

ROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE USMS GLOSSARY AND PART 1: 2016

Number	Section	Description	Committee Action
R-1	Glossary	Add the definition for “on the back”.	Recommended
R-2	Glossary 101.2.2	Correct breaststroke wording for consistency with FINA. Add glossary definition to clarify interpretation of the FINA wording.	Recommended
R-3	Glossary 102.5 102.6 102.10.1	Clarify provisions for formats other than timed finals, such as preliminary heats and finals.	Recommended
R-4	Glossary 102.5.4 102.6	Permit independent time trials in USMS sanctioned meets.	Recommended as Amended
R-5	102.4.1 104.5.1	Clarify availability of continuous warm-up/warm-down lanes at USMS-sanctioned meets.	Recommended
R-6	102.4	Relax requirement for continuous warm-up at dual-sanctioned meets with USA Swimming.	Recommended
R-7	102.5	Require the order of events to be published in the meet announcement.	Recommended
R-8	102.6	Clarify that nonconforming events are included in the daily entry limit.	Recommended as Amended
R-9	103.6.6	Change wording regarding placement of additional timers for recording manual split times.	Recommended as Amended
R-10	103.10.6 103.17.3	Add place judges to highlight the need for order of finish data.	Recommended as Amended
R-11	103.17.3	Delete the timing system differential calculation for a pad malfunction.	Recommended
R-12	103.18.1	Change wording on relay leadoff time provision.	Recommended
R-13	103.18.1	Clarify acceptance of time trials swum at USA Swimming meets (or other recognized meets) for official purposes.	Recommended
R-14	103.18.1 105.2.2	Allow for the use of automatic splits without a written request with approval of Meet Referee (and concurrence of Championship Committee).	Recommended
R-15	103.18	Restructure article on timing system requirements for records and Top 10.	Recommended as Amended
R-16	104.4.5	Update final report contents for USMS championships.	Recommended
R-17	104.5.1	Delete requirement for general meeting at USMS championships	Recommended
R-18	104.5.2	Change schedule to format.	Recommended
R-19	104.5.4	Allow electronic entries for relays at USMS championships.	Recommended as Amended
R-20	104.5.4B	Delete requirement for all USMS championships	Recommended

		information to be published in USMS magazine.	as Amended
R-21	104.5.4B	Require some information for USMS championships to be published in USMS magazine.	Withdrawn
R-22	104.5.5A(1)	Clarify provisions for deck seeding at Championships.	Recommended
R-23	104.5.5A(1)	Clarify responsibility for seeding decisions of slower swimmers at championships.	Recommended
R-24	104.5.5A(11)	Clarify responsibility for seeding time adjustments at USMS championships.	Recommended
R-25	104.5.5B(3)	Clarify responsibility for distance freestyle seeding decisions at USMS championships.	Recommended
R-26	104.5.8	Eliminate hard copy results to Records and Tabulation for USMS championships.	Recommended
R-27	105.1.7	Eliminate bulkhead measurement confirmation for USMS sanctioned and recognized meets.	Not Recommended
R-28	105.1.8	Delete the rule that requires USMS records to be published in the rule book.	Recommended
R-29	105.3.5	Add a rule that requires records to be set in fresh water.	Recommended as Amended
R-30	105.3.8 105.3.9	Eliminate written application for USMS records at USMS Championships and FINA World Championships.	Recommended as Amended
R-31	106	Delete Article 106 entirely.	Recommended
R-32	105.2.4	Add a rule that requires top 10 times to be established in fresh water.	Recommended
HK-1	102.13.3	Correct “unsportsmanlike” to “unsporting”.	Recommended
HK-2	103.8.5A	Modify language on start position for consistency.	Recommended
HK-3	103.17.3	Add the missing term “valid” for buttons.	Recommended
HK-4	105.3.6A	Delete the word “fully” in reference to automatic timing.	Recommended

Proposed Changes to the USMS Rules of Competition

The following proposals have been submitted, in accordance with section 601.2 to the Rules Committee for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2016 Convention.

R-1 Glossary page xv Rules Committee Add **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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Glossary

On the back--position of the body when the shoulders are at or past the vertical towards the back.

Rationale: Need the glossary definition to reconcile the wording of “on the back” with the current interpretation.

R-2 Glossary/101.2.2 pages xv&2 Rules Committee **Recommended**
Add to Glossary & Modify 101.2.2

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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Glossary

On the breast--position of the body when the shoulders are at or past the vertical towards the breast.

101.2 Breaststroke

101.2.2 Stroke--After the start and after each turn when the swimmer leaves the wall, ~~the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast~~ the body shall be kept on the breast. The swimmer is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time except at the turn after the touch of the wall where it is permissible to turn in any manner as long as the body is on the breast when leaving the wall. Throughout the race the stroke cycle must be one arm stroke and one leg kick in that order.

(Rest of the section is unchanged.)

Rationale: The current wording is inconsistent with FINA and USA Swimming rules. FINA uses the term “on the breast” and the glossary definition is required to reconcile the language with the current interpretation. The term “on the breast” is also used in the butterfly stroke rule.

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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Glossary

Preliminary Heats--competition in which a number of heats are swum to qualify the fastest swimmers for the finals.

102.5 Events

102.5.1 In planning any meet, careful consideration must be given the demands to be made upon swimmers, officials, and spectators, in that order. Meets should be planned to terminate within a reasonable period of time each day. Planning should provide for adequate meal and rest breaks and sheltered rest areas.

102.5.2 Any event conducted must be offered for all age groups and both genders. Any of the following events may be conducted.

102.5.1- A Short Course (25) Yards

- 50-100-200-500-1000-1650 yards freestyle
- 50-100-200 yards backstroke
- 50-100-200 yards breaststroke
- 50-100-200 yards butterfly
- 100-200-400 yards individual medley
- 200-400-800 yards freestyle relay
- 200-400-800 yards mixed freestyle relay
- 200-400 yards medley relay
- 200-400 yards mixed medley relay

102.5.2- B Long Course (50) Meters and Short Course (25) Meters

- 50-100-200-400-800-1500 meters freestyle
- 50-100-200 meters backstroke
- 50-100-200 meters breaststroke
- 50-100-200 meters butterfly
- 100*-200-400 meters individual medley
- 200-400-800 meters freestyle relay
- 200-400-800 meters mixed freestyle relay
- 200-400 meters medley relay
- 200-400 meters mixed medley relay

*short course meters only

102.5.3 Note: For ~~a~~ Nonconforming events, see may be offered in accordance with the provisions of article 202.1.1G(3). For open water and long distance events, see Part 3.

102.5.4 All short course meters events, long course meters events, and national championships shall be conducted on a timed-finals basis. Other short course yards events may be conducted on a timed-finals basis or another basis (e.g., preliminary heats and finals). If events are conducted in a format other than timed finals, the entry information shall state the process for seeding, contesting the event, and determining the final places.

102.6 Event Limit

102.6.1 A swimmer may compete in not more than five individual events per day (~~or three individual events if the meet is a trials/finals format~~) and shall not more than once in each individual event entered (~~unless the meet is a trials/finals format~~).

102.6.2 A swimmer may not compete more than once in the same individual event.

102.6.3 If, ~~however~~, due to conditions beyond the control of meet officials, an event or events are postponed to a subsequent day of the meet, such postponed events shall not be included ~~in the five (or three) events per day limitation~~ in the daily entry limit.

102.6.4 For events conducted in formats other than timed finals that require multiple swims (e.g., preliminary heats and finals), swimmers may compete in not more than three individual events per day.

102.6.5 For events conducted in formats other than timed finals that require multiple swims (e.g., preliminary heats and finals), all swims (e.g., preliminary heats) are considered as part of the same individual event, not as multiple individual events.

102.10.1 Seeding Principles for Masters Competition

A All short course meters events, long course meters events, and national championships shall be conducted on a timed-final basis. Other short course yards events may be conducted on a timed-final basis or other basis (e.g., ~~trials/finals~~ preliminary heats and finals). In such cases, the entry information shall state the process for seeding. ~~In a trials/finals format, competitors shall be limited to three individual events per day.~~

Rationale: The provision for conducting meets in formats other than timed finals at SCY meets was inserted into the rules in 1998. However, the provision is only covered in event limits and seeding rules, not in the sections dealing with events. Moreover, the term “trial” is not defined in the rule book and has created confusion with “time trials”. This change clarifies the provisions on conducting meets with alternative formats and the language is updated to current terminology. The entry information needs to state the process for contesting the events (especially in the case of other creative formats) and seeding since we do not cover those provisions in our rule book.

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Glossary

Time Trial--a timed heat conducted within a meet where the swimmer races against the clock to establish an official time.

102.5 Events

102.5.1 In planning any meet, careful consideration must be given the demands to be made upon swimmers, officials, and spectators, in that order. Meets should be planned to terminate within a reasonable period of time each day. Planning should provide for adequate meal and rest breaks and sheltered rest areas.

102.5.2 Any event conducted must be offered for all age groups and both genders. Any of the following events may be conducted.

102.5.1- A Short Course (25) Yards

50-100-200-500-1000-1650 yards freestyle
50-100-200 yards backstroke
50-100-200 yards breaststroke
50-100-200 yards butterfly
100-200-400 yards individual medley
200-400-800 yards freestyle relay
200-400-800 yards mixed freestyle relay
200-400 yards medley relay
200-400 yards mixed medley relay

102.5.2- B Long Course (50) Meters and Short Course (25) Meters

50-100-200-400-800-1500 meters freestyle
50-100-200 meters backstroke
50-100-200 meters breaststroke
50-100-200 meters butterfly
100*-200-400 meters individual medley
200-400-800 meters freestyle relay
200-400-800 meters mixed freestyle relay
200-400 meters medley relay
200-400 meters mixed medley relay
*short course meters only

102.5.3 Note: For ~~nonconforming~~ Nonconforming events, see may be offered in accordance with the provisions of article 202.1.1G(3). For open water and long distance events, see Part 3.

102.5.4 Independent attempts to establish official times (“time trials”) are permitted only in USMS-sanctioned short course yards meets other than national championship meets. Time trials are not permitted in USMS national championship meets, short course meters, or long course meters meets. If time trials are offered, the meet announcement must state the events being offered and the format for the time trials.

102.6 Event Limit

102.6.1 A swimmer may compete in not more than five individual events per day ~~(or three individual events if the meet is a trials/finals format) and shall not more than once in each individual event entered (unless the meet is a trials/finals format).~~

102.6.2 A swimmer may not compete more than once in the same individual event.

102.6.3 If, ~~however,~~ due to conditions beyond the control of meet officials, an event or events are postponed to a subsequent day of the meet, such postponed events shall not be included ~~in the five (or three) events per day limitation~~ in the daily entry limit.

102.6.4 If time trials are offered in short course yards meets, any time trial events swum shall be included in the daily entry limit. A swimmer may repeat, as a time trial, an individual event already swum during the meet on the same day or in the same meet.

Rationale: Clarify provisions for conducting time trials at USMS-sanctioned short course yards (SCY) meets.

R-5 102.4.1/104.5.1 pages 6 & 30 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

102.4 Warm-up/Warm-down

102.4.1 Availability--In pools of five lanes or more, a separate warm-up area must be made available to swimmers during the competition. If there is no other warm-up/warm-down area available in pools of five lanes or more, one lane shall be set aside for warm-up/warm-down during the conduct of the meet. If there is no other warm-up/warm-down area available in pools of four or fewer lanes, swimmers shall be allowed to swim to the other end of the pool at the end of each heat, and a warm-up/warm-down period shall be offered at least once during each half-hour of competition.

104.5.1 Information for Participants

B Warm-up schedule--A separate warm-up area must be made available to swimmers during the competition. A list of times when the competition pool and other facilities will be available for warm-up shall be provided in the official meet information.

Rationale: Clarify the explicit requirement for continuous warm-up areas which must be provided at USMS sanctioned meets. This proposed change clarifies the requirement both for national championship meets (article 104) and all other meets (article 102).

R-6 102.4 page 6 Rules Committee Add new article to 102.4

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102.4 Warm-up/Warm-down

102.4.2 Dual-Sanctioned Meets--If the meet is a dual-sanctioned meet with USA Swimming, the requirements of 102.4.1 may be adjusted depending on availability of warm-up space at the venue by agreement between the LMSC and LSC host clubs. If a continuous warm-up/warm-down lane(s) or area is not available in pools of five lanes or more, the entry information shall clearly state the availability of warm-up for USMS athletes. Once the entry information is published, changes which further restrict the availability of continuous warm-up/warm-down space are not permitted.

(Renumber subsequent sections)

Rationale: Allow for a relaxation of continuous warm-up/warm-down requirements in dual-sanctioned meets conducted with USA Swimming. Imposing a continuous warm-up requirement for USMS athletes in these meets may limit opportunities for USMS athletes to compete.

R-7 102.5 page 7 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify 102.5 & add a new article

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102.5 Events

102.5.1 In planning any meet, careful consideration must be given the demands to be made upon swimmers, officials, and spectators, in that order. Meets should be planned to terminate within a reasonable period of time each day. Planning should provide for adequate meal and rest breaks and sheltered rest areas.

102.5.2 Any event conducted must be offered for all age groups and both genders. Any of the following events may be conducted.

~~102.5.1~~ **A Short Course (25) Yards**

50-100-200-500-1000-1650 yards freestyle

50-100-200 yards backstroke

50-100-200 yards breaststroke

50-100-200 yards butterfly

100-200-400 yards individual medley

200-400-800 yards freestyle relay

200-400-800 yards mixed freestyle relay

200-400 yards medley relay

200-400 yards mixed medley relay

102.5.2 B Long Course (50) Meters and Short Course (25) Meters

- 50-100-200-400-800-1500 meters freestyle
- 50-100-200 meters backstroke
- 50-100-200 meters breaststroke
- 50-100-200 meters butterfly
- 100*-200-400 meters individual medley
- 200-400-800 meters freestyle relay
- 200-400-800 meters mixed freestyle relay
- 200-400 meters medley relay
- 200-400 meters mixed medley relay
- *short course meters only

102.5.3 ~~Note: For a~~ Nonconforming events, ~~see~~ may be offered in accordance with the provisions of article 202.1.1G(3). For open water and long distance events, see Part 3

102.5.4 The order of events must be published in the meet announcement prior to the meet. (See article 102.11 for change of program or postponement.)

Rationale: To make it explicit that the order of events must be published prior to the meet. This requirement is currently only implied in 102.11 with requirements concerning changes in the program.

R-8 102.6 page 7 Rules Committee **Recommended as Amended**
Modify 102.6 & add new article

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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102.5 Events

In planning any meet, careful consideration must be given the demands to be made upon swimmers, officials, and spectators, in that order. Meets should be planned to terminate within a reasonable period of time each day. Planning should provide for adequate meal and rest breaks and sheltered rest areas.

Any event conducted must be offered for all age groups and both genders. Events may be repeated with the same stroke and distance as different event numbers at a meet. Any of the following events may be conducted.

(Rest of section unchanged)

102.6 Event Limit

102.6.1 A swimmer may compete in not more than five individual events per day. ~~(or three individual events if the meet is a trials/finals format) and shall not more than once in each individual event entered (unless the meet is a trials/finals format).~~

102.6.2 A swimmer shall not compete more than once in the same numbered individual event.

102.6.3 If, ~~however,~~ due to conditions beyond the control of meet officials, an event or events are postponed to a subsequent day of the meet, such postponed events shall not be included in the five (or three) events per day limitation in the daily event limit.

102.6.4 Any nonconforming events swum shall be included in the daily event limit.

Rationale: To clarify that nonconforming events are included in the daily event limit. Addition of “numbered” individual event clarifies that swimmers may swim the same stroke and distance in a different numbered event if it is offered more than once in the same meet.

R-9 103.6.6 page 17 Rules Committee **Recommended as amended** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.6.6

~~When the primary timing is stopwatches, t~~The referee may assign two or more additional timers per lane dedicated to recording initial distances for USMS Top 10 purposes or may assign three additional timers per lane to record initial distances for world records. The swimmer may request such additional timers for this purpose.

Rationale: Additional timers could be assigned to record the initial distances for world records or USMS Top 10 times when the primary timing system is automatic or semiautomatic. Officials may be aware that swimmers capable of setting world records or USMS Top 10 times may not touch the pad with enough pressure to register an accurate time, so backup watch timers could be assigned to protect against failures of the primary timing system.

R-10 103.10.6/103.17.3 page 21&23 Rules Committee **Recommended as amended**

Add 103.10.6/Modify 103.17.3

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.10.6 Place Judge--One or two place judges may be positioned on the side of the course near the finish to judge the order of finish of all swimmers. If two place judges are used, they shall independently record the order of finish of all swimmers. A place judge shall record a tie if a place distinction cannot be made. The referee, starter, or another official may also serve as a place judge. Judging results may only be used to corroborate the places determined by the ranking of official times or to determine places in the event of a malfunction. Judging may not be used to change the results produced by ranking the official times.

103.17.3 Determination of Official Time

F Adjustment Official time for a malfunction on a lane--When a malfunction is confirmed on a lane, the ~~backup~~ official time for that lane shall be calculated using valid times reported by the secondary timing system (or the tertiary system in the event of a failure of the primary and secondary backup systems) in accordance with 103.17.3B and integrated with the accurate primary times in determining the results. ~~adjusted by calculating the average difference between valid primary and valid backup times of the other lanes in that heat or, if necessary, using times~~

~~from heats immediately preceding and/or following that heat. This shall be done by adding, or subtracting when appropriate, that average difference to the valid backup time of the lane where the malfunction occurred. (See 103.10.6 for the use of place judge rankings in the determination of official time.)~~

Rationale: Provide for the use of place judges, which can provide more information to diagnose timing system malfunctions and make a determination on the use of backup times in the determination of official times. The provision for place judges is in the USA Swimming rule book, so similar language is proposed. Place judges may not override the order of finish determined by ranking the official times.

R-11 103.17.3/103.18.7 pages 24-27 **Recommended**
Rules Committee Modify 103.17.3/Delete 103.18.7

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.17.3 Determination of Official Time

(Sections A-D are Unchanged)

~~**E Adjustment for the timing system difference**—When the referee determines that there is a malfunction of the primary timing system, the backup time(s) shall be adjusted for the timing system difference prior to integrating them with accurate primary times in establishing the official times and determining the results. The adjustment for timing system difference is determined by calculating the consistent average difference between the valid primary and backup systems used at that meet.~~

~~**F E Adjustment Official time for a malfunction on a lane**--When a malfunction is confirmed on a lane, the backup official time for that lane shall be calculated using valid times reported by the secondary timing system (or the tertiary system in the event of a failure of the primary and secondary backup systems) in accordance with 103.17.3B and integrated with the accurate primary times in determining the results. ~~adjusted by calculating the average difference between valid primary and valid backup times of the other lanes in that heat or, if necessary, using times from heats immediately preceding and/or following that heat. This shall be done by adding, or subtracting when appropriate, that average difference to the valid backup time of the lane where the malfunction occurred.~~~~

~~**G F Adjustment for malfunction equally affecting an entire heat**—When, because of an early or late start, or other equipment or operator malfunction, the time of the automatic or semiautomatic primary timing system is equally incorrect for all lanes in a heat, but the order of finish and thus the absolute difference of time between the swimmers is accurate, the times of the primary system shall be adjusted by calculating the average difference between the primary times and the valid backup times and adding or subtracting when appropriate, that difference to the primary times of every lane in that heat.~~

(Delete Table 1 in its entirety and renumber Table 2 as Table 1)

Systems used:
Primary—Automatic
Secondary—Semiautomatic, three buttons (intermediate button time shown in bold)
Tertiary—Manual, one watch

*More than .30 second difference, soft touch confirmed.

**Adjustment calculation:

- Add the differences between pad and intermediate button time, excluding the malfunctioning lane (total = .81).
- Divide total by the number of valid lanes to determine the average (.81 ÷ 7 = .11571). The digits after hundredths are dropped (leaving a timing system difference of .11 for the above example).
- Add the timing system difference to the valid backup time for the malfunctioning lane (51.35 + .11 = 51.46, the official time for lane five)

Table 21—Example of Heat Malfunction

(Rest of Table is unchanged)

~~103.18.7 A backup time adjusted for system timing errors in accordance with the methods described in articles 103.17.3C–G may be used as an official time equal to the level of the timing system to which it has been adjusted~~

Rationale: Eliminate the differential calculation for timing system corrections. FINA rules do not provide for any such correction. USA Swimming eliminated this procedure in the 2016 USA Swimming Rules and Regulations and other national federations have also eliminated this procedure. Timing system adjustment procedures have been studied extensively for several years and the accuracy of the adjustments is in question. The procedure for a heat malfunction is retained since late starts can still occur when using automatic timing equipment.

R-12 103.18.1 page 26 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

103.18 Official Time

103.18.1 An official time shall be achieved in a USMS-sanctioned competition or a USMS-recognized event in accordance with all applicable rules (articles 202.1.1G(1) and 202.2.1E). It may be achieved in:

A A timed heat.

B An initial distance within a longer event or relay, provided the swimmer:

- (1) Notifies the meet referee in writing of the intent to record an initial split time prior to the conclusion of the meet,
- (2) Makes the written request prior to the swim for relay leadoff splits and for initial backstroke distances in individual backstroke events,
- (3) Completes the initial distance with a legal finish, and
- (4) Completes the event without being disqualified.

C A relay leadoff leg, provided:

- (1) the second swimmer does not start in the water when automatic timing is used,

(2) the second swimmer does not invalidate the pad touch by standing on an active touchpad at the exchange if starting from the deck when automatic timing is used, and (3) that swimmers complete the event without being disqualified.

~~D When automatic timing is used, the swimmer's relay leadoff split shall not count if the second swimmer starts in the water.~~

~~E When the primary timing system is stopwatches, the referee may assign two additional timers per lane dedicated to recording initial distances for USMS Top 10 purposes or may assign three additional timers per lane to record initial distances for world records. The swimmer may request such additional timers for this purpose.~~

Rationale: Correct awkward wording and facilitate additional changes to this article with the restructuring of official time determination rules. Also clarify requirements for relay leadoff splits for situations that may invalidate the finish time of the incoming swimmer. The provisions in (E) are covered in 103.6.6.

R-13 103.18.1 page 26 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify 103.18.1

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.18 Official Time

103.18.1 An official time shall be achieved in a USMS-sanctioned competition or a USMS-recognized event in accordance with all applicable rules (articles 202.1.1G[1] and 202.2.1E). It may be achieved in:

A Any timed heat.

(Sections B and C are unchanged)

D A time trial conducted in a USMS-sanctioned meet or USMS-recognized meet under the rules of the sanctioning organization.

(Renumber remaining sections.)

Rationale: Clarify that time trials from recognized meets, such as USA Swimming sanctioned meets, will be accepted for official purposes.

R-14 103.18/105.2.2 pages 26&39 Rules Committee **Recommended**

Add 103.18.2&renumber/Modify 105.2.2

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.18 Official Time

(Add and renumber subsequent sections)

103.18.2 Upon a recommendation from the meet host, the meet referee may approve the automatic recording of individual initial splits and relay leadoff splits without the requirement for a written request subject to the following conditions:

A Initial splits from specific individual events or from all individual events, with the exception of backstroke events, may be approved.

B Relay leadoff splits from specific relay events or from all relay events, with the exception of initial splits within a backstroke leadoff distance, may be approved provided that:

(1) Officials are assigned to judge the exchanges,

(2) Officials confirm that the second swimmer does not start in the water when automatic timing is used, and

(3) Officials confirm that the second swimmer does not invalidate the pad touch at the exchange by standing on an active pad.

C For national championship meets, the meet referee may approve automatic splits with the concurrence of the USMS Championship Committee.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

105.2.2 Split times shall be considered for top 10 times if:

A *(Unchanged)*

B In an individual event other than backstroke, the request to have a split time recorded is brought to the attention of the meet referee in writing prior to the conclusion of the meet. A written request is not required for individual events (other than backstroke) in national championship meets or other meets when the meet referee has approved automatic splits.

C In a relay event or in an individual backstroke event, the request to have a split time recorded is brought to the attention of the meet referee in writing prior to the swim, ~~and~~ A written request is not required for relay leadoff splits (other than initial splits within a backstroke leadoff distance) in national championship meets or other meets when the meet referee has approved automatic splits.

(Rest is unchanged)

Rationale: Automatic splits are now commonly used at National Championship meets, but the rules still require a written request. In practice, a written request is submitted on behalf of all swimmers in order to comply with the rule, so this proposed change would eliminate that practice. Other meets (such as Zone Championship meets) have also adopted the practice of recording automatic splits, which are now easily implemented with electronic timing systems and meet management software.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

~~103.18.4~~ The official time to establish records and Top 10 times can be achieved only in accordance with the following timing methods:

Timing Method	Official Time Determination
Automatic Timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times • Initial splits for all purposes • Relay leadoff times for all purposes
Semiautomatic with three buttons or manual with three watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times • Initial splits and relay leadoff times for world records and USMS Top 10 times
Semiautomatic with two buttons or manual with two watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USMS Top 10 times • Initial splits and relay leadoff times for USMS Top 10 times

103.18.4 Records and Top 10 times using an Automatic Primary Timing System—
Secondary and tertiary times may be used to determine the official time as follows when the automatic primary timing system fails, provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed. See 103.17.3D for overhead video backup.

- A** World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times may be established when the times are reported by an automatic primary timing system.
- B** World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times may be established when the automatic primary timing system fails if the times are reported by a semiautomatic secondary timing system using three, two, or one button(s).
- C** World records may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system with three valid watch times.
- D** USMS records may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system using a minimum of two valid watch times.
- E** USMS Top 10 times may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system using a minimum of one valid watch time.
- F** An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records, USMS records, or USMS Top 10 times when reported by an automatic primary timing system.

G An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when the automatic primary timing system fails and the times are reported by a manual backup timing system with three valid watch times.

H USMS records shall not be established for initial distances and relay leadoff legs using a manual backup system when the primary system fails.

I An initial distance or relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the primary timing system fails and the times are reported by a manual backup timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

Note: If the secondary system is manual watches (no semiautomatic system), the requirements listed in 103.18.4C-E shall apply to the watch times.

103.18.5 Records and Top 10 times using a Semiautomatic Primary Timing System—
Semiautomatic times are used to determine the official time as follows (or backup times when the semiautomatic primary timing system fails), provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed.

A World records may be established when the times are reported by a semiautomatic primary timing system with three valid button times.

B USMS records may be established when timed by a three-button semiautomatic primary timing system and the times are reported by three, two, or one valid button times.

C USMS Top 10 times may be established when timed by a minimum two-button semiautomatic primary timing system and the times are reported by three, two, or one valid button times.

D World records may be established when the three-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three valid watch times.

E USMS records may be established when the three-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three or two valid watch times.

F USMS Top 10 times may be established when the minimum two-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three, two, or one valid watch times.

G An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when reported by a manual backup timing system with three valid watch times.

H USMS records shall not be established for initial distances and relay leadoff legs using a manual backup system when the primary system fails.

I An initial distance or relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the times are reported by a manual backup timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

103.18.6 Records and Top 10 Times using a Manual Primary Timing System—Manual times are used to determine the official time as follows, provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed.

A World records and USMS records may be established when the times are reported by a manual primary timing system with three valid watch times.

B USMS Top 10 times may be established when the times are reported by a manual primary timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

C An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when the times are reported by a manual primary system with three valid watch times.

D USMS records shall not be established for initial distances and relay leadoff legs using a manual primary timing system.

E An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS top 10 times when the times are reported by a manual primary system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

(Renumber 103.18.5 to 103.18.7)

103.18.68 Except when the primary system consists of watches, backup timing shall be provided for all competitors. No swimmer shall be required to reswim a race due to equipment failure that results in unrecorded or inaccurate time or place. It is the meet director's responsibility to provide the proper timing systems so that swimmers can expect to achieve official times that will satisfy the requirements of articles 103.18.4-103.18.6.

(Renumber 103.18.8 to 103.18.9)

Table 2 – Summary of timing requirements for world records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times.

	<u>Automatic Primary Timing System</u>	<u>Semiautomatic Primary Timing System</u>	<u>Manual Primary Timing System</u>
<u>World Records</u>	<u>Touchpad time</u>		
	<u>Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.</u>	<u>Three valid buttons.</u>	

	<u>Manual backup time with three valid watches if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).</u>	<u>Three valid watches if the three-button semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).</u>	<u>Three valid watches.</u>
	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by a touchpad.</u>		
	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by three valid watches if the touchpad fails.</u>	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by three valid watches.</u>	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by three valid watches.</u>
USMS Records	<u>Touchpad time</u>		
	<u>Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.</u>	<u>Three-button system with a time calculated using the procedure in 103.17.3B</u>	
	<u>Manual backup time with two valid watches if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).</u>	<u>Two valid watches if the three-button semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).</u>	<u>Three valid watches</u>
	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by touchpad.</u>		
USMS Top 10 Times	<u>Touchpad Time</u>		
	<u>Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.</u>	<u>Two-button system with a time calculated using the procedure in 103.17.3B</u>	
	<u>Manual backup time with one valid watch if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).</u>	<u>One watch if the two-button semiautomatic system fails (no buttons)</u>	<u>Two valid watches</u>
	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by two valid watches if the touchpad fails.</u>	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by two valid watches.</u>	<u>Leadoff or intermediate split recorded by two valid watches.</u>

105.3.5 The official time for establishing records shall be achieved and determined in accordance with articles 103.11, 103.17, and 103.18. ~~Records shall require automatic timing, semiautomatic timing with three buttons or manual timing with three watches.~~

Rationale: The rules need to specify the procedure for determining official times using automatic, semiautomatic, and manual timing systems in the event that a timing system adjustment for an individual lane malfunction can no longer be used. In addition, the rules need to specify the process for determining the official time if the primary timing system fails, or when secondary timing system fails and there is a tertiary system. Once the official time is determined, the level of timing system requirements for USMS records and top 10 times are defined considering the practical needs for timing systems and volunteers at USMS sanctioned meets. The requirements for world records are provided for the informational benefit of USMS members.

R-16 104.4.5 page 29 Championship Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

104.4.5 Meet Report

104.4.5 Meet Report--The meet director of each national championship meet shall submit a written report to the chair of the Championship Committee within 60 days of the end of competition. This report shall include a complete financial report, ~~copies of meet information, entry forms,~~ lessons learned, suggestions, and any other information that may be helpful to future meet directors.

Rationale: Update final report contents for National Championships. USMS (national office) generates the entry form and publishes the meet information separately from the host. Sample entry forms and meet information pages are included in the Meet Director's Guide for reference.

R-17 104.5.1 page 30 Championship Committee **Recommended** Delete

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.1 Information for Participants

~~**A General meeting**—A general meeting of the organizing personnel, interested officials, coaches, and swimmers shall be held the evening prior to the first day of the meet.~~

~~(1) The meeting date, time, and location shall be included in the official meet information.~~

~~(2) The chair of this meeting shall be the president of USMS or an individual designated by the president.~~

~~(3) Business pertinent to the operation of national championship meets and the conduct of the events shall be considered and finalized at this meeting. Changes may be effected in the conduct of the meet to fit the situation.~~

~~(4) Since changes can be made in the operation of a national championship meet, it is the obligation of every swimmer (or a representative) to arrive with enough time to complete registration and become apprised of any changes that have been made.~~

~~(5) It shall be the meet director's responsibility to post notices of changes in conspicuous places at the pool, registration area, and headquarters area prior to the start of the first day's competition.~~

(Renumber remaining sections.)

Rationale: Remove the general meeting requirement from the rulebook. Topics typically addressed in these meetings are now typically communicated via pre-meet correspondence. A host may still hold the meeting, and the committee may continue to recommend having the meeting but it does not need to be controlled by the rule book.

R-18 104.5.2 page 30 Championship Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.2 Schedule Format— A four-day or five-day ~~schedule for~~ national championship meets shall be ~~used~~ conducted. The Championship Committee shall set the ~~meet schedule~~ order of events for each national championship meet.

Rationale: Clarify the language of this rule, swapping out the word “schedule” for the more widely-used “order of events”.

R-19 104.5.4 page 32 Championship Committee **Recommended as amended** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.4 Entry Procedures

B Entry Form

(1) Approval of entry form--Entry forms (both individual and relay) and meet information shall be prepared following the direction and approval of the Championship Committee, ~~and must be approved by the Championship Committee in advance of printing. No other forms may be used.~~

Rationale: Change wording to permit alternative relay forms, particularly for clubs entering many relays who would prefer a spreadsheet or other format acceptable to the host.

R-20 104.5.4B page 32 Championship Committee **Recommended as amended** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.4 Entry Procedures

B Entry form

(1) Approval of entry form—Entry forms (both individual and relay) and meet information shall be prepared following the direction of the Championship Committee, and must be approved by the Championship Committee in advance of printing. No other forms may be used.

(2) Distribution of entry form—~~All meet information shall be published in the official USMS magazine and on the USMS website at no cost to the meet host. National championship meet information shall be published according to the Championship Committee policy.~~ The individual and relay entry forms and any Championship Committee-approved additional information the host desires shall be posted on the USMS website.

(Insert and renumber subsequent sections)

(3) Meet information—National championship meet information shall be published according to the Championship Committee policy.

Rationale: All information does not need to be published in the USMS magazine and the specific requirements do not need to be captured in the rules. Championship Committee can specify the specific information that needs to be published in the official USMS magazine and on the USMS website.

R-21 104.5.4B page 32 Championship Committee Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.4 Entry Procedures

B Entry Form

(Insert and renumber subsequent sections)

(4) Meet information—Meet information shall be published in the official USMS magazine and on the USMS website at no cost to the meet host. National championship meet information shall be published according to the Championship Committee policy.

Rationale: Adding this language in a similar format to 104.5.1B(3), except for the word “All”. This small change to wording still requires some meet information in the magazine; however, the information that is included in the magazine does not need to be everything and need not include the entry form.

R-22 104.5.5A(1) page 33 Championship Committee Recommended Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding (also see article 102.10)

(1) At the request of the meet director~~s option~~ and with the approval of the Championship Committee, any or all events may be deck-seeded. The Championship Committee may mandate deck seeding for any or all events.

Rationale: Make it clear that the meet director may request events to be deck seeded. Add language that permits the Championship Committee to require deck seeding for certain events.

R-23 104.5.5A(10) page 34 Championship Committee Recommended Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding (also see article 102.10)

(Articles (1) through (9) unchanged.)

(10) There will be no splitting of age groups into A.M. and P.M. sessions. However, at the ~~meet director's~~ discretion of the Championship Committee, swimmers whose entry times will inordinately delay the progress of the meet may be seeded individually in an outside lane with manual timing, thus allowing the continued sequence of the regularly scheduled heats.

Rationale: Change responsibility to Championship Committee, as is current practice.

R-24 104.5.5A(11) page 34 Championship Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

104.5.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding (also see article 102.10)

(Articles (1) through (10) unchanged.)

(11) If a swimmer enters an event with a time significantly slower or faster than that swimmer's recorded time in the past two years, the ~~meet director~~ Championship Committee may, after a discussion with the swimmer, change the seeded time to a realistic time.

Rationale: Change responsibility to Championship Committee, as is current practice.

R-25 104.5.5B(3) page 34 Championship Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

104.5.5 Seeding

B Distance events

(Articles (1) and (2) unchanged.)

(3) In the 800/1000 and 1500/1650 freestyle, all men and women swimming slower than a standard established by the Championship Committee ~~will~~ may be seeded together by time only.

Rationale: Change "will" to "may", as this rule is not always enacted.

R-26 104.5.8 page 34 Championship/Records&Tabulation Committees **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

104.5.8 Results

B Publication of meet results--Meet results in the appropriate format (see Appendix B, "Preparation of Meet Results") and club scores shall be published within 30 days of the last day of the meet and posted on the USMS website. Electronic files shall be sent to the Championship Committee chair and the USMS Records and Tabulations Committee chair, ~~and a hard copy shall be sent to the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee chair or designee.~~

Rationale: Remove this requirement as R&T no longer requires a hard copy.

In accordance with the provisions of 601.4.5, both the Rules and Legislation Committees have voted (by two-thirds majority) to consider R-27 as an **indivisible package with changes to parts one and two of the USMS Rule Book. Neither committee recommends**

adoption by the House of Delegates. Both committees voted to “not recommend” R-27 to the House of Delegates.

R-27 105.1.7 page 38 Records and Tabulation Committee **Not Recommended**
Delete & Renumber

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

105.1.7 Pool Measurement

~~C~~ If a moveable bulkhead is used and the initial pool length certification for all lanes is on file, the length of the course must be confirmed by measuring the two outside lanes and a middle lane prior to the start of the meet and at the conclusion of each session.

D C If a moveable bulkhead is used and the initial pool length certification for all lanes is on file, the measurement rules and policies of FINA Masters Swimming shall be the standard for Top 10 eligibility and for USMS records for events sanctioned or recognized by USMS and for events sanctioned by a FINA Masters member federation other than USMS.

~~E~~ If a moveable bulkhead is used and the initial pool length certification for all lanes is on file, the measurement rules and policies of USA Swimming shall be the standard for Top 10 eligibility for events sanctioned or approved by USA S. A bulkhead placement confirmation measurement is required for a USMS record set at events sanctioned or approved by USA S. The measurement rules and policies of USMS shall apply for dual sanctioned events.

The following sections would also need to be amended in order to maintain consistency:

202.1.1 Sanction Requirements--Sanctions shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held. Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the entry form.

(1) *(Unchanged)*

(2) *(Unchanged)*

(3) Meet information shall include ONE of the following statements:

(a) The length of the competition course ~~without a bulkhead~~ is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1.

(b) *(Unchanged)*

(c) The length of the competition course is not on file with USMS. Eligibility of times achieved in this meet will be contingent upon pool length measurement

and approval with USMS; ~~if bulkheads are present, their placement must also be confirmed by measurements at the meet (USMS articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1).~~

- (d) ~~The length of the competition course is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1, but as a bulkhead course, is subject to length confirmation. Eligibility of times for USMS Top 10 and records will be contingent on verification of bulkhead placement~~

Rationale: Eliminate the requirement to confirm the bulkhead placement for records and top 10 submissions at USMS-sanctioned meets. (Article 105.1 also applies to recognized meets other than USA Swimming sanctioned meets, so this change eliminates the bulkhead placement requirement for recognized meets). Eliminates the requirement to confirm the bulkhead placement for USMS records set at USA Swimming sanctioned meets, which are also recognized meets per article 202.2.

R-28 105.1.8 page 39 Records and Tabulation Committee **Recommended** Delete

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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~~**105.1.8** USMS records shall be published annually in the *USMS Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition*.~~

Rationale: USMS records printed in the Rule Book are a snapshot of a point in time and are invariably out of date soon after the Rule Book is printed. Most current USMS records are easily accessible online and meet directors also have numerous options for retrieving current records before conducting a meet. Adoption of this change eliminates Appendix A of the rule book entirely.

R-29 105.3.5 page 39 Records and Tabulation Committee **Recommended as amended**

Add new 105.3.5 & Renumber

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.3.5 - A record can only be made in fresh water. No records will be recognized in any kind of sea or ocean water.

(Renumber the remaining sections of 105.3.)

Rationale: FINA has a rule “SW 12.10 World Records can be established only in fresh water. No World Records will be recognised in any kind of sea or ocean water.” USMS should have a similar rule as there are pools without fresh water that have the potential to be used in competition.

R-30 105.3.8/105.3.9 page 40 Records&Tabulation Committee **Recommended as amended**

Modify 105.3.8/Delete 105.3.9

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.3.8 The requirements for USMS record applications are:

- A** When a record is claimed in meets other than USMS national championship meets, an official USMS record application form (Appendix B) shall be ~~filled out~~ completed, signed by the designated officials, and transmitted immediately following the performance with all supporting data, ~~including the official meet results, the timing system printout, and/or copy of the entry card with timers' signatures~~ to the records and tabulation chair for the LMSC in which the event was sanctioned or recognized. Supporting data shall include official meet results, the timing system printout, and/or copy of the entry card with timers' signatures, to the records and tabulation chair for the LMSC in which the event was sanctioned or recognized and a copy of the heat sheet. The heat sheet shall show the swimmer's name, heat number, and lane number in which the record was achieved. Responsibility for this lies with either the LMSC records chair or the official scorer of the meet. The LMSC may assign this responsibility to the LMSC records chair or to the meet director.
- B** The LMSC records ~~and tabulation~~ chair shall send the supporting data to the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee within 90 days of the end of the season ~~as stated in article 105.1.2 (see 105.1.2)~~. Note that if the USMS record is also a FINA Masters Record, the record application must be received within 60 days of the swim and not 90 days after the close of the season.
- C** Upon verification, the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee shall promptly publish the new record on the USMS website.
- D** A record application shall not be accepted unless a copy of a birth certificate or passport accompanies it or is on file with USMS or has been sent to the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee by the individual or relay applicants.
- E** Record applications are not required for times reported in the official electronic meet database from USMS national championship meets. If necessary, the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulations Committee or designee may request additional information (including timing system printouts) to resolve discrepancies in reported times.
- 105.3.9 F** ~~Records set~~ With the exception of FINA World Masters Championships, record applications from times swum in meets held outside of the United States shall be submitted on official USMS record application forms (Appendix B) and are subject to all pertinent requirements. Record applications are not required for times reported in the official results from FINA World Masters Championships.

Rationale: In practice, record documentation for times swum at USMS National Championships is completed at the meet. FINA Masters World Championships are rarely held with the same timing software used for domestic meets, so it is not possible to receive an electronic file. Previous modifications to 202.2 stipulate that no further documentation is required for recognition of FINA meets held outside the United States and this is a further update to clarify documentation requirements for USMS National records.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

~~**ARTICLE 106: Health and Safety Regulations for Competition**~~

~~**106.1 Medical Examination**~~

~~Each competitor is strongly encouraged to have a complete medical evaluation before beginning Masters swimming training. In addition, it is recommended that each competitor have a physical checkup immediately prior to Masters swimming competition to ensure physical readiness for participation.~~

~~**106.2 Medical Equipment**~~

~~Meet directors are encouraged to investigate the use of appropriate emergency medical equipment and personnel for all meets.~~

(Renumber Article 107 as Article 106 and renumber Article 108 as Article 107)

Rationale: Article 106 should be deleted entirely. Section 106.1 is impossible to enforce since “immediately prior to Masters swimming competition” is not defined. Section 106.2 does not belong in the Rule Book; it should be covered in the Meet Director’s Guide or in another policy statement. In addition, recent studies question the effectiveness of general health checks in decreasing total illnesses or deaths due to heart disease or cancer in people with no symptoms and they may not prevent injuries during exercise or competition.

R-32 105.2.4 page 39 Records and Tabulation Committee **Recommended** Add 105.2.4

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

105.2.4 A Top 10 time can only be made in fresh water. No Top 10 times will be recognized in any kind of sea or ocean water.

Rationale: FINA has a rule “SW 12.11 World Records can be established only in fresh water. No World Records will be recognized in any kind of sea or ocean water.” USMS should have a similar rule for both records and Top 10 times as there are pools without fresh water that have the potential to be used in competition. A corresponding change has been proposed for records as 105.3.5 noted as R-29 in the Convention 2016 Rules Proposals.

HK-1 102.13.3 page 14 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

102.13.3

Any swimmer who acts in an ~~unsportsmanlike~~ unsporting or unsafe manner within the swimming venue may be considered for appropriate action or penalty by the referee.

Rationale: “Unsportsmanlike” was changed to “unsporting” a number of years ago as the correct term in 402.3, 402.4, and 403.1. That change should be uniform throughout the rules.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

303.9 Disqualifications

A disqualification can be made only by the referee, the starter, or a judge within whose jurisdiction the infraction has been committed. Swimmers shall be disqualified if they:

303.9.11 Act in an ~~unsportsmanlike~~ unsporting or unsafe manner within the swimming venue.

HK-2 103.8.5A pages 18-19 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.8.5A

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, followed by a long whistle indicating that they ~~should~~ may take and maintain their positions with at least one foot at the front of the starting platform or the deck and remain there. Swimmers starting in the water must take their positions on the wall with at least one hand in contact with the wall or starting platform and one foot in contact with the wall. 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 take their positions on the wall without undue delay (article 101.1.2).

Rationale: The clarifying language was added to 101.1.1 in 2014 and should have been added to 103.8.5A for consistency.

HK-3 103.17.3 pages 23-24 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.17.3 Determination of Official Time

A Automatic timing—When recorded by properly operating automatic timing equipment, the pad time shall be the official time.

B Semiautomatic or manual timing—Whenever semiautomatic or manual timing is used, only valid times shall be used in calculating the official time. The times shall be determined as follows:

- (1) If two of the three valid button times or two of the three valid watch times agree, the time of the two buttons or two watches in agreement shall be the time for that timing system.
- (2) If three valid button times or three valid watch times disagree, the time of the intermediate button or intermediate watch shall be the time for that timing system.

- (3) If only two valid button times or two valid watch times are available, the average of the two button times or the average of the two watch times shall be the time for that timing system. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no rounding.
- (4) If only one valid button or one valid watch time is available, the time of that button or watch shall be the time for that timing system provided it is supported by other information.

Rationale: Clarifies that we intend to mean comparison of valid buttons in the determination of official time. The change conforms to current practice.

HK-4 105.3.6A page 39 Rules Committee **Recommended** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.3.6

Split times shall be considered for USMS records if:

A They are recorded by ~~fully~~ automatic timing equipment.

B They meet the requirements of articles 105.2.2B-F.

Such split times shall be included separately in the summary of results prepared by the meet director and submitted to the LMSC Top 10 recorder.

Rationale: This is the only place in the rules where “fully automatic timing” is used. The term “automatic timing” is used in the rest of the rules. “Fully” is not necessary because automatic timing is defined in 103.17.1A.

(If passed, “fully” will need to be deleted in three places in Appendix B.)