nevertheless be an independent director under these Bylaws.

1288
1289 .6 The Governance Committee shall review at least annually the independence of independent directors.
1290
1291

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

1292
1293 **Location:** **Page 119 ARTICLE 504.5 Ex-officio Members**
1294
1295 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors
1296
1297 **Purpose:** Attendance and participation of ex-officio members at Board meetings is necessary if the
1298 Board is to benefit from their appointment.
1299

1300 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
1301

1302 **504.5 Ex-Officio Members** The immediate Past President of USA Swimming shall be an ex-officio
1303 member with voice but no vote. Additional ex-officio members may be appointed by the Board to serve at
1304 the pleasure of the Board with voice but no vote. Ex-officio members who fail to attend at least two
1305 regularly scheduled meetings of the Board per year shall forfeit their seats on the Board.
1306
1307

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

1308
1309 **Location:** **Page 120 ARTICLE 504.8 Authority**
1310 **Page 129 ARTICLE 508.2 General Financial Procedures**
1311

1312 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors
1313
1314 **Purpose:** To give the Board of Directors sole authority to approve the annual budget of USA
1315 Swimming. Note: Article 502.5 which gives the House of Delegates authority to

1316 establish the membership fees remains unchanged.

1317

1318 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

1319

1320 **504.8 Authority** The USA Swimming Board of Directors shall have the authority to act for the USA
1321 Swimming House of Delegates between meetings of the House, except that it cannot amend the Rules and
1322 Regulations. The Board shall approve the annual budget of USA Swimming. The Board shall have the
1323 emergency power to adopt, revoke and amend any rule or regulation in the Rules and Regulations if the
1324 Board with the advice and consent of the Safety Education Committee, the Rules & Regulations
1325 Committee and legal counsel, shall determine that safety considerations so require. A technical rule which
1326 is also a FINA rule, may not be revoked or amended. An action taken under this emergency provision
1327 shall be effective until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. The President shall make a fully
1328 detailed report including findings of fact to the entire membership of the House of Delegates (as last
1329 certified) within thirty (30) days of the action taken.

1330

1331 **508.2 General Financial Procedures** The Treasurer shall supervise the preparation of the USA
1332 Swimming annual budget by the Executive Director and staff and shall be responsible for presenting such
1333 budgets to the Board of Directors for approval ~~and to the House of Delegates for adoption.~~ The Treasurer
1334 shall present and explain the budget to the House of Delegates at the USA Swimming annual meeting.
1335 The Treasurer shall prepare an annual financial report to be presented to the House of Delegates at the
1336 annual meeting. If requested by the USA Swimming Board of Directors or auditors, the Treasurer and the
1337 USA Swimming Managing Director of Financial Affairs shall deliver to the requesting party all money,
1338 accounts, books, papers, vouchers and records pertaining to the accounts of USA Swimming or the office
1339 of the Treasurer for audit or other purposes.

1340

1341

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

1342

1343 **Location:** **Page 121 ARTICLE 506.1 Committees and Coordinators**

1344

1345 **Proposed by:** Governance Committee

1346

1347 **Purpose:** To revise USA-S By-laws to control the membership of current Board of Director
1348 members on USA-S committees. The purpose of this by-law change is to provide
1349 volunteers with as many opportunities to serve within our newly reduced committee
1350 structure. It will also place a special burden on the President and other Board members
1351 who may assist him/her with committee selections to learn more about the special
1352 abilities and talents of our volunteer membership.

1353

1354 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

1355

1356 **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**

1357

1358 .1 Standing committees of USA Swimming shall be as listed in this Article.

1359

1360 .2 Except for those individuals who qualify for their positions under some other provision of Article
1361 506:

1362

1363 A Committee members shall serve four year terms;

- 1364
1365 B Committee members' terms shall be staggered so that one-fourth of all non-athlete members are
1366 appointed each year by the President following the annual meeting of the corporation;
1367
1368 C Committees shall consist of volunteer members of USA Swimming who are not voting members
1369 of the Board of Directors. The President may appoint voting members of the Board of Directors
1370 as Ex-Officio, non-voting members of committees that are normally appointed by the President.
1371 Athlete members and non-voting members of the Board of Directors shall be exempt from this
1372 rule.

- 1373
1374 (1) Committees that shall not be affected by this limitation are the Olympic International
1375 Operations Committee and any Athletes Committees.
1376

1377 *Items now noted by 506.1.2 C through F shall be moved down one letter.*
1378
1379

R-16 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

1380
1381 **Location:** **Page 121 ARTICLE 506.1 Committees and Coordinators**
1382 **Page 127 ARTICLE 506.13 (new) Nominating Committee**
1383

1384 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors
1385

1386 **Purpose:** To create a Nominating Committee to ensure that qualified candidates will self-nominate.
1387 Note: there will be no slate or endorsements put forward by the Nominating Committee.
1388

1389 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation at this time,*
1390 *pending referral back to the Board.*
1391

1392 **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**
1393

1394 .5 The following shall be responsible to the President: International Relations, Nominating and
1395 Governance Committees.
1396

1397 **506.13 Nominating Committee**
1398

1399 .1 The Nominating Committee shall consist of four non-athlete members appointed by the President,
1400 with one representative from each Zone, and one athlete member.
1401

1402 .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth of such
1403 members are appointed each year.
1404

1405 .3 The Nominating Committee shall actively pursue qualified candidates for office and encourage
1406 them to self-nominate.
1407
1408

R-17 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

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Location: **Page 121 ARTICLE 506.1.5 Committees and Coordinators**
 Page 124 ARTICLE 506.4 International Relations Committee

Proposed by: Board of Directors

Purpose: By making the IRC a special committee, thereby moving all of existing 506.4 to the Policy Manual, the House allows the Board of Directors to make rapid adjustments to the composition or roles of the IRC as USA Swimming seeks to increase its international influence. Currently, rapid adjustments are impossible since any change must be made by the House of Delegates. Additionally, the USOC is strongly encouraging USA Swimming to reduce the number of its existing standing committees.

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

506.1 Committees and Coordinators

.5 The following shall be responsible to the President: ~~International Relations and Governance Committees.~~

~~506.4 International Relations Committee~~

~~.1 The International Relations Committee shall consist of the following:~~

~~A Members of USA Swimming who hold any of the following positions shall be automatic members of the committee during their tenure in these positions: Any FINA, ASUA or USOC officer, FINA Bureau member, FINA committee chair, the Olympic International Operations Committee Chair, the Steering Committee Chair, the USA Swimming representative to the United States Olympic Committee, the current head coaches of the U.S. Olympic Swimming team, and the immediate past president of USA Swimming.~~

~~B Five members of USA Swimming with relevant international experience shall be appointed by the President; these members will be selected from persons who serve in any of the following positions: Any member of a FINA or ASUA committee or commission, any officer of the World Swimming Coaches Association, the President of the American Swimming Coaches Association, the Executive Director of the American Swimming Coaches Association, the President of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, the Executive Director of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, the FISU Chair, representatives of a committee organizing a World Championship in the USA, officials from the current FINA Lists or officials who have officiated at an Olympic Games or Long Course World Championship.~~

~~C Five members of USA Swimming with relevant international experience, appointed by the President.~~

~~D Two members elected by the OIOC at its first meeting following the Olympic Games.~~

~~E A sufficient number of athlete representatives with international competitive experience~~

- 1457 ~~on an Olympic, World Championships, Pan American, Pan Pacific, or World University~~
1458 ~~Games team within 10 years preceding selection to the committee so as to constitute at~~
1459 ~~least 20 percent of the voting membership.~~
- 1460
- 1461 ~~F — The Executive Director and National Team Director of USA Swimming, with voice but~~
1462 ~~no vote.~~
- 1463
- 1464 ~~.2 — Each member shall serve until the conclusion of the House of Delegates meeting after the next~~
1465 ~~Olympic Games, or until a successor is elected/appointed.~~
- 1466
- 1467 ~~.3 — The President shall appoint a chairman, with approval of the Board of Directors.~~
- 1468
- 1469 ~~.4 — From the members of the committee, the president shall appoint five continental liaisons to the~~
1470 ~~respective FINA continental organizations of the Americas, Asia, Africa, Europe, and Oceania.~~
- 1471
- 1472 ~~.5 — The International Relations Committee shall:~~
- 1473
- 1474 ~~A — Conduct an ongoing review and analysis of all political aspects and trends of swimming~~
1475 ~~at the continental and international level;~~
- 1476
- 1477 ~~B — Develop and advance a comprehensive non technical international strategic plan for USA~~
1478 ~~Swimming;~~
- 1479
- 1480 ~~C — Identify and promote individuals for nomination and advancement to international~~
1481 ~~political and leadership positions;~~
- 1482
- 1483 ~~D — Enhance the influence of USA Swimming within FINA and the USOC commensurate~~
1484 ~~with our competitive success and for the betterment of athlete centered governance of our~~
1485 ~~sport.~~
- 1486
- 1487

R-18 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

- 1488
- 1489 **Location:** **Page 121 ARTICLE 506.1.8 Committees and Coordinators**
- 1490
- 1491 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors
- 1492
- 1493 **Purpose:** By making the Officials Committee a special committee rather than a standing
1494 committee, authority to define its composition and responsibilities moves from the House
1495 of Delegates to the Board of Directors. This will enable the Officials Chair and Vice
1496 President of Program Operations to exercise the flexibility needed to be responsive to
1497 developing conditions. If this committee remains a standing committee, it would be
1498 appropriate to present legislation next year to incorporate into the Rule Book the
1499 composition and responsibilities of the Officials Committee. Additionally, the USOC is
1500 strongly encouraging USA Swimming to reduce the number of its existing standing
1501 committees.
- 1502
- 1503 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 1504

1505 **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**

1506
1507 ~~.8 — The following shall be responsible to the Program Operations Vice President: Officials.~~

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

1510
1511 **Location:** **Page 125 ARTICLE 506.7 Governance Committee**

1512
1513 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors

1514
1515 **Purpose:** To expand the role of the Governance Committee to include ethics.

1516
1517 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee postponed making a recommendation pending*
1518 *referral back to the Board of Directors.*

1519
1520 **506.7 Governance Committee**

1521
1522 **.3 Responsibility:** The Governance Committee shall

1523
1524 A be responsible for the review of governance practices by the Board of Directors, the
1525 House of Delegates and the various committees;

1526
1527 B ~~The Governance Committee shall~~ review compliance with the Ted Stevens Amateur
1528 Sports Act and the U.S. Olympic Committee Constitution and Bylaws;

1529
1530 C ~~Additionally, the Governance Committee shall~~ be available for mentoring and consulting
1531 to the Board of Directors and the committees on the responsibilities and accountabilities
1532 of membership on those groups;

1533
1534 D develop, administer and oversee compliance with the Code of Ethics, including the
1535 authority to review and investigate any matters pertaining to the integrity of management,
1536 including conflicts of interest, or adherence to standards of business conduct as required
1537 in the policies of the corporation.

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

1540
1541 **Location:** **Page 126 506.8 Audit Committee**

1542
1543 **Proposed by:** Peter Carney, Treasurer, on behalf of the Board of Directors

1544
1545 **Purpose:** This legislation clarifies the role of the Audit Committee.

1546
1547 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

1548
1549 **506.8 Audit Committee**

1550
1551 **.3 Responsibility:** The Audit Committee shall be responsible for;

- 1552 A ~~the reviewing and acceptance-accepting of the annual audited statements, accompanying opinion~~
1553 letter, and management letter; ~~auditor letter and~~
- 1554 B ~~making a~~ recommendations for acceptance to the Board of Directors; and
- 1555 C ~~to oversee~~ evaluating the system of internal controls of the corporation.
- 1556
- 1557

R-21 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

1558

1559 **Location:** **Page 126 ARTICLE 506.10 Steering Committee**

1560

1561 **Proposed by:** Michael Lawrence, on behalf of the OIOC

1562

1563 **Purpose:** To change the composition of the Steering Committee

1564

1565 **Effective Date:** September 1, 2008

1566

1567 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

1568

1569 **506.10.1 Membership** The Steering Committee shall consist of the immediate past Olympic Team Head
1570 Coaches (Men's and Women's teams), and six Assistant Coaches (Men's and Women's teams) from the
1571 immediate past Olympic Team. Two athletes shall be selected by the Athletes Committee, one female/one
1572 male, both former USA Olympic Team members. The National Team Head Coach/General Manager, the
1573 OIOC Coordinator, the Technical Vice-President, the Chair of the Senior Development Committee, and
1574 the Chair of the Sports Medicine Committee shall be ex officio members of the Committee with voice but
1575 no vote.~~one athlete selected by the Athlete's committee, one athlete selected by Steering from a slate~~
1576 ~~provided by the Athletes Committee. The immediate past Head Women's Olympic coach, the immediate~~
1577 ~~past Head Men's Olympic Coach, the OIOC Coordinator, the National Team Head Coach/General~~
1578 ~~Manager, two coaches selected by the OIOC, one coach elected by the Senior Development Committee,~~
1579 ~~one coach elected by the ASCA Board of Directors, and one coach appointee by the President in~~
1580 ~~consultation with the National Team Head Coach/General Manager.~~

1581

1582 ~~The Technical Vice President, a representative of Open Water swimming, and the Chair of the Sports~~
1583 ~~Medicine/Science Committee, shall be ex officio members of the committee with voice but no vote.~~

1584

1585

R-23 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

This item is unnecessary if R-21 is adopted.

1586

1587 **Location:** **Page 126 ARTICLE 506.10.1 Membership**

1588

1589 **Proposed by:** Governance Committee

1590

1591 **Purpose:** To change the membership of the Steering Committee to bring the athlete representation
1592 into compliance with the 20% requirement of the Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act.

1593

1594 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

1595

1596 **506.10.1 Membership** The Steering Committee shall consist of one athlete selected by the Athlete's
1597 committee, one athlete selected by Steering from a slate provided by the Athletes Committee. The
1598 immediate past Head Women's Olympic coach, the immediate past Head Men's Olympic Coach, the
1599 OIOC Coordinator, ~~the National Team Head Coach/General Manager~~, two coaches selected by the OIOC,
1600 one coach elected by the Senior Development Committee, one coach elected by the ASCA Board of
1601 Directors, and one coach appointee by the President in consultation with the National Team Head
1602 Coach/General Manager. The National Team Head Coach/General Manager shall be an ex-officio
1603 member of the Committee with voice but no vote.
1604
1605

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

1606
1607 **Location: Page 130 Article 508.5 Endowment Funds**
1608

1609 **Proposed by:** Peter Carney, Treasurer, on behalf of the Board of Directors
1610

1611 **Purpose:** As of 12/31/06, the Program Endowment Fund constituted 15.5% of investments under
1612 management. The effect of its elimination would be to convert these monies from Board
1613 Restricted to Unrestricted. The current budget process coupled with the dues increase has
1614 made this endowment obsolete.
1615

1616 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
1617

1618 ~~**508.5 Endowment Funds**—There shall be established within USA Swimming such special endowment~~
1619 ~~fund accounts as the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors deem appropriate. The rules governing~~
1620 ~~their respective operations shall be set forth in the USA Swimming Policy Manual. These funds~~
1621 ~~previously established under these Bylaws, and known as the “USA Swimming Athlete Assistance Fund”~~
1622 ~~and the “USA Swimming Program Endowment Fund” shall continue. The “USA Swimming Athlete~~
1623 ~~Assistance Fund” shall provide assistance and/or recognition to USA Swimming athletes who show~~
1624 ~~potential for international swimming competition. The “USA Swimming Program Endowment Fund”~~
1625 ~~shall provide financial benefit and support for the development of new and existing USA Swimming~~
1626 ~~programs.~~
1627
1628

R-25 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

1629
1630 **Location: Page 130 ARTICLE 509 (new) LSC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**
1631

1632 **Proposed by:** Peter Carney, Treasurer, on behalf of the Board of Directors
1633

1634 **Purpose:** The Model LSC By-Laws, some variation of which each LSC is required to adopt,
1635 already mandates certain specific financial reporting requirements. Despite these
1636 requirements, there are a limited, yet significant, number of LSCs which are not in
1637 compliance. This amendment places minimal language into our By-Laws, enables
1638 appropriate additional requirements, and provides for appropriate penalties for non-
1639 compliance. Should this item be approved, there will need to be additional policy
1640 adopted by the Board of Directors included in the Policy Manual. At a minimum, this
1641 policy should include an outline of the steps and associated time frames required before
1642 any LSC experiences a loss of voting privileges. In addition, this policy should provide

1643 that sufficient people within the LSC be notified, beyond those who are the likely cause
1644 of the LSC delinquency.

1645
1646 USA Swimming holds a group 501 (c) (3) tax exemption, under which the LSCs each
1647 also receive tax exempt status. The IRS requires that tax exempt groups maintain a
1648 minimum of control over its members. Continued non-compliance could place our tax
1649 exempt status at risk.

1650
1651 Within the past two years, several LSCs have experienced some level of financial
1652 mismanagement, resulting in one criminal prosecution to date with the possibility of
1653 more in the future. Although financial oversight is already mandated, it did not occur in
1654 any of these cases, until several hundred thousand dollars were lost. This legislation puts
1655 some teeth behind our already existing requirements.

1656
1657 The LSC Model By-Laws are over 130 pages long. It is hoped this half page will
1658 sufficiently reference them, including, in particular, the financial reporting requirements.
1659 509.4 allows for timely action by the Board of Directors with possibility of review by the
1660 House of Delegates.

1661
1662 The choice of 5 months in 509.2 is tied to the IRS due date for filing Form 990 of 4 ½
1663 months after close of fiscal year (e.g. May 15 for calendar fiscal year). It also works for
1664 non-calendar fiscal years. The IRS will grant one automatic 3 month extension upon
1665 timely request and will consider granting one additional 3 month extension, for a
1666 maximum total of 6 months.

1667
1668 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval with the further*
1669 *recommendation that the Board of Directors specify in the Policy Manual the*
1670 *procedure for written notice under 509.3.*

1671
1672

1673 **ARTICLE 509**
1674 **LSC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

1675
1676 *[Note: Insert new article and re-number subsequent articles.]*
1677

1678 **509.1 LSC Model By-Laws:** Each LSC, in accordance with its By-Laws, which are based on the “LSC
1679 Model By-Laws”, adopted and amended from time to time by the USA Swimming of House of Delegates,
1680 shall meet the reporting requirements to USA Swimming contained within the “LSC Model By-Laws”,
1681 including, but not limited to a copy of (1) the annual closing Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and
1682 Expense and (2) the corresponding federal income tax return (Form 990). The Balance Sheet and
1683 Statement of Income and Expense shall be audited or reviewed by an outside auditor or the LSC Finance
1684 Committee.

1685
1686 **509.2 Financial Requirements:** Annually, a copy of the financial reports listed above shall be
1687 forwarded to USA Swimming headquarters within 5 months after the close of the fiscal year for the LSC.
1688 Upon submission of a request to extend the time to file its federal income tax return, an LSC may be
1689 granted additional time to meet its financial reporting requirements to USA Swimming equal to the
1690 extension period (typically three months), provided that the LSC submit a copy of the request for
1691 extension with the IRS to USA Swimming at the time the extension is filed and the IRS grants such an
1692 extension.

1693
1694 **509.3 Suspension of LSC Voting:** Should an LSC not be current, including extensions, with its
1695 financial reporting requirements to USA Swimming as of 45 days prior to the annual meeting of the USA
1696 Swimming House of Delegates, the Board of Directors may, with written notice, suspend the LSC from
1697 voting at the House of Delegates meeting, said suspension of votes applying only to the LSC positions
1698 entitled to vote in the House of Delegates, excluding any at-large members of the LSC.
1699

1700 **509.4 Additional Requirements:** The Board of Directors may establish additional LSC requirements
1701 and penalties, provided that any new requirements and penalties are published in the minutes of the Board
1702 of Directors and displayed prominently on the USA Swimming website. Any new penalties shall become
1703 effective following the first House of Delegates meeting after the Board of Directors action.
1704
1705

R-26 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
Not necessary if R-25 is adopted.

1706
1707 **Location:** **Page 130 ARTICLE 509 INDEMNIFICATION**
1708

1709 **Proposed by:** Peter Carney, Treasurer, on behalf of the Board of Directors
1710

1711 **Purpose:** This amendment more explicitly states that certain requirements may be attached to
1712 insurance coverage. We already have water depth requirements, safety training, and
1713 other requirements in place in order to get insurance at a reasonable cost. This
1714 amendment was written in a general form to enable the Board of Directors to respond to
1715 requirements for certain insurance coverage without having to wait to amend our Rules or
1716 By-Laws. Specifically, in order to get continued LSC Crime Insurance, the insurance
1717 carrier is requiring that each LSC institute three financial controls: (1) segregation of the
1718 duties of check writing and reconciliation, (2) multiple signatures on checks over \$5,000,
1719 and (3) audits at least every two years.

1720
1721 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation pending referral*
1722 *back to the Board of Directors*
1723

1724 *[Article 509 Indemnification / To be renumbered as 510 if new 509 above adopted]*
1725

1726 **509.3 LSC Requirements:** As a condition of insurance coverage, the Board of Directors may set certain
1727 requirements, including the adoption of financial controls. Any such requirements shall be published in
1728 the minutes and communicated to all LSCs via mail or e-mail. Failure to adopt such requirements may
1729 result in loss of coverage by an LSC.
1730
1731

R-27 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

1732
1733 **Location:** **ARTICLE 604 OF PART SIX BYLAWS OF THE LOCAL SWIMMING**
1734 **COMMITTEE**
1735

1736 **Proposed by:** Michael Lawrence, Illinois Swimming
1737

1738 **Purpose:** To clarify a clumsy sentence.
1739

1740 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval*
1741

1742 604.8 NOMINATING COMMITTEE —
1743

1744 .1 MEMBERS OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE; ELECTION –
1745

1746 The Nominating Committee shall comprise *the Immediate Past General Chair* and not fewer than
1747 ~~||five (5)|~~ ~~or~~ ~~four (4)|~~ Individual Members. The Nominating Committee shall be elected annually
1748 by the House of Delegates. If the House of Delegates does not act in a timely fashion the Board of
1749 Directors ~~if the House of Delegates does not act in a timely fashion~~ shall elect a Nominating
1750 Committee to serve until their successors are elected.
1751

1752 A number greater than ~~||five (5)|~~ ~~or~~ ~~four|~~ may be designated from time to time by either the House
1753 of Delegates or the Nominating Committee. Each Nominating Committee member shall be a
1754 member of the House of Delegates and no more than two (two-fifths if there are more than five (5)
1755 members of the Nominating Committee) shall be ~~||Board Members|~~ ~~or~~ ~~|Executive Committee~~
1756 ~~members|~~. Section 0 shall apply to members of the Nominating Committee, *but service as the*
1757 *immediate Past General Chair shall not be counted for that purpose.* If any member of the
1758 Nominating Committee resigns or otherwise becomes unable to participate in its affairs, the General
1759 Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a successor to serve until
1760 the next meeting of the House of Delegates.
1761

1761
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1763

R-28	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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1764
1765 **Location:** **Page 145 ARTICLE 701.1 EVENTS/MEETS**
1766

1767 **Proposed by:** Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force
1768

1769 **Purpose:** We have had numerous requests to consider other forms of scoring these events and
1770 many believe that scoring an event in cross country fashion (Example 1 point for 1st; 2 for
1771 second; 3 for third etc... where each team scores the same number of athletes and the
1772 lowest total prevails) would add excitement and importance to the event.
1773

1774 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation at this time.*
1775

1776 **701.1 EVENTS/MEETS**
1777

1778 .3 Team Events - ~~A~~ Team events may be conducted in various fashions concurrently with
1779 individual events, with the results achieved in the individual event used to compute the team
1780 scoring.

1781
1782 A Traditional - team scores may be computed by combining individual placement points as
1783 announced in the meet information.
1784

1785 B Alternative fashion - as listed in the meet information. (Example: 1 point for 1st, 2 for
1786 second, 3 for third, etc....where each team scores the same number of athletes and the

1787 lowest total prevails.)
1788 AC ~~A team event shall be contested on a time or distance basis.~~ Clubs may enter any
1789 number of three- or four-swimmer teams. The aggregate time or distance of the top three
1790 swimmers on each team shall be used to determine the team's time or distance. Mixed
1791 gender teams shall be composed of not more than two males and two females. The team
1792 whose top three swimmers have the lowest cumulative time shall be the winning team.
1793 Subsequent places shall be determined on the cumulative time basis. If two or more
1794 teams have identical times, a tie shall be declared.

1795
1796 BD Total distance basis- clubs may enter any number of three- or four-swimmer teams. The
1797 aggregate distance of the top three swimmers on each team shall be used to determine the
1798 team's distance. Mixed gender teams shall be composed of not more than two males and
1799 two females. The team whose top three swimmers have the lowest cumulative time or
1800 the greatest cumulative distance shall be the winning team. Subsequent places shall be
1801 determined on the cumulative time/distance basis. If two or more teams have
1802 identical times or distances, a tie shall be declared.

1803
1804 *No further changes*

1805
1806
1807

R-29	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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1808
1809

Location: Page 146 ARTICLE 701.2 RULES

1810
1811

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

1812
1813

Purpose: To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.

1814
1815

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation at this time.*

1816
1817

701.2 RULES

1818
1819

.1 All open water competitions shall be freestyle events.

1820
1821

.2 ~~If in the 4 mile race swum on a quarter mile straightaway the race is stopped before the two mile point, it may be restarted. If the race is stopped after the two mile point, the race results will be determined by the time and place at the last completed half mile point. In all non Championship events~~ The Host Committee must declare in the meet information the policy for abandonment.

1822
1823
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1825

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1827

.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.

1828
1829
1830

.4 The Start

1831
1832
1833

A Events may be started either:

- 1834 (1) In-water - competitors stand or tread water in a depth sufficient for them to
1835 commence swimming on the start signal; or
- 1836 (2) From the ~~B~~beach - contestants line up and run into the water from the shore on the
1837 Starter's signal.
- 1838 (3) From a fixed platform – competitors' positions on the platform shall be determined
1839 by random draw and they commence swimming on the start signal.
- 1840
- 1841 B The start signal shall be both audible and visible.
- 1842
- 1843 ~~C~~ When the number of entries dictate the start shall be segregated in the for Men's and
1844 Women's competitions is staggered, the Men's events shall always start before the
1845 Women's events.
- 1846
- 1847 ~~C~~D If, in the opinion of the Referee, an unfair advantage has been gained by someone at the
1848 start, the competitors shall be stopped and restarted.
- 1849
- 1850 ~~D~~E Prior to the start all escort boats shall be stationed so as to avoid interference with any
1851 competitor. If catching up to their swimmers from behind, the boats shall navigate in such
1852 a way as to avoid maneuvering through the field of swimmers.
- 1853
- 1854 .5 The Finish
- 1855
- 1856 A Where in-water finish apparatus is not available, an on-shore finish where contestants run
1857 from the water to a finish point is permitted.
- 1858
- 1859 B The finish should be filmed and recorded by video system with slow motion and recall
1860 facilities including timing equipment.
- 1861
- 1862 .6 Escort Craft
- 1863
- 1864 A Escort boats shall maintain a constant position at the sides of their swimmers and shall
1865 maneuver so as to avoid obstructing or placing themselves directly in front of another
1866 swimmer.
- 1867
- 1868 B Each escort boat shall contain a race judge, a person of the swimmer's choosing, and the
1869 minimum crew required to operate the escort boat.
- 1870
- 1871 C Coaching and the giving of instructions by a swimmer's representative on escort safety craft
1872 or platforms is permitted. No whistles may be used by coaches.
- 1873
- 1874 .7 Time Limits - In all Open Water events, time limits shall apply as follows from the finish time of
1875 the first swimmer. Events with age group divisions will have the time limit applied by age group.
- 1876
- 1877 A Events under 25 KM.....30 Minutes
- 1878
- 1879 B Events of 25 KM.....60 Minutes
- 1880

1881 C Events of over 25 KM.....120 Minutes

1882
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R-30 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 146 ARTICLE 701.2 RULES
Page 149 ARTICLE 701.15 THE STARTER

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

Purpose: Practicality dictates that restarting most Open Water Swimming events is difficult at best.

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation at this time.*

1895 **701.2 RULES**

1896
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1907

.4 The Start

A No change

B No change

C If, in the opinion of the Referee, an unfair advantage has been gained by someone at the start, ~~the competitors shall be stopped and restarted~~ that swimmer may be disqualified.

D No change

1908 **701.15 THE STARTER**

1909
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1921

.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;

.3 Holding the arm straight, shall simultaneously bring the arm holding the flag down and shall activate an audible signal to signify the start; and

~~.4 In the event of a false start, shall activate a recall device or signal. The recall signal shall be made known to all competitors prior to the race.~~

R-31 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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Location: Page 147 ARTICLE 701.5 DISQUALIFICATIONS

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

Purpose: To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation at this time.*

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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 or buoys or buoy lines (Note: Incidental contact shall not be a basis for disqualification.);
- .4 Receiving propulsive aid from anyone in boats, ~~on surf boards, etc~~ 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 ~~are~~ 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 Failing to maintain clearance between himself/herself and other swimmers and/or escort craft except at starts, turns, finishes, or where course conditions do not permit suitable spacing. (Race judges shall instruct swimmers who are taking unfair advantage by pacing to move clear of other swimmers. Failure to comply shall result in disqualification.); re-number remaining~~
- ~~.89~~ 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 craft to move clear.);
- ~~.940~~ Actions of his/her escort 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; or
- ~~.1044~~ Receiving support from any fixed or floating object or touching or being touched by his/her escort craft or the crew. (Note: 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 is permissible.)

R-32 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

1974
1975
1976
1977
1978

Location: **Page 147 ARTICLE 701.6 (New) DISQUALIFICATION PROCEDURE**

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

1979 **Purpose:** To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.

1980
1981 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation at this time.*

1982
1983 **701.6 DISQUALIFICATION PROCEDURE** — If in the opinion of the Referee or Assistant Referee,
1984 any swimmer, or escort safety craft is in violation of the infractions in this section the following
1985 procedure shall apply:

1986
1987 .1 First Infringement – A yellow flag and a card bearing the swimmer’s number shall be raised by the
1988 Referee to indicate and to inform the swimmer that he is in violation of the Rules. Whistles may be
1989 used by the Referee to get the swimmer’s attention.

1990
1991 .2 Second Infringement – A red flag and a card bearing the swimmer’s number shall be raised by the
1992 Referee to indicate and to inform the swimmer that he is for the second time in violation of the Rules.
1993 The swimmer shall be disqualified. He must leave the water immediately and be placed in an escort
1994 craft and take no further part in the race. Whistles may be used by the Referee to get the swimmer’s
1995 attention.

1996
1997 .3 The Referee may disqualify a swimmer without prior warning if in his opinion the action of the
1998 swimmer or escort craft is deemed to be “unsporting”. Examples of unsporting conduct include
1999 intentionally striking another swimmer, refusal to re-round a turn mark after being advised the mark
2000 was missed.

2001
2002 *Re-number remaining*

2003
2004
2005

R-33	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
Subject to 90% approval							

2006
2007 **Location:** Page 149 ARTICLE 701.13 THE COURSE OFFICER

2008
2009 **Proposed by:** Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

2010
2011 **Purpose:** To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.

2012
2013 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*

2014 **701.13 THE COURSE OFFICER**

2015
2016 .1 Shall be responsible for the accuracy of the survey establishing the distance of the course;

2017
2018 .2 Prior to the commencement of competition, shall inspect with the Referee and Safety Officer the
2019 course to ensure that all points are correctly marked and all equipment has been correctly installed
2020 and is in working order; and

2021
2022 .3 Shall ensure that Turn Judges are in position prior to the start of the competition and report this to the
2023 Assistant Referee; and

2024

2025 .34 Shall serve as pilot in the lead boat when one is used.
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R-34 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled Subject to 90% approval

2028
2029 **Location: Page 149 ARTICLE 701.14 THE CLERK OF COURSE**
2030

2031 **Proposed by:** Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force
2032

2033 **Purpose:** To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.
2034

2035 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*
2036

2037 **701.14 THE CLERK OF COURSE**
2038

2039 .1 Shall assemble and instruct the competitors prior to the competition and ensure proper reception for
2040 the competitors at the finish;

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2042 .2 Shall ensure that each competitor is correctly marked with his/her race number and that all
2043 swimmers have trimmed fingernails and are not wearing any jewelry including watches; ~~and~~

2044
2045 .3 Shall be certain all swimmers are present, in the assembly area, at the required time prior to the
2046 start; and

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2048 .4 Shall keep competitors and officials informed of the time remaining before the start at suitable
2049 intervals and at one minute intervals for the last five minutes.

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R-35 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled Subject to 90% approval

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2054 **Location: Page 150 ARTICLE 701.21 (New) THE RECORDER**
2055

2056 **Proposed by:** Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force
2057

2058 **Purpose:** To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.
2059

2060 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*
2061

2062 **701.21 THE RECORDER** shall record withdrawals from the competition, enter results on official
2063 forms, and maintain the record for team awards as appropriate.
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R-36 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
Subject to 90% approval

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Location: **Page 150 ARTICLE 702.1 THE COURSE**

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

Purpose: To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*

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 A certificate of suitability for use of the venue shall be issued by the appropriate local health and safety authorities. In general terms the certification must relate to water purity and to physical safety from other considerations.
- .34 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 (3.4 feet).
- .45 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.

R-37 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
Subject to 90% approval

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Location: **Page 150 ARTICLE 702.2 WATER TEMPERATURE**

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

Purpose: To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*

702.2 WATER TEMPERATURE — The water temperature ~~shall~~ should be a minimum of ~~14~~16°C (~~57~~61°F).

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R-38 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled
Subject to 90% approval

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Location: **Page 151 ARTICLE 702.5 THE FINISH**

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

Purpose: To align USA Swimming rules with FINA.

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*

702.5 THE FINISH

- .1 The final approach to the finish shall be clearly marked by a narrowing "gateway" of buoys or floats, 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.

R-39 ACTION: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Pulled

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Location: **Page 151 ARTICLE 704.2 (New) ABANDONMENT**

Proposed by: Sid Cassidy, Rules & Regulations Committee and Jay Thomas, Open Water Task Force

Purpose: To follow through with the ideas presented by the Open Water Steering Committee in April 2007 meetings and establish procedures for abandonment at OW National Championships.

Recommendation: *The Rules & Regulations Committee makes no recommendation at this time.*

704.2 ABANDONMENT - In National Championship Events 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 and the full distance completed.
 - A In 5K events and in 10K events where the race is abandoned prior to the lead swimmer completing 5K the race may be re-started at a time later the same day but not earlier than 1 hour after the abandonment.
 - B If a 10K event is abandoned after the lead swimmer has completed at least 5K, the race will be

- 2158 moved to the following day or later.
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2160 .2 25K events – If the race is abandoned prior to the lead swimmer reaching the 12.5K, the race should
2161 be re-started and the full distance completed at the most appropriate time as decided by the meet
2162 committee. If the race is abandoned after the 12.5K mark, the race shall be considered complete, the
2163 lead swimmer declared the National Champion and swimmers in packs considered tied for the
2164 appropriate placing.
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2166 .3 Situations not covered above shall be determined by the Meet Committee.
2167 *Renumber subsequent sections*

HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

HK- 1 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 2168
2169 **Location:** Page 123 506.3 OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
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2171 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
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2173 **Purpose:** Housekeeping
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2175 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval as a Housekeeping item.*
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2177 **506.3 Olympic International Operations Committee**
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2179 .2 There shall be a maximum number of fifty (50) members in the Committee elected or
2180 selected as follows:
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2182 C The President of USA Swimming, the Program Operations Vice President, the Technical
2183 Vice President and the ~~National~~ Steering Committee shall be members of the Committee;
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HK- 2 ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
Subject to 90% approval						

- 2185
2186 **Location:** Page 127 507.1 ORGANIZATION
2187
2188 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
2189
2190 **Purpose:** Housekeeping
2191
2192 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.*
2193
2194 507.1 Organization
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2196 .1 *No change*

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2198 .2 Ten athlete representatives, five (5) per year and each serving a two (2) year term, elected by those
2199 athletes competing at the USA Swimming ~~U.S. Open~~ SCY National Championships ~~competition~~ shall
2200 be members of the House of Delegates... *No further changes*
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HK-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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2204 **Location:** Page 139 APPENDIX 6-D Description of LSC Boundaries
2205

2206 **Proposed by:** Scott Haase, Pacific Northwest Swimming, Mark Rienets, Oregon Swimming
2207

2208 **Purpose:** Wahkiakum County is west, but not north of the listed counties, so with the current
2209 description, it is not clear in what LSC it belongs. According to Cathy Durance, USA
2210 Member Services Coordinator, a detailed USA Swimming map indicates that the intent is
2211 that Wahkiakum County is a part of PNS. This change should be made as soon as
2212 possible to avoid confusion should any teams be formed in Wahkiakum County.

2213 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval as a Housekeeping item.*
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2215 **PACIFIC NORTHWEST** - That portion of the State of Washington west of the counties of Okanogan,
2216 Chelan, Kittitas, ~~and Yakima;~~ Skamania and ~~north of Cowlitz and Skamania~~ counties.