

**USA Swimming 2023 House of Delegates Meeting Minutes**  
September 23, 2023 / Colorado Springs, CO

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Saturday, September 23, 2023 USA Swimming House of Delegates meeting was opened at 12:05 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time.

**BOARD ELECTION**

Michelle Steinfeld, Secretary & General Counsel, opened the Board Election voting.

**USA SWIMMING BOARD CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Chris Brearton, Board of Directors' Chair, thanked everyone for taking the time to join the House of Delegates (HOD) meeting, and additionally thanked the Zone Directors Council (ZDC) for their suggestion to adjust the start time of HOD. Mr. Brearton spoke of the importance of the dry side of the sport of swimming in supporting the organization's mission and expressed his enthusiasm for the upcoming 2024 U.S. Olympic Trials – Swimming to be held in Indianapolis at Lucas Oil Stadium.

**FOUNDATION REPORT**

Anne Berry, Vice-Chair, USA Swimming Foundation Board of Directors, provided highlights from 2023 for the USA Swimming Foundation, including providing opportunities for 18,000 people through Learn to Swim grants, supporting 32 athletes through the Donor Athlete Partnership Program, and providing grants to 33 community impact recipients that are in underserved areas and additionally are supporting eight Historically Black Colleges and University's revitalize their swim programs.

**MEMORIAL PRESENTATION**

Zach Toothman, Zone Directors' Council Co-Chair, asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of USA Swimming members who have passed away this past year.

**PRESENTATIONS TO LIFE MEMBERS**

Mr. Toothman announced the USA Swimming members presented with Life Memberships.

Mikaela Bagley, Minnesota Swimming  
Larry Benson, South Texas Swimming  
Ted Carson, North Texas Swimming  
Chris Coraggio, Southeastern Swimming  
Jennifer Gibson, Florida Gold Coast Swimming  
Shawn Holbrook, Central California Swimming  
David Hoover, North Carolina Swimming  
Hilary Jensen-Bergren, Pacific Northwest Swimming  
Charles Kennedy, Middle Atlantic  
Keith Lambert, Inland Empire Swimming  
Jianna Link, Pacific Northwest Swimming  
Victor Moore, Missouri Valley Swimming  
Angel Morrison, North Carolina Swimming  
Andrew Niemiec, North Carolina Swimming  
Jim Peterfish, Ohio Swimming

Michael Piccardo, Pacific Swimming  
Nick Provost, New England Swimming  
Shelly Rawding, Oregon Swimming  
Rick Russell, South Texas Swimming  
Kelly Rowell, Potomac Valley Swimming  
Nanette Stevens, North Carolina Swimming  
Susan Trainer, New England Swimming  
Bryan Wallin, Virginia Swimming  
Zan Wang, Pacific Swimming  
Matt Wathen, Florida Gold Coast Swimming

### **PRESENTATIONS TO PAST BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Toothman recognized outgoing USA Swimming Board member Jennifer Gibson, who served on the Board of Directors from 2018-2021 for their invaluable support.

### **AWARDS**

Wade Atkins, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chair presented the following three awards:

#### **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION AWARD**

Recipient: Cullen Jones

Established in 2006, the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award is presented to the person or group who has positively heightened the awareness of inclusion efforts through various modes and media resulting in the increased and successful participation of currently underrepresented groups in the sport. Mr. Jones was nominated for his continued work in USA Swimming's Make a Splash Campaign and other community outreach. Mr. Jones currently works with Speedo Inc., is a board member for Diversity in Aquatics (a current USA Swimming partner) and the USA Swimming Foundation, and is a member of USA Swimming's Team BLAC.

#### **TRISCHA L. ZORN AWARD**

Recipient: Leanne Smith

This award is presented to the swimmer (or relay team) with a disability with the most outstanding performances during the previous year. All members of the DEI Committee vote to determine the winner. Ms. Smith was nominated for her performance at the 2022 Para Swimming World Championships, specifically for her world record performances in the 100-meter and 200-meter Freestyle in the S3 category. Ms. Smith brought home the most gold medals of any athlete at this competition and has represented Team USA at several international competitions.

#### **JAMES (JIMI) RAYMOND FLOWERS COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Recipient: Jim Peterfish

This award was established in 2009. It honors coaches with outstanding inclusion of swimmers with a disability under the nominee's direct coaching assignment and/or promotion of swimmers with a disability and disability swimming within the nominee's sphere of influence. Contributions to inclusion may include club, Local Swimming Committee, national, or international examples. This demonstration of inclusion and influence is evident as part of the nominee's ongoing coaching philosophy. Mr. Peterfish was nominated for his work in the disability space, chairing the National Disability Committee and leading the Disability Sub-Committee. Mr. Peterfish is currently the General Chair for Ohio Swimming and is the current Head Coach for Westerville Aquatic Club.

## **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

Laurie Benton, Credentials & Elections Committee Chair, reported that 343 delegates out of 381 were credentialed.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Angela Monty, Registration & Membership Committee Chair, presented the Membership Report, including a comparison of the 2022 and 2023 membership statistics. Ms. Monty conveyed the Membership and Registration Committee's excitement regarding the roll out of the new bulk renewal system for the 2024 registration year (Attachment 2).

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Eric Skufca, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the Board of Directors approved reinvesting the \$1.8 million surplus from the Tokyo Quad into the next rendition of Keeping Athletes First (KAF 2.0) which supports Officials education and certification, along with the Legacy Coach Project. Mr. Skufca highlighted that the 2022 financial results were more favorable than projected, as is the overall surplus projection of the Paris Quad.

Mr. Skufca presented the latest revenue and investment breakout for the current 2022 – 2024 quad, noting that nearly 60% of revenue is from membership dues, with more than 60% of investment going back to "grassroots" membership through various services and programming. Mr. Skufca additionally highlighted that 26% of revenue is supplied through grants and partnership with the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) as well as partnership marketing revenue. These sources correlate to supporting our National Team, which comprises approximately 25% of the quad's budget. The remaining revenue sources are primarily reinvested into marketing, partnerships, and communication opportunities for the organization.

Kenneth Chung, Board of Directors Vice-Chair Fiscal Oversight, briefly explained the concept and practice the organization partakes in to acquire an insurance structure that best benefits the organization.

## **HOD WORKING GROUP PRESENTATION**

Matthew Rigsbee, HOD Working Group Member, provided background information regarding the incentive to form the HOD Working Group to ensure USA Swimming maintains compliance with the USOPC. Mr. Rigsbee described the goals of the legislation the Working Group submitted to the HOD, including providing clarity on the number of votes each person receives as it pertains to committees, and to ask for an extension of the current HOD composition so the Working Group can continue to evaluate the current composition.

## **USA SWIMMING ELECTION RESULTS**

Ms. Steinfeld announced the results of the Athletes' Advisory Council (AAC) election.

Returning Members:

- Amanda Weir
- Andrew Wilson
- Caitlin Leverenz Smith

Newly Elected:

- Natalie Hinds

Ms. Steinfeld announced the results of the Board of Directors election.

Board of Director Election Results:

- At-Large Director, four-year term: Kathleen Prindle (second term)
- At-Large Director, four-year term: Sabir Muhammad

### **REELECTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS CHAIR**

The HOD re-elected Derek Paul as the Rules and Regulations Chair.

### **RULES & REGULATIONS**

USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee Chair, Derek Paul, presented the 2023 Proposed Amendments to USA Swimming Rules and Regulations for consideration and vote by the House of Delegates. Additionally, Mr. Paul provided the virtual procedures for pulling legislation, making a motion, speaking on legislation, and voting.

The HOD voted to adopt legislative proposals R-1 through R-10 along with HK-1 through HK-24 and Old Business R-4 (2021) (Attachment 3).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Paul adjourned this meeting at 2:00 p.m. Mountain Time.

Respectfully submitted:



Michelle Steinfeld, Secretary and General Counsel



Chris Brearton, Board Chair

## **USA Swimming 2023 House of Delegates Meeting Minutes**

September 23, 2023 / Colorado Springs, CO

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Page 3 – Membership Report
Attachment 3	Page 4 – 2023 Rules & Regulations Report



# 2023 House of Delegates Agenda

Saturday, September 23rd – Live via Zoom at 12:00 p.m. MTN

- Welcome to the 2023 USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting – Tim Hinchey
- Open Board of Directors Election – Michelle Steinfeld
- Board Chair Opening Remarks / Report – Chris Brearton
- USA Swimming Foundation Report – Anne Berry
- In Memoriam
- Life Members – Zach Toothman
- Past Board Members – Zach Toothman
- Awards – Zach Toothman
  - Diversity & Inclusion Award
  - James (Jimi) Raymond Flowers Coach of the Year Award
  - Trischa L. Zorn Award
- Credentials Report – Laurie Benton
- Financial Report – Eric Skufca & Kenneth Chung
- Membership Report – Angela Monty
- Board Election Results – Michelle Steinfeld
- Presentation by the HOD Working Group – Matthew Rigsbee (*virtual*)
- Reelection of Rules and Regulations Chair, Derek Paul – Michelle Steinfeld
- Rules and Regulations / Legislation – Derek Paul
- Adjourn

PeriodName	MemberCategory	MemberType	Members
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Athlete	Premium Athlete	279,505
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Athlete	Flex Athlete	29,862
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Athlete	Outreach Athlete	6,896
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Athlete	Single Meet Athlete	178
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Athlete	Seasonal Athlete	17,079
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Non-Athlete	Coach	19,430
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Non-Athlete	Official	14,772
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Non-Athlete	Other	6,623
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Non-Athlete	Apprentice Official	489
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023)	Non-Athlete	Administrator	2,751

**USA SWIMMING**

**RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE  
ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

**September 23, 2023**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Action</b>
Old Business R-4 (2021)	To extend the current composition of the House of Delegates in Article 6 of the Corporate Bylaws through September 30, 2024, so that the House of Delegates Working Group may continue to evaluate the impact of the legislation.	Corporate Bylaws 6.1	Adopted
R-1	To clarify that each voting member receives only one vote.	Corporate Bylaws 6.1	Adopted
R-2	To account for future changes to the designated arbitral organization, as required by the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee.	301.3	Adopted
R-3	To align Senior Zones and Age Group Zones to both allow a possible second Championship Meet each year. Currently only Age Group Zones allows for two possible Championship Meets, Long Course and/or Short Course.	205.7	Adopted
R-4	To repurpose the Development Competition Category as a program which provides LSCs greater flexibility to use it.	205.11	Adopted
R-5	To emphasize the difference between accommodations (swimmer centered) and modifications (exceptions to technical rules) and to further define the Referee's authority to grant such accommodations along with suggestions as to how officials, under the Referee's instruction, will carry out their responsibilities.	105.1	Adopted
R-6	To increase accessibility to LSC HOD meetings for all members, as USA Swimming has done with its House of Delegates.	Required LSC Bylaws Template Article 4.8	Adopted
R-7	To ensure LSCs use the proper procedure of authorization for NCAA Meets and reflect the changes that are necessary for loading NCAA times into SWIMS 3.0.	202.7	Adopted
R-8	To ensure LSCs use the proper procedure of authorization for Observed Meets and reflect changes that are necessary for loading observed times into SWIMS 3.0.	202.8	Adopted
R-9	To ensure the current standard adopted by USA Swimming in accordance with recommendations set by the National Officials Committee is the singular standard by which all officials are certified and trained.	102.10.2	Adopted/Amended
R-10	To define and delineate between Athlete Board Representatives, Athlete Representatives, and Athlete Members.	Required LSC Bylaws Template	Adopted
HK-1	To correct a reference to the obsolete National Eligibility Appeal Panel.	207.11.4	Adopted
HK-2	To correct references to Part Four that were moved to the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual.	Required LSC Bylaws Template 2.1.2	Adopted
HK-3	To correct references to Part Four that were moved to the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual.	Required LSC Bylaws Template 5.6.10	Adopted
HK-4	To correct references to Part Four that were moved to the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual.	Required LSC Bylaws Template 13.1	Adopted
HK-5	To correct references to Part Four that were moved to the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual.	Required LSC Bylaws Template 13.3.4	Adopted
HK-6	To correct references to Part Four that were moved to the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual.	Required LSC Bylaws Template 14.2.15	Adopted
HK-7	To reflect current updates to competition category changes.	102.22.6	Adopted



HK-8	To reflect the name change of FINA to World Aquatics.	Multiple Occurrences	Adopted
HK-9	To correct a reference to the obsolete Deck Pass.	Official Glossary 202.5.7	Adopted
HK-10	To reflect the current status that a "certified" pool database is no longer maintained.	103.3	Adopted
HK-11	To reflect the current status that a "certified" pool database is no longer maintained.	202.4	Adopted
HK-12	To reflect the current status that a "certified" pool database is no longer maintained.	202.6	Adopted
HK-13	To reflect current status, practices, and provide flexibility in event naming.	206.1	Adopted
HK-14	To reflect current practices.	206.2	Adopted
HK-15	To reflect current practices.	206.4	Adopted
HK-16	To reflect current practices.	207.4	Adopted
HK-17	To reflect current practices.	207.6	Adopted
HK-18	To reflect current practices, that Championship events are sanctioned directly through headquarters.	207.10	Adopted
HK-19	To reflect current practices.	207.12	Adopted
HK-20	To comply with World Aquatics SW 2.1.5.	101.1.2A	Adopted
HK-21	To comply with World Aquatics SW 6.3.	101.4.2	Adopted
HK-22	To clarify the intent of merging LSCs.	604.4	Adopted
HK-23	To comply with World Aquatics SW 7.2.	701.1	Adopted
HK-24	To comply with World Aquatics SW 7.3.	701.4	Adopted

**USA SWIMMING**  
**RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**

**ACTIONS TAKEN ON 2023 PROPOSED LEGISLATION  
BY USA SWIMMING HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

*Prepared by Derek Paul (Chair),*

*Herb Schwab (Secretary)*

*September 23, 2023*

**USA SWIMMING**  
**RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPOSED**  
**AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Old Business R-4 (2021)	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately to extend for an additional one-year period.
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**Location:** Article 6 Corporate Bylaws

[Effective until September 30, 2023 unless the House of Delegates agrees by a majority vote to extend for an additional one-year period prior to the aforementioned date, or adopt as permanent legislation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. The Board of Directors shall appoint an ad hoc working group by October 1, 2022, which will be comprised of an equal number of coaches, Actively Engaged Athletes, Ten-Year Athletes, and non-coach, non-athlete members. Prior to any action to extend or make permanent by the House of Delegates, the ad hoc working group shall review the impact of this legislation and present recommendations or actions to the House of Delegates.]

R-1	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Article 6 Corporate Bylaws

6.1 MEMBERS - the following shall be the voting members of the House of Delegates:

.1 All voting members of the Board of Directors, other than the 10-Year Athlete Representatives to the Board, who receive votes pursuant to Bylaw 6.1.13.

.2 All Coach Directors, Non-Coach Directors, Athlete Directors, and the Junior Athlete Representatives from each the Zone Directors' Council;

.3 Four (4) LSC Athlete Representatives (as defined in the then current Required LSC Bylaws) from each Zone selected by the Athlete Director and the Junior Athlete Representative from each Zone;

.4 Three (3) non-coach, non-athlete members from each Zone selected by each respective Zone's Coach and Non-Coach Directors;

.5 Seven (7) members of the Rules & Regulations Committee to include the Committee Chair, one (1) 2-Year Athlete member, and five (5) non-athlete members selected by the voting members of the Committee;

.6 All coach members of the National Team Steering Committee, other than the Chair of the National Team Steering Committee (who is a voting member pursuant to 6.1.1, if a coach member, or pursuant to 6.1.13, if a 10-Year Athlete Representative);

.7 Ten (10) members of the Age Group Development Committee to include at least five (5) coach members, three (3) non-athlete members, and two (2) 2-Year Athlete members selected by the voting members of the Committee;

.8 Ten (10) members of the Senior Development Committee to include at least five (5) coach members, three (3) non-athlete members, and two (2) 2-Year Athlete members selected by the voting members of the Committee;

.9 Seven (7) non-athlete coach members of the Coach Advisory Council selected by the voting members of the Council;

.10 ~~Thirteen~~ The eleven (11) 2-Year Athlete members of the AEC Athletes' Executive Committee, as well as two (2) additional 2-Year Athletes designated by the AEC by majority vote.

.11 One (1) non-coach, non-athlete member from each LSC as selected by each respective LSC's Board of Directors;

.12 Three (3) non-athlete coach members from each LSC as selected by each respective LSC's Board of Directors, except that the five (5) LSCs with the smallest number of registered athletes shall select two (2) nonathlete coach members and the five (5) LSCs with the largest number of registered athletes shall select four (4) nonathlete coach members. The size of the LSCs shall be determined by the number of registered athletes as of August 31 of the prior calendar year;

.13 A sufficient number of 10-Year Athletes and 10-Year+ Athletes whose voting power shall constitute one-third (33.3%) of the total House of Delegates and shall include the voting members of the AAC, the 10-Year Athlete members of the AEC, and the 10-Year Athlete members of the Board of Directors. This may be achieved by actual votes or by weighted voting. A minimum of twenty percent (20%) must be 10-Year Athlete representatives and the remainder may be 10-Year+ Athlete representatives; any weighted voting must preserve these proportions. At least half (50%) of these athlete members of the House of Delegates must have obtained 10-Year Athlete or 10-Year+ Athlete representative eligibility through competing at an event that, at the time of election/selection, is on a USOPC Delegation Event program.

.14 10-Year Athlete representatives and 10-Year+ representatives shall be directly elected by athletes who meet the same eligibility standards as 10-Year Athletes.

.15 To the extent that any of the individuals selected by the voting members of the Committees under Bylaws 6.1.5 through 6.1.9, are afforded votes under other provisions of Article 6, the respective committee (by majority vote) shall select a designee from the same membership governance category as the individual (e.g., a 2-Year Athlete committee member's vote will be designated to another 2-Year Athlete), to assume that individual's committee vote. For purposes of this Bylaw 6.1.15, the membership governance categories are coach, 10-Year Athlete, 10-Year+ Athlete, 2-Year Athlete, non-athlete, and non-coach non-athlete.

.16 All members of the House of Delegates shall serve until their successors are selected, except that membership may be terminated by resignation filed with the Secretary & General Counsel or their designee. All members under 6.1 must be elected or selected on or before July 1 of each year and written certification thereof must be sent to the Secretary & General Counsel or their designee on or before July 15. No substitution of a member may be made unless written certification thereof is given to the Secretary & General Counsel or their designee at least 72 hours before the House of Delegates is called to order.

.17 Membership on any committee notwithstanding, USA Swimming employees shall not be members of the House of Delegates.

R-2	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 87 - 301.3 Member Rights

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

R-3	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 74 - 205.7 Zone Senior Program

**205.7 ZONE SENIOR PROGRAM** — Each ~~z~~Zone may ~~offer one Zone Senior Championship meet at the end of every summer, to be held either during the week of the National Championships or the week of the Junior National Championships. The competition will be governed by the zone.~~ offer at least one Zone Senior Championship meet, recommended to be long course if only one is conducted.

.1 The competition is for swimmers ~~fifteen (15) years and older as of the first day of the meet.~~ will be governed by the Zone.

- ~~.2 Swimmers at this meet will represent their clubs or swim unattached. The competition is for swimmers who meet the qualifying and eligibility standards set by the Zone.~~
- ~~.3 Swimmers at this meet will represent their clubs, swim unattached or represent their LSC in an all-star format.~~
- ~~.4 Eligibility: Participation in the Zone Senior Championship meets shall be restricted to registered swimmers of that Zone.~~

R-4	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 75 - 205.11 Development Competition Program

### 205.11 DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION PROGRAM

- .1 Development competitions are limited to athletes ages 12 and under offering events listed in 102.1.3.
- ~~.2 The Development competition season shall be defined by the three ten-week seasons with dates defined by the Age Group Development Committee not later than February 15 annually.~~
- ~~.3 Athletes shall be limited to participating in four Development competitions per season.~~
- .4.2 Development competitions may operate as multi-day, multi-session meets. Sessions shall be planned to allow the events not to exceed two (2) hours in length. Athletes shall only participate in one session per sanctioned competition.
- ~~.5.3 Development competitions may be offered at the option discretion of the LSC, but are not required.~~

R-5	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 56 - 105.1 Guideline for Officiating Swimmers with a Disability in USA Swimming Meets

### 105.1 GENERAL

#### .2 Responsibilities

- A Swimmer/Coach** — The swimmer (or the swimmer's coach) is responsible for notifying the Referee, prior to the competition, of any ~~disability of the swimmer~~ with a disability and of the requested accommodations and/or modifications. The swimmer/coach shall provide a Personal Assistant(s) or any equipment (tappers, deck mats, etc.) if required.
- B Meet Referee** — The Meet Referee's responsibilities include:
  - (1) Determining if the requested accommodations/modifications are appropriate and can be met.
  - (2) Instructing the Deck Referee and Starter and Stroke & Turn officials as to how the accommodations, and/or modifications will ~~to~~ be made for that the swimmer with a disability.
  - (3) In communication with the remaining officiating crew a Meet Referee may:
    - a. Instruct them to observe and report ANY violation of the rules and vet the call against the approved modification(s) and apply Article 105 to overturn the call.
    - b. Or, share the specific modification(s) and instruct them to observe and report any violation except the approved modification(s).
- ~~.3 **Modifications** — Aids to buoyancy or speed are not allowed (See 102.8.1E). Some of the modifications which the Referee may make to accommodate the swimmer with a disability are:
  - A ~~A change in starting position.~~
  - B ~~Reassignment of lanes within a heat, e.g., exchanging Lanes 2 and 7.~~
  - C ~~Allowing the swimmer to have a Personal Assistant(s). A Personal Assistant that meets any of the requirements of Corporate Bylaw 2.6.6 shall be a member of USA Swimming. Other allowable modifications are further described in this section under the type of disability.~~~~
- .3 Accommodations/Modifications**
  - A Accommodations are considerations which allow a swimmer with a disability to access the facility (locker rooms, restrooms, pool deck, warm-up/down pool) and afford the athlete the time, assistance and deck space required to obtain a starting position for each event. Accommodations which the Meet Referee may approve for the swimmer with a disability include but are not limited to:
    - (1) Reassignment of lanes within a heat, e.g., exchanging Lanes 2 and 7.
    - (2) Allowing a swimmer to have a personal assistant(s) for any reason approved by the Meet Referee.
    - (3) Assuring proximity wheelchair access from deck to block.

- B Modifications are any exception to the technical rules approved by the Meet Referee (See 102.11.9) allowing a parallel performance for a swimmer with a disability. Aids to buoyancy or speed are not allowed (See 102.8.1E). Modifications which the Meet Referee may approve for the swimmer with a disability include but are not limited to:
- (1) Personal Assistant to act as a tapper at the turn and finish walls for a swimmer who is blind or has low vision.
  - (2) Use of visual starting signal(s) (strobe and hand signals) for a swimmer that is deaf or hard of hearing.
  - (3) Inability of the swimmer to turn a foot out in breaststroke during the propulsive part of the kick.
  - (4) Examples of other allowable modifications are further described in this section under the type of disability. Allowable modifications in accordance with Article 105 shall affect the current meet and shall not set a precedent (See 102.11.9).

R-6	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** 4.8 Meeting Location and Time - Required LSC Bylaws Template

- 4.8 Meeting Location and Time - Meetings of the House of Delegates may be held at any date, time, and place, including via telecommunication (unless prohibited by state or local laws), as may be fixed in the notice of such meeting. All in-person meetings of the House of Delegates shall take place at a site within the Territory. The House of Delegates or the Board of Directors shall determine the location and time of all meetings of the House of Delegates. ~~If federal, state, or local law, policy, or regulation prohibits physical gathering sufficient to conduct a House of Delegates meeting within the Territory, a House of Delegates meeting may be conducted through conference equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. In that circumstance participation by such means shall constitute presence at that meeting.~~ All meetings conducted via telecommunications shall include means by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time and which ensures all votes duly cast by voting members are officially recorded.

R-7	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 67 - 202.7 Requirements for NCAA Meets

#### **202.7 REQUIREMENTS FOR NCAA MEETS**

- .1 Times for individual and relay events achieved in NCAA bona fide competition, as defined in the current NCAA Rules, and Interpretations shall be regarded as approved times for USA Swimming purposes.
- ~~.2 Officiating shall comply with the requirements in the current NCAA Rules Book.~~
- .32 Competition results are to be submitted electronically uploaded directly into SWIMS within 72 hours after the meet has ended to [ncaa@usaswimming.org](mailto:ncaa@usaswimming.org).

R-8	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 67 - 202.8 Requirements for Observed Swims

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

- .1 The meet must be a season-culminating Championship, e.g., League, Conference, District, Sectional, State, Regional, or be specifically approved by the Times & Recognition Committee staff leader (or his/her designee) and be submitted

- on Local Swim Committee - Form B to the LSC National Times Verification Officer at least 10 days prior to the meet. A time trial held in conjunction with the season-culminating championship meet that is officiated in accordance with the same standards as the championship meet may also be observed if it is authorized by the host association.
- .2 Requests for observers for certification of times from meets not in the championship progression (such as invitationals for 3 or more teams) must be made on Local Swim Committee - Form A to the host LSC in accordance with LSC procedures at least 10 days prior to the meet. Applications for observation of all other meets must be made to the host LSC at least 10 days prior to the meet. Authorization of such non championship meets must then be approved by the Times & Recognition Committee staff leader (or his/her designee). A list of all LSC observed meets for the current swim year shall be posted on the LSC website.
- .3 An observer must verify that all swims approved for USA Swimming purposes were in accordance with the following requirements:
- A Minimum of one referee, one starter, and two stroke and turn association officials working season-culminating championship meets and invitationals;
  - B 102.24 (Timing Rules);
  - C 103.3 (Racing Course Dimensions); and
  - D 103.14 (Starting Platforms).
- .4 Where the technical rules of the stroke differ from USA Swimming as defined in Article 101, at least two observers from USA Swimming and/or the YMCA, who shall be certified Stroke and Turn Judges assigned or approved by the LSC, must be on deck and in position to observe the strokes where the rules differ, in order to verify compliance of the swim or swims with that part of the USA Swimming rule that differs from the organization's rule. Where the technical rules as listed in Article 101 are identical to those of the organization under whose rules the meet is being conducted, the judgement of the organization officials shall be sufficient. The Times for USA Swimming members in good standing at the time of the meet should be entered, upon request, into SWIMS, the National Times Database.

R-9	ADOPTED/AMENDED	Effective January 1, 2024
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Location: Page 34 - 102.10.2 Officials

#### 102.10 OFFICIALS

- .1 *[no changes]*
- .2 All officials acting in the capacity of Referee, Starter, Stroke and Turn Judge, or Administrative Official,~~or Stroke and Turn Judge~~ at a sanctioned or approved USA Swimming meet shall be certified and trained in such position by their LSC to the uniform and consistent standards set by USA Swimming with recommendation from the National Officials Committee in conjunction with the Coach Advisory Council prior to being assigned to officiate in that capacity. LSCs and clubs shall not require any additional certifications. Uncertified trainees may perform the duties of such positions when they are under the direct supervision of a certified official in said position. See Article 202 and the Corporate Bylaws for USA Swimming membership requirements.
- .3-.5 *[no changes]*

R-10	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Various Sections - Required LSC Bylaws Template

- 4.1.4 ATHLETE AT-LARGE HOUSE MEMBERS - A sufficient number of athletes to ensure that ~~Athlete Members~~ Representatives constitute at least 20% of the voting membership of the House of Delegates shall be elected by the Athletes Committee or appointed by the General Chair with advice and consent of the Board of Directors or elected by the House of Delegates [select one of the options] and shall hold office from the date of appointment or election [select one] through the conclusion of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates following such appointment or election [select one] or until their successors are appointed or elected [select one] to the House of Delegates.

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- 4.5.1 Elect the officers, Athlete Board Representatives, Coach Representative(s), At-Large Board Members, and members of the Administrative Review Board, and the committee chairs and coordinators listed in Articles 6 and 7;
- 5.1.5 Athlete Board Representatives (2)
- 5.2 AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS - *The House of Delegates may specify [insert a number] At-Large positions. Any reduction in the number of At-Large Board Members shall not take effect until the terms of office of the incumbents expire or become vacant. [Specify when and how at-large Board members are selected.] Additionally, a sufficient number of ~~a~~ Athlete members Representatives shall be *elected or appointed* [select one] as At-Large Board Members such that athletes constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Board of Directors at any given time (taking into account the Athlete Board Representatives). The Athlete At-Large Board Members shall meet the same requirements *and be elected at the same time and place* as the Athlete Board Representatives set forth in Section 6.2.1. All At-Large Board Members shall hold office from the date of their election or appointment through the conclusion of the second annual meeting of the House of Delegates following such election or appointment, or until their successors are elected or appointed.*
- 5.4.1 *No more than [insert a number] Members of any Group Member shall serve [as voting members] on the Board of Directors at any time. This limitation shall be applied separately as to Athlete ~~Members~~ Representatives and Non-Athlete Members.*
- 6.2.1 ATHLETE BOARD REPRESENTATIVES -  
*Provision A: Two (2) Athlete Board Representatives shall be elected, one each year for a two-year term, or until their respective successors are elected. At the time of election, the Athlete Board Representative must (a) be an athlete member in good standing; (b) be at least a sophomore in high school or at least 16 years of age, (c) be currently competing, or have competed within the ~~three (3)~~ two (2) immediately preceding years, in the ~~program of swimming a USA Swimming sanctioned event~~ conducted by XXSI or another LSC; and (d) have his or her place of permanent residence in the Territory and expect to reside therein throughout at least the first half of the term (other than periods of enrollment in an institution of higher education). The balloting shall take place via electronic vote and/or at a meeting called for that purpose by the Senior Athlete Board Representative or the Athletes Committee, or failing that, at a time and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors. At least *twenty (20) days'* written notice of the election shall be given to all clubs. The Athlete Board Representatives elected shall be determined by a majority of the [define the athlete voting members who elect the Athlete Board Representatives].*
- Provision B: Two (2) Athlete Board Representatives shall be elected by the House of Delegates, one each year, for a two-year term or until their respective successors are elected. At the time of election, the Athlete Board Representative must (a) be an athlete member in good standing; (b) be at least a sophomore in high school or at least 16 years of age, (c) be currently competing, or have competed within the ~~three (3)~~ two (2) immediately preceding years, in the ~~program of swimming a USA Swimming sanctioned event~~ conducted by XXSI or another LSC; and (d) have his or her place of permanent residence in the Territory and expect to reside therein throughout at least the first half of the term (other than periods of enrollment in an institution of higher education).*
- 6.2.3 COMMITTEE CHAIRS/COORDINATORS/AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS
- A. *The following committee chairs/coordinators/at-large Board members shall be elected by the House of Delegates: [List as appropriate]*
- B. *The following committee chairs /coordinators/ at-large Board members shall be elected as follows: [List as appropriate]*  
EXAMPLES:  
(1) *The Officials Chair shall be elected by the Officials Committee in accordance with XXSI Policies and Procedures.*  
(2) *At-Large Board members shall be elected by the regions they represent in accordance with the rules of each region or the XXSI Policies and Procedures.*  
(3) *The Athlete At-Large Board members shall be elected by the athletes at the same time as the Athlete Board Representatives.*
- C. *The following committee chairs/coordinators/ at-large Board members shall be appointed by the General Chair with advice and consent of the Board of Directors: [List as appropriate]*
- 6.9.2 OFFICES OF ATHLETE BOARD REPRESENTATIVES OR COACH REPRESENTATIVES OR ANY POSITION ELECTED - In the event of a vacancy or of the permanent incapacity of a person holding the office of Athlete Board



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Representative or Coach Representative, or person who has been elected, the General Chair may appoint, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, an eligible member to serve the remainder of the term of office or until the respective body shall elect a successor.

7.3 COMMITTEES - In addition to the standing committees listed herein, the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates are each authorized to establish additional committees to meet programming needs. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the XXSI Policies and Procedures, members of each committee shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the respective division chair and the chair of the committee. Athlete ~~members~~ Representatives of each committee shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advice of the Senior Athlete Board Representative. Athlete membership shall constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of every committee. The division chair shall be an ex-officio member, with voice and vote, of each committee within the respective division.

7.4.1 ATHLETES COMMITTEE -

- A. CHAIR - The Senior Athlete Board Representative or his/her designee shall be the chair of the committee.
- B. MEMBERS - The Athletes Committee shall consist of the Athlete Board Representatives, the Athlete At-Large Board members *and* [include any additional ~~a~~Athlete ~~members~~ Representatives].

7.4.2 FINANCE COMMITTEE -

- B. MEMBERS - The members of the Finance Committee shall be the Finance Vice-Chair, the Treasurer, [include additional defined members] and a sufficient number of ~~athletes~~ Athlete Representatives so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee.

*Provision A (combined Governance & Nominating Committee)*

7.4.3 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE -

B. *Option 1* MEMBERS -

The Governance Committee members shall be appointed by the General Chair with advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The Committee shall be comprised of [list the number in factors of 3 or 4, in alignment with the term of office] with a sufficient number of ~~athletes~~ Athlete Representatives so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee. Each member shall serve a *three or four-year* [select one] term, staggered so that *one-third (1/3) or one-fourth (1/4)* [select one to coincide with factor selected above] of such members are appointed each year. No more than one-half (1/2) of the Governance Committee members shall be members of the XXSI Board of Directors at any given time. After completion of two consecutive terms, members are not eligible for re-appointment to the Governance Committee until after a lapse of two years. A portion of any term served to fill a vacancy in the position shall not be considered in the computation of the successive term limitation. In no case shall the General Chair serve on the Governance Committee.

B. *Option 2* MEMBERS -

The Governance Committee shall be elected by the House of Delegates and shall be comprised of at least [insert a number] members, with a sufficient number of ~~athletes~~ Athlete Representatives so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee. No more than one half of the Committee shall be members of the XXSI Board of Directors. If any member of the Governance Committee resigns or otherwise becomes unable to participate in its affairs, the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a successor to serve until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. In no case shall the General Chair serve on the Governance Committee. Members shall serve two-year terms, staggered so that approximately one-half of the members are elected each year. After completion of three consecutive terms, members are not eligible to be elected or appointed to the Governance Committee until after a lapse of two years. A portion of any term served to fill a vacancy in the position shall not be considered in the computation of the successive term limitation.

*Provision B (separate Governance & Nominating Committees)*

7.4.3 NOMINATING COMMITTEE -

- B. MEMBERS - The House of Delegates shall annually elect at least [insert a number] individuals to the Nominating Committee to serve a one-year term, with a sufficient number of ~~athletes~~ Athlete Representatives so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee. Terms shall commence at the conclusion of the meeting at which members were elected and end when their successors assume office. If any member of the Nominating Committee resigns or otherwise becomes unable to participate in its affairs, the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a successor to serve until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. No individual shall be eligible to serve more than six (6) consecutive years on the Nominating Committee until after a lapse of two years. A portion of any term served to fill a vacancy in the position shall not be considered in the computation of the successive term limitation. In no case shall the General Chair serve on the Nominating Committee.

7.4.4 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE -

- B. MEMBERS - The Governance Committee members shall be appointed by the General Chair with advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The Committee shall be comprised of at least [insert a number] members with a sufficient number of ~~athletes~~ Athlete Representatives so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee. Each member shall serve a *three or four-year* [select one] term. Terms shall be staggered such that approximately *one-third (1/3) or one-fourth (1/4)* [select one to coincide with term selected above] of members are appointed each year.

7.4.4 OPERATIONAL RISK COMMITTEE/COORDINATOR

- B. MEMBERS - The Committee shall be comprised of the Operational Risk Committee Chair, at least [insert a number] members with a sufficient number of ~~athletes~~ Athlete Representatives so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee.

7.4.5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- B. MEMBERS - The members of the Executive Committee shall be the  
(8) Senior Athlete Board Representative, and  
(9) Junior Athlete Board Representative.

- 13.2.2 Members - The Administrative Review Board shall have at least [insert a number] regular members, with a sufficient number of ~~athlete members~~ Athlete Representatives to constitute at least 20% of the voting membership. At least three members of the Administrative Review Board shall hear each case, with a sufficient number of ~~athlete members~~ Athlete Representatives to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of its membership. No hearing shall proceed without the required athlete representation. The House of Delegates may increase the number of regular *or alternate* members by resolution but subsequent to the adoption of these Bylaws may only decrease the number of regular *or alternate* members upon the expiration of the term of office of any incumbent members.

- 14.2.3 ATHLETE BOARD REPRESENTATIVE - an Athlete Member elected to represent athletes in the House of Delegates and on the Board of Directors.

- 14.2.4 ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE - shall be (a) an athlete member in good standing; (b) currently competing, or have competed within the two (2) immediately preceding years, in a USA Swimming sanctioned event conducted by XXSI or another LSC; and (c) have his or her place of permanent residence in the Territory and expect to reside therein throughout at least the first half of the term (other than periods of enrollment in an institution of higher education).

[re-number remaining]

HK-1	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 81 - 207.11.4 Administrative Conduct of USA Swimming Championships

**207.11.4 Eligibility Protests**

- A An Eligibility Jury composed of three persons in attendance at each National Championships shall be appointed by the Program & Events Coordinator (or his/her designee) prior to the start of the meet to consider protests

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- B-F *[no changes]* pertaining to the eligibility of any swimmer to compete or to represent an organization, ~~except protests regarding an athlete's competition category, which shall be heard by the National Eligibility Appeal Panel.~~ The Eligibility Jury shall consist of a swimmer, a coach and an official.

HK-2	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** 2.1.2 Membership - Required LSC Bylaws Template

- 2.1.2 MEMBERSHIP A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT - Membership in XXSI and USA Swimming is a privilege and shall not be interpreted as a right. Membership may be terminated by the National Board of Review or the U.S. Center for SafeSport in accordance with ~~Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations~~ the National Board of Review procedures, pursuant to Policy 26.0 of the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual.

HK-3	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** 5.6.10 Board of Directors - Required LSC Bylaws Template

- 5.6.10 Remove from office any Board Members, committee chairs, or committee members or coordinators of XXSI who were appointed/elected by the Board and who have failed to attend to their official duties or member responsibilities or have done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty by the National Board of Review for any of the reasons set forth in ~~Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations~~ the National Board of Review procedures, pursuant to Policy 26.0 of the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual. However, no At-Large Board Member, or committee chair or coordinator may be removed without receiving the thirty (30) days' written notice specifying the alleged deficiency in the performance of the member's responsibilities or specific official duties or other reasons and an opportunity to respond in writing within twenty (20) days to such allegations.

HK-4	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** 13.1 Administrative Review Board - Required LSC Bylaws Template

- 13.1 INTRODUCTION - USA Swimming was organized as the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming under the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, as amended by the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act of 1998, both federal laws. These laws require USA Swimming to establish and maintain provisions for the swift and equitable resolution of all disputes involving any of its members. This Article, together with Section 2.2 and ~~Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations~~ the National Board of Review procedures, pursuant to Policy 26.0 of the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual, are intended to provide a mechanism for resolving in an orderly and fair way all manner and kinds of disputes that may arise among its members in connection with the sport of swimming. Accordingly, XXSI has established the Administrative Review Board to hear complaints and appeals regarding administrative matters within XXSI which do not rise to the level of Code of Conduct violations and are not appeals of sanction decisions. The Administrative Review Board shall have no jurisdiction to hear complaints regarding conduct that may violate the USA Swimming Code of Conduct or otherwise violate the policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by USA Swimming, or conduct that may bring USA Swimming, XXSI or the sport of swimming into disrepute. This Article, together with ~~Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations~~ the National Board of Review procedures, pursuant to Policy 26.0 of the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual, is intended to provide a fair hearing before a group of independent and impartial people. This Article and ~~Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations~~ the National Board of Review procedures, pursuant to Policy 26.0 of the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual shall be construed accordingly.

HK-5	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** 13.3.4 Administrative Review Board - Required LSC Bylaws Template

13.3.4 Timeliness of Petition - The Administrative Review Board need not exercise its jurisdiction with respect to a complaint the subject matter of which occurred, or concerns or is founded on events which occurred, more than ninety (90) days prior to the date the complaint is received. A determination not to exercise its jurisdiction as a result of the untimeliness of a complaint may be made by the Chair alone and may be the subject of a request for rehearing and, thereafter, appeal to the National Board of Review pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations in accordance with the National Board of Review procedures, pursuant to Policy 26.0 of the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual.

HK-6	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** 14.2.15 Conventions and Definitions - Required LSC Bylaws Template

14.2.15 NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW - the National Board of Review of USA Swimming established pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations in accordance with the National Board of Review procedures, pursuant to Policy 26.0 of the USA Swimming Operating Policy Manual. Where the context requires, a reference to the National Board of Review shall include a reference to the USA Swimming Board of Directors when that body is acting upon an appeal from the National Board of Review.

HK-7	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 41 - 102.22.6 Protests

## 102.22 PROTESTS

.1-.5 [no changes]

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

HK-8	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Multiple Occurrences

Change all instances of FINA to World Aquatics.

HK-9	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Official Glossary  
Page 65 - 202.5.7 Conditions of Sanction

**OFFICIAL GLOSSARY** ~~DECK PASS~~ the official mobile application of USA Swimming

**202.5 CONDITIONS OF SANCTION** - Any event for which a sanction is required according to 202.1 is subject to the following conditions:

.1-.6 [no changes]

.7 ~~Deck Pass~~ The official mobile application of USA Swimming is acceptable proof of USA Swimming membership.

.8-.10 [no changes]

HK-10	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 48 - 103.3 Racing Course Dimensions

**103.3 RACING COURSE DIMENSIONS**

**.1 /M/ Length.**

A-E *[no changes]*

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

HK-11	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 63 - 202.4 Requirements for Sanction

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

.1-.10 *[no changes]*

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

A-F *[no changes]*

G ~~One of the following two statements:~~ A statement indicating that host will ensure the required course dimensions.

(1) ~~The competition course has been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4). The copy of such certification is on file with USA Swimming; or~~

(2) ~~The competition course has not been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4).~~

H-O *[no changes]*

.12-.16 *[no changes]*

HK-12	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 65 - 202.6 Requirements for Approval

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

.1-.5 *[no changes]*

.6 Written application for approval shall be made not later than the period established by the LSC prior to the competition. The LSC may establish a fee for processing such applications. Application for approval shall be accompanied by the meet announcement which shall include the following:

A-C *[no changes]*

D ~~One of the following two statements:~~ A statement indicating that host will ensure the required course dimensions.

(1) ~~The competition course has been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4). The copy of such certification is on file with USA Swimming; or~~

(2) ~~The competition course has not been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4).~~

E-H *[no changes]*

.7-.18 *[no changes]*

HK-13	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 75 - 206.1 Awarding USA Swimming Championships and International Competitions

**206.1 GENERAL** - USA Swimming Championships shall be conducted annually.

- .1 The U.S. Open shall be conducted annually in November or December.
- .2 A long course National Championship meet shall be conducted every summer, except when there is a Trials Class meet in the summer and that Trials Class meet is not in accordance with 206.4.2 (at the traditional time at the end of summer). ~~The end of summer meet during those summers shall be called the USA Swimming Summer Championship.~~
- .3 USA Swimming Open Water Individual and Team Championships shall be held in the ~~5-kilometer and~~ 10-kilometer distances. Additional distances may be offered.

HK-14	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 76 - 206.2 Facilities

**206.2 FACILITIES**

- .1 *[no changes]*
- .2 ~~Facilities awarded USA Swimming Championships and international competition must have been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4). A copy of such certification must be on file with USA Swimming.~~ Event hosts shall ensure the required course dimensions. For pools with a movable bulkhead, the facilities host shall, prior to each session of competition, examine the bulkhead and shall confirm to the Meet Referee that the bulkhead is stable, straight and properly positioned and anchored.
- .3 *[no changes]*

HK-15	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 76 - 206.4 Dates

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

- .1 *[no changes]*
- .2 ~~Summer National Championships and U.S. Open (when held)~~ — To end no later than the second Saturday in August.
- .3 *[no changes]*

HK-16	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 77 - 207.4 USA Swimming Championships

**207.4 USA SWIMMING JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND JUNIOR NATIONAL OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- .1 The Junior National Championships will be swum long course during the summer season and short course during the winter season. The dates and place of competition will be determined by the Senior Development Committee. The meets should be scheduled to be held after the summer National Championships/ and U.S. Open ~~and after the winter National Championships~~ respectively.
- .2-.3 *[no changes]*

HK-17	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 78 - 207.6 Qualifying Time Standards

**207.6 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS**

- .1 Other than Trials Class meets, the time standards shall be established by the Senior Development Committee in consultation with the National Team Managing Director. Time standards shall be designed to allow 900-1,000 swimmers in individual events at the ~~USA Swimming Short Course Championships~~, the U.S. Open and the National Championships.
- .2 *[no changes]*

HK-18	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 80 - 207.10 Programs

#### 207.10 PROGRAMS

- .1 **Time Trials** — At all USA Swimming National Championships and Trials Class meets, time trials will be conducted on a time-available basis for swimmers participating in the meet. ~~These time trials shall be held under a separate sanction of the LSC where the meet is held and shall conform to the following conditions and format, subject to the time limitations specified in 207.10 and 207.11:~~
- A-C *[no changes]*
- .2 *[no changes]*

HK-19	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 84 - 207.12 Awards

#### 207.12 AWARDS

**USA Swimming National Championships only:**

~~William A. Lippman, Jr., USA Swimming — Combined Team Champion Cup (*perpetual trophy*)~~

HK-20	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 21 - 101.1.2A Starts

#### 101.1 STARTS

- .2 **The Start**
  - A ~~At the commencement of each heat, the Referee shall signal to the swimmers by a short series of whistles to remove all clothing except for swimwear. Once all swimmers have removed their clothing, except for swimwear, the Referee shall signal the commencement of an event by a short series of whistles inviting them to get ready at the starting end,~~ followed by a long whistle indicating that they should take and maintain their positions on the starting platform, the deck, or in the water. In backstroke and medley relay events, at the Referee's first long whistle, the swimmers shall immediately enter the water and at the second long whistle shall return without undue delay to the starting position.
  - B-E *[no changes]*

HK-21	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 24 - 101.4.2 Backstroke

#### 101.4 BACKSTROKE

- .1 *[no changes]*

- .2 **Stroke** - The swimmer shall push off on his back and continue swimming on the back throughout the race. Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it is permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and after each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface of the water. Additionally, once some part of the head of the swimmer has passed the final 5-meter mark (long course and short course meters) or 5-yard mark (short course yards), immediately prior to reaching for the finish, the swimmer may be completely submerged prior to the touch.
- .3-4 *[no changes]*

HK-22	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 108 - 604.4 Merging Two LSCs

**604.4 MERGING TWO LSCs** - If the Boards of Directors of two (2) LSCs that share a common geographical border agree in principle to merge their two LSCs into a single ~~new~~ LSC, and should the House of Delegates of each LSC by a majority vote of the members present approve the merger, then the merger shall become effective no sooner than sixty (60) days following the receipt by the Chair of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee of satisfactory evidence of the various votes required.

HK-23	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 111 - 701.1 Events

#### 701.1 EVENTS

- .1 *[no changes]*
- .2 **Wetsuit Events**
- A At Junior National and National Championships and any sanctioned open water competition with a race distance of 5k and greater, FINA rules regarding use of wetsuits shall apply.
- B For all other open water competitions with water temperature below ~~20.0°C (68.0°F)~~ 18.0°C (64.4°F), participants may use either swimsuits or wetsuits (refer to 701.4.5).
- .3 *[no changes]*

HK-24	ADOPTED	Effective Immediately
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**Location:** Page 113 - 701.4 Swimwear

#### 701.4 SWIMWEAR

- .1-4 *[no changes]*
- .5 **Wetsuits** — Wetsuits are swimsuits made of material providing thermal insulation. ~~Wetsuits for both men and women shall completely cover the torso, back, and shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists or ankles. Wetsuits (for both men and women) shall completely cover torso, back, shoulders and knees. They shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists and ankles.~~ Wetsuits (for both men and women) shall completely cover torso, back, shoulders and knees. They shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists and ankles. The thickness of material(s) used shall be maximum 5 mm. In addition, the outer surface of the wetsuit shall not include outstanding shapes, such as ridges, fins, etc.