

USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

**2016 LEGISLATION ADOPTED
BY USA SWIMMING HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

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USA SWIMMING
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

ADOPTED AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

R-1 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 14 – (new) **Official Glossary**
Page 62 – (new) **202.5 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 is acceptable proof of USA Swimming membership.

[re-number remaining]

R-2 ADOPTED Effective May 1, 2017

Location: Page 25 – **102.2 General Rules**

102.2 GENERAL RULES

- .1 In order to compete in a meet, a swimmer must be entered in compliance with the event entry requirements stated in the meet announcement.
.2 In a preliminaries and finals meet a swimmer may compete in not more than three (3) individual events per day.
.3 In a timed finals meet a swimmer may compete in not more than ~~five (5)~~ six (6) individual events per day.

R-3 ADOPTED Effective May 1, 2017

Location: Page 26 – **102.5 Seeding, Lane Assignments, Swim-Offs, and Order of Heats**

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

- .1 **Preliminary Heats When Finals are Scheduled** — Entry times shall be listed by the meet committee with the fastest swimmer first and the slowest swimmer last. Swimmers whose submitted times are identical should be assigned places in the list by draw. Swimmers with no submitted times shall be considered the slowest and shall be placed at the end of the list by draw. Swimmers shall be seeded in lanes under the procedure outlined for finals seeding in 102.5. Swimmers shall be seeded in heats according to submitted times in the following manner:
- A **Fewer than three heats**
- (1) If there is only one heat, it shall be swum as scheduled during the preliminaries and finals.
(2) If there are two heats, the fastest swimmer shall be seeded in the second heat, next fastest in the first heat, next fastest in the second heat, next in the first heat, next in the second heat, next in the first heat, etc.
- B **Three heats** — Except for 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, ~~the~~ the fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, next fastest in the second, next in the first. The fourth fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat,

the fifth in the second heat, and the sixth fastest in the first heat, the seventh fastest in the third heat, etc.

- C **Four heats or more** — Except for 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, ~~the~~ the last three heats of an event shall be seeded in accordance with B above. The heat preceding the last three heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers; the heat preceding the last four heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers, etc. Lanes shall be assigned in descending order of submitted times within each heat, in accordance with the pattern outlined in 102.5.
- D For 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the last two heats of an event shall be seeded in accordance with 102.5.1 A (2).
- DE **Exception** — When there are two or more heats in an event, there shall be a minimum of three swimmers seeded into any one preliminary heat, but subsequent scratches may reduce the number of swimmers in such heat to less than three.

R-4 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 54 – **105.1 General**
Page 167 – **(new) 701.24 Swimmers with Disabilities**

105.1 GENERAL

- .1 **Authority** — The USA Swimming Rules & Regulations grant the Referee the authority to modify the rules for the swimmer with a disability. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities. This section contains guidelines and suggestions for making such modifications. Reference article 701.24 for Open Water competitions.

701.24 SWIMMERS WITH DISABILITIES

- .1 **Authority** – The USA Swimming Rules & Regulations grant the Referee authority to modify any rule or race management procedure for a swimmer with a disability. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Any such modification shall affect only the current event and does not set precedent.
- .2 **Responsibilities**
- A **Swimmer**—The swimmer (or the swimmer's coach) is responsible for notifying the Referee, prior to the competition, of any disability of the swimmer and of the requested modification. The swimmer/coach shall provide any assistant(s) or equipment if required.
- B **Referee**—The Referee's responsibilities include:
- (1) Determining if the requested modifications are appropriate and conform to safety requirements. No modifications shall be granted which gives a swimmer a competitive advantage.
 - (2) Instructing the Starter and all Judges as to the accommodations to be made for that swimmer.
- C **Coaches** — Coaches and teams entering swimmers with disabilities that require any accommodations shall provide advance notice in writing to the meet director by the entry deadline. Failure to provide advance notice may limit the host's ability to accommodate all requests.

R-5 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 47 – **(new) 103.13 Drones**
Page 60 – **(new) 202.4 Requirements for Sanction**

103.13 /M/ DRONES — Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present."

Exceptions may be granted with prior written approval by the Vice President of Program Operations.

[re-number remaining]

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

.1-8 [no changes]

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

A-I [no changes]

J The following statement: "Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present."

Exceptions may be granted with prior written approval by the Vice President of Program Operations.

[re-letter remaining]

R-6 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 67 – **Article 203 Representation**

ARTICLE 203 REPRESENTATION

203.1-3 [no changes]

203.4 A swimmer registered with a USA Swimming non-school club who wishes to compete for a secondary school, college or university shall be automatically released without notice by his/her club upon commencement of his/her season to compete for that school in school competition, and upon termination of such school swimming season he/she shall be immediately eligible to represent the same USA Swimming non-school club, of his/her choice. Should the swimmer choose to represent a different USA Swimming non-school club, the swimmer is subject to (subject to the 120-day rule in 203.3.). It is the swimmer's responsibility to ascertain his/her compliance with scholastic governing bodies' rules and regulations.

R-7 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 100 – **302.2 Membership**
Page 128 – **502.4 Individual Membership**

302.2 MEMBERSHIP — Athlete membership will consist of an annual membership, an outreach membership, a seasonal membership, or a single-meet open water membership.

.1 **Annual Membership** — Membership is for a calendar year. Non-members applying for membership on or after September 1 will be issued a membership card valid through December 31 of the following year.

502.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

.1-4 [no changes]

.5 Each class of membership (except life membership, seasonal membership and single-meet open water membership) is for a calendar year period. Individuals applying for calendar year membership on or after September 1 will receive membership ~~credentials~~ credentials valid through December 31 of the following year.

.6 An LSC shall not impose requirements for Individual Membership in addition to those set forth in Article 502. An LSC may require proof of birth date prior to competition in age classified events.

R-10 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 100 – Article 302.4 False Registration

302.4 FALSE REGISTRATION — If a swimmer who is not properly registered with USA Swimming competes in a sanctioned competition, ~~A~~ the host LSC may impose a fine of up to \$100.00 per event against ~~a~~ the individual, member coach or ~~a~~ member club submitting ~~a meet the entry,~~ which indicates a swimmer is registered with USA Swimming when that swimmer or the listed club is not properly registered. The host LSC will be entitled to any fines imposed.

R-11 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 101 – Article 303 Eligibility

ARTICLE 303

ELIGIBILITY

303.1-4 [no changes]

303.5 No Individual Member or Group Member of USA Swimming shall coach, train or provide swimming-related advice or service to any swimmer who is serving a period of ineligibility or provisional suspension for an anti-doping rule violation.

In accordance with policies and procedures in the USA Swimming Policy Manual, Coaches and Group Members are required to report any non-member of USA Swimming ranked in the top 100 in the world who participates in team activities.

R-16 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 130 Article 503
Page 131 Article 504

ARTICLE 503 OFFICERS

503.1 OFFICERS — All USA Swimming officers, ~~except the Secretary and the Athletes Vice President,~~ shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even numbered years. The elected officers shall be President, Treasurer, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Program Development, Vice President of Program Operations, Technical Vice President and Athletes Vice President.

~~1. The Athletes Vice President shall be elected by the Athletes Committee members of the House of Delegates.~~

1. The President & CEO is the chief executive officer of USA Swimming. The President & CEO shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the Board of Directors; and those specified in the USA Swimming Policy Manual. The President & CEO shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. For international purposes, the President & CEO shall be recognized as the Secretary General of USA Swimming.
2. The Vice President & COO is the chief operating officer of USA Swimming. The Vice President & COO shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the President & CEO; and shall perform the duties of and have the authority and exercise the power of the President & CEO when the President & CEO is absent or incapacitated. The Vice President & COO shall serve at the pleasure of the President & CEO.
3. The Treasurer & CFO is the chief financial officer of USA Swimming. The Treasurer & CFO shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the President & CEO; those specified in the USA Swimming Policy Manual or specifically set forth in 508.2 of these Bylaws. The Treasurer & CFO shall serve at the pleasure of the President & CEO.
4. The Secretary & General Counsel is the chief legal officer of USA Swimming. The Secretary & General Counsel shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the President & CEO; and, in addition, shall

be responsible for the legal affairs of USA Swimming under the direction of the Board of Directors and the President & CEO. The Secretary & General Counsel shall have voice but no vote in any of the affairs of USA Swimming. The Secretary & General Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of the President & CEO.

503.2 VICE PRESIDENTS

- ~~.1 The vice presidents of USA Swimming shall chair their respective divisions, and shall be responsible for their respective committees, as set forth in Article 506 and the USA Swimming Policy Manual.~~
- ~~.2 Whenever the President is unable to perform his/her duties, the Vice President of Administration shall perform the duties~~
- ~~.3 The Technical Vice President must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a coach at a Junior, Sectional, or National Championships~~

~~**503.3 TREASURER** — The Treasurer shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the Board of Directors; those specified in the USA Swimming Policy Manual or specifically set forth in 508.2 of these Bylaws.~~

~~**503.4 SECRETARY** — The Secretary of USA Swimming shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Secretary shall perform such duties as is customary for such office, and, in addition, shall be responsible for the legal affairs of USA Swimming under the direction of the Board. The Secretary shall have voice but no vote in any of the affairs of USA Swimming.~~

~~**503.5 DUTIES OF OFFICERS** — The officers shall perform such duties as set forth in these Bylaws, or as may be assigned to them by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors.~~

~~**503.6 TERM OF OFFICE** — The elected officers shall hold office for two years or until their successors are elected and qualified. Their term of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are elected. Each officer is eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms. An individual may hold only one elective office at any one time. No person so elected for successive terms is eligible for re-election to the same office until after the lapse of two years following the terms of office to which that person was last elected (portions of those terms served to fill a vacancy in the office shall not be considered in the computation of time for this purpose).~~

~~**503.7 VACANCIES** — Any vacancy that may occur in an office of USA Swimming caused by death, resignation, incapacity or other reason, may be filled permanently or temporarily by the President with the consent of the Executive Committee to fill out the unexpired term of a permanent vacancy or until the individual is able to resume the duties of the office in the event of a temporary vacancy. An appointment to fill a permanent or temporary vacancy shall be with the full rights of the office.~~

ARTICLE 504

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

~~**504.1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP** — Eight (8) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA Swimming (i) the elected Board Chair; (ii) the six (6) elected Vice Chairs; and (iii) the Secretary & General Counsel (appointed by the Board). In addition, Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the House of Delegates, representing LSCs within each of the four zones, pursuant to Article 504.3. The Chair of the National Team Steering Committee shall also be a member.~~

~~**504.2 BOARD CHAIR & VICE CHAIRS** – The USA Swimming Board Chair and all Vice Chairs, except the Athletes Vice Chair, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. The elected Chairs shall be the Board Chair, Finance Vice Chair, Administration Vice Chair, Program Development Vice Chair, Program Operations Vice Chair, Technical Vice Chair and Athletes Vice Chair. The Athletes Vice Chair shall be elected by the Athletes Committee.~~

- ~~.1 USA Swimming shall have a Board Chair who shall preside at all meetings of the Board. The Board Chair shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect. The Board Chair shall perform such other duties and have such other authority and powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.~~
- ~~.2 The Vice Chairs of USA Swimming shall chair their respective divisions, and shall be responsible for their respective committees, as set forth in Article 506 and the USA Swimming Policy Manual.~~
- ~~.3 Whenever the Board Chair is unable to perform his/her duties, the Administration Vice Chair shall perform the duties.~~

- .4 The Technical Vice Chair must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a coach at a Junior, Sectional, or National Championships.
- .5 The Board Chair and Vice Chairs shall perform such duties as set forth in these Bylaws, or as may be assigned to them by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors.

504.23 ZONE DIRECTORS — Each zone shall have one coach and one non-coach director from the zone as its Zone Representatives, elected at the annual meeting in the following years:

	Coach	Non-Coach
Eastern Zone	Even Years	Odd Years
Southern Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
Central Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
Western Zone	Even Years	Odd Years

- .1 Both coach and non-coach Zone Directors will be elected by the members present at their Zone meeting in the appropriate year.
- .2 Each LSC is entitled to five votes, of which at least one vote must be designated to the LSC Athlete Representative(s). If no Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.
- .3 No director elected to two successive terms is eligible for re-election to that office until after a lapse of two years.
- .4 For the purposes of casting its votes, each LSC may send one or more delegates to the Zone meeting.
- .5 The election of zone members to the Board of Directors shall be based upon the zones in which the proposed Directors maintain their residency.

504.34 ATHLETE REPRESENTATION — The Athletes Committee shall elect to the Board of Directors that number of Athlete Directors necessary to assure that not less than twenty percent (20%) of the voting Directors are athletes. Athlete Directors need not themselves be athlete representatives, but must at the time of their election be actively engaged in swimming competition or have represented the United States in international competition within the ten (10) years preceding their election. Two of these Athlete Directors shall be the Athletes Vice ~~President~~ Chair and the Athletes ~~Executive-Deputy~~ Vice Chair. The Athletes Committee may also elect not more than five (5) alternate Athlete Directors. In the event that a regular Athlete Director is unable to attend or otherwise participate in a regular activity of the Board of Directors, an alternate Athlete Director may serve in the place of the regular Athlete Director and shall, for the limited duration of that activity, enjoy all the rights, privileges and duties enjoyed by the regular Athlete Director.

504.45 ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER REPRESENTATION — Any organization which is a member of USA Swimming pursuant to 502.3, and which conducts, on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of swimmers to represent the United States in international swimming competition, a national program or regular national athletic competition, and ensures that such representation shall reflect the nature, scope, quality and strength of the programs and competitions of such sports organization in relation to all other such programs and competition in the sport of swimming in the United States, shall be eligible to name a Director. The Board of Directors or its designee shall determine whether an organization satisfies the criteria of this Article.

504.56 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS — The immediate Past President or Board Chair (as applicable) of USA Swimming shall be an ex-officio member with voice but no vote. Additional ex-officio members may be appointed by the Board to serve at the pleasure of the Board with voice but no vote. An ex-officio member who fails to attend at least two regularly scheduled meetings of the Board per year shall forfeit his/her seat on the Board.

504.67 TERM OF OFFICE — Directors shall hold office for two years, through the annual meeting in even-numbered years, or until their successors are elected and qualified, except that Zone Directors shall hold staggered terms of office pursuant to 504.23. Their term of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are elected. Each Director is eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms. An individual may hold only one elective office at any one time. No person so elected for successive terms is eligible for re-election to the same office until after the lapse of two years following the terms of office to which that person was last elected (portions of those terms served to fill a vacancy in the office shall not be considered in the computation of time for this purpose).

504.78 REMOVAL OF OFFICERS OR DIRECTORS — ~~Any elected or appointed Officer or~~ Director of USA Swimming who has

failed to attend to his or her official duties or responsibilities or has done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty for any of the reasons set forth in Article 404.1.3 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, may be removed from office by the National Board of Review pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, in an action authorized by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Board of Directors. Any appeal of the Decision of the National Board of Review shall be heard by the Board of Directors as a whole (not by a panel thereof) and any decision of the Board of Directors in favor of removal of an ~~Officer or a~~ Director shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Board of Directors.

504.89 VACANCIES — Any vacancy that may occur on the Board of Directors caused by death, resignation, incapacity or other reason may be filled permanently or temporarily by a majority vote of the remaining members until the zone, organization, or committee concerned shall have elected or selected a permanent or temporary successor. A permanent successor shall fill the unexpired term of the vacant office. A temporary appointment shall serve for only such time as is necessary for either the appointing authority to replace the vacant office or until the temporary incapacity is cured. An appointment to fill a permanent or temporary vacancy shall be with full rights of the office.

504.910 AUTHORITY — The USA Swimming Board of Directors shall have the authority to act for the USA Swimming House of Delegates between meetings of the House, except that it cannot amend the Rules and Regulations. The Board shall have the emergency power to adopt, revoke and amend any rule or regulation in the Rules and Regulations if the Board with the advice and consent of the Operational Risk Committee, the Rules & Regulations Committee and legal counsel, shall determine that safety considerations so require. A technical rule which is also a FINA rule, may not be revoked or amended. An action taken under this emergency provision shall be effective until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. The ~~President~~ Board Chair shall make a fully detailed report including findings of fact to the entire membership of the House of Delegates (as last certified) within thirty (30) days of the action taken.

504.101 MEETINGS — Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at any time or place, pursuant to resolution of the Board, or to a call signed by the ~~President~~ Board Chair, or any three ~~officers~~ Vice Chairs, or upon written request of one-third (1/3) of the members of the Board. Not less than thirty (30) days written notice of such meeting shall be given to each Director. Notice of any meeting may be waived in writing either before or after such meeting. Attendance by any Director not having received written notice shall be deemed a waiver of such notice unless at the beginning of the meeting or promptly upon the Director's later arrival, the Director objects to holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting because of lack of notice or defective notice and does not thereafter vote for or assent to action taken at the meeting.

- .1 The presence of a majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Ex-officio Directors will not be counted to establish a quorum. Proxy voting is not permitted.
- .2 A summary of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors as approved by the ~~Executive Director~~ Chief Executive Officer and the ~~President~~ Board Chair shall be distributed to the membership within one month of each meeting. Distribution shall be accomplished using the USA Swimming web-site.

504.142 ACTION WITHOUT A MEETING — Action without a meeting may be taken by the Board of Directors if notice as described in this Section 504.142 (the "Notice") is transmitted to each member of the Board of Directors, and each member of the Board of Directors by the time stated in the Notice either votes in writing for or against such action, abstains in writing from voting, fails to respond or vote, or fails to demand in writing that action not be taken without a meeting. The Notice shall state the action to be taken, the time by which a Director must respond, that failure to respond by the time stated in the notice will have the same effect as abstaining in writing by the time stated in the notice and failing to demand in writing by the time stated in the notice that action not be taken without a meeting, and any other matters the Corporation determines to include. Action is taken under this Section 504.142 only if, at the end of the time stated in the Notice, the affirmative votes in writing for such action received and not revoked equal or exceed the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to take such action at a meeting at which all of the Directors then in office were present and voted, and the Corporation has not received a written demand by a Director that such action not be taken without a meeting other than a demand that has been revoked.

A Director's right to demand that action not be taken without a meeting shall be deemed to have been waived unless the Corporation receives such demand from the Director in writing by the time stated in the Notice and such demand has not been revoked. Any Director who in writing has voted, abstained, or demanded action not be taken without a meeting pursuant to this Section 504.142 may revoke such abstention, or demand in writing received by the Corporation by the time stated in the Notice. All communications under this Section 504.142 may be transmitted or received by the Corporation by facsimile, e-mail or other form of electronic communication. Action taken pursuant to this Section 504.142 has the same effect as action taken at a meeting of Directors and may be described as such in any document.

Note: Various housekeeping changes throughout the Rule Book to correct titles and references are considered to be part of this legislation.

R-17 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 130 **503.1 Officers**
Page 135 **506.2 Athletes Committee**
Page 141 **507.1 Organization**

503.1 OFFICERS — All USA Swimming officers, except the Secretary and the Athletes Vice President, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. The elected officers shall be President, Treasurer, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Program Development, Vice President of Program Operations, Technical Vice President and Athletes Vice President.

.1 The Athletes Vice President shall be elected by the Athletes Committee ~~members of the House of Delegates~~.

506.2 ATHLETES COMMITTEE

.1 The Athletes Committee shall be composed of the athlete members of the House of Delegates ~~selected pursuant to 506.2.3 and 507.4~~. The Athletes Vice President shall chair this committee.

507.1 ORGANIZATION

.1 [no changes]

.2 The members of the Athletes Executive Committee and ten (10) National Representatives, five (5) being appointed each year by the Athletes Vice-President and each serving a two (2)-year term, shall be members of the House of Delegates. The National Representatives and their alternates must at the time of their appointment be engaged in senior swimming, or have competed in USA Swimming Championships within five (5) years preceding their appointment. The President may appoint, from a slate of nominees submitted by the Athletes Committee, such further at-large athlete members so as to bring the total athlete representation in the House of Delegates to at least twenty percent (20%).

R-18 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 131 **504.1 General Membership**

504.1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP — Eight (8) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA Swimming and the Secretary (appointed by the Board). Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the ~~House of Delegates~~ ~~respective zones, representing LSCs within each of the four zones~~. The Chair of the National Team Steering Committee shall also be a member.

504.2 ZONE DIRECTORS — Each zone shall have one coach and one non-coach director from the zone as its Zone Representatives, elected at the annual meeting in the following years:

	Coach	Non-Coach
Eastern Zone	Even Years	Odd Years
Southern Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
Central Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
Western Zone	Even Years	Odd Years

- .1 Both coach and non-coach Zone Directors will be elected by the members present at their Zone meeting in the appropriate year.
- .2 Each LSC is entitled to five votes, of which at least one vote must be designated to the LSC Athlete Representative(s). If no Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.
- .3 No director elected to two successive terms is eligible for re-election to that office until after a lapse of two years.
- .4 For the purposes of casting its votes, each LSC may send one or more delegates to the Zone meeting.

- .5 The election of zone members to the Board of Directors shall be based upon the zones in which the proposed Directors maintain their residency.

R-19 ADOPTED/AMENDED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 134 506.1 Committees and Coordinators

506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

- .1 Standing committees of USA Swimming shall be as listed in this Article.
- .2 Except for those individuals who qualify for their positions under some other provision of Article 506:
- A Non-athlete committee members shall serve four-year terms except as noted herein.
- (1) A non-athlete member who accumulates two or more unexcused absences within one calendar year may be removed by the Committee Chair with the consent of the President.
- (2) After a warning from the Committee Chair, a non-athlete member who continues to fail to contribute or fulfill assigned duties in a timely manner may be removed from his/her committee position by the Committee Chair with the consent of the President.
- (3) A member who has been removed shall be notified in writing by the Chair of the committee. The member shall have two weeks to appeal the decision to the USA Swimming Board of Directors.
- B Non-athlete committee members' terms shall be staggered so that one-fourth of all non-athlete members are appointed each year by the President following the annual meeting of the Corporation.
- C Committees other than athletes committees shall consist of volunteer members of USA Swimming who are not voting members of the Board of Directors. The President may appoint voting members of the Board of Directors as Ex-Officio, non-voting members of committees that are normally appointed by the President. Athlete members and non-voting members of the Board of Directors shall be exempt from this rule. [effective August 22, 2016]
- D In the event of a vacancy on a committee caused by any reason, the person/organization responsible for the appointment shall select the person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. If the vacancy occurs in an elected committee position, the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair, shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term. [effective August 22, 2016]
- ~~E Committee members shall be subject to removal prior to the expiration of a term only by the Board of Directors.~~

[re-letter remaining]

R-20 ADOPTED Effective Immediately

Location: Page 134 506.1 Committees and Coordinators

506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

- .1-.4 [no changes]
- .5 The following shall be responsible to the President: Governance Committee and National Board of Review Committee.
- .6-.9 [no changes]
- ~~.10 The following shall be responsible to the Secretary: National Board of Review Committee.~~

[re-number remaining]

R-21 ADOPTED Effective Immediately

Location: Page 138 – **506.6 Governance Committee**

506.6 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

- .1 Membership: The Governance Committee shall consist of eight (8) members appointed by the President, sufficient athlete appointments to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the committee, and the Secretary/General Counsel who shall have voice but no vote. There shall be no current voting members of the Board of Directors appointed to this committee.
- .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth (1/4) of such members are appointed each year.
- .3 Responsibility: The Governance Committee shall:
 - A ~~Be responsible for the review of governance practices by the Board of Directors, the House of Delegates and the various committees~~ Supply educational resources and research, as requested, to improve the governance process; and
 - B ~~Review compliance with the Amateur Sports Act and the U.S. Olympic Committee Constitution and Bylaws; and Consider governance process issues, as directed, and provide options for issue resolution.~~
 - C ~~Be available for mentoring and consulting to the Board of Directors and the committees on the responsibilities and accountabilities of membership on those groups.~~

R-22 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 157 – **604.2 Change in LSC Territory**

604.2 CHANGE IN LSC TERRITORY — If two-thirds (2/3) of the number of clubs in a contiguous area within an LSC wish to affiliate with a neighboring and contiguous LSC, and should the House of Delegates of each LSC by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present approve the change, the change in territorial jurisdiction shall include all Club Members in the contiguous area and shall become effective ~~at the commencement of the fiscal year of USA Swimming~~ no sooner than sixty (60) days following that in which the receipt by the Chair of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee receives of satisfactory evidence of the various votes required. Club Member approval of change in affiliation shall be in accord with the rules of the Club Member and shall be duly certified by the Club Member's president and secretary.

R-23 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017

Location: Page 158 – **Article 605 Zones**

ARTICLE 605 ZONES

605.1 For administrative purposes, USA Swimming has grouped the LSCs ~~shall be combined into contiguous zones as follows~~ into the following zones:

Eastern Zone — Adirondack, Allegheny Mountain, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Metropolitan, Middle Atlantic, New England, New Jersey, Niagara, Potomac Valley, Virginia.

Southern Zone — Border, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Gulf, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Texas, South Carolina, South Texas, Southeastern, West Texas, West Virginia.

Central Zone — Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Lake Erie, Michigan, Midwestern, Minnesota, Missouri Valley, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Ozark, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

Western Zone — Alaska, Arizona, Central California, Colorado, Hawaii, Inland Empire, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Pacific, Pacific Northwest, San Diego-Imperial, Sierra Nevada, Snake River, Southern California, Utah, Wyoming.

605.2 ZONE BYLAWS, ELECTIONS OF DIRECTORS AND VOTING — ~~Each Zone shall adopt its own Bylaws.~~

- .1 Each Zone shall adopt Bylaws which shall govern its affairs and shall be approved by the USA Swimming Secretary/General Counsel or his/her designee.
- .12 ~~See Zone Directors shall be elected in accordance with Article 504.2 for election of the Zone Directors.~~
- .23 On all voting matters, each LSC is entitled to five votes, of which at least one vote must be designated to the LSC Athlete Representative(s). If no Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.

605.3 ZONE DIRECTORS — ~~See 504.2 for election of the Zone Directors.~~

605.43 ZONE MEET ADMINISTRATION — ~~The Zone Age Group Championships, Meet-meets delegated to the Zone in the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations, and any other meets scheduled by the Zone shall be conducted and administered by the Zone.~~

605.54 CHANGE IN ZONE ALIGNMENT — If an LSC by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a meeting of the LSC House of Delegates approves a change moving the LSC from one Zone to another, and if both Zones approve of the change by majority vote of the LSCs in each Zone, that change shall become effective at the close of the next USA Swimming annual meeting at which the USA Swimming House of Delegates shall approve the change. Prior to the vote of the House of Delegates, the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee shall make a recommendation as to approval or disapproval of the proposed change.

R-24 ADOPTED Effective January 1, 2017
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Location: Page 164 – **701.9 Officials**

701.9 OFFICIALS — There should be no fewer than the following officiating positions filled. The positions of Referee, Safety Officer, Finish Judge and Timer shall not be combined with the duties of any other official.

The Referee, Assistant Referee, Administrative Referee, and Starter must have passed the USA Swimming Open Water Referee online test prior to officiating a sanctioned Open Water competition.

Referee	Assistant Referee
Administrative Referee	Announcer
Safety Officer	Medical Officer
Course Officer	Clerk of Course
Starter	Chief Timer and 3 timers
Chief Finish Judge and 2 finish judges	Recorder
Race Judge (one per competitor in escorted races)	
Turn Judge (one at each change in the direction of the course)	

HK-1 ADOPTED Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 38 **102.24 Timing Rules**

102.24 TIMING RULES

.1-3 [no changes]

4 Determining Official Time

- A **Automatic Timing** — When recorded by properly operating automatic timing equipment, the pad time shall be the official time.
- B **Semi-Automatic and Manual Timing** — Whenever semi-automatic 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 or watch times agree, that shall be the time for that timing system.

- (2) If three valid buttons or watches disagree, the time of the intermediate button or watch shall be the time for that timing system.
- (3) If only two valid button or watch times are available, the time shall be the average of those two buttons or the average of the two watch times. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no rounding.
- (4) If only one valid button or 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.

HK-2 ADOPTED Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 63 **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 change]

- 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 A statement of the nature of prizes to be awarded.
 - B Information about water depth measured for a distance of 3 feet 31/2 inches (1.0 meter) to 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from both end walls.
 - C The following statement: "In granting this approval it is understood and agreed that USA Swimming shall be free and held harmless from any liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of the event."
 - D One of the following two statements:
 - (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 The following statement: "Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms."
 - F The following statement: "~~Changing into or out of swimsuits other than in locker rooms or other designated areas is~~ Deck changes are prohibited."

HK-3 ADOPTED Effective Immediately
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Location: Page 139 – **506.9 National Team Steering Committee**

506.9 NATIONAL TEAM STEERING COMMITTEE

.1-.3 [no changes]

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

HK-4 ADOPTED Effective Immediately
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Location: Required LSC Bylaws **604.8 Nominating Committee**

604.8 NOMINATING COMMITTEE —

.1 MEMBERS OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE; ELECTION - The Nominating Committee shall comprise *the Immediate Past General Chair* and not fewer than ~~||five (5)| or |four (4)||~~ Individual Members with a sufficient number of athletes so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee. The Nominating Committee shall be elected annually by the House of Delegates. If the House of Delegates does not act in a timely fashion, the Board of Directors shall elect a Nominating Committee to serve until their successors are elected. A number greater than ~~||five (5)| or |four (4)||~~ may be designated from time to time by either the House of Delegates or the Nominating Committee. Each Nominating Committee member shall be a member of the House of Delegates and no more than two (two-fifths if there are more than five (5) members of the Nominating Committee) shall be ~~||Board Members| or |Executive Committee members||~~. Section 606.6.3 shall apply to members of the Nominating Committee, *but service as the immediate Past General Chair shall not be counted for that purpose*. 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. In no case shall the General Chair serve on the Nominating Committee.