



**Our Kids Initiative  
Business Meeting Minutes  
September 21, 2016**

Jay Thomas called the meeting to order at 9am by reviewing the history and mission of Our Kids Initiatives and welcoming the member organizations and guests.

**In Attendance:**

- **Our Kids Initiative Chair** - Jay Thomas
- **College Swim Coaches Association** - Joel Shinofield
- **FINA** - Carol Zaleski
- **Masters Swimming** – Kathy Casey
- **NCAA** - Brian Gordon
- **NFHS** - Sandy Searcy
- **USA Swimming Officials Chair** – Jim Holcomb
- **USA Swimming VP Program Operations** – Dan McAllen
- **YMCA** - Meredith Griffin

**REVIEW / DISCUSSION OF REPORTS RECEIVED FROM AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS:**

Each member organization provided a written report and addressed key updates:

**FINA**

FINA rule changes occur every four years in conjunction with World Championships. Any federation can submit proposals to change rules. The Technical Committee reviews the submission and makes recommendations. They are voted on by the Congress, where each Federation gets two votes. The next rule change will be in 2017 in Budapest, Hungary.

Currently the only significant proposal is clarification regarding the freestyle leg in the IM.

## **Masters Swimming**

If USA Swimming makes changes USMS will automatically adapt --- if not it must be agreed by a super majority at HOD. USMS is considering 31 changes to the rules involving the Glossary and Part One of the USMS rule book. Some of the rule changes for this year may include:

- Removal of timing system differential to mirror FINA.
- Eliminate bulkhead confirmation for record applications and submissions of top 10 times.
- Eligibility guidelines for transgender swimmer to compete in USMS sanctioned events.
- Adapt FINA language to not allow any records to occur in saltwater pools.

## **NCAA**

This is a rule change year. The rules change process begins in early January. The membership will be solicited for proposals during mid-winter and those proposals will be vetted by the Swimming & Diving Rules committee. Registered officials will also receive the survey. Membership and Committee driven proposals will be compiled on a survey (nonbinding) and will be sent to the membership in mid-late March, 2017. Discussion on proposed changes will also occur at the CSCAA Annual convention in early May in San Diego. The committee will then choose to adopt new rules during their annual spring meeting for inclusion in the next NCAA Swimming & Diving rulebook due out September 1, 2017.

Key NCAA areas that still differ from other rule making bodies:

- The NCAA still allows both “kicking and gliding” into the backstroke turn submersion on the finish.
- The NCAA has not changed it’s rule that does currently permit the “Lochte turn” during the transition from breaststroke to freestyle.
- NCAA does not discriminate on which type of tape is allowed in competition. The NCAA permits tape with documentation prior to the event from a designated health official (physician or ATC) – any type of tape.

Mr. Gordon reported that the NCAA currently has almost 1000 registered officials and that registration is good for the entire rulebook cycle (through 8-31-17). The deadline for applications to officiate at NCAA championship is October 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **NFHS**

Rules are reviewed annually. The US is separated into 8 sessions and 1 person from each section serves every 4 years. The process is to submit rules proposed from the membership. Submissions are then put on a questionnaire where the reps bring it out to their contingency. Once questionnaires are reviewed, rule recommendations are brought to the Board of Directors for approval.

2016-17 Rule Changes:

- Defined Deck Changes and determined the penalty
- Mirror USA Swimming rule regarding timing adjustments
- Clarification of the freestyle portion of the individual medley and the medley relay as it relates to body position. The final leg of these events requires the swimmer to be at or past vertical toward the breast before any stroke, kick or propulsive motion. Pushing off the wall is not considered propulsive movement.

NFHS is currently working on an online official's course for swimming and diving for 2016 and 2017.

The injury report for swimming and diving was very positive. After seven years of collecting data the study indicates that this sport continues to have one of the lowest injury rates.

Final report is due shortly regarding the use of the backstroke ledge. The testing process was completed prior to convention. It showed that there is a difference regarding water depth in using the ledge. When using the ledge, the distance from the end wall to entry is greater. The depth of entry when novices use the ledge is definitely different.

## **USA Swimming**

Jay reported that the deadline for rules proposals is May 15<sup>th</sup> each year. The rules committee meets in June and 1-2 times at convention to review proposals which are then voted on by the HOD. Technical rule changes from FINA are adapted immediately.

## **YMCA**

The YMCA follows USA Swimming rules. The only difference in training are some YMCA components. This past summer the officials training programs were updates to address recent rules changes.

**In closing Jay referred participants to the Our Kids Initiative Website. The website includes a Rules Differences Summary Chart and a Water Depth Summary Chart. He requested that you email him at [jayfthomas@gmail.com](mailto:jayfthomas@gmail.com) if you see any changes that need to be made.**



## NFHS Swimming and Diving Constituent Report

September 21, 2016

### Participation:

Male Schools	7,220
Male Participants	133,470
Female Schools	7,559
Female Participants	166,747

Participation numbers of male and female high school swimming and diving programs have continued to rise. The total number of male and female participants in 2010 was 294,781, which increased to 300,217 in 2015-16.

### 2016-17 NFHS Swimming and Diving Rules Changes

1. **1-5-2, 3-6-1d** - Deck changing is defined as “changing, in whole or in part, into or out of a swimsuit when wearing just one suit in an area other than a permanent or temporary locker room, bathroom, changing room or other space designated for changing purposes.” Any team personnel/competitor involved in deck changing will be assessed a penalty for unsporting conduct, which would disqualify an individual from further participation in a meet. Suits, uniforms and other attire should be put on or removed only in locations designated as “changing” areas.
2. **6-4-1b (1-4)** - Statistical research has shown that the current practice of calculating the average difference between the automatic and backup timing systems, and adjusting the backup time in the malfunctioning lane (s), does not improve the accuracy of the final time. Using the backup times without adjustment results in a final time that is just as accurate and avoids an exercise which is both time-consuming and difficult to perform during a meet.
3. **8-2-4c** - The addition of this language clarifies the freestyle portion of the individual medley and the medley relay as it relates to body position. The final leg of these events requires the swimmer to be at or past vertical toward the breast before any stroke, kick or propulsive motion. Pushing off the wall is not considered propulsive movement.

### NFHS Online Course

The NFHS is working on an official’s course entitled “Officiating Swimming”. The course is being developed in partnership with the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association (NISCA), and will be launched prior to the 2017-18 NFHS seasons. It will cover administration of a swimming contest, learning the basics of officiating the four competitive swimming strokes as well as starts and turns.

### NFHS Injury Report

The NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) utilizes information from the National High School Sports-Related Injury Surveillance Study to monitor rates and patterns of sports injuries among high school student athletes. In its 7<sup>th</sup> year of collecting data for girls and boys swimming and diving, the study indicates that swimming and diving continue to have one of the lowest injury rates of all 20 sports studied, with muscle strain (shoulder and thigh/upper leg) being the most common type of injury.

**NCAA Swimming & Diving  
Our Kids Initiative Meeting  
US Aquatic Sports Convention  
September 2016**

1. There has been no change regarding point of contact, as I will remain in my position as Secretary-Rules Editor until September 1, 2017. There will be two vacancies (one in Division I and one in Division II) at the end of this year on the NCAA Swimming & Diving Rules Committee that the nominations will be solicited from the NCAA membership during the current academic year. As a point of interest, in Division I only Conference offices can nominate an individual (coach or administrator) to an NCAA committee from their conference. In Divisions II and III, individuals can self-nominate themselves to be considered for committee appointments.
2. This will be a rule-change year for the NCAA. The membership will be solicited for proposals during mid-winter and those proposals will be vetted by the Swimming & Diving Rules committee. Membership and Committee driven proposals will be compiled on a survey (non-binding) and that will be sent to the membership in mid-late March, 2017. Discussion on proposed changes will also occur at the CSCAA Annual convention in early May in San Diego. The committee will then choose to adopt new rules during their annual spring meeting for inclusion in the next NCAA Swimming & Diving rulebook due out September 1, 2017.
3. The NCAA does not make rule changes in a non-rule change year therefore there have been no changes since the rulebook was published, September 1, 2015. We will survey the membership on items that we continue to differ from the USA Swimming/FINA rulebooks and will work with Carol Zaleski (FINA) in an attempt to also ascertain what items of mutual interest will be considered at the FINA Congress next summer.
4. Some Key area's that the NCAA does still differ from other rules making bodies:
  - a. The NCAA still allows both "kicking and gliding" into the backstroke turn and submersion on the finish.
  - b. The NCAA has not changed it's rule that does currently permit the "Lochte turn" during the transition from breaststroke to freestyle. This will be addressed this year, but, is due to item #3 as noted above.
  - c. The NCAA does not discriminate on which type of tape is allowed in competition. The NCAA permits tape with documentation prior to the event from a designated health official (physician or ATC) – any type of tape.
5. NCAA Officials Program:
  - a. Currently just shy of 1000 registered officials.
  - b. Initial test results and registration is good through 8/31/2017 – regardless of when test was taken.
  - c. All officials will have to retest after 9/1/2017 when the new rulebook is published.
  - d. Deadline for applying to NCAA Championships for next March is early October

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Gordon  
Secretary-Rules Editor  
NCAA Swimming & Diving Committee  
September 16, 2016

**YMCA of the USA**  
**Competitive Swimming and Diving Program**  
**Report for the 2016 OKI Meeting**  
**September 21, 2016**

**National Championship Meets**

**Short Course**

The YMCA 2016 Short Course Swimming Championships were again held at the Greensboro Aquatic Center in Greensboro, NC on April 4-8, 2016.

Despite our sharply tightened standards, we still hosted over 1,325 swimmers from 208 YMCAs in 28 states across the country from Maine and Florida to Idaho and Washington.

We had almost 3,200 individual splashes and almost 525 relay splashes. In addition, we had more than 1,550 individual splashes in the time trials run in conjunction with the meet. Eight individual and two relay records were broken.

Almost seventy college coaches attended the meet to evaluate potential recruits and to talk with swimmer and parents about their programs.

The YMCA is committed to holding Short Course Nationals in Greensboro for at least one more year (2017), and most likely longer.

**Long Course**

The YMCA 2016 Long Course Swimming Championships were again held at the IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis, IN on July 27-31, 2016.

Due to our sharply tightened standards, and the costs of travel and lodging in Indianapolis, our number of swimmers entered into the meet was down this year. However, we still hosted slightly over 925 swimmers from 113 YMCAs in 22 states across the country from Maine to California.

We had slightly over 2,850 individual splashes and slightly over 350 relay splashes. In addition, we had more than 1,350 individual splashes in the time trials run in conjunction with the meet. Four individual and 2 relay records were broken.

The Long Course Swimming Championships will also be held in Greensboro in 2017 while we search out other suitable facilities.

## **Masters National Invitational Meet**

The Masters National Invitational Meet was again held at the Sarasota YMCA Pool in Sarasota Florida on April 14-17, 2016. We hosted almost 500 swimmers from 52 YMCAs in 21 states from Maine to Washington. Thirty-one individual records were broken (including seven USMS records) and five relay records were broken (including two USMS records).

## **Swim Officials Training**

Over the summer, all of our training programs for officials were updated to reflect recent rules changes and other needed changes. This included adding new working exercises, particularly in our well received Administrative Officials course.

Over the year, we also added six more trainers to our Trainer List. To become a YMCA Swim Officials Trainer over the past several years, a candidate is required to have the requisite on-deck meet experience, beyond dual meets, take two on-line courses dealing with training others and take an eight-hour, in-class Facilitation Skills course designed to make the training more effective and interesting. All of our current Swim Officials Trainers (who presently number 105 Trainers nationally) have also taken these courses, even our most experienced trainers.

Ed Miller  
September 13, 2016





## Report from the United States Masters Swimming (USMS) Rules Committee

Since the June 2016 Rules and Regulations Committee meeting, USMS conducted a successful Nationwide Summer National Championships (long course) at the Mount Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon. We are fortunate to have had the support of experienced USA-Swimming officials at both of our of national championship meets this year.

USMS is considering 31 changes to the rules of competition involving the Glossary and Part One of the USMS rule book. The most significant changes being considered include:

- Elimination of the timing system differential calculation and restructuring of rules involving official time determination and timing system requirements for USMS records and top 10 times.
- Inclusion of “on the back” and “on the breast” in the USMS Glossary and a change to the wording of the breaststroke stroke rule to conform to FINA language.
- Clarification to explicitly permit time trials in USMS sanctioned meets held in 25-yard pools (excluding national championship meets) and to accept times from time trials swum at USA Swimming sanctioned meets.
- Relax requirements for continuous warm-up space for USMS athletes at dual-sanctioned meets with USA Swimming.
- Eliminate the requirement for bulkhead confirmation at USMS sanctioned meets for record applications and submission of top 10 times.
- Eliminate written applications for USMS records for times reported from USMS national championships.

In addition, the Long Distance and Open Water Committee has proposed 67 changes to the rules in part three of the USMS rule book governing long distance and open water events. The most significant proposed changes include:

- Change the age determining date for open water events to the FINA age determining date for masters (December 31).
- Delete the requirement for an independent safety monitor at open water events. (A separate proposal retains and better defines the responsibilities of Safety Directors at open water events.)
- Clarify responsibilities of the referee versus the event director, including disability accommodations and authority to stop a race in certain circumstances.

After a thorough review, we are proposing changes to the guidelines for eligibility of transgender swimmers to compete in USMS sanctioned meets. The policy promotes participation in USMS meets, practices, and other events in accordance with individual gender identity, but separates participation from official time recognition. The proposed revision implements several changes in accordance with the 2016 updated guidelines released by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), but retains a requirement for reassignment surgery in the case of male-to-female athletes in order for official recognition of times and performance. The updated policy guidance will be considered by the USMS House of Delegates at the USMS convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Cockrell  
USMS Rules Committee Chair

**USA SWIMMING**  
**RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**PROPOSED**  
**AMENDMENTS TO 2016 RULES AND REGULATIONS**

No.	Description	Location	Recommendation
R-1	Require meet hosts to accept Deck Pass as proof of a member's registration	Glossary and 202.5.7 (new)	Approval
R-2	To conform with FINA seeding rules for events 400m/y and longer	102.5.1 B, C & D (new)	Approval
R-3	To address the potential safety and safe sport concerns involving the growing use of drones at sporting events	202.4.9 J (new)	Approval
R-4	To clarify a swimmer's representation after competing for a secondary school, college or university	203.4	Approval
R-5	To eliminate membership cards as members can print their own card or prove membership status using Deck Pass	302.2.1 & 502.4.5	Approval
R-6	To clarify the levels of competition in which seasonal athletes and clubs may compete	302.2.3 & 502.3.1 (B)	Approval
R-7	To create a new annual category of Individual Membership, "Pre-Team", intended as an "activity" membership with no eligibility to compete in sanctioned or approved meets	302.2.5 (new), 502.4.2 (E) new & 502.4.3	To be considered at September meeting
R-8	To amend when an LSC may impose a fine for false registration	302.4	Approval
R-9	Require reporting when non-members ranked in the top 100 in the world are present and participate in member club's team activities	303.5	Not yet reviewed
R-10	To eliminate illegal recruiting as a Code of Conduct violation	304.3.17	Rejection
R-11	To clarify the potential penalties that can be assessed if a person or club is found to violate the Code of Conduct for illegal recruiting	304.3.17 A-F (new)	Rejection
R-12	To ensure while traveling that a chaperone or a team manager not related to an athlete cannot share a room or sleeping arrangement with that athlete	305.5.1	Rejection
R-13	To establish a limit on local fees for the Individual Seasonal and Pre-Team membership categories	502.7.1 (B)	To be considered at September meeting
R-14	Governance experts believe that the officers of a non-profit corporation should be the leadership that deals with the day-to-day operations of the organization	Article 503 & Article 504	Not yet reviewed
R-15	To clarify the composition of the Athletes Committee	503.1.1, 506.2.1 & 507.1.2	Approval
R-16	To eliminate the conflict between 504.1 and 504.2	504.1	Approval
R-17	Create a means by which a Committee Chair may remove an absentee or non-contributing Committee Member	506.1.2 A (1)-(3) (new) & 506.1.2 E	Approval
R-18	To maintain the reporting structure of the National Board of Review Committee to volunteer leadership now that the role of Secretary and General Counsel is filled by a staff member	506.1.5 & .10	Approval
R-19	To redefine the responsibilities of the Governance Committee to reflect current practice	506.6.3 A, B & C	Not yet reviewed
R-20	To reflect current Zone practices and require official approval of Zone Bylaws	605.1, 605.2.1 (new) 650.2.2, & 605.3	Not yet reviewed
R-21	To include guidelines for swimmers with disabilities in Open Water competitions	701.24 (new)	Not yet reviewed

Proposed Amendments to Rules & Regulations  
 July 2016

<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
HK-1	To use consistent language when describing button and watch times	102.24.4 B (1) & (4)	Approval
HK-2	To make the wording regarding deck changes consistent with that listed under Requirements for Sanction	202.6.6 F	Approval
HK-3	To correct the title of the National Team Steering Committee policy manual	506.9.4	Not yet reviewed
HK-4	To require 20% athlete membership on the Nominating Committee	Required LSC Bylaws 604.8.1	Approval
RES 1	Dues Change for Individual Seasonal Members		
RES 2	To Establish the Fee for the Pre-Team Membership Category		

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

R-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 1 **Location:** Page 14 – **Official Glossary**  
2 Page 62 – **202.5 Conditions of Sanction**
- 3 **Proposed by:** Registration/Membership Committee
- 4 **Purpose:** To require meet hosts to accept Deck Pass as proof of a member's registration.
- 5 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**OFFICIAL GLOSSARY**

- 7 **DECK PASS** – the official mobile application of USA Swimming.
- 8 **202.5 CONDITIONS OF SANCTION** — Any event for which a sanction is required according to 202.1 is subject to the following  
9 conditions:
- 10 .1-.6 [no changes]
- 11 .7 A current member's Deck Pass is acceptable proof of USA Swimming membership for all purposes
- 12 [re-number remaining]

R-2	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 13 **Location:** Page 26 – **102.5 Seeding, Lane Assignments, Swim-Offs, and Order of Heats**
- 14 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
- 15 **Purpose:** To conform with FINA seeding rules for events 400m/y and longer.
- 16 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 17 **102.5 SEEDING, LANE ASSIGNMENTS, SWIM-OFFS, AND ORDER OF HEATS**
- 18 .1 **Preliminary Heats When Finals are Scheduled** — Entry times shall be listed by the meet committee with the fastest  
19 swimmer first and the slowest swimmer last. Swimmers whose submitted times are identical should be assigned places in  
20 the list by draw. Swimmers with no submitted times shall be considered the slowest and shall be placed at the end of the list  
21 by draw. Swimmers shall be seeded in lanes under the procedure outlined for finals seeding in 102.5. Swimmers shall be  
22 seeded in heats according to submitted times in the following manner:
- 23 **A Fewer than three heats**
- 24 (1) If there is only one heat, it shall be swum as scheduled during the preliminaries and finals.
- 25 (2) If there are two heats, the fastest swimmer shall be seeded in the second heat, next fastest in the first heat,  
26 next fastest in the second heat, next in the first heat, next in the second heat, next in the first heat, etc.
- 27 **B Three heats** — Except for 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, ~~the~~ fastest swimmer shall be placed in  
28 the third heat, next fastest in the second, next in the first. The fourth fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat,  
29 the fifth in the second heat, and the sixth fastest in the first heat, the seventh fastest in the third heat, etc.
- 30 **C Four heats or more** — Except for 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, ~~the~~ last three heats of an  
31 event shall be seeded in accordance with B above. The heat preceding the last three heats shall consist of the next  
32 fastest swimmers; the heat preceding the last four heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers, etc. Lanes shall be

- 33 assigned in descending order of submitted times within each heat, in accordance with the pattern outlined in 102.5.  
34 D For 400m/500y, 800m/1000y and 1500m/1650y events, the last two heats of an event shall be seeded in accordance  
35 with 102.5.1 A (2).  
36 DE **Exception** — When there are two or more heats in an event, there shall be a minimum of three swimmers seeded into  
37 any one preliminary heat, but subsequent scratches may reduce the number of swimmers in such heat to less than  
38 three.

R-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 39 **Location:** Page 60 – **202.4 Requirements for Sanction**  
40 **Proposed by:** Operational Risk Committee  
41 **Purpose:** To address the potential safety and safe sport concerns involving the growing use of drones at sporting  
42 events.  
43 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*  
44 **202.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTION** — Sanctions are issued, withheld or withdrawn in accordance with the following  
45 regulations:  
46 .1-.8 [no changes]  
47 .9 Application for sanction must be accompanied by a copy of the complete meet announcement which must include the  
48 following:  
49 A-1 [no changes]  
50 J The following statement: “Unless approved in writing in advance of the competition by the Vice President of Program  
51 Operations, operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas,  
52 spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present.” With  
53 written approval, this statement may be removed from the meet announcement.  
54 [re-letter remaining]

R-4	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 55 **Location:** Page 67 – **Article 203 Representation**  
56 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee  
57 **Purpose:** To clarify a swimmer’s representation after competing for a secondary school, college or university.  
58 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

**ARTICLE 203  
REPRESENTATION**

- 61 **203.1-3** [no changes]  
62 **203.4** A swimmer registered with a USA Swimming non-school club who wishes to compete for a secondary school, college or  
63 university shall be automatically released without notice by his/her club upon commencement of his/her season to compete for  
64 that school in school competition, and upon termination of such school swimming season he/she shall be immediately eligible to  
65 represent the same USA Swimming non-school club, of his/her choice. Should the swimmer choose to represent a different USA  
66 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  
67 ascertain his/her compliance with scholastic governing bodies’ rules and regulations.

R-5	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 68 **Location:** Page 100 – **302.2 Membership**  
69 Page 128 – **502.4 Individual Membership**
- 70 **Proposed by:** Registration/Membership Committee
- 71 **Purpose:** To eliminate membership cards as members can print their own card or prove membership status using  
72 Deck Pass.
- 73 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 74 **302.2 MEMBERSHIP** — Athlete membership will consist of an annual membership, an outreach membership, a seasonal  
75 membership, or a single-meet open water membership.
- 76 .1 **Annual Membership** — Membership is for a calendar year. Non-members applying for membership on or after September  
77 1 will be issued a membership card valid through December 31 of the following year.
- 78 **502.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**
- 79 .1-.4 [no changes]
- 80 .5 Each class of membership (except life membership, seasonal membership and single-meet open water membership) is for  
81 a calendar year period. Individuals applying for calendar year membership on or after September 1 will receive  
82 membership credentials valid through December 31 of the following year.
- 83 .6 An LSC shall not impose requirements for Individual Membership in addition to those set forth in Article 502. An LSC may  
84 require proof of birth date prior to competition in age classified events.

R-6	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 85 **Location:** Page 100 – **302.2 Membership**  
86 Page 128 – **502.3 Group Membership**
- 87 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors
- 88 **Purpose:** To clarify the levels of competition in which seasonal clubs and athletes may not compete.
- 89 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 90 **Effective Date:** January 1, 2017
- 91 **302.2 MEMBERSHIP** — Athlete membership will consist of an annual membership, an outreach membership, a seasonal  
92 membership, or a single-meet open water membership.
- 93 .1-.2 [no changes]
- 94 .3 **Individual Seasonal Membership** — At the option of the LSC, membership may be offered for one or two periods of not  
95 more than 150 days per period within a registration year. Seasonal membership may also be offered for an unspecified but  
96 continuous period of not more than 150 days commencing on the date of registration. Seasonal membership is not valid for  
97 competition at or above the Sectional and Zone Championship levels.
- 98 **502.3 GROUP MEMBERSHIP**
- 99 .1 Club Membership
- 100 A Club membership is for a calendar year. A club applying for membership on or after September 1 will receive  
101 membership valid through December 31 of the following year.
- 102 B An LSC may provide for a seasonal club membership for the period established by the LSC pursuant to 302.2.3.  
103 Seasonal clubs may not ~~compete~~ be represented at or above the Sectional and Zone Championship levels.
- 104 C An LSC shall not impose requirements for Club Membership in addition to those set forth in Article 502.
- 105 .2 [no changes]

R-7	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 106 **Location:** Page 100 – **302.2 Membership**  
107 Page 128 – **502.4 Individual Membership**
- 108 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors
- 109 **Purpose:** To create a new annual category of Individual Membership, “Pre-Team”, intended as an “activity”  
110 membership with no eligibility to compete in sanctioned or approved meets.
- 111 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee will consider the proposal after the Board of Directors votes on the*  
112 *proposal.*
- 113 **Effective Date:** September 1, 2017
- 114 **302.2 MEMBERSHIP** — Athlete membership will consist of an annual membership, an outreach membership, a seasonal  
115 membership, ~~or a single-meet open water membership, or a pre-team membership.~~
- 116 .1 **Annual Membership** — Membership is for a calendar year. Non-members applying for membership on or after September  
117 1 will be issued a membership card valid through December 31 of the following year.
- 118 .2 **Outreach Membership** — Annual membership with specially reduced fees. Each LSC House of Delegates shall determine  
119 how athletes qualify for outreach membership.
- 120 .3 **Individual Seasonal Membership** — At the option of the LSC, membership may be offered for one or two periods of not  
121 more than 150 days per period within a registration year. Seasonal membership may also be offered for an unspecified but  
122 continuous period of not more than 150 days commencing on the date of registration. Seasonal membership is not valid for  
123 competition at or above the Zone Championship level.
- 124 .4 **Single-Meet Open Water Membership** — At the option of the LSC, membership may be offered for the specific date(s) of  
125 an open water competition(s). The swimmer must compete unattached. Single-meet membership is not valid for competition  
126 at or above the Zone Championship meet.
- 127 .5 **Pre-Team** – Annual membership with no eligibility to compete in sanctioned or approved meets.
- 128 **502.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**
- 129 .1 Any individual may join USA Swimming as a member.
- 130 .2 Athlete membership consists of ~~four~~ five categories:
- 131 A Annual (LSCs are required to offer this membership)
- 132 B Outreach (LSCs are required to offer this membership)
- 133 C Individual Seasonal (offered at option of LSC)
- 134 D Single Meet Open Water (offered at option of LSC)
- 135 E Pre-Team (LSCs are required to offer this membership)
- 136 .3 Except for members in the Pre-Team category, all Athlete members who register with an LSC and USA Swimming are  
137 eligible for Sanctioned or Approved swimming competition. An athlete member shall not be registered in more than one  
138 LSC simultaneously.
- 139 .4-6 [no changes]

R-8	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 140 **Location:** Page 100 – **Article 302.4 False Registration**
- 141 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee and Registration / Membership Committee
- 142 **Purpose:** To amend when an LSC may impose a fine for false registration.
- 143 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 144 **302.4 FALSE REGISTRATION** — If a swimmer who is not properly registered with USA Swimming competes in a sanctioned

145 ~~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~~  
146 ~~club submitting a meet the entry, which indicates a swimmer is registered with USA Swimming when that swimmer or the listed~~  
147 ~~club is not properly registered. The host LSC will be entitled to any fines imposed.~~

R-9	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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148 **Location:** Page 101 – **Article 303 Eligibility**  
149 **Proposed by:** International Relations Committee and Board of Directors  
150 **Purpose:** To assist USA Swimming, USADA and WADA with anti-doping efforts by requiring clubs and coaches to  
151 report when non-members ranked in the top 100 in the world are training with them.  
152 **Recommendation:** The Rules and Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this item.

### ARTICLE 303

#### ELIGIBILITY

155 **303.1-4** [no changes]

156 **303.5** No Individual Member or Group Member of USA Swimming shall coach, train or provide swimming-related advice or  
157 service to any swimmer who is serving a period of ineligibility or provisional suspension for an anti-doping rule violation.

158 In accordance with policies and procedures in the USA Swimming Policy Manual, Individual and Group Members are required to  
159 report the presence of any non-member of USA Swimming who is ranked in the top 100 in the world and participate in team  
160 activities.

R-10	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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161 **Location:** Page 102 – **Article 304 Code of Conduct**  
162 **Proposed by:** Clark Hammond – Southern Zone Director (Non-Coach)  
163 **Purpose:** To eliminate illegal recruiting as a violation of the Code of Conduct with the intent to create a free and open  
164 marketplace for teams and coaches.  
165 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection because rampant recruitment would be a*  
166 *major distraction to athletes, coaches and teams and not within the philosophy of USA Swimming.*

### ARTICLE 304

#### CODE OF CONDUCT

169 **304.3.1-.16** [no changes]

170 ~~.17 Action, other than through general advertising, by a coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative, or employee of a swim~~  
171 ~~club, or a USA Swimming or LSC employee, either through direct contact with an athlete or the encouragement of others, to~~  
172 ~~recruit or otherwise encourage an athlete who is already a member of a USA Swimming member swim club to leave that~~  
173 ~~club, unless the acting party receives prior written approval to recruit or encourage the athlete to change affiliation from the~~  
174 ~~designated club representative of the athlete's existing USA Swimming member swim club or contact is initiated by the~~  
175 ~~athlete, the athlete's parent or authorized representative. General advertising includes any information that is:~~

176 ~~A Distributed to an identifiable general population where there is a reasonable expectation that the majority of that~~  
177 ~~population are not current members of USA Swimming, or~~

178 ~~B Placed in or on any item that is sold.~~

179 ~~In the event of a violation of this section, a sanction may be imposed against any coach, owner, officer, volunteer,~~  
180 ~~representative or employee of a swim club, or against any such club, or any combination thereof, as appropriate.~~

181 [re-number remaining]



R-11	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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**This item will be withdrawn if R-10 is adopted.**

182 **Location:** Page 102 – **Article 304 Code of Conduct**  
183 **Proposed by:** Clark Hammond – Southern Zone Director (Non-Coach)  
184 **Purpose:** To clarify the potential penalties that can be assessed if a person or club is found to violate the Code of  
185 Conduct for illegal recruiting.  
186 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection as Article 404 currently outlines remedies and*  
187 *penalties for Board of Review findings. The proposal is a duplication of current rulebook articles.*

**ARTICLE 304**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT**

190 **304.3.1-.16** [no changes]

191 .17 Action, other than through general advertising, by a coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative, or employee of a swim  
192 club, or a USA Swimming or LSC employee, either through direct contact with an athlete or the encouragement of others, to  
193 recruit or otherwise encourage an athlete who is already a member of a USA Swimming member swim club to leave that  
194 club, unless the acting party receives prior written approval to recruit or encourage the athlete to change affiliation from the  
195 designated club representative of the athlete's existing USA Swimming-member swim club or contact is initiated by the  
196 athlete, the athlete's parent or authorized representative. General advertising includes any information that is: ~~A~~ Distributed  
197 to an identifiable general population where there is a reasonable expectation that the majority of that population are not  
198 current members of USA Swimming, or ~~B~~ placed in or on any item that is sold.

199 In the event of a violation of this section, ~~a~~ the following sanctions (or any combination thereof) may be imposed against any  
200 coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative or employee of a swim club, ~~or any combination~~  
201 ~~thereof, as appropriate.~~

202 A a warning to cease and desist the illegal recruiting,

203 B the assessment of monetary penalty against the offending person and/or club not to exceed the sum of \$1,000 for the first  
204 offense (and not to exceed \$5,000 for any subsequent violation) payable to the USA Swimming to be used for Safe Sport  
205 education,

206 C temporary suspension of the offending person and/or club from participation or involvement in any sanctioned, approved  
207 or observed meets,

208 D temporary denial of the uploading of times of the offending person and/or club arising from an approved or observed  
209 meet,

210 E temporary suspension of the offending person's or club's membership in USA Swimming, or

211 F such other sanction deemed appropriate under the circumstances. In the event the offending person and/or club  
212 repeatedly violates this provision, after receiving an official cease and desist warning or other sanction, then such person  
213 or club may be subject to more severe sanctions, including termination of membership in USA Swimming.

R-12	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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214 **Location:** Page 105 – **305.5 Travel**

215 **Proposed by:** Murphy Freal – Potomac Valley Swimming

216 **Purpose:** To ensure while traveling that a chaperone or a team manager not related to an athlete cannot share a room  
217 or sleeping arrangement with that athlete.

218 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee recommends rejection as it is in conflict with USA Swimming's*  
219 *current Best Practice Guidelines.*

220 **305.5 Travel**

221 .1 Regardless of gender, a coach, chaperone, or team manager shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement  
222 with an athlete unless the coach, chaperone, or team manager is the parent, guardian, sibling, or spouse of that particular  
223 athlete.

R-13	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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224 **Location:** Page 129 – **502.7 Fees**  
225 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors  
226 **Purpose:** To establish a limit on local fees for the Individual Season and Pre-Team membership categories.  
227 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee will consider the proposal after the Board of Directors votes on the*  
228 *proposal.*  
229 **Effective Date:** September 1, 2017

230 **502.7 FEES**

231 .1 The annual fee for each class of membership is composed of the following elements:  
232 A A national fee established by the Board of Directors and House of Delegates; and  
233 B A local fee established by the LSC, except in the case of Outreach Membership, all seasonal athletes, and Pre-Team  
234 membership categories, where a local fee not to exceed \$2 may be established.  
235 .2 An LSC may charge a fee for transfers.

R-14	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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236 **Location:** Page 130 **Article 503**  
237 Page 131 **Article 504**  
238 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors  
239 **Purpose:** Governance experts believe that the officers of a non-profit corporation should be the leadership that deals  
240 with the day-to-day operations of the organization.  
241 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this proposal.*  
242 **Effective Date:** January 1, 2017

**ARTICLE 503**  
**OFFICERS**

245 **503.1 OFFICERS** —~~All USA Swimming officers, except the Secretary and the Athletes Vice President, shall be elected by the~~  
246 ~~House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even numbered years. The elected officers shall be President, Treasurer, Vice~~  
247 ~~President of Administration, Vice President of Program Development, Vice President of Program Operations, Technical Vice~~  
248 ~~President and Athletes Vice President.~~

249 ~~.1 The Athletes Vice President shall be elected by the Athletes Committee members of the House of Delegates.~~

250 .1 The President & CEO is the chief executive officer of USA Swimming. The President & CEO shall have all the duties  
251 incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the Board of Directors; and those specified in the USA Swimming  
252 Policy Manual. The President & CEO shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. For international purposes, the  
253 President & CEO shall be recognized as the Secretary General of USA Swimming.

254 .2 The Vice President & COO is the chief operating officer of USA Swimming. The Vice President & COO shall have all the  
255 duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the President & CEO; and shall perform the duties of and have  
256 the authority and exercise the power of the President & CEO when the President & CEO is absent or incapacitated. The  
257 Vice President & COO shall serve at the pleasure of the President & CEO.

258 .3 The Treasurer & CFO is the chief financial officer of USA Swimming. The Treasurer & CFO shall have all the duties  
259 incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the President & CEO; those specified in the USA Swimming Policy  
260 Manual or specifically set forth in 508.2 of these Bylaws. The Treasurer & CFO shall serve at the pleasure of the President  
261 & CEO.

262 .4 The Secretary & General Counsel is the chief legal officer of USA Swimming. The Secretary & General Counsel shall have  
263 all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the President & CEO; and, in addition, shall be  
264 responsible for the legal affairs of USA Swimming under the direction of the Board of Directors and the President & CEO.  
265 The Secretary & General Counsel shall have voice but no vote in any of the affairs of USA Swimming. The Secretary &  
266 General Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of the President & CEO.

### 267 **503.2 VICE PRESIDENTS**

268 ~~.1 The vice presidents of USA Swimming shall chair their respective divisions, and shall be responsible for their respective~~  
269 ~~committees, as set forth in Article 506 and the USA Swimming Policy Manual.~~

270 ~~.2 Whenever the President is unable to perform his/her duties, the Vice President of Administration shall perform the duties.~~

271 ~~.3 The Technical Vice President must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as~~  
272 ~~a coach at a Junior, Sectional, or National Championships.~~

273 ~~**503.3 TREASURER** — The Treasurer shall have all the duties incident to that office; those specifically assigned by the Board of~~  
274 ~~Directors; those specified in the USA Swimming Policy Manual or specifically set forth in 508.2 of these Bylaws.~~

275 ~~**503.4 SECRETARY** — The Secretary of USA Swimming shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall serve at the~~  
276 ~~pleasure of the Board. The Secretary shall perform such duties as is customary for such office, and, in addition, shall be~~  
277 ~~responsible for the legal affairs of USA Swimming under the direction of the Board. The Secretary shall have voice but no vote~~  
278 ~~in any of the affairs of USA Swimming.~~

279 ~~**503.5 DUTIES OF OFFICERS** — The officers shall perform such duties as set forth in these Bylaws, or as may be assigned to~~  
280 ~~them by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors.~~

281 ~~**503.6 TERM OF OFFICE** — The elected officers shall hold office for two years or until their successors are elected and~~  
282 ~~qualified. Their term of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are~~  
283 ~~elected. Each officer is eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms. An individual may hold only one~~  
284 ~~elective office at any one time. No person so elected for successive terms is eligible for re-election to the same office until after~~  
285 ~~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~~  
286 ~~vacancy in the office shall not be considered in the computation of time for this purpose).~~

287 ~~**503.7 VACANCIES** — Any vacancy that may occur in an office of USA Swimming caused by death, resignation, incapacity or~~  
288 ~~other reason, may be filled permanently or temporarily by the President with the consent of the Executive Committee to fill out~~  
289 ~~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~~  
290 ~~temporary vacancy. An appointment to fill a permanent or temporary vacancy shall be with the full rights of the office.~~

## 291 **ARTICLE 504**

### 292 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

293 ~~**504.1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP** — Eight (8) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA Swimming (i) the elected~~  
294 ~~Board Chair; (ii) the six (6) elected Vice Chairs; and (iii) the Secretary & General Counsel (appointed by the Board). In addition,~~  
295 ~~Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the House of Delegates, representing LSCs within each of the~~  
296 ~~four zones, pursuant to Article 504.3. The Chair of the National Team Steering Committee shall also be a member.~~

297 ~~**504.2 BOARD CHAIR AND VICE CHAIRS** – The USA Swimming Board Chair and all Vice Chairs, except the Athletes Vice~~  
298 ~~Chair, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. The elected Chairs shall~~  
299 ~~be the Board Chair, Finance Vice Chair, Vice Chair of Administration, Vice Chair of Program Development, Vice Chair of~~  
300 ~~Program Operations, Technical Vice Chair and Athletes Vice Chair. The Athletes Vice Chair shall be elected by the Athletes~~  
301 ~~Committee of the House of Delegates.~~

302 ~~.1 USA Swimming shall have a Board Chair who shall preside at all meetings of the Board. The Board Chair shall see that all~~  
303 ~~orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect. The Board Chair shall perform such other duties and have such~~  
304 ~~other authority and powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.~~

305 ~~.2 The Vice Chairs of USA Swimming shall chair their respective divisions, and shall be responsible for their respective~~  
306 ~~committees, as set forth in Article 506 and the USA Swimming Policy Manual.~~

307 .3 Whenever the Board Chair is unable to perform his/her duties, the Vice Chair of Administration shall perform the duties.

308 .4 The Technical Vice Chair must be a coach member of USA Swimming and shall have been credentialed and served as a  
309 coach at a Junior, Sectional or National Championships.

310 .5 The Board Chair and Vice Chairs shall perform such duties as set forth in these Bylaws, or as may be assigned to the, by  
311 the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors.

312 **504.23 ZONE DIRECTORS** — Each zone shall have one coach and one non-coach director from the zone as its Zone  
313 Representatives, elected at the annual meeting in the following years:

	<b>Coach</b>	<b>Non-Coach</b>
314 Eastern Zone	Even Years	Odd Years
315 Southern Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
316 Central Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
317 Western Zone	Even Years	Odd Years

319 .1 Both coach and non-coach Zone Directors will be elected by the members present at their Zone meeting in the appropriate  
320 year.

321 .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  
322 Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.

323 .3 No director elected to two successive terms is eligible for re-election to that office until after a lapse of two years.

324 .4 For the purposes of casting its votes, each LSC may send one or more delegates to the Zone meeting.

325 .5 The election of zone members to the Board of Directors shall be based upon the zones in which the proposed Directors  
326 maintain their residency.

327 **504.34 ATHLETE REPRESENTATION** — The Athletes Committee shall elect to the Board of Directors that number of Athlete  
328 Directors necessary to assure that not less than twenty percent (20%) of the voting Directors are athletes. Athlete Directors need  
329 not themselves be athlete representatives, but must at the time of their election be actively engaged in swimming competition or  
330 have represented the United States in international competition within the ten (10) years preceding their election. Two of these  
331 Athlete Directors shall be the Athletes Vice ~~President~~ Chair and the Athletes ~~Executive Deputy~~ Vice Chair. The Athletes  
332 Committee may also elect not more than five (5) alternate Athlete Directors. In the event that a regular Athlete Director is unable  
333 to attend or otherwise participate in a regular activity of the Board of Directors, an alternate Athlete Director may serve in the  
334 place of the regular Athlete Director and shall, for the limited duration of that activity, enjoy all the rights, privileges and duties  
335 enjoyed by the regular Athlete Director.

336 **504.45 ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER REPRESENTATION** — Any organization which is a member of USA Swimming pursuant  
337 to 502.3, and which conducts, on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of swimmers to represent the United States  
338 in international swimming competition, a national program or regular national athletic competition, and ensures that such  
339 representation shall reflect the nature, scope, quality and strength of the programs and competitions of such sports organization  
340 in relation to all other such programs and competition in the sport of swimming in the United States, shall be eligible to name a  
341 Director. The Board of Directors or its designee shall determine whether an organization satisfies the criteria of this Article.

342 **504.56 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS** — The immediate Past President or Board Chair (as applicable) of USA Swimming shall be an  
343 ex-officio member with voice but no vote. Additional ex-officio members may be appointed by the Board to serve at the pleasure  
344 of the Board with voice but no vote. An ex-officio member who fails to attend at least two regularly scheduled meetings of the  
345 Board per year shall forfeit his/her seat on the Board.

346 **504.67 TERM OF OFFICE** — Directors shall hold office for two years, through the annual meeting in even-numbered years, or  
347 until their successors are elected and qualified, except that Zone Directors shall hold staggered terms of office pursuant to  
348 504.23. Their term of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are  
349 elected. Each Director is eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms. An individual may hold only one  
350 elective office at any one time. No person so elected for successive terms is eligible for re-election to the same office until after  
351 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  
352 vacancy in the office shall not be considered in the computation of time for this purpose).

353 **504.78 REMOVAL OF OFFICERS OR DIRECTORS** — ~~Any elected or appointed Officer or~~ Director of USA Swimming who has  
354 failed to attend to his or her official duties or responsibilities or has done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty for  
355 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

356 National Board of Review pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, in an action authorized by a two-  
357 thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Board of Directors. Any appeal of the Decision of the National Board of  
358 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  
359 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  
360 Directors.

361 **504.89 VACANCIES** — Any vacancy that may occur on the Board of Directors caused by death, resignation, incapacity or other  
362 reason may be filled permanently or temporarily by a majority vote of the remaining members until the zone, organization, or  
363 committee concerned shall have elected or selected a permanent or temporary successor. A permanent successor shall fill the  
364 unexpired term of the vacant office. A temporary appointment shall serve for only such time as is necessary for either the  
365 appointing authority to replace the vacant office or until the temporary incapacity is cured. An appointment to fill a permanent or  
366 temporary vacancy shall be with full rights of the office.

367 **504.910 AUTHORITY** — The USA Swimming Board of Directors shall have the authority to act for the USA Swimming House of  
368 Delegates between meetings of the House, except that it cannot amend the Rules and Regulations. The Board shall have the  
369 emergency power to adopt, revoke and amend any rule or regulation in the Rules and Regulations if the Board with the advice  
370 and consent of the Operational Risk Committee, the Rules & Regulations Committee and legal counsel, shall determine that  
371 safety considerations so require. A technical rule which is also a FINA rule, may not be revoked or amended. An action taken  
372 under this emergency provision shall be effective until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. The ~~President~~ Board Chair  
373 shall make a fully detailed report including findings of fact to the entire membership of the House of Delegates (as last certified)  
374 within thirty (30) days of the action taken.

375 **504.101 MEETINGS** — Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at any time or place, pursuant to resolution of the Board,  
376 or ~~to~~ by a call signed by the ~~President~~ Board Chair, or any three ~~officers~~ Vice Chairs, or upon written request of one-third (1/3) of  
377 the members of the Board. Not less than thirty (30) days written notice of such meeting shall be given to each Director. Notice of  
378 any meeting may be waived in writing either before or after such meeting. Attendance by any Director not having received written  
379 notice shall be deemed a waiver of such notice unless at the beginning of the meeting or promptly upon the Director's later  
380 arrival, the Director objects to holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting because of lack of notice or defective  
381 notice and does not thereafter vote for or assent to action taken at the meeting.

382 .1 The presence of a majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Ex-officio  
383 Directors will not be counted to establish a quorum. Proxy voting is not permitted.

384 .2 A summary of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors as approved by the ~~Executive Director~~ President &  
385 CEO and the ~~President~~ Board Chair shall be distributed to the membership within one month of each meeting. Distribution  
386 shall be accomplished using the USA Swimming web-site.

387 **504.142 ACTION WITHOUT A MEETING** — Action without a meeting may be taken by the Board of Directors if notice as  
388 described in this Section 504.142 (the "Notice") is transmitted to each member of the Board of Directors, and each member of  
389 the Board of Directors by the time stated in the Notice either votes in writing for or against such action, abstains in writing from  
390 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  
391 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  
392 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  
393 notice that action not be taken without a meeting, and any other matters the Corporation determines to include. Action is taken  
394 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  
395 received and not revoked equal or exceed the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to take such action at a  
396 meeting at which all of the Directors then in office were present and voted, and the Corporation has not received a written  
397 demand by a Director that such action not be taken without a meeting other than a demand that has been revoked.

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

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

R-15	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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407 **Location:** Page 130 **503.1 Officers**  
 408 Page 135 **506.2 Athletes Committee**  
 409 Page 141 **507.1 Organization**

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

411 **Purpose:** To clarify the composition of the Athletes Committee.

412 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

413 **503.1 OFFICERS** — All USA Swimming officers, except the Secretary and the Athletes Vice President, shall be elected by the  
 414 House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. The elected officers shall be President, Treasurer, Vice  
 415 President of Administration, Vice President of Program Development, Vice President of Program Operations, Technical Vice  
 416 President and Athletes Vice President.

417 .1 The Athletes Vice President shall be elected by the Athletes Committee ~~members of the House of Delegates.~~

418 **506.2 ATHLETES COMMITTEE**

419 .1 The Athletes Committee shall be composed of the athlete members of the House of Delegates ~~selected pursuant to 506.2.3~~  
 420 ~~and 507.1.~~ The Athletes Vice President shall chair this committee.

421 **507.1 ORGANIZATION**

422 .1 [no changes]

423 .2 The members of the Athletes Executive Committee and ten (10) National Representatives, five (5) being appointed each  
 424 year by the Athletes Vice-President and each serving a two (2)-year term, shall be members of the House of Delegates. The  
 425 National Representatives and their alternates must at the time of their appointment be engaged in senior swimming, or have  
 426 competed in USA Swimming Championships within five (5) years preceding their appointment. The President may appoint,  
 427 from a slate of nominees submitted by the Athletes Committee, such further at-large athlete members so as to bring the  
 428 total athlete representation in the House of Delegates to at least twenty percent (20%).

R-16	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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429 **Location:** Page 131 **504.1 General Membership**

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

431 **Purpose:** To eliminate the conflict between 504.1 and 504.2.

432 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

433 **504.1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP** — Eight (8) Directors shall be the seven (7) elected officers of USA Swimming and the  
 434 Secretary (appointed by the Board). Two (2) Directors shall be elected from each zone by members of the ~~House of Delegates~~  
 435 ~~respective zones, representing LSCs within each of the four zones.~~ The Chair of the National Team Steering Committee shall  
 436 also be a member.

437 **504.2 ZONE DIRECTORS** — Each zone shall have one coach and one non-coach director from the zone as its Zone  
 438 Representatives, elected at the annual meeting in the following years:

	<b>Coach</b>	<b>Non-Coach</b>
439 Eastern Zone	Even Years	Odd Years
440 Southern Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
441 Central Zone	Odd Years	Even Years
442 Western Zone	Even Years	Odd Years

444 .1 Both coach and non-coach Zone Directors will be elected by the members present at their Zone meeting in the appropriate  
 445 year.

- 446 .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  
447 Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.
- 448 .3 No director elected to two successive terms is eligible for re-election to that office until after a lapse of two years.
- 449 .4 For the purposes of casting its votes, each LSC may send one or more delegates to the Zone meeting.
- 450 .5 The election of zone members to the Board of Directors shall be based upon the zones in which the proposed Directors  
451 maintain their residency.

R-17	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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452 **Location:** Page 134 **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**

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

454 **Purpose:** Four years is a long time to go with a committee member who fails to attend meetings or otherwise  
455 contribute. Practically speaking, few chairs want to go through the unpleasantness of asking the Board to  
456 remove such a member. This legislation seeks to make the removal automatic and allow for the appointment  
457 of someone who will contribute. It is likely that those who are not attending the meetings or contributing in  
458 some capacity will not bother appealing their removal.

459 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*

#### 460 **506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS**

- 461 .1 Standing committees of USA Swimming shall be as listed in this Article.
- 462 .2 Except for those individuals who qualify for their positions under some other provision of Article 506:
- 463 A Non-athlete committee members shall serve four-year terms except as noted herein.
- 464 (1) A non-athlete member who accumulates more than two unexcused absences shall forfeit his/her committee  
465 position. The President shall appoint another non-athlete to fill the remainder of the term.
- 466 (2) After a warning from the Committee Chair, a non-athlete member who continues to fail to contribute or fulfill  
467 assigned duties in a timely manner shall forfeit his/her committee position. The President shall appoint another  
468 non-athlete to fill the remainder of the term.
- 469 (3) A member who is considered to have forfeited his/her committee position shall be notified in writing by the Chair of  
470 the committee. The member shall have two weeks to appeal the decision to the USA Swimming Board of  
471 Directors.
- 472 B Non-athlete committee members' terms shall be staggered so that one-fourth of all non-athlete members are appointed  
473 each year by the President following the annual meeting of the Corporation.
- 474 C Committees other than athletes committees shall consist of volunteer members of USA Swimming who are not voting  
475 members of the Board of Directors. The President may appoint voting members of the Board of Directors as Ex-Officio,  
476 non-voting members of committees that are normally appointed by the President. Athlete members and non-voting  
477 members of the Board of Directors shall be exempt from this rule. [effective August 22, 2016]
- 478 D In the event of a vacancy on a committee caused by any reason, the person/organization responsible for the  
479 appointment shall select the person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. If the vacancy occurs in an elected  
480 committee position, the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair, shall appoint a replacement to serve the  
481 remainder of the term. [effective August 22, 2016]
- 482 ~~E Committee members shall be subject to removal prior to the expiration of a term only by the Board of Directors.~~
- 483 [re-letter remaining]

R-18	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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484 **Location:** Page 134 **506.1 Committees and Coordinators**

- 485 **Proposed by:** Board of Directors  
486 **Purpose:** To maintain the reporting structure of the National Board of Review Committee to volunteer leadership as the  
487 role of Secretary and General Counsel is now filled by a staff member.  
488 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*  
489 **Effective Date:** Immediately  
490 **506.1 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS**  
491 .1-.4 [no changes]  
492 .5 The following shall be responsible to the President: Governance Committee and National Board of Review Committee.  
493 .6-.9 [no changes]  
494 ~~.10 The following shall be responsible to the Secretary: National Board of Review Committee.~~  
495 [re-number remaining]

R-19	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 496 **Location:** Page 138 – **506.6 Governance Committee**  
497 **Proposed by:** Governance Committee and Board of Directors  
498 **Purpose:** To redefine the responsibilities of the Governance Committee to reflect current practice.  
499 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this proposal.*  
500 **Effective Date:** Immediately  
501 **506.6 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**  
502 .1 Membership: The Governance Committee shall consist of eight (8) members appointed by the President, sufficient athlete  
503 appointments to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the committee, and the  
504 Secretary/General Counsel who shall have voice but no vote. There shall be no current voting members of the Board of  
505 Directors appointed to this committee.  
506 .2 Each non-athlete member shall serve a four-year term, staggered so that one-fourth (1/4) of such members are appointed  
507 each year.  
508 .3 Responsibility: The Governance Committee shall:  
509 A ~~Be responsible for the review of governance practices by the Board of Directors, the House of Delegates and the various~~  
510 ~~committees~~ Supply educational resources and research, as requested, to improve the governance process; and  
511 B ~~Review compliance with the Amateur Sports Act and the U.S. Olympic Committee Constitution and Bylaws; and~~  
512 Consider governance process issues, as directed, and provide options for issue resolution.  
513 C ~~Be available for mentoring and consulting to the Board of Directors and the committees on the responsibilities and~~  
514 ~~accountabilities of membership on those groups.~~

R-20	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 515 **Location:** Page 158 – **Article 605 Zones**  
516 **Proposed by:** Clark Hammond – Southern Zone Director (Non-Coach)  
517 **Purpose:** To reflect current Zone practices and require Executive Committee approval for Zone Bylaws as the Zones  
518 are not separate legal entities from USA Swimming.  
519 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this proposal.*

**ARTICLE 605**



- 521 **ZONES**
- 522 **605.1** For administrative purposes, USA Swimming has combined the LSCs shall be combined into contiguous zones as follows  
523 into the following zones:
- 524 **Eastern Zone** — Adirondack, Allegheny Mountain, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Metropolitan, Middle Atlantic, New England,  
525 New Jersey, Niagara, Potomac Valley, Virginia.
- 526 **Southern Zone** — Border, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Gulf, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, North  
527 Texas, South Carolina, South Texas, Southeastern, West Texas, West Virginia.
- 528 **Central Zone** — Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Lake Erie, Michigan, Midwestern, Minnesota, Missouri Valley, North Dakota,  
529 Ohio, Oklahoma, Ozark, South Dakota, Wisconsin.
- 530 **Western Zone** — Alaska, Arizona, Central California, Colorado, Hawaii, Inland Empire, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Pacific,  
531 Pacific Northwest, San Diego-Imperial, Sierra Nevada, Snake River, Southern California, Utah, Wyoming.
- 532 **605.2 ZONE BYLAWS, ELECTIONS OF DIRECTORS AND VOTING** — ~~Each Zone shall adopt its own Bylaws.~~
- 533 .1 Each Zone shall adopt Bylaws which shall govern its affairs and shall be approved by the USA Swimming Secretary/General  
534 Counsel or his/her designee.
- 535 .42 See Zone Directors shall be elected in accordance with Article 504.2 for election of the Zone Directors.
- 536 .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  
537 Representative(s). If no Athlete Representative is present, the LSC shall cast only four votes.
- 538 **605.3 ZONE DIRECTORS** — ~~See 504.2 for election of the Zone Directors.~~
- 539 **605.43 ZONE MEET ADMINISTRATION** — ~~The Zone Age Group Championships, Meet-meets delegated to the Zone in the~~  
540 USA Swimming Rules & Regulations, and any other meets scheduled by the Zone shall be conducted and administered by the  
541 Zone.
- 542 **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  
543 House of Delegates approves a change moving the LSC from one Zone to another, and if both Zones approve of the change by  
544 majority vote of the LSCs in each Zone, that change shall become effective at the close of the next USA Swimming annual  
545 meeting at which the USA Swimming House of Delegates shall approve the change. Prior to the vote of the House of Delegates,  
546 the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee shall make a recommendation as to approval or disapproval of the proposed  
547 change.

R-21	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 548 **Location:** Page 167 – (new) **701.24 Swimmers with Disabilities**
- 549 **Proposed by:** Disability Swimming Committee
- 550 **Purpose:** To include recommendations for swimmers with disabilities in Open Water competitions.
- 551 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this proposal.*
- 552 **701.24 SWIMMERS WITH DISABLITLITES**
- 553 .1 Authority – The USA Swimming Rules & Regulations grant the Referee authority to modify any rule or race management  
554 procedure for a swimmer with a disability. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that  
555 substantially limits one or more major life activities. Any such modification shall affect only the current event and does not  
556 set precedent.
- 557 .2 Responsibilities
- 558 A Swimmer—The swimmer (or the swimmer’s coach) is responsible for notifying the Referee, prior to the competition, of  
559 any disability of the athlete and of the requested modification. The swimmer/coach shall provide any assistant(s) or  
560 equipment if required.
- 561 B Referee—The Referee’s responsibilities include:

- 562 (1) Determining if the requested modifications are appropriate and conform to safety requirements. No modifications  
563 shall be granted which gives a swimmer a competitive advantage.
- 564 (2) Instructing the Starter and all Judges as to the accommodations to be made for that swimmer.
- 565 C **Coaches** — Coaches and teams entering swimmers with disabilities that require any accommodations shall provide  
566 advance notice in writing to the meet director by the entry deadline. Failure to provide advance notice may limit the  
567 host's ability to accommodate all requests.

HK-1	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 568 **Location:** Page 38 **102.24 Timing Rules**
- 569 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
- 570 **Purpose:** To use consistent language when describing button and watch times.
- 571 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 572 **102.24 TIMING RULES**
- 573 .1-3 [no changes]
- 574 **4 Determining Official Time**
- 575 A **Automatic Timing** — When recorded by properly operating automatic timing equipment, the pad time shall be the  
576 official time.
- 577 B **Semi-Automatic and Manual Timing** — Whenever semi-automatic or manual timing is used, only valid times shall be  
578 used in calculating the official time. The times shall be determined as follows:
- 579 (1) If two of the three valid button or watch times agree, that shall be the time for that timing system.
- 580 (2) If three valid buttons or watches disagree, the time of the intermediate button or watch shall be the time for that  
581 timing system.
- 582 (3) If only two valid button or watch times are available, the time shall be the average of those two buttons or the  
583 average of the two watch times. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no  
584 rounding.
- 585 (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  
586 system provided it is supported by other information.

HK-2	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 587 **Location:** Page 63 **202.6 Requirements for Approval**
- 588 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
- 589 **Purpose:** To make the wording regarding deck changes consistent with that listed under Requirements for Sanction.
- 590 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 591 **202.6 REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL** — Approval of competition may be issued, withheld or withdrawn by an LSC in  
592 accordance with the following regulations:
- 593 .1-5 [no change]
- 594 .6 Written application for approval shall be made not later than the period established by the LSC prior to the competition. The  
595 LSC may establish a fee for processing such applications. Application for approval shall be accompanied by the meet  
596 announcement which shall include the following:
- 597 A A statement of the nature of prizes to be awarded.

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- 598 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)  
599 from both end walls.
- 600 C The following statement: "In granting this approval it is understood and agreed that USA Swimming shall be free and held  
601 harmless from any liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of the  
602 event."
- 603 D One of the following two statements:
- 604 (1) The competition course has been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4). The copy of such certification is on file  
605 with USA Swimming; or
- 606 (2) The competition course has not been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4).
- 607 E The following statement: "Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted in changing  
608 areas, rest rooms or locker rooms."
- 609 F The following statement: "~~Changing into or out of swimsuits other than in locker rooms or other designated areas is~~ Deck  
610 changes are prohibited."

HK-3	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 611 **Location:** Page 139 – **506.9 National Team Steering Committee**
- 612 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
- 613 **Purpose:** To correct the title of the National Team Steering Committee policy manual.
- 614 **Recommendation:** *The Rules and Regulations Committee has not yet reviewed this proposal.*
- 615 **506.9 NATIONAL TEAM STEERING COMMITTEE**
- 616 .1-3 [no changes]
- 617 .4 Operation: The National Team Steering Committee shall operate according to policies adopted and published in the  
618 ~~National Team Policy~~ Steering Committee Manual.

HK-4	ACTION:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Pulled
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- 619 **Location:** Required LSC Bylaws **604.8 Nominating Committee**
- 620 **Proposed by:** Rules and Regulations Committee
- 621 **Purpose:** This section was inadvertently left out last year when the committee memberships were clarified. The  
622 Nominating Committee must also have a minimum of 20% athlete representation.
- 623 **Recommendation:** *The Rules & Regulations Committee recommends approval.*
- 624 604.8 NOMINATING COMMITTEE —
- 625 .1 MEMBERS OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE; ELECTION - The Nominating Committee shall comprise *the*  
626 *Immediate Past General Chair* and not fewer than ~~||five (5)|~~ **or** ~~four (4)|~~ Individual Members with a  
627 sufficient number of athletes so as to constitute twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of  
628 the Committee. The Nominating Committee shall be elected annually by the House of Delegates. If  
629 the House of Delegates does not act in a timely fashion, the Board of Directors shall elect a  
630 Nominating Committee to serve until their successors are elected. A number greater than ~~||five (5)|~~  
631 **or** ~~four|~~ may be designated from time to time by either the House of Delegates or the Nominating  
632 Committee. Each Nominating Committee member shall be a member of the House of Delegates and  
633 no more than two (two-fifths if there are more than five (5) members of the Nominating Committee)  
634 shall be ~~||Board Members|~~ **or** ~~|Executive Committee members|~~. Section 606.6.3 shall apply to  
635 members of the Nominating Committee, *but service as the immediate Past General Chair shall not*  
636 *be counted for that purpose.* If any member of the Nominating Committee resigns or otherwise

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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.

**RESOLUTION  
REGARDING DUES CHANGE FOR INDIVIDUAL SEASONAL MEMBERS**

**WHEREAS**, USA Swimming desires to continue to *Build the Base* by growing and expanding participation at all levels of the sport.

**WHEREAS**, the number of Individual Seasonal members has declined 30% over the past 15 years.

**WHEREAS**, USA Swimming desires to provide a price competitive partial-year membership option.

**WHEREAS**, USA Swimming desires to provide an attractive membership option for summer league programs.

**WHEREAS**, the USA Swimming Board of Directors has approved the proposal to reduce the dues for Individual Seasonal members.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the USA Swimming House of Delegates approve a new membership fee, within the range of \$9-15 per season, for Individual Seasonal membership effective January 1, 2017.

**RESOLUTION  
TO ESTABLISH THE FEE FOR THE PRE-TEAM MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY**

**WHEREAS**, USA Swimming desires to continue to *Build the Base* by growing and expanding participation at all levels of the sport.

**WHEREAS**, many USA Swimming teams already offer a low commitment, pre-competitive swimming program.

**WHEREAS**, USA Swimming desires to provide a membership option for participants in these pre-competitive programs.

**WHEREAS**, the creation of a Pre-Team membership category would provide an effective bridge to annual membership.

**WHEREAS**, the USA Swimming Board of Directors supports the development of a Pre-Team membership category and has proposed legislation to create that category.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the USA Swimming House of Delegates approve a membership fee within the range of \$7-12 per year for the Pre-Team category effective September 1, 2017.