

USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE
PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO 2014 RULES AND REGULATIONS

No.	Description	Location	Recommendation
R-1	To comply with FINA's required use of the backstroke ledge	101.4.1	Approval
R-2	To mirror the list of FINA recognized events and recognize the addition of mixed gender relay events to the SWIMS database	101.7.3 (new) and 102.1	Approval
R-3	To clarify that the lane assignments are the same (as listed in the chart) when the lanes are numbered backwards (from left to right)	102.5.3	Approval
R-4	Change the minimum number of officials required for a dual meet to be consistent with any other meet	102.10.3 and .4	Approval
R-5	To include in the adjustment for a malfunction equally affecting an entire heat, the watch pad differential from heat(s) immediately preceding or following that heat	102.24.4 F and Appendix 1-B	Rejection
R-6	To comply with FINA's backstroke ledge specifications	103.14 (new)	Approval
R-7	To include the backstroke starting ledges into the water depth requirements for teaching racing starts and for racing starts. The backstroke starting ledges may allow a deeper plummet after the start and for safety reasons care must be taken to ensure that bottom strikes do not occur	103.2.2 and .3	Rejection
R-8	To increase the distance at which the minimum water depth is measured from 16 feet 5 inches (5 meters) to 26 feet (8 meters) from the end wall for executing racing starts	103.2.2 and .3	Approval
R-9	To prohibit deck changing	202.2.9 I	No Recommendation
R-10	To allow approved YMCA meets staffed by YMCA certified officials to be run without requiring USA Swimming certified officials	202.4.8 and .9	Approval
R-11	To add a new competition for senior level athletes	204.10 (new)	Approval
R-12	To deny USA Swimming membership to individuals with a foreign federation lifetime ban	303.7 (new)	Withdrawn
R-13	To comply with the recommendations of the Vieth Report Review Task Force to extend the prohibition against retaliation against an individual who makes a good faith report of physical abuse	306.2 and 307.1 (new)	Approval
R-14	To comply with the recommendations of the Vieth Report Review Task Force to adopt a rebuttable presumption of retaliation under stated circumstances for the purposes of the prohibition under 306 [or new 307.1, if adopted]	307.2 (new)	Approval
R-15	To comply with the recommendations of the Vieth Report Review Task Force to clarify the scope and charge of the coaches' panel to whether the conduct is outside the customary and acceptable bounds of coaching	405.2.3	Approval
R-16	To remove the OIOC from the Rulebook because it no longer serves the function for which it was created	Various	Approval
R-17	To eliminate the Board position of Secretary.	Various	Rejection
R-18	To assure that Board members have the opportunity to place issues on meeting agendas, allow for civil debate, and to assure that closed sessions are voted upon prior to going into closed session	503.2	Rejection

No.	Description	Location	Recommendation
R-19	To limit the number of past Presidents on the Board and require approval of ex-officio appointees through a closed ballot	504.5	Rejection
R-20	To provide the Vice Presidents more input into appointment of committee chairs and members	506.1.3	Rejection
R-21	To shorten committees terms and maximum term on committee to allow for more volunteer opportunities to serve on a committee	Various	Approval
R-22	To add ethical conduct and financial transparency standards to the code of conduct and to USA Swimming's sponsorship policies	Article 514 (new) and Article 515 (new)	Rejection
R-23	To prohibit LSC employees from serving as elected or appointed members of the LSC Board of Directors due to inherent conflicts of interest	Required LSC Bylaws 605.4	Approval
R-24	To eliminate the option (even though not recommended) in the Required LSC Bylaws template for LSC Bylaws to allow the quorum for a Board of Directors meeting to be "those present and voting."	Required LSC Bylaws 605.12	Approval
R-25	To make it mandatory that either the Senior Vice Chair/Committee Chair or the Administrative Vice Chair be the liaison with the Athlete Representatives and Athletes Committee and be responsible for the elections of the Athlete Representatives	Required LSC Bylaws 606.7.5	Approval
HK-1	Move enforcement of correct starting position to more appropriate location	101.1.2 E	Approval
HK-2	To clarify that anyone not certified for racing starts must start any race from in the water, regardless of water depth as is already required under 202.2.9D	103.2.2	Approval
HK-3	Conform to current policies and practices for awarding & sanctioning national meets	Various	Approval
HK-4	Seek to clarify conditions of sanction	202.3.2 and .3 (new)	Approval
HK-5	Clarify open water meets are exempt from the four-hour rule limitation	205.3.1 F	Approval
HK-6	Conform to the current practice of athlete membership cards no longer being issued by the LSC	302.3	Approval
RES 1	Creation of an in-house counsel position		Rejection

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

R-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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1 **Location:** Page 20 – **101.4 Backstroke**
2 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
3 **Purpose:** To comply with FINA's required use of the backstroke ledge.
4 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

5 **101.4 BACKSTROKE**

6 .1 **Start** — The swimmers shall line up in the water facing the starting end, with both hands placed on the gutter or on the starting grips.
7 Standing in or on the gutter, placing the toes above the lip of the gutter, or bending the toes over the lip of the gutter, before or after the
8 start, is prohibited. When using a backstroke ledge at the start, the toes of both feet must be in contact with the end wall or face of the
9 touchpad. Bending the toes over the top of the touchpad is prohibited.

R-2	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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10 **Location:** Page 21 – **101.7 Relays**
11 Page 22 – **102.1 Events**
12 **Proposed by:** Times and Recognition Committee
13 **Purpose:** To mirror the list of FINA recognized events and recognize the addition of mixed gender relay events to the
14 SWIMS database; to provide opportunities for swimmers in LSCs who swim mixed relays at meets where
15 small clubs are competing and may not have enough swimmers to field gender relays.

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

17 **101.7 RELAYS**

18 .1-2 [no changes]

19 .3 **Mixed Gender Relays** — must consist of two (2) men and two (2) women.

20 **102.1 EVENTS** — Meets should be planned to terminate within a maximum period of eight (8) hours of competitive events
21 for any group of swimmers in any one day and to provide adequate meal and rest breaks and properly supervised sheltered
22 rest areas. Refer to 205.3.1 F for additional provisions.

23 .1 **SENIOR EVENTS** — The following events for National Championships are recommended for LSC and other championship
24 meets. Eligibility for these championships shall be determined by the LSCs involved.

25 50, 100, 200, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y, 1500m/1650y freestyle

26 100, 200 backstroke

27 100, 200 butterfly

28 100, 200 breaststroke

29 200, 400 individual medley

30 200, 400, 800 freestyle relay

31 200, 400 medley relay

32 200, 400, 800 mixed gender freestyle relay

33 200, 400 mixed gender medley relay

34 .2 **AGE GROUP EVENTS** — Competitions may be composed of events selected from the following recognized list of events or
35 other such events/meet types as may be sanctioned by the LSC.

36	10 Years and Younger	11, 12 Years
37	50, 100, 200, 400m/500y freestyle	50, 100, 200, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y, 1500m/1650 freestyle
38	50, 100 backstroke	50, 100, 200 backstroke
39	50, 100 breaststroke	50, 100, 200 breaststroke
40	50, 100 butterfly	50, 100, 200 butterfly
41	100, 200 individual medley	100, 200, 400 individual medley
42	200 freestyle relay	200, 400 freestyle relay
43	200 medley relay	200, 400 medley relay
44	<u>200 mixed gender freestyle relay</u>	<u>200, 400 mixed gender freestyle relay</u>
45	<u>200 mixed gender medley relay</u>	<u>200, 400 mixed gender medley relay</u>
46	13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 Years	
47	50, 100, 200, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y, 1500m/1650y freestyle	
48	100, 200 backstroke	
49	100, 200 breaststroke	
50	100, 200 butterfly	
51	200, 400 individual medley	
52	200, 400, 800 freestyle relay	
53	200, 400 medley relay	
54	<u>200, 400, 800 mixed gender freestyle relay</u>	
55	<u>200, 400 mixed gender medley relay</u>	

R-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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56 **Location:** Page 24 – **102.5 Seeding, Lane Assignments, Swim-Offs, and Order of Heats**

57 **Proposed by:** Rules & Regulations Committee

58 **Purpose:** To clarify that the lane assignments are the same (as listed in the chart) when the lanes are numbered

59 backwards (from left to right).

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

61 **102.5 SEEDING, LANE ASSIGNMENTS, SWIM-OFFS, AND ORDER OF HEATS**

62 .3 **Finals** — In finals, the times to be considered are those times made in preliminary heats. If any qualifying swimmers have

63 the same time, their respective lanes shall be determined by draw. Lane assignments shall be made in descending order of

64 qualifying times by placing the fastest swimmer or team in the center lane in a pool with an odd number of lanes, or in lanes

65 3, 4, or 5 respectively in pools having 6, 8, or 10 lanes; with ~~the~~ the swimmer having the next fastest time ~~is to be placed~~ in the

66 adjacent lane ~~to the left~~, then alternating the other swimmer(s) to the right ~~and~~ or left in accordance with the submitted

67 times. (See chart below)

R-4	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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68 **Location:** Page 29 – **102.10 Officials**

69 **Proposed by:** Rules & Regulations Committee

70 **Purpose:** The current requirements are inconsistent and confusing. It makes no sense to have different requirements

71 for dual meets using the same number or more lanes than a regular meet, an intra-squad meet, a tri-meet, a

72 time trial, or any other meet. Swimmers at dual meets are essentially robbed of an appeal process when the

73 Referee is also functioning as a stroke & turn official. The Referee cannot be an impartial judge if s/he is a

74 participant.

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

76 **102.10 OFFICIALS**

77 .1 All officials accepting an invitation to officiate at a ~~swimming~~ meet should arrive promptly and report immediately to the

78 Meet Director or Meet Referee.

79 .2 All officials acting in the capacity of Referee, Starter, Administrative Official, or Stroke and/or Turn Judge at a ~~swimming~~

80 meet shall be certified in such position by their LSC prior to being assigned to officiate in that capacity. Uncertified trainees
81 may perform the duties of such positions when they are under the direct supervision of a certified official. See Article 202
82 for USA Swimming membership requirements.

83 .3 For all ~~swimming sanctioned or approved~~ meets or time trials, ~~except dual meets~~ there should not be fewer than the
84 following officiating positions filled or approved by the LSC in authority. Officials other than the Referee and Administrative
85 Official may act in more than one officiating capacity only when sufficient qualified officials are not available, but no one
86 may simultaneously time and judge the order of finish. An LSC House of Delegates may establish additional minimum
87 requirements.

- 88 1 Referee
- 89 1 Starter
- 90 3 Timers per lane (one minimum if automatic equipment with touchpads is used)
- 91 1 Clerk of Course (if applicable)
- 92 1 Place Judge (2 are preferred)
- 93 2 Stroke Judges and 2 Turn Judges or 2 Stroke & Turn Judges
- 94 Relay Take-off Judges (if applicable)
- 95 1 Administrative Official
- 96 1 Announcer
- 97 Timing Equipment Operators (as needed)
- 98 Marshal(s) (number determined by the LSC)

99 ~~.4 Minimum Number of Officials Required for Dual Meets~~

- 100 ~~1 Referee, who may also act as a stroke and turn judge~~
- 101 ~~1 Starter~~
- 102 ~~1 Other stroke and turn judge (may be the Starter)~~
- 103 ~~1 Announcer~~
- 104 ~~3 Timers per lane (one minimum if automatic timing equipment with touchpads is used)~~
- 105 ~~1 Administrative Official~~
- 106 ~~1 Place Judge~~
- 107 ~~Relay take-off judges (if applicable)~~
- 108 ~~Timing Equipment Operators (as needed)~~
- 109 ~~Marshal(s) (number determined by the LSC)~~

R-5	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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110 **Location:** Page 36 – **102.24 Timing Rules**
111 Page 43 – **Appendix 1-B**

112 **Proposed by:** Wayne Shulby, North Carolina

113 **Purpose:** The current rule 102.24.4F only redistributes the valid watch times from the current heat and does not
114 actually adjust for the pad button differential. Since watch times are on the average ~ 0.05 seconds faster
115 than pad times, it gives athletes an advantage over the rest of the field in the event of a late start. It seems
116 to also violate rule 102.24.4.D, which requires adjustments to be based on the difference between valid
117 primary and back-up systems (the times from the primary system in this case are not valid).

118 **Effective Date:** Immediately

119 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because adding another layer of complexity to*
120 *time adjustments would not necessarily yield a more accurate time.*

121 **102.24 TIMING RULES**

122 **.4 Determining Official Time**

123 A-E [no changes]

124 F **Adjustment for Malfunction Equally Affecting an Entire Heat** — When, because of an early or late start, or other
125 equipment or operator malfunction, the time of the automatic or semi-automatic primary timing system is equally
126 incorrect for all the lanes in a heat, but the order of finish and thus the absolute difference of time between the
127 swimmers is accurate, the times of the primary system shall be adjusted by calculating the average difference

128 between the primary times and the valid back-up times and adding, or subtracting when appropriate, that difference to
 129 the primary times of every lane in that heat. These times shall then be further adjusted by adding the average
 130 differential between the primary system and valid back-up times from heat(s) immediately preceding or following in
 131 accordance with 102.24.E (See Appendix 1-B on page 43)

132 **APPENDIX 1-B**
 133 **EXAMPLE OF HEAT MALFUNCTION**

134 **Primary** - Automatic (Late manual start confirmed);
 135 **Secondary** - Semi-automatic, three buttons (button time not valid);

LANE	PRIMARY PAD TIME	WATCH TIME	WATCH TIME LESS PAD TIME	HEAT ADJUSTMENT*	AVERAGE PAD-WATCH DIFF from Preceding Heat*	OFFICIAL TIME
1	52.12	55.14	3.02	+3.06	+0.05	55.1823
2	51.56	54.61	3.05	+3.06	+0.05	54.6267
3	51.09	54.18	3.09	+3.06	+0.05	54.1520
4	50.12	53.18	3.06	+3.06	+0.05	53.1823
5	49.78	52.90	3.12	+3.06	+0.05	52.8489
6	49.06	52.06	3.00	+3.06	+0.05	52.1217
7	52.21	55.30	3.09	+3.06	+0.05	55.2732
8	52.92	55.99	3.07	+3.06	+0.05	55.9803
			24.50 total			

136 **Tertiary** - Manual, one watch

137 *Adjustment calculation:

138 ▼ Add the differences between the pad and watch times; total = 24.50; ▼ Divide 24.50 by the number of lanes to determine an
 139 average: 24.50 divided by 8 = 3.0625; the digits after hundredths are dropped, leaving a heat adjustment of 3.06; ▼ Add the
 140 adjustment factor of 3.06 seconds for late start of the primary system and the average differential between the pad and watches
 141 from a heat(s) immediately preceding or following to each pad time to obtain the official time for that lane.

R-6	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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142 **Location:** Page 44 – (new) **103.14 Backstroke Ledge**

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

144 **Purpose:** To comply with FINA's backstroke ledge specifications.

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

146 **ARTICLE 103**
 147 **FACILITIES STANDARDS**

148 **103.1-.13** [no changes]

149 **103.14 BACKSTROKE LEDGE** — The backstroke ledge shall conform to FINA's specifications when used in competition.

150 .1 /M/ The ledge may be adjustable to 4 cm above or 4 cm below the water level.

151 .2 /M/ The ledge is a minimum of 65 cm in length.

152 .3 /M/ The ledge must be 8 cm in height, 2 cm at the width with 10 degrees of slope.

153 [Re-number remaining]

R-7	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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154 **Location:** Page 44 – **103.2 Water Depth**
 155 **Proposed by:** Ron Van Pool, Pacific Northwest
 156 **Purpose:** To include backstroke starting ledges into the water depth requirements for teaching racing starts and for
 157 racing starts. The backstroke starting ledges may allow a deeper plummet after the start and for safety
 158 reasons care must be taken to ensure that bottom strikes do not occur.
 159 **Effective Date:** Immediately
 160 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection in favor of R-6 and further study of backstroke*
 161 *starts.*

162 **103.2 WATER DEPTH**

- 163 .1 **/NC/ 2 meters (6 feet 7 inches) deep throughout the course.**
- 164 .2 **/M/ Teaching Racing Starts** — Minimum water depth for teaching racing starts, prior to certification, in any setting from any
 165 height starting blocks, from backstroke starting ledges, or from the deck shall be 6 feet (1.84 meters) measured for a
 166 distance of 3 feet 31/2 inches (1.0 meter) to 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from the end wall. Teaching racing starts shall
 167 only take place under the direct supervision of a USA Swimming member coach and shall include:
- 168 A All racing start instruction until a swimmer has been certified by his or her USA Swimming member coach as proficient
 169 in performing a racing start, and
- 170 B Subsequent to certification, instruction which seeks to alter a swimmer's basic technique in performing a racing start.
 171 Subsequent to certification, practicing of racing starts may take place in water depth of four (4) feet (1.22 meters) and
 172 deeper.
- 173 .3 **/M/ Racing Starts** — Minimum water depth for racing starts during practice and competition shall be measured for a
 174 distance 3 feet 31/2 inches (1.0 meter) to 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from the end wall. Starting requirements and height
 175 of starting block shall be:
- 176 A In pools with water depth less than 4 feet (1.22 meters) at the starting end, the swimmer must start from within the
 177 water;
- 178 B In pools with water depth less than 4 feet (1.22 meters) at the starting end, the use of backstroke starting ledges shall
 179 not be permitted;
- 180 BC In pools with water depth 4 feet (1.22 meters) or more at the starting end, starting platforms shall meet the height
 181 requirements of 103.13.1.
- 182 **Note:** Local, state and municipal statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, may have depth limitations in conflict with this
 183 section. The LSC and all Member Clubs should check for this at all times.

R-8	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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184 **Location:** Page 44 – **103.2 Water Depth**
 185 **Proposed by:** Jennifer Ridge and Operational Risk Committee
 186 **Purpose:** To increase the distance at which the minimum water depth is measured from 16 feet 5 inches (5 meters) to
 187 26 feet (8 meters) from the end wall for executing racing starts, whether in teaching or competition, as
 188 recommended by the Counsilman Center for the Science of Swimming. This will provide a greater margin of
 189 safety for all athletes, especially elite level athletes.
 190 **Effective Date:** January 1, 2015
 191 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
 192 **103.2 WATER DEPTH**

193 .1 **/NC/ 2 meters (6 feet 7 inches) deep throughout the course.**

194 .2 **/M/ Teaching Racing Starts** — Minimum water depth for teaching racing starts, including backstroke starts, prior to

195 certification, in any setting from any height starting blocks ~~or, from the deck or in the water~~ for backstroke starts shall be 6
196 feet (1.84 meters) measured for a distance of 3 feet 3 1/2 inches (1.0 meter) to ~~16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters)~~ 26 feet (8.0
197 meters) from the end wall. Teaching racing starts shall only take place under the direct supervision of a USA Swimming
198 member coach and shall include:

199 A All racing start instruction until a swimmer has been certified by his or her USA Swimming member coach as proficient
200 in performing a racing start, and

201 B Subsequent to certification, instruction which seeks to alter a swimmer's basic technique in performing a racing start.

202 Subsequent to certification, practicing of racing starts may take place in water depth of four (4) feet (1.22 meters) and
203 deeper.

204 .3 **/M/ Racing Starts** — Minimum water depth for racing starts during practice and competition shall be measured for a
205 distance 3 feet 3 1/2 inches (1.0 meter) to ~~16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters)~~ 26 feet (8.0 meters) from the end wall. Starting
206 requirements and height of starting block shall be:

207 A In pools with water depth less than 4 feet (1.22 meters) at the starting end, the swimmer must start from within the
208 water;

209 B In pools with water depth 4 feet (1.22 meters) or more at the starting end, starting platforms shall meet the height
210 requirements of 103.13.1.

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

R-9	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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213 **Location:** Page 57 – **202.2 Requirements for Sanction**

214 **Proposed by:** Brad Jacobs, Indiana Swimming Senior Athlete Representative

215 **Purpose:** To require meet announcements to prohibit deck changing rather than an option for either host club or LSC.

216 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee makes no recommendation.*

217 **202.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTION** — Sanctions are issued, withheld or withdrawn in accordance with the following
218 regulations:

219 .1-.8 [no changes]

220 .9 Application for sanction must be accompanied by a copy of the complete meet announcement which must include the
221 following:

222 A-H [no changes]

223 I The following statement: "~~Except where venue facilities require otherwise, c~~Changing into or out of swimsuits other than
224 in locker rooms or other designated areas is ~~not appropriate and is strongly discouraged.~~" ~~The host club and/or the LSC~~
225 ~~may change the last two words in this statement to "prohibited."~~

R-10	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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226 **Location:** Page 60 – **202.4 Requirements for Approval**

227 **Proposed by:** Times and Recognition Committee

228 **Purpose:** To allow approved YMCA meets staffed by YMCA certified officials to be run without requiring USA
229 Swimming certified officials.

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

231 **202.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL** — Approval of competition may be issued, withheld or withdrawn by an LSC in
232 accordance with the following regulations:

233 .1-.7 [no changes]

234 .8 With the exception of YMCA meets approved by USA Swimming and sufficiently staffed by YMCA certified officials, No

235 competition shall be approved unless a sufficient number of USA Swimming officials, certified by the LSC at a minimum of
236 Stroke and Turn level, are present to observe and certify that the conduct of competition and all times achieved in such
237 competition were in conformance with the following USA Swimming technical rules:

238 A Article 101 (all) Start, individual stroke and relay rules
239 or Article 105 (Disability)
240 or Article 701 (Open Water)

241 B 102.2.2 & 3 Entry limit per day

242 C 102.8.1 A, B, C, D and E Swimwear restrictions

243 D 102.10 Officials

244 E 102.24 Timing Rules

245 F 103.2.3, 103.3.1, 103.4 Minimum standards for facilities
246 103.13 and 103.15
247 or Article 702 (Open Water)

248 .9 Except for YMCA meets approved by USA Swimming and sufficiently staffed by YMCA certified officials as stated in 202.4.8,
249 the organization requesting approval shall permit USA Swimming officials to be on the deck at both ends of the course
250 where they can properly view strokes and turns.

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R-11	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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252 **Location:** Page 65 – (new) **204.10 USA Swimming Legends Championships**

253 **Proposed by:** Senior Development Committee

254 **Purpose:** Over the past years, qualifying for championship meets for senior level swimmers has become increasingly
255 difficult. There is now a huge “jump” in qualifying times from the Sectional Championships to the Junior
256 National Championships. The Legends series of meets will provide a stepping-stone so that the increasing
257 number of 13 and older athletes in the sport have a more reasonable progression in championship meets
258 (Sectionals to Legends to Junior Nationals to Nationals).

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

260 **Effective Date:** Summer 2015

261 **204.10 USA SWIMMING LEGENDS CHAMPIONSHIPS** – The USA Swimming Legends Championships shall be governed
262 and conducted by Program Operations.

263 .1 The Legends Championships will be swum long course during the summer season. The dates, place of competition and
264 number of competitions to be held will be determined by the Senior Development Committee based on the
265 recommendations of USA Swimming’s National Events office.

266 .2 The meets should be scheduled to be held during the same week as the USA Swimming Junior National Championships.

267 .3 LSCs will be assigned to a specific Legends meet based upon the recommendation from the Senior Development
268 Committee.

R-12	WITHDRAWN SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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269 **Location:** Page 95 – (new) **Article 303 Eligibility**

270 **Proposed by:** Bill Marlin, Potomac Valley LSC General Chair

271 **Purpose:** To deny USA Swimming membership to individuals with a foreign federation lifetime ban.

272 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because 303.1 requires USA Swimming to*
273 *comply with FINA decisions including lifetime bans.*

274 **Effective Date:** Immediately

275 **ARTICLE 303**
276 **ELIGIBILITY**

277 **303.1 – .6** [no changes]

278 **303.7** No member or former member of a foreign FINA member federation who is banned for life by that federation shall be
279 granted membership in USA Swimming.

R-13	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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280 **Location:** Page 100 – **306.2 Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements**

281 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors

282 **Purpose:** To comply with the recommendations of the Vieth Report Review Task Force to extend the prohibition against
283 retaliation against an individual who makes a good faith report of physical abuse.

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

285 **Effective Date:** Immediately

286 **ARTICLE 306**
287 **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

288 **306.1** It is every member's responsibility to promptly report any incident regarding sexual misconduct by a member as described in ~~Article~~
289 ~~304.3.8 to USA Swimming's Athlete Protection Officer Director of Safe Sport.~~ Reporting must occur when an individual has firsthand
290 knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party. Various
291 state laws may also require reporting to law enforcement or to a designated child protection agency.

292 ~~**306.2** No member shall retaliate against any individual who has made a good faith report under 306.1.~~

293 [Re-number remaining]

294 **ARTICLE 307**
295 **PROHIBITIONS AGAINST RETALIATION**
296 **FOR GOOD FAITH REPORTING OF ABUSE**

297 **307.1** No Member shall retaliate against any individual who has made a good faith report under 306.1 or 304.3.13.

R-14	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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298 **Location:** Page 100 – **(new) 307.2 Rebuttable Presumption of Retaliation**

299 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors

300 **Purpose:** To comply with the recommendations of the Vieth Report Review Task Force to adopt a rebuttable
301 presumption of retaliation under stated circumstances for the purposes of the prohibition under 306 [or new
302 307.1, if adopted].

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

304 **Effective Date:** Immediately

305 **307.2** For the purposes of 307.1, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that any adverse action regarding the employment,
306 membership, or other material rights of an individual who has made a good faith report under 306.1 or 304.3.13 within 90 days of
307 a report is retaliatory. An adverse action includes without limitation discharge or termination; demotion or reduction in
308 compensation for services; or the removal of or from, or restrictions on, access to facilities, team activities or team membership
309 privileges.

R-15	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 310 **Location:** Page 105 – **405.2 Investigation of Complaints**
- 311 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors
- 312 **Purpose:** To comply with the recommendations of the Vieth Report Review Task Force to clarify the scope and charge
313 of the coaches' panel to whether the conduct is outside the customary and acceptable bounds of coaching.
- 314 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 315 **Effective Date:** Immediately
- 316 **405.2 INVESTIGATON OF COMPLAINTS**
- 317 .1 In those matters occurring during the course of an international meet the Olympic International Operations Committee
318 Coordinator or his/her designee shall make the investigation and report.
- 319 .2 In those matters occurring during the course of a national or regional event the Vice President of Program Operations or his/her
320 designee shall make the investigation and report.
- 321 .3 In those matters involving an alleged violation of 304.3.13 by a coach, a committee of three coaches appointed by the
322 President of USA Swimming shall make ~~the investigation a~~ determination with such investigation assistance by the Executive
323 Director or his/her designee as the committee may request and report; as to whether the coach's conduct is outside the
324 customary and acceptable bounds of coaching.

R-16	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 325 **Location:** Page 105 – **405.2 Investigation of Complaints**
326 Page 123 – **504.1 General Membership**
327 Page 125 – **505.2 Membership**
328 Page 126 – **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**
329 Page 127 – **506.2 Athletes Committee**
330 Page 128 – **506.3 Olympic International Operations Committee**
331 Page 131 – **506.9 Steering Committee**
332 Page 132 – **507.1 Organization**
- 333 **Proposed by:** Bruce Stratton and Governance Committee
- 334 **Purpose:** To remove the OIOC from the Rulebook because it no longer serves the function for which it was created.
335 As part of the elimination of the Committee, a forum will be held each year at convention to report on the
336 activities of the National Team and to allow for comments and questions from USA Swimming members.
- 337 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 338 **Effective Date:** The day following the last day of the next Olympic Games.
- 339 **405.2 INVESTIGATON OF COMPLAINTS**
- 340 .1 In those matters occurring during the course of an international meet the ~~Olympic International Operations Committee~~
341 ~~Coordinator~~ National Team Steering Committee Chair or his/her designee shall make the investigation and report.
- 342 **504.1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP** — Eight (8) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA Swimming and the Secretary
343 (appointed by the Board). Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the House of Delegates, representing LSCs within
344 each of the four zones. The Chair of the ~~Olympic International Operations~~ National Team Steering Committee shall also be a member.
- 345 **505.2 MEMBERSHIP** — The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of USA Swimming, the ~~Olympic International~~
346 ~~Operations Committee Coordinator~~ chair of National Team Steering Committee, and one additional athlete member from the Board of
347 Directors to be selected by the Athletes Committee, acting with advice and consent of legal counsel.
- 348 **506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS**
- 349 .1 Standing committees of USA Swimming shall be as listed in this Article.
- 350 .2 Except for those individuals who qualify for their positions under some other provision of Article 506:

- 351 A Non-athlete committee members shall serve four-year terms.
- 352 B Non-athlete committee members' terms shall be staggered so that one-fourth of all non-athlete members are appointed
353 each year by the President following the annual meeting of the Corporation.
- 354 C Committees other than athletes committees shall consist of volunteer members of USA Swimming who are not voting members of
355 the Board of Directors. The President may appoint voting members of the Board of Directors as Ex-Officio, non-voting members of
356 committees that are normally appointed by the President. Athlete members and non-voting members of the Board of Directors shall
357 be exempt from this rule.
- 358 ~~(1) Committees that shall not be affected by this limitation are the Olympic International Operations Committee and
359 any athletes committees.~~
- 360 D In the event of a vacancy on a committee caused by any reason, the person/organization responsible for the appointment shall
361 select the person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. If the vacancy occurs in an elected committee position other than
362 OIOC, the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair, shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term.
- 363 E Committee members shall be subject to removal prior to the expiration of a term only by the Board of Directors.
- 364 F At least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of each committee shall be athletes, each of whom must at the
365 time of his/her appointment be engaged in swimming within ten (10) years preceding his/her appointment.
- 366 G An appointed non-athlete committee member shall serve no more than two consecutive terms and may be reappointed following a
367 lapse of one year.
- 368 .3 Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, the President shall appoint all committee chairs for one-year terms.
- 369 .4 The Board of Directors may establish special committees and coordinators to satisfy programming needs. Committee and
370 coordinator details shall be outlined in the USA Swimming Policy Manual.
- 371 .5 The following shall be responsible to the President: Governance Committee.
- 372 .6 The following shall be responsible to the Administration Vice President: Rules & Regulations and Credentials/Elections.
- 373 .7 The following shall be responsible to the Technical Vice President: ~~Olympic International Operations Committee~~ National
374 Team Steering Committee, Senior Development Committee, Steering Committee, and Age Group Development Committee.
- 375 **506.2 ATHLETES COMMITTEE**
- 376 .1-.4 [no changes]
- 377 .5 The Athletes Vice President shall appoint representatives to serve terms on each committee of USA Swimming except Athletes, Athletes
378 Executive, and Investment, and ~~Olympic International Operations Committees.~~
- 379 ~~**506.3 OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**~~
- 380 ~~.1 The Olympic International Operations Committee shall be formed at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates in the year preceding
381 the Olympic Games and the terms of the newly elected members shall commence on the day following the conclusion of the Olympic
382 Games and end the last day of the next Olympic Games.~~
- 383 ~~.2 There shall be a maximum number of fifty (50) members in the Committee elected or selected as follows:~~
- 384 ~~A Athlete members shall be elected by the Athletes Committee in such numbers as to constitute twenty percent (20%) of
385 the Committee and presented to the House of Delegates for approval;~~
- 386 ~~B The Board of Directors in its sole discretion may invite those organizations which directly or indirectly provide potential members of
387 the Olympic Swimming Team to appoint members to the Committee, the number representing Allied members to be determined
388 by the Board. Such organizations must have joined USA Swimming as organizational members pursuant to 502.3;~~
- 389 ~~C The President of USA Swimming, the Program Operations Vice President, the Technical Vice President and the
390 Steering Committee shall be members of the Committee; and~~
- 391 ~~D That number of members necessary to bring the Committee membership to a total of fifty (50) shall be elected by the
392 House of Delegates.~~
- 393 ~~.3 Organizations entitled to appoint members to the Committee shall submit the names of their appointees in writing to the national office at
394 least thirty (30) days prior to the first official meeting of the quadrennium at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates in which elec-
395 tions to the Committee are held. A written list of these appointees approved by the Board of Directors shall be distributed to the~~

396 appointing organizations and to the House of Delegates no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to that session of the House of
397 Delegates in which the elections are held

398 ~~4 The Committee is responsible for all international competition by USA Swimming. It shall develop and administer all international~~
399 ~~competition for the National Teams and shall monitor all other international programs for National Teams. It shall select swimmers~~
400 ~~and staff of all National Junior, National Senior, and National Open Water Teams; arrange for and conduct developmental programs~~
401 ~~to aid National Teams; arrange for and conduct training camps; approve foreign invitations; develop schedules for foreign~~
402 ~~competition; and develop a budget.~~

403 [Re-number remaining]

404 **506.9 NATIONAL TEAM STEERING COMMITTEE**

405 .1 Membership: The National Team Steering Committee shall consist of:

406 A Eight (8) coaches selected as follows;

407 Preceding Head Women's Olympic Coach (1)

408 Preceding Head Men's Olympic Coach (1)

409 OIOC Coordinator

410 ~~Two coaches elected by Olympic International Operations Committee~~

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

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

413 One Two coaches appointed by the President in consultation with the National Team Director (2)

414 ~~Two coaches appointed by the National Team Director~~

415 Any vacancies on the committee shall be filled by appointment by the President in consultation with the National Team Director.

416 B The chair of the committee shall be elected by its voting members.

417 ~~BC~~ Once the new Head Olympic Coaches are named, they shall become ex-officio members of the Steering Committee, if
418 not already on the Committee.

419 ~~CD~~ Two athletes selected by the Athletes Committee, one female/one male, both former USA National Team members; and

420 ~~DE~~ The Technical Vice-President, the Chair of the Senior Development Committee, and the Chair of the Sports Medicine Committee shall
421 be ex-officio members of the Committee with voice but no vote. The Committee may name additional ex-officio members.

422 .2 Term: Members of the Steering Committee shall serve a term commencing with appointment ~~or election~~ and extend until the ~~last day of~~
423 ~~end of the annual House of Delegates meeting following the next Olympic Games.~~

424 .3 Responsibility: The Steering Committee shall operate under the direction of the National Team Director to create a National Team
425 program; expedite decisions regarding that program; and plan for specific needs of the National Team in preparation for
426 international competition.

427 .4 Operation: The Steering Committee shall operate according to policies adopted and published in the ~~OIOC~~ National Team
428 Policy Manual.

429 **507.1 ORGANIZATION**

430 .1 All USA Swimming officers and all voting members of the Board of Directors, the ~~Olympic International Operations~~ National Team
431 Steering Committee, the National Team Athletes Committee, the Age Group Development Committee, the Rules & Regulations
432 Committee, the Registration/Membership Committee, the Credentials/Elections Committee, the Senior Development Committee, and
433 past USA Swimming Presidents shall be members of the House of Delegates. Membership on any committee notwithstanding, USA
434 Swimming employees shall not be members of the House of Delegates.

435 .2-6 [no changes]

436 .7 The President, in consultation with the Technical Vice President, shall appoint, on an annual basis, twenty-five (25)
437 members selected from coaches who had athletes that qualified for the preceding Olympic Trials and from members that
438 served as the manager or assistant manager on a national team or junior national team trip within the past four years. The
439 appointments shall provide for a reasonable geographic representation of USA Swimming Membership.

440 [Re-number remaining]

R-17	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 441 **Location:** Page 122 – **503.1 Officers**
442 Page 122 – **503.3 Secretary**
443 Page 123 – **504.1 General Membership**
444 Page 126 – **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**
445 Page 129 – **506.4 Rules & Regulations Committee**
446 Page 130 – **506.6 Governance Committee**
447 Page 132 – **506.12 National Board of Review Committee**
448 Page 132 – **507.1 Organization**
449 Page 133 – **507.2 Meetings**
- 450 **Proposed by:** David Berkoff
- 451 **Purpose:** To eliminate the Board position of Secretary.
- 452 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because no reason was given why the*
453 *position was no longer needed and no consideration was made to identify new responsible parties for*
454 *Secretary's duties in numerous rulebook locations.*
- 455 **503.1 OFFICERS** — All USA Swimming officers, except ~~the Secretary~~ and the Athletes Vice President, shall be elected by the House of
456 Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. The elected officers shall be President, Treasurer, Vice President of
457 Administration, Vice President of Program Development, Vice President of Program Operations, Technical Vice President and Athletes Vice
458 President.
- 459 ~~**503.4 SECRETARY** — The Secretary of USA Swimming shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall serve at the pleasure of~~
460 ~~the Board. The Secretary shall perform such duties as is customary for such office, and, in addition, shall be responsible for the legal affairs of~~
461 ~~USA Swimming under the direction of the Board. The Secretary shall have voice but no vote in any of the affairs of USA Swimming.~~
- 462 [Re-number remaining]
- 463 **504.1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP** — ~~Eight (8)~~ Seven (7) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA Swimming ~~and the Secretary~~
464 ~~(appointed by the Board).~~ Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the House of Delegates, representing LSCs within
465 each of the four zones. The Chair of the Olympic International Operations Committee shall also be a member.
- 466 **506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS**
- 467 .1-.9 [no changes]
- 468 .10 The following shall be responsible to the ~~Secretary~~: National Board of Review Committee.
- 469 **506.4 RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**
- 470 .1 The Rules & Regulations Committee shall consist of the following:
- 471 A-D [no changes]
- 472 E The Executive Director, the ~~Secretary~~/General Counsel of the Corporation, and others appointed by the Rules &
473 Regulations Committee Chair, as ex-officio members with voice but no vote.
- 474 **506.6 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**
- 475 .1 Membership: The Governance Committee shall consist of eight (8) members appointed by the President, sufficient athlete
476 appointments to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the committee, and the ~~Secretary~~/General
477 Counsel who shall have voice but no vote. There shall be no current voting members of the Board of Directors appointed to this
478 committee.
- 479 **506.12 NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW COMMITTEE**
- 480 .1 Membership: The National Board of Review Committee shall consist of such number of members as the President may deem
481 appropriate from time to time; such members shall be appointed by the President, with the advice of ~~the Secretary~~ and General
482 Counsel, who shall serve as an ex-officio member with voice but no vote. At least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of
483 the National Board of Review Committee shall be athlete members. The Chair and Vice Chair(s) of the National Board of Review shall
484 serve as the Chair and Vice Chair(s), respectively, of the National Board of Review Committee.
- 485 **507.1 ORGANIZATION**

- 486 .1-.7 [no changes]
 487 .8 All members of the House of Delegates shall serve until their successors are selected, except that membership may be terminated by
 488 resignation filed with the Secretary. All LSC members must be elected on or before July 1 of each year and written certification thereof
 489 must be sent to the Secretary on or before July 15. No substitution of a member may be made unless written certification thereof is
 490 given to the Convention Credentials Committee Chair on or before the House of Delegates is called to order.

491 **507.2 MEETINGS**

- 492 .1-.6 [no changes]
 493 .7 Any action which may be taken at any regular or special meeting of the House of Delegates, or any division or committee thereof,
 494 except amendment or repeal of these Rules and Regulations, may be taken without a meeting. ~~The Secretary of USA Swimming, or~~
 495 ~~the~~ The division Vice President or committee chair, shall distribute a written ballot to every member entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot
 496 shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval of the proposal, and provide a
 497 reasonable time within which to return the ballot. Approval by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast in
 498 favor of the proposed action within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast. When the
 499 proposed action to be voted upon concerns only a specific Zone(s) or a certain number of LSCs, as determined by the Board of
 500 Directors, the matter shall be voted upon only by eligible members within such Zone(s) or LSCs.

R-18	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 501 **Location:** Page 122 – **503.2 Vice Presidents**
 502 **Proposed by:** David Berkoff
 503 **Purpose:** To assure that Board members have the opportunity to place issues on meeting agendas, allow for civil
 504 debate, and to assure that closed sessions are voted upon prior to going into closed session.
 505 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because the Board's past and current practice*
 506 *of using Robert's Rules of Order provides protection for debate and new agenda items.*

507 **503.2 PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENTS**

- 508 .1 **PRESIDENT** – The President shall be responsible for those matters set forth in the policy manual and as further dictated
 509 in these Rules.
 510 A Conducting of General Board Meetings.
 511 (1) At least thirty (30) days prior to any Board of Directors meeting, The President shall make a request to all Board of
 512 Directors members for agenda items and shall place those agenda items on the meeting agenda.
 513 (2) The President shall not allow any member or attendee of a Board of Directors meeting to stifle debate although
 514 the President may set time limits on discussions when necessary.
 515 (3) Shall take and have recorded in the minutes the results of any vote to go into closed session.
 516 .2 **VICE PRESIDENTS** – ~~4~~ The vice presidents of USA Swimming shall chair their respective divisions, and shall be responsible
 517 for their respective committees, as set forth in Article 506 and the USA Swim-ming Policy Manual.
 518 ~~2A~~ Whenever the President is unable to perform his/her duties, the Vice President of Administration shall perform the duties.
 519 ~~3B~~ The Technical Vice President must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a
 520 coach at a Junior, Sectional, or National Championships.

R-19	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 521 **Location:** Page 124 – **504.5 Ex-Officio Members**
 522 **Proposed by:** David Berkoff
 523 **Purpose:** To limit the number of past Presidents on the Board and require approval of ex-officio appointees through a
 524 closed ballot.

525 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because limiting resources and knowledge to*
526 *the Board is detrimental, irresponsible and bad governance.*

527 **504.5 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS** — The immediate Past President of USA Swimming shall be allowed to serve as an ex-officio
528 member with voice but no vote. Up to three (3) Additional ex-officio members may be appointed by the President to be approved upon
529 majority vote of the Board quorum through a closed ballot to serve at the pleasure of the Board with voice but no vote. No more than two (2)
530 past Presidents may serve as ex-officio members at any one time. An ex-officio member who fails to attend at least two regularly scheduled
531 meetings of the Board per year shall forfeit his/her seat on the Board.

R-20	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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532 **Location:** Page 126 – **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**

533 **Proposed by:** David Berkoff

534 **Purpose:** To provide the Vice Presidents more input into appointment of committee chairs and members.

535 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because current practice is all Presidential*
536 *appointees, including the chairs, are made in consultation with the Vice Presidents.*

537 **506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS**

538 .3 Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, the Vice President responsible for a committee, upon consultation with the
539 President, shall appoint all committee members and each chairs, who will serve for a term of one year ~~for one-year terms~~.

R-21	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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540 **Location:** Page 126 – **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**
541 Page 129 – **506.4 Rules & Regulations Committee**
542 Page 130 – **506.6 Governance Committee**
543 Page 130 – **506.7 Audit Committee**
544 Page 130 – **506.8 Credentials/Elections Committee**
545 Page 313 – **506.10 Senior Development Committee**
546 Page 131 – **506.11 Age Group Development Committee**

547 **Proposed by:** Bruce Stratton and Governance Committee

548 **Purpose:** To shorten committees terms and maximum term on committee to allow for more volunteer opportunities to
549 serve on a committee.

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

551 **Effective Date:** Immediately. Currently appointed committee members will be allowed to complete their four-year terms.

552 **506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS**

553 .1 Standing committees of USA Swimming shall be as listed in this Article.

554 .2 Except for those individuals who qualify for their positions under some other provision of Article 506:

555 A Non-athlete committee members shall serve ~~four~~ two-year terms.

556 B Non-athlete committee members' terms shall be staggered so that one-fourth ~~half~~ (1/2) of all non-athlete members are
557 appointed each year by the President following the annual meeting of the Corporation.

558 C Committees shall consist of volunteer members of USA Swimming who are not voting members of the Board of Directors. The
559 President may appoint voting members of the Board of Directors as Ex-Officio, non-voting members of committees that are normally
560 appointed by the President. Athlete members and non-voting members of the Board of Directors shall be exempt from this rule.

561 (1) Committees that shall not be affected by this limitation are the Olympic International Operations Committee and
562 any athletes committees.

563 D In the event of a vacancy on a committee caused by any reason, the person/organization responsible for the appointment shall

- 564 select the person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. If the vacancy occurs in an elected committee position other than
565 OIOC, the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair, shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term.
- 566 E Committee members shall be subject to removal prior to the expiration of a term only by the Board of Directors.
- 567 F At least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of each committee shall be athletes, each of whom must at the
568 time of his/her appointment be engaged in swimming within ten (10) years preceding his/her appointment.
- 569 G Except as otherwise provided, An appointed non-athlete committee member shall serve no more than six consecutive years or
570 three ~~two~~ consecutive terms and may be reappointed following a lapse of one year.

571 **506.4 RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**

- 572 .1 [no change]
- 573 .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a ~~four~~ two-year term, staggered so that one-~~fourth~~ half (1/2) of such members are
574 appointed each year.

575 **506.6 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

- 576 .1 [no change]
- 577 .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a ~~four~~ two-year term, staggered so that one-~~fourth~~ half (1/4₂) of such members are
578 appointed each year.

579 **506.7 AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- 580 .1 [no change]
- 581 .2 Each member shall serve a ~~four~~ two-year term, staggered so that one-~~fourth~~ half (1/4₂) of the members are appointed each
582 year.

583 **506.8 CREDENTIALS/ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

- 584 .1 [no change]
- 585 .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a ~~four~~ two-year term, staggered so that one-~~fourth~~ half (1/2) of such members are appointed
586 each year. Members are not subject to consecutive term limits.

587 **506.10 SENIOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- 588 .1 [no change]
- 589 .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a ~~four~~ two-year term, staggered so that one-~~fourth~~ half (1/2) of such members are
590 appointed each year.

591 **506.11 AGE GROUP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- 592 .1 [no change]
- 593 .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a ~~four~~ two-year term, staggered so that one-~~fourth~~ half (1/2) of such members are
594 appointed each year.

R-22	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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595 **Location:** Page 138 – (new) Article 514 Ethical Conduct/Financial Transparency
596 Page 138 – (new) Article 515 Promotion of Business Ethics

597 **Proposed by:** David Berkoff

598 **Purpose:** To add ethical conduct and financial transparency standards to the code of conduct and to USA Swimming's
599 sponsorship policies.

600 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because the current published policies and*
601 *procedures are more stringent and restrictive than the proposed legislation.*

602 **ARTICLE 514**

603

ETHICAL CONDUCT/FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

604 **514.1 ETHICAL CONDUCT/FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY**

- 605 .1 Members of the USA Swimming Board of Directors and staff shall:
- 606 A Not accept any cash, gift, or honorarium or other object of value in excess of \$500 from any sponsor, potential
- 607 sponsor, vendor, potential vendor, entity submitting or who has submitted a bid for any USA Swimming national or
- 608 international event, or any other persons, entities, organizations, or groups having or seeking to have a financial
- 609 interest in or benefit from USA Swimming. This rule does not apply to reimbursement of the person's reasonable
- 610 travel, food, or lodging expenses normally applicable to meetings or other normal business activities.
- 611 .2 Appointed delegates or agents representing USA Swimming at a national, international, or FINA-sponsored or governed
- 612 event, meeting or engagement shall:
- 613 A Not accept any cash, gift, honorarium or other object of value in excess of \$500. If the person accepts cash, gift,
- 614 honorarium or object allowed under this section, the person must report the gift to the USA Swimming Board of
- 615 Directors within thirty (30) days of receipt. This rule does not apply to reimbursement of the person's reasonable
- 616 travel, food, or lodging expenses normally applicable to the event.
- 617 B Promote only the positions and directives of USA Swimming regarding matters before FINA.
- 618 C Not engage in any conduct that conflicts with the interests of USA Swimming.
- 619 .3 The Treasurer shall make an annual report of all expenses and reimbursement requests submitted by the individual
- 620 members of the Board of Directors, and of all appointed delegates. The report shall be provided to the Board of Directors,
- 621 and shall be made available to any current member upon written request to USA Swimming.

622

ARTICLE 515

623

PROMOTION OF BUSINESS ETHICS

624 **515.1 PROMOTION OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

- 625 .1 USA Swimming shall endeavor to seek and cultivate sponsorships from persons, corporations, and entities whose business
- 626 model and track record promotes a healthy lifestyle, fosters a culture of safety, and engages in ethical business practices
- 627 regarding fair wages, non-discrimination, child labor, and fair trade.
- 628 .2 USA Swimming shall not accept sponsorship or renew any on-going sponsorship with any persons, corporations, or entities
- 629 who have been found to have engaged in criminal corruption by a court of competent jurisdiction, or whose business model
- 630 or conduct in the opinion of the majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors violates Article 515.1.1.

R-23	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 631 **Location:** Required LSC Bylaws – 605.4 Board of Directors Limitations
- 632 **Proposed by:** Governance Committee
- 633 **Purpose:** To prohibit LSC employees from serving as elected or appointed members of the LSC Board of Directors due to
- 634 inherent conflicts of interest.
- 635 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 636 **Effective Date:** January 1, 2016
- 637 605.4 LIMITATIONS ~~No more than three (3) members or coaches of any Club Member or Affiliated Group Member shall serve~~
- 638 ~~on the Board of Directors at any time. This limitation shall be applied separately as to Athlete Members and other~~
- 639 ~~Individual Members.~~
- 640 .1 *No more than three (3) members or coaches of any Club Member or Affiliated Group Member shall serve on the*
- 641 *Board of Directors at any time. This limitation shall be applied separately as to Athlete Members and other*
- 642 *Individual Members.*

643 .2 Notwithstanding anything in these Bylaws to the contrary, no employee of the LSC may serve as a voting
644 member of the Board of Directors.

645 *The result of this application is that a single club could have, for example, three Coach Members and three Athlete Members serving*
646 *on the Board of Directors at the same time. That club could not, however, have four volunteers and two Athlete Members. Although*
647 *not recommended, this provision may be omitted if desired. Alternatively, or in addition to the club affiliation limitation, an LSC may*
648 *impose a limitation based on geography. In order to preserve continuity across the LSCs, if an LSC elects to omit this provision, the*
649 *Section number and heading should remain with the addition of the following commentary: "This Section is reserved for future use."*

R-24	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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650 **Location:** Required LSC Bylaws – 605.12 Quorum (for LSC Board Meetings)
651 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
652 **Purpose:** To eliminate the option (even though not recommended) in the Required LSC Bylaws template for LSC Bylaws
653 to allow the quorum for a Board of Directors meeting to be "those present and voting."
654 **Effective Date:** Immediately
655 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
656 605.12 QUORUM - A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the voting members.

657 ~~*Although it is not recommended, an LSC may provide for a quorum of those members "present and voting" or other definition.*~~
658 ~~*However, if this modification is made, the time period for notice of a meeting must be increased to "twenty (20) days". Similarly,*~~
659 ~~*consideration should be given to keeping the quorum at the suggested level with respect to special meetings*~~

R-25	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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660 **Location:** Required LSC Bylaws – 606.7.5 Senior Vice Chair/Committee Chair
661 **Proposed by:** LSC Development Committee
662 **Purpose:** To make it mandatory (rather than optional, as it is now) that either the Senior Vice Chair/Committee Chair or
663 the Administrative Vice Chair be the liaison with the Athlete Representatives and Athletes Committee and be
664 responsible for the elections of the Athlete Representatives.
665 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
666 **Effective Date:** January 1, 2015

667 606.7 DUTIES AND POWERS — The duties and powers of the officers and other Board Members shall be to attend and
668 participate in all meetings of the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors and as follows:
669 .1-.4 [no changes]
670 .5 **SENIOR ||VICE CHAIR| OR |COMMITTEE CHAIR|:** *The Senior ||Vice Chair| or |Committee Chair| shall chair and have*
671 *general charge of the affairs and property of the ||Division| or |Committee| that develops and conducts the*
672 *senior swimming program of XXSI. The ||Senior ||Vice Chair| or |Committee Chair| or |Administrative Vice*
673 *Chair| will serves as the liaison to the Athlete Representatives and the Athletes Committee, and shall be*
674 *responsible to see that the Athlete Representatives' elections are held in accordance with these Bylaws.*

675 *If the responsibility for Athlete liaison and Athlete Representatives' elections are determined to be one for the Administrative Vice*
676 *Chair, then the last sentence of this provision should be removed to the section covering the Administrative Vice Chair.*

HK-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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677 **Location:** Page 17 – 101.1 Starts

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

679 **Purpose:** Move to a more appropriate location.

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

681 **101.1 STARTS**

682 **.2 The Start**

683 A-D [no changes]

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

686 **.3 False Starts**

687 A-D [no changes]

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

690 [Re-letter remaining]

HK-2	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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691 **Location:** Page 44 – **103.2 Water Depth**

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

693 **Purpose:** To clarify that anyone not certified for racing starts must start any race from in the water, regardless of water
694 depth as is already required under 202.2.9D.

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

696 **103.2 WATER DEPTH**

697 **.1 /NC/ 2 meters (6 feet 7 inches) deep throughout the course.**

698 **.2 /M/ Teaching Racing Starts** — Minimum water depth for teaching racing starts, prior to certification, in any setting from any
699 height starting blocks, or the deck shall be 6 feet (1.84 meters) measured for a distance of 3 feet 31/2 inches (1.0 meter) to
700 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from the end wall. Teaching racing starts shall only take place under the direct supervision of a
701 USA Swimming member coach and shall include:

702 A All racing start instruction until a swimmer has been certified by his or her USA Swimming member coach as proficient
703 in performing a racing start, and

704 B Subsequent to certification, instruction which seeks to alter a swimmer's basic technique in performing a racing start.

705 Prior to certification, all racing starts must take place from in the water, regardless of pool depth. Subsequent to certification,
706 practicing of racing starts may take place in water depth of four (4) feet (1.22 meters) and deeper.

707 **.3 /M/ Racing Starts** — Minimum water depth for racing starts during practice and competition shall be measured for a
708 distance 3 feet 31/2 inches (1.0 meter) to 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from the end wall. Starting requirements and height
709 of starting block shall be:

710 A In pools with water depth less than 4 feet (1.22 meters) at the starting end, the swimmer must start from within the
711 water;

712 B In pools with water depth 4 feet (1.22 meters) or more at the starting end, starting platforms shall meet the height
713 requirements of 103.13.1.

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

HK-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 716 **Location:** Page 57 – **202.1 Jurisdiction**
717 Page 57 – **202.2 Requirements for Sanction**
718 Page 70 – **206.5 Method of Granting Awards**
- 719 **Proposed by:** Mary Jo Swalley, Vice President of Administration
- 720 **Purpose:** Conform to current policies and practices for awarding and sanctioning national meets.
- 721 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 722 **202.1 JURISDICTION** — As the National Governing Body for competitive swimming in the United States and as a
723 Federation member of FINA, USA Swimming has the sole and exclusive authority to sanction or approve domestic and
724 international swimming competition conducted within its jurisdiction. Each Local Swimming Committee (LSC) has been
725 authorized by USA Swimming to issue the sanction or approval for all swimming competition and benefits, exhibitions,
726 clinics and entertainment involving competitive swimming within its geographical boundaries except that USA Swimming shall
727 sanction national swimming competitions as defined by the Program Operations Division. Additional requirements/conditions
728 for sanction or approval, other than those listed in Article 202, may be established by a vote of the LSC House of Delegates
729 in accordance with LSC Bylaws.
- 730 **202.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTION** — Sanctions are issued, withheld or withdrawn in accordance with the following
731 regulations:
- 732 .1-.11 [no changes]
- 733 .12 For the sole purpose of improving competitive swimming, and with the written approval of the USA Swimming Rules &
734 Regulations Committee, USA Swimming or an LSC may sanction events or meets for which waivers of specific
735 provisions of Parts One, Two, or Seven of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations have been granted for limited
736 periods and under specified conditions.
- 737 **206.5 METHOD OF GRANTING AWARD**
- 738 .1 A USA Swimming Championship may be awarded either to an LSC in good standing or to an organization approved by the Board of Directors of the LSC
739 USA Swimming Championships and meets designated as national meets may be awarded to a USA Swimming member in
740 good standing or to an organization approved by USA Swimming for the purpose of assuming full responsibility to conduct the USA
741 Swimming Championship as agreed to in writing. The LSC may also assign the contract to conduct the championship to a member in good standing of
742 that LSC who shall then assume the full responsibility for the championship as agreed to in writing.

HK-4	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 743 **Location:** Page 59 – **202.3 Conditions of Sanction**
- 744 **Proposed by:** Registration/Membership Committee
- 745 **Purpose:** Seek to clarify conditions of sanction.
- 746 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 747 **202.3 CONDITIONS OF SANCTION** — Any event for which a sanction is required according to 202.1 is subject to the
748 following conditions:
- 749 .1 [no change]
- 750 .2 At a sanctioned competitive event, USA Swimming athlete members must be under the supervision of a USA Swimming member
751 coach during warm-up, competition, and warm-down. ~~Swimmers participating under the provisions of 202.6 or USA Swimming's "open~~
752 ~~border" policy must be under the supervision of their own coach or a USA Swimming member coach.~~ The Meet Director or Meet
753 Referee may assist the swimmer in making arrangements for such supervision, but it is the swimmer's responsibility to make such
754 arrangements prior to the start of the meet.
- 755 .3 Swimmers participating under the provisions of 202.6 or USA Swimming's "open border" policy must be under the
756 supervision of their own coach or a USA Swimming member coach. The Meet Director or Meet Referee may assist the

757 swimmer in making arrangements for such supervision, but it is the swimmer's responsibility to make such arrangements
758 prior to the start of the meet.
759 [Re-number remaining]

HK-5	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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760 **Location:** Page 67 – **205.3 Program and Events**
761 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
762 **Purpose:** The four-hour rule limitation is intended for pool competition. Clarify that open water meets are exempt.
763 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
764 **205.3 PROGRAM AND EVENTS**
765 .1 In order to promote maximum achievement and recognition, competition may be separated by age, gender and level of
766 ability. Meets and/or events shall be structured by the LSC to assure fair competition.
767 A-E [no changes]
768 F With the exception of championship and open water meets, the program in all other age group competition shall be
769 planned to allow the events for swimmers twelve (12) years and younger to be completed in four (4) hours or less for a
770 timed finals session or in a total of eight (8) hours or less per day for a preliminaries and finals meet.

HK-6	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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771 **Location:** Page 94 – **302.3 Application/Renewal**
772 **Proposed by:** Registration/Membership Committee
773 **Purpose:** Conform to the current practice of athlete membership cards no longer being issued by the LSC.
774 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
775 **302.3 APPLICATION/RENEWAL** — Athlete membership applications and payment as set forth in 502.7 shall be submitted
776 to the Registration Chair of the LSC who, upon approval, shall issue a membership card. The Registration Chair may designate
777 deputy registrars to accept applications on behalf of the Chair and forward for approval.

RESOLUTION
REGARDING THE CREATION OF AN IN-HOUSE COUNSEL POSITION

Proposed by David Berkoff

Rationale: To create an in-house counsel position rather than have a volunteer as legal counsel. The proposal would save on the cost of outside legal counsel by bringing minor legal matters and Board of Review issues in-house and would allow the Board and Executive Director to have immediate feedback on legal matters.

Motion: In-House Counsel of USA Swimming shall be a paid position within USA Swimming. In-House Counsel shall be hired by the Executive Director with approval of the Board of Directors. In-House Counsel shall provide legal counsel on various day-to-day aspects and issues as they arise and as assigned by the Executive Director, shall direct any and all USAS Board of Review matters, and shall provide objective legal advice to the Board of Directors at all meetings.

Recommendation: *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because staff hires and staff matters are not under the purview of the House of Delegates, the rulebook or the Board of Directors. Except for the Executive Director, no other staff person hire requires the approval of the Board of Directors and it is bad governance to provide for such.*