

Proposed Changes to the USMS Rules of Competition

The following proposals have been submitted, in accordance with section 601.2, to the Rules Committee for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2006 Convention.

R1 102.5 p. 20 **Oregon** Modify and Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled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

In planning

Any of the following events may be conducted. Any events listed in 102.5.1 or 102.5.2 that are conducted must be offered for all groups and both genders. For long distance events, see article 302.

102.5.3 – 25 Yard/Meter Events

Any swimmer of either gender 75 years or older may be offered 25 yard/meter events in all four strokes.

Rationale: Older swimmers usually do not have a true sprint event because it takes them longer than 45 seconds or a minute to swim a 50 yard/meter event. Adding this event as an option for meet hosts to offer allows those older swimmers to truly strut their sprinting abilities just as any younger athlete can do! If the Olympians can swim 50s, our older Masters should be allowed to swim 25s. Any sections then referring to records and Top 10 would have to include these 25 yard/meter events.

R2 103.13.4 p.38 **Pacific Northwest** Add and renumber the rest

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.13.4 – Only those results from events conducted in pools that meet the *minimum pool length requirement* (minus 0.00 meter/yard) in all lanes used in competition shall be acceptable for record applications or Top 10 submissions.

Rational: 103.13.3 states that official times to establish records and Top 10 times can be achieved only with the timing methods as listed and neglects to mention anywhere in Article 103.13, “Official Time”, that such official times must also be performed in regulation length pools. The above language is similar to 105.1.5, page 48 (requirements for records and top 10 times).

R3 104.4.2 p.40 **Championship** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.4.2 – Payments

Successful bidders of national championship meets shall pay to United States Masters Swimming Inc., no later than 10 days prior to the beginning of the meet, a fee of \$10 per individual entrant in the meet. Upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the meet contract, the sum of ~~\$2~~ \$3 per entrant shall be returned as stipulated in the contract. Noncompliance with said conditions, as determined by the meet evaluation committee within 30 days of the receipt of the final meet report, shall result in forfeiture of part or all of this amount. ~~An additional amount of up to \$1 per entrant may be returned for outstanding performance by the host.~~

Rationale: Every meet host works hard to host a national championship meet, and the meet evaluation committee has NEVER denied this \$1 for outstanding performance. So it really means very little and should be lumped in with the other \$2 reimbursement, all of which will still be returned to the Host for an outstanding job.

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R4 104.5.2A p.42 **Championship** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.2A – Meet schedules (2008-2011)

(See the attachment with six proposed meet schedules for national championship meets.)

Rationale: See 104.5.2B(4), p. 43. Three meet schedules will be selected by a vote of the House of Delegates and those three schedules will apply to the rotation of meet schedules for national championship meets beginning in 2008.

R5 104.5.4A(1) p. 44 **Championship** Modify

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

A Eligibility/affiliation

(1) **USMS Membership** – USMS individual membership numbers and club names and abbreviations must be submitted on all entry forms together with entry times. “No Time” for swimming events will not be permitted, and “Pending” (except for 18-year-olds) for membership number will not be permitted. An 18-year-old may register for USMS membership at the championship venue on the day prior to the beginning of competition and must be 18 by that date.

Rationale: We have included 18-year-olds in our competition, but, due to the fact that 18-year-olds cannot register for USMS until they are actually 18, we could not allow a swimmer turning 18 between the entry deadline and the actual start of nationals to enter nationals. By allowing *only* 18-year-olds to register for USMS at the meet (on the warm-up day so that our insurance will be in effect), we will look like a welcoming organization to these young swimmers.

R6 104.5.4B(2) p.44 **Championship** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.4B – Entry Form

(2) **Distribution of entry form** – The entry form for individual events and all meet information shall be published in an official USMS publication and on the USMS website at no cost to the meet host. Short course nationals information shall be published in the January-February issue and long course nationals information shall be published in the May-June issue. The individual and relay entry forms and any additional information the host desires shall be posted in the USMS website as soon as the entry form and information are available ~~and~~ or no later than five months prior to the first day of the meet.

Rational: While the goal is to have this information ready for distribution by five months before the meet, there have been times when that has not happened. Changing the “and” to “or” is more consistent with what happens sometimes.

R7 104.5.5B(3) p. 46 **Championship** Modify

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

B Distance events

(3) For any ~~freestyle~~ event 400 yards/meters or longer, men and women may be seeded together at the discretion of the Championship Committee. Competitors of the same gender may be required to swim two-to-a-lane in the distance freestyle events if the meet day is projected to last longer than 12 hours.

Rationale: We now allow nationals meet directors to seed the 400 through 1650 freestyles men and women together. This proposal would allow the meet director to seed men and women together in the 400 IM (a big time saver) but would not allow two-to-a-lane in that event.

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R8 105.1.5 p.48 Pacific Northwest Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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105.1.5 – ~~Publication of Records~~ Acceptable Times

Only those ~~R~~results from events conducted in pools that ~~do not~~ meet the *minimum* pool length requirement (minus 0.00 meter/yard) in all lanes used in competition shall ~~not~~ be acceptable for record applications or Top 10 submissions.

Rationale: 1. The current title does not accurately reflect the content of 105.1.5, making it difficult to find this particular rule. 2. State the requirements for acceptable times in the positive rather than the negative. 3. Add “/yard” to make it clear that the “0.00 meter” dimensional tolerance applies to 25-yard pools also. In nearly all cases in the rule book, each measurement is listed in both metric and U.S. equivalents.