

## **MAJOR LEGISLATION AND RULE CHANGES FOR 2025**

**(currently effective except as otherwise noted)**

1. The composition of the House of Delegates was approved. (Corporate Bylaws 6.1)
2. The rules for starting procedures were amended to allow Starters the ability to use any “stand” command when relieving athletes from their starting positions. (Articles 101.1.2, 101.2.3, and 102.12)
3. The rules surrounding Mixed Gender Relays were changed to allow lead-off times to count for relays with compositions other than two male and two female athletes. (Article 101.7.3)
4. The list of recognized events for 13-14 athletes was amended to include the 50s of Butterfly, Backstroke, and Breaststroke. (Article 102.1.2)
5. The rules regarding the Zone Senior Program were amended to allow each Zone to govern the conduct of the competition as they see fit. (Article 205.7) [Effective January 1, 2025]
5. The Code of Conduct was amended to include national origin as a class protected from Discrimination in violation of the Amateur Sports Act. (Article 304.3.2)
6. The rules surrounding the Coach Advisory Council were amended to grant the CAC the authority to appoint the coach members of multiple national committees which have required spots for coach members. (Article 501.1)
7. The rule regarding the distribution of rulebooks was amended to clarify that non-athlete members must make a request for the physical rulebook, should they desire one. (Article 503.2) [Effective January 1, 2025]
8. The rules surrounding the wearing of wetsuits were amended to give more flexibility to Meet Directors to allow the use of wetsuits in Open Water competition. (Articles 701.1 and 701.4)
9. The rules surrounding which meets are considered qualifying competitions for Open Water Junior National and National Championships were amended to allow additional qualifying competitions. (Article 705, multiple locations)
10. The Required LSC Bylaws Template was amended to update the name of World Aquatics and to utilize gender neutral pronouns. (Required LSC Bylaws Template, multiple locations)
11. The annual registration fee for existing clubs was increased to \$225 per year and the registration fee for new clubs was increased to \$750 for their first year. (Resolution of the HOD) [Effective September 1, 2025, for the 2026 Membership Registration Year]