



# Rules and Regulations

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~~Notes to reviewers:~~

~~I have used "strikeout" to indicate text to be removed or replaced~~

~~Red font indicates updates or changes~~

~~**Green font** is either an explanation to reviewers (which will be removed before the R&R are approved) or I have gotten stuck and need guidance as to what to put here.~~

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## SECTION 1

### **ZONE DESCRIPTIONS—DEFINITION, BOUNDARIES and MEET AUTONOMY**

**A. Zones** - Pacific Swimming is responsible for promoting the sport of swimming over a large geographical region stretching north of the Oregon border, east through part of the state of Nevada near Reno, south through Monterey County, and west to the Pacific Ocean. This region is comprised of many different and diverse communities, with a wide spectrum of demographics. In order to better serve the local communities, Pacific is divided into 5 zones within this region. The definitions of the 5 Zones are described below. The swimming needs of these distinctly different local communities are best served by allowing these 5 Zones the ability to develop procedures and processes that can best address their unique and specific demographics. The roles and responsibilities of the Zones are listed below.

#### **B. Geographic Definition**

1. Zone 1 North – County of San Mateo and County of Santa Clara north of Highway 9 and west of Mathilda Avenue/Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road/De Anza Boulevard/Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road
2. Zone 1 South - County of Santa Clara south of Highway 9 and east of Mathilda Avenue/Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road/De Anza Boulevard/Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road, and counties of San Benito, Santa Cruz and Monterey
3. Zone 2 - Counties of Contra Costa and Alameda and all of the area of Pacific Swimming in the State of California lying east of the counties of Contra Costa, Alameda and Santa Clara, except the counties of Alpine and El Dorado and communities of Bishop and Mammoth Lakes
4. Zone 3 - Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, San Francisco, and the portions of Solano County south of Highway 12, including the communities of Vallejo and Benicia and excluding the communities of Fairfield, Suisun City, and Rio Vista
5. Zone 4 - All the area of Pacific Swimming lying in the State of Nevada, the counties of Alpine and El Dorado and the communities of Bishop and Mammoth Lakes, California

#### **C. Governing Body/Zone Structure**

1. Each Zone will establish a Board of Directors and conduct meetings. The minutes of these meetings will be reported to the Pacific Swimming Board of Directors and posted to the Pacific Swimming website. The Zone Chairs and Zone Athlete Representatives are members of the Pacific Swimming Board of Directors.

#### **D. Bylaws**

1. Each Zone shall establish its own Bylaws in addition to the LSC Bylaws to better describe or address specific Zone needs. The Zone Bylaws shall not be in conflict with the Bylaws of Pacific Swimming or USA Swimming.

#### **E. Elections**

1. The Zone will establish rules for the elections of the Zone Officers and the terms for the Zone Officers.

#### **F. Budget**

1. Each Zone shall establish an annual budget to guide the operation of the Zone. Financial practices by the Zone shall follow generally accepted accounting principles.

## G. Policies and Procedures

1. The Zone shall establish Policies and Procedures to govern Zone operations. Each Zone shall develop and establish its own governing process provided that such process is not in conflict with Pacific or USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

## H. Meets and Sanctions

1. Each Zone shall define its Zone meet formats and establish a Zone meet schedule with a defined host assignment process. The Zone shall be responsible for team assignment to meets, team priority for meets, and the meet Sanction requirements that are specific to the Zone.

## I. Scheduling

1. Zones shall facilitate the scheduling and awarding of meets within their geographical boundaries except:
  - a. On days that are reserved by the LSC for the purpose of holding essential functions.
  - b. Zone meets scheduled on the same weekend as LSC Far Western and JO meets must have a lower time standards i.e. FW(-) and JO(-) time.

## J. Zone Meet Autonomy

1. Eligibility of athletes and conduct of meets shall conform to Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations except as follows:
  - a. Zones may restrict entry to residents of the zones in certain meets.
  - b. Meet time standards may be set by the Zone.
  - c. Meet format may be set by the Zone.
  - d. Zone meets shall be reviewed and approved by the meet referee and Zone Sanction Chair prior to submission to Pacific Swimming Sanction Chair for final approval.
  - e. Zones may make their own policies regarding restrictions to be applied to their athletes.
  - f. Each Zone may set their own requirements for minimum number of officials required per club for Zone meets, except that this requirement must meet or exceed the requirement set by USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Each Zone may determine and enforce a penalty for noncompliance with this policy.

## K. Zone Representatives

1. Each Zone is responsible for appointing and/or electing Zone representatives to LSC committees such as the Nominating Committee, Officials Committee, Scheduling Committee, Athlete Committees and other standing or ad hoc LSC committees when Zone representation is required or desired. Zone athlete representatives also shall be nominated and approved by the Zone. Zone Officials Chairs shall be appointed by the respective Zone Chairs with the approval of the Zone Board and the concurrence of the General Chair and the LSC Officials Chair.

## L. Duties of the Zone Officials Chair

1. The Zone Officials Chair shall:
  - a. Schedule and conduct training clinics in the Zone.

- b. Maintain a list of trained officials, including qualifications of these people based on experience, performance, and interest.
- c. Assign qualified officials to Zone scheduled and sanctioned meets as needed.
- d. Assist the LSC Officials Chair and meet directors in obtaining qualified officials suitable to the needs of scheduled LSC meets.

#### **M. Meet and Office Equipment**

1. Each Zone may purchase and maintain office equipment to support Zone functions plus Meet Equipment to support Zone Teams in hosting swim meets.

#### **N. Fines or Penalty**

1. Each Zone may determine and levy penalties or fines on Zone Teams and/or members who violate Zone Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and/or agreed upon processes and procedures. Such fines or penalty shall be clearly established and agreed to by a majority vote of the Zone Board.

~~**A. Zone Definition**—A Zone is an administrative subunit (committee) of the Pacific Swimming which represents the interests of the LSC within its their geographical boundaries. Zones have the authority to set policies and procedures as described in Section E below which are not otherwise reserved to the LSC.~~

~~**B. Zone Boundaries**—Pacific Swimming is divided into five (5) geographical areas.~~

1. ~~Zone 1 North—San Mateo County, and north Santa Clara County~~
2. ~~Zone 1 South—South Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, San Benito County and Monterey County~~
3. ~~Zone 2—Alameda County, Contra Costa County, and the greater Stockton/Modesto area~~
4. ~~Zone 3—San Francisco city and County, Marin County, Sonoma County, Napa County, Western Solano County, Mendocino County, Lake County, Humboldt County and Del Norte County~~
5. ~~Zone 4—Reno/Carson City/Lake Tahoe Area, and the cities of Mammoth Lakes and Bishop, CA~~

~~**C.** Each Zone will establish a Board of Directors and conduct meetings. The minutes of these meetings will be reported to the Pacific Swimming Board of Directors. The Zone Chairs and Zone Athlete Representative are members of Pacific Swimming Board of Directors.~~

~~**D.** The Zones shall each promote the sport of swimming within their geographical boundary and shall for this purpose establish an operating budget and maintain operating reserves.~~

#### ~~**E. Zone Meet Autonomy**~~

1. ~~Zones shall facilitate the scheduling and awarding of meets within their geographical boundaries except:~~
  - a. ~~on days that are reserved by the LSC for the purpose of holding essential functions.~~
  - b. ~~when scheduled on the same weekend as an LSC awarded age group meet (except specialized meets such as the 10 Under Championship meet and the Zone Challenge meet) in the same Zone(?)<sup>(1)</sup>, the time standards for the Zone meet must be slower than that of the LSC meet scheduled for that weekend.~~

2. Eligibility of athletes and conduct of meets shall conform to Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations except as follows:
- a. Zones may restrict entry to residents of the zones in certain meets.
  - b. Meet time standards may be set by the Zone
  - c. Meet format may be set by the Zone
  - d. Zone meets shall be reviewed and approved by the meet referee and Zone Sanction Chair prior to submission to Pacific Swimming Sanction Chair for final approval.
  - e. Zones may make their own policies regarding restrictions to be applied to their athletes.
  - f. Each Zone may set its their own requirements for minimum number of officials required per club for Zone meets except that this requirement must meet or exceed the requirement set by USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Each Zone may determine and enforce a penalty for noncompliance with this policy.

## SECTION 2

### MEMBERSHIP CLASSES AND THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES<sup>[MOU2][D3]</sup>

#### A. Membership

A.—As defined in the Pacific Swimming Bylaws consists of the clubs, organizations and individuals who have registered with Pacific Swimming as set forth in the USA Swimming Corporate Bylaws, including the optional categories of seasonal athlete membership, seasonal club membership, flex membership, and single event open water athlete membership.

#### 1.

#### A.B. House of Delegates - The House of Delegates of Pacific Swimming shall consist of:

1. Group Member Representatives in good standing.
2. Board of Director Members
3. Following Committee Chairs and Coordinators
  - a. Club Development Committee
  - b. Governance Committee
  - c. Administrative Review Board
  - d. Scheduling
  - e. Open Water
4. Non-Athlete At-Large House Members (appointed or elected)
- 5.—Athlete At-Large House Members -(appointed or elected<sup>[CB4]</sup>)

#### 5.



## SECTION 1 3

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE SWIMMING PROGRAM

#### A. Registration and Membership

##### 1. Categories

- a. All athletes who participate in practices with member clubs or meets sanctioned by Pacific Swimming shall be registered with USA Swimming as athlete members.
- b. All coaches who are on deck at practices and/or meets shall be registered with USA Swimming as coach members and shall meet special training requirements to qualify for coach membership as required by USA Swimming.
- c. All officials and other non-athlete members shall complete all required training and certifications (including but not limited to [d5] criminal background checks and athlete protection education) as by USA Swimming and/or State and local [d6] authorities.
- d. In order to meet the requirements for club membership, the club shall have at least one coach member and one athlete member. All meet directors, ~~and~~ deck officials, Board members, employees, and owners of member clubs of Pacific Swimming, and its zones shall be non-athlete members in accordance with USA Swimming guidelines.

##### 2. Registration Periods

- a. Athletes may register for a full year, a summer season and/or a fall season. They are offered a single continuous 30-day try out period when first joining USA Swimming, during which time registration is not required. The period ends after thirty (30) days or upon submitting an entry for a meet, whichever is earlier.

##### 3. Applications

##### ~~3. Applications~~

- a. ~~A designated Pacific Swimming Membership Manager staff member will~~ The Registration and Membership Chairs Pacific Swimming Membership Manager shall handle athlete registration, non-athlete membership and club membership.
- b. Club names and abbreviations shall be approved per Pacific Swimming's Policies and Procedures.
- c. All registration and membership forms are available on the Pacific Swimming website including directions on how to complete them. ~~The current official form(s) may be obtained from the Chair (which Chair is this? General Chair? Registration Chair?).~~
- d. Refunds of duplicate registrations/memberships will be made upon approval of the Chair ~~designated Pacific Swimming staffer.~~ Pacific Swimming Membership Manager.

##### 4. \_\_\_\_\_

##### 4. Registration and Membership Fees

- a. The Registration fee for a Premium Athlete membership shall be the USA Swimming Premium Athlete registration fee plus \$18.00.
- b. The Registration fee for a Seasonal Athlete membership shall be the USA Swimming Seasonal Athlete registration fee plus \$15.00.
- c. The Registration fee for an Outreach Athlete membership shall be the USA Swimming Outreach Athlete registration fee.
- d. The Registration fee for a Coach Non-Athlete membership shall be the USA Swimming Non-Athlete registration fee plus \$18.00.
- e. The Registration fee for an Official and Other Non-Coach/Non-Athlete membership shall be the USA Swimming Non-Athlete registration fee plus \$8.
- f. The Registration fee for an Outreach Non-Coach/Non-Athlete membership shall be \$5.00.
- g. The membership fee for an Annual Club shall be the USA Swimming Annual Club membership fee plus \$155.00.
- h. The membership fee for a Seasonal Club shall be the USA Swimming Seasonal Club membership fee plus \$100.00.
- i. The membership fee for an Outreach Club shall be the USA Swimming Annual Club membership fee. An Outreach Club shall be designated annually if the Outreach membership is twenty percent (20%) of the total athlete membership during the previous or prior swim year.

## 5. Transfers and Changes

- a. An athlete who changes clubs, intra-LSC or inter-LSC, shall wait for 120 days after his/her last competition representing the old club before representing the new club in competition. The athlete shall compete as an unattached athlete during the 120-day period.
- b. The athlete shall notify the Registration Chair of the date of last competition with the old club by completing a transfer form.
- c. Pacific Swimming shall charge a \$15 fee for all athlete transfers between two clubs withing Pacific Swimming. Outreach athlete are exempt from this fee.

## 56. High School/College Competition

- a. California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) does not penalize USA Swimming members for swimming attached to their local swim clubs during high school season for the Sectionals and National Championship meets. However, the CIF does require that in any other USA Swimming or Pacific Swimming meet held during the high school club season, athletes shall compete unattached. It is the CIF athlete's responsibility to be unattached for these meets.

## 67. Responsibility

- The club shall ensure that all of its athletes, coaches, officials, Board members, employees, owners, and meet directors are members of USA Swimming in accordance with USA Swimming guidelines. The meet

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director shall ensure that all athletes, coaches and officials participating in a meet are members of USA Swimming.

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a.

## B. Classes and Time Standards

### 1. Classes of Swimming Competition

a. Swimming competition shall be conducted by various classes of swim meets:

(1) Senior

(2) Age-Group — 18 years of age and younger, grouped by ages

i. Age-group meets, with time standards, may offer events grouped by ages or by any combination of ages. Athletes shall qualify at the time standards for their own age group, or if no standards exist for their age group, at the standard for the next oldest age group for their gender where the event is included. Athletes 19 and over shall qualify at 17-18 age-group time standards.

ii. Age group meets, without time standards, may offer events grouped by age or by any combination of ages.

(3) Open Water

### 2. Time Standards

a. Time standards are used to regulate the qualifying of athletes for a given class of competition and are set by Age-Group and Senior Chairs in accordance with Pacific Swimming's Policies and Procedures.

b. Time standards may be found in the Time Standards section of the Pacific Swimming website.

~~c. Special qualifying times are used as time standards for selected championship meets.~~

dc. Times achieved at an altitude of 3,000 feet or more may be adjusted as provided by the USA Swimming Policies for the purpose of entering any Pacific Swimming meet in which the entered time is subject to verification.

ed. Special consideration time is the time standard used to select the team which represents Pacific Swimming at any All Star meet.

fe. Zone Championships, League Championships, and City and State Championships may set their own qualifying times.

## C. Scheduling

### 1. Scheduling of Meets

a. A schedule of meets for the ensuing swim season shall be proposed by the Scheduling Committee for approval by the Board of Directors. The Scheduling Committee may propose the procedures for clubs applying for to host Pacific Swimming meets and limitations on the scheduling of zone autonomy meets.

b. All meets on the combined list of Pacific Swimming and Zone-awarded meets shall be recognized as swim meets under the jurisdiction of Pacific Swimming.

c. Pacific Swimming meets shall be awarded to clubs applying for them by a special committee consisting of the Scheduling Chair (who shall be Chair of this awarding committee), Pacific Swimming Sanctions, Vice Chair- Program Development, Officials Chair, Senior Chair, Age Group Chair, the five Zone Chairs (or their designees), Athlete Representative(s) and such other persons as the General Chair shall determine.

d. Notice of intention to cancel a scheduled Pacific Swimming meet shall be given to the Chair of the Scheduling Committee as per Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.

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**D. Sanctions**

1. Sanctioned Meet

- a. All USA Swimming events, whether they are competitive meets or exhibitions, shall be sanctioned. All clubs and/or leagues shall be a member of USA Swimming to be eligible to host a sanctioned meet.
- b. All organizations and athletes participating in a sanctioned meet shall be members in good standing of USA Swimming. Sanction fees for each class of meet can be found in the Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
- c. Any ~~Club~~ Club-organization in a LSC adjoining the territory of Pacific Swimming shall be permitted to hold a meet at a pool within the territory of Pacific Swimming subject to the approval of the pool owner, any Pacific Swimming club located in the vicinity of the pool, and the Pacific Swimming Board of Directors or Executive Committee. Said meet shall be sanctioned and operated under ~~the theusing (I don't understand this — under the Club's LSC? Pacific Swimming?) Pacific Swimming LSC's LSC's~~ rules.
- d. Any Pacific Swimming organization shall be permitted to hold a meet at a pool within the territory of [D7] another LSC subject to the approval of the pool owner, Pacific Swimming Board of Directors or Committee and the LSC in whose jurisdiction the meet will be held. Said meet shall be sanctioned and operated under the rules of the LSC in whose jurisdiction the meet will be held.
- e. Any Pacific Swimming organization in one Zone shall be permitted to hold a meet at a pool within the [D8] territory of Pacific Swimming subject to the approval of the pool owner, any Pacific Swimming club located in the vicinity of the pool, and the Board of Directors or Executive Committee of the Zone in which the meet will be held. Said meet shall be sanctioned and operated under Pacific Swimming rules.

2. Approved Meet

- a. An approved meet is a designated meet conducted by either USA Swimming or ~~non-USA~~ non-USA Swimming organizations, which includes non-USA Swimming athletes as participants. Participating USA Swimming athletes may use their times as USA Swimming qualifying times.
- b. Approvals may be issued to member clubs for open competition conducted in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules if that competition has been specifically approved by the USA Swimming Program Operations Vice-President or his/her designee. Approved meet processing fees can be found in the Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
- c. Approval or disapproval of the meet by the Pacific Swimming National Times Verification (NTV) Officer shall be made after the meet has been held. The decision shall be based on the report of the meet referee, NTV officer, or other designated official as to whether the conduct of the competition conformed to USA Swimming standards.
- d. Approved meets are subject to the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.
- e. Complete official results of an approved meet shall be furnished to the Pacific Swimming NTV Officer.

3. Observed Meet

- 369 a. Swims may be observed by assigned USA Swimming or YMCA officials for conformance with USA  
370 Swimming technical rules in a meet conducted under non-USA Swimming technical rules. Official times  
371 achieved at observed swims may be submitted for entry into the SWIMS database if all of the following  
372 conditions are met.
- 373 b. The meet shall be a season-culminating Championship, e.g., League, Conference, District, Sectional,  
374 State, Regional, or be specifically approved by the USA Swimming Program Operations Vice President or  
375 designee. A time trial held in conjunction with the season-culminating championship meet that is  
376 officiated in accordance with the same standard as the championship meet may also be observed.  
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379 **E. Pacific Swimming Records and Awards**

380 1. Records

- 381 a. Pacific Swimming records may be set at any USA Swimming sanctioned, approved, observed meet, or  
382 sanctioned time trial. The record time shall appear in the results of the meet or time trial, and with the  
383 exception of records in ~~25-yard~~25-yard events, shall appear in the USA Swimming SWIMS database.
- 384 b. Pacific Swimming has two sets of records for 17-18 and senior swimmers. Pacific Swimming Senior  
385 Program records may be set by 17-18 age group and senior Pacific Swimming athletes whose date of  
386 first registration in Pacific Swimming is prior to Sept. 1 of the calendar year in which the athlete  
387 graduated from high school. Pacific Swimming Open records may be set by 17-18 age group and senior  
388 Pacific Swimming swimmers regardless of their date of first registration in Pacific.
- 389 c. Times will not be accepted as Pacific Swimming records for Pacific Swimming athletes competing in a  
390 foreign meet that are not representing a Pacific Swimming or USA Swimming [Select Team or a Pacific](#)  
391 [Swimming](#) club.
- 392 ~~d. Record times shall be achieved with fully automatic or semi-automatic timing systems or with three~~  
393 ~~watches. In 50 meter pools, all record times for 50 meter distances shall be achieved with fully~~  
394 ~~automatic or semi-automatic timing systems.~~

395 2. Awards

- 396 a. Age Group Athlete and Senior Athlete Awards shall be made annually per Pacific Swimming Policies and  
397 Procedures.

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## SECTION 2.4

### SWIM MEET PREPARATION

#### A. Meet Announcement

1. Meets shall be conducted under current USA Swimming and Pacific Swimming Rule and Regulations. The sanction application and meet announcement shall be submitted by the deadlines outlined in the Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
2. All sanctioned and approved meet announcements shall be posted in a pdf format by the Pacific Swimming Webmaster on the Meet Schedule page on Pacific Swimming's website within two (2) business days of the sanction being granted.
3. The meet announcement shall contain **all statements required by United States Swimming including but not limited to** the following statements:
  - a. "Held under the sanction of USA Swimming/Pacific Swimming"
  - b. "It is understood and agreed that USA Swimming shall be free from any liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of the event."
  - c. "Photography and video recording from behind the blocks or starting areas is prohibited unless prior permission is granted by the meet referee. Use of any audio or visual recording electronic devices, including but not limited to film and digital camera, cell phones, tablets, and Google Glass, is not permitted in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms. Violation of this recording prohibition may result in the ejection from the swimming pool facility by the meet referee or his/her designee."
  - d. Information about water depth measured for a distance of 3 feet 3 ½ inches (1 meter) to 16 feet 5 inches (5.0 meters) from both end walls. USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Article 202.4C
  - e. A complete schedule of lanes and time for all warm-up procedures which shall be adhered to by all participants.
  - f. One of the following two statements as to the certification status of the competition course:
    - (1) "The competition course has been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4). The copy of such certification is on file with USA Swimming"; OR
    - (2) "The competition course has not been certified in accordance with Article 104.2.2C(4)"
  - g. "All coaches and deck officials shall visibly display their current USA Swimming membership card".
  - h. "Any athlete entered in the meet shall be certified by a USA Swimming member-coach as being proficient in performing a racing start or shall start each race from within the water. When unaccompanied by a member-coach, it is the responsibility of the athlete or the athlete's legal guardian to ensure compliance with this requirement".
  - i. "Any USA Swimming athlete-member competing at the meet shall be accompanied by a USA Swimming member-coach for the purposes of athlete supervision during warm-up, competition and warm-down. If a coach-member of the athlete's USA Swimming Club does not attend the meet to serve in said supervisory capacity, it is the responsibility of the athlete or the athlete's legal guardian to arrange for supervision by a USA Swimming member-coach. The meet director or meet referee may assist the athlete in making arrangements for such supervision; however, it is recommended that such

arrangements be made in advance of the meet by the athlete's USA Swimming Club Member-Coach."  
~~Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations (I think this reference to R and R may not be necessary)~~

- j. "Changing into or out of swimsuits other than in locker rooms or other designated areas is prohibited"
  - k. "Destructive Devices – Destructive devices to include but not limited to explosive devices and equipment, firearms (open or concealed), blades, knives, mace, stun guns and blunt objects are strictly prohibited in the swimming facility and its surrounding areas. If observed, the meet referee or his/her designee may ask that these devices be stored safely away from the public or removed from the facility. Noncompliance may result in the reporting to law enforcement authorities and ejection from the facility. Law enforcement officers ~~(LEO)~~ (Since this term is never used again, I don't think we need to define it with an acronym, unless Leo insists on having his name spelled out in all caps in the R and R's – that's a joke) are exempt per applicable laws."
  - l. "If local conditions warrant it, the meet referee, with the concurrence of the meet director, may require a mandatory scratch down, subject to the provisions of Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations".
  - m. "No athlete will be permitted to compete unless the athlete is a member as provided in USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Article 302"
  - n. A statement of the nature of prizes to be awarded
  - o. Wording shall be included in all non-championship meet announcements as follows: "Disability athletes are welcome to attend this meet and should contact the Meet Director or Meet Referee regarding special accommodations on entry times and seeding per Pacific Swimming policy." The preceding statement may also be included in meet announcements for championship meets at the discretion of the Meet Director and Meet Referee.
  - p. The following paragraph relating to late entries shall be included in the Far Western meet announcement:  
"LATE ENTRIES: Any team or athlete missing the entry deadline will be permitted to enter late, subject to the following requirements:
    - ~~A(1)-~~ Late entries shall be submitted through the Online Meet Entry system (OME);
    - ~~(2)B-~~ These entries shall be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on day of the week, MM/DD/YYYY;
    - ~~(3)C-~~ The team of the athlete shall pay a one-time processing fee of \$75.00 and pay entry fees of \$20 per individual and \$40 per relay event.""Late entries shall close two days (48 hours) after the published close of the meet. The purpose of late entries is to assist coaches who have forgotten to enter relays or athlete(s) in event(s).
- 4. The meet announcement shall include whether on-deck registration will be permitted and under what condition
  - 5. All meets sponsored in whole or in part by Pacific Swimming -shall include the statement "co-sponsored by Pacific Swimming" in the meet announcement under the heading which lists the meet host, the dates of the meet and the name of/or classification of the meet.

## B. Entry Fees

1. Entry fees shall be charged for each meet category. The meet host is not required to accept entries that do not include applicable fees. Participation fees cannot be charged unless entry fees are charged. **Pacific Swimming may charge a credit card processing fee for online meet entries (OME).**

Meet Category	Individual Entry Fees			Relay Entry Fees		
	Total Fee	To Host	Due PC	Total Fee	To Host	Due PC
	LSC MEETS					
Preliminaries and Finals Senior Meets	\$7.50	\$5.25	\$2.25	\$20.00	\$14.00	\$6.00
Timed Finals Senior Meets	\$6.50	\$4.55	\$1.95	\$20.00	\$14.00	\$6.00
JO Championships	\$7.50	\$5.25	\$2.25	\$20.00	\$14.00	\$6.00
FW Championships	\$10.00	\$7.00	\$3.00	\$20.00	\$14.00	\$6.00
<b>FW (late entry fee)</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	<b>\$14.00</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>	<b>\$28.00</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>
	AGE GROUP MEETS					
Other Preliminaries and Finals Meets	\$5.50	\$3.85	\$1.65	\$16.00	\$11.20	\$4.80
Age Group Meets	\$4.00	\$2.80	\$1.20	\$9.00	\$6.30	\$2.70
	"OTHER"					
Time Trials	\$50.00 flat fee (includes sanction fee)					

### NOTES:

- a. Multi-class meets – applicable fee will be that of the highest category included in the meet.
- b. Host clubs may impose a participation fee not to exceed \$8.00 for short course meets and ~~\$10.00~~ **\$14.00** for long course meets per athlete to help defray meet expenses. Host clubs of meets scheduled by Zone 4 may increase the foregoing participation fee amounts by \$1.00 per athlete to help defray expenses of the Zone. Relay-Only athletes are exempt from this surcharge, except in relay-only meets.
- c. Leagues charging entry fees shall pay the Pacific Swimming portion applicable to the amount of the entry fee as listed above.
- d. Alternative entry fee formats for Dual, Tri, Quad, Closed Invitational and Super League are found in the Policies and Procedures.

495 e. The Pacific Swimming fee does not apply to Disability Swimming Meets<sup>[CB10]</sup>.<sup>[D11]</sup>

496 **C. Events**

- 497 1. All events shall conform to the current list in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Exceptions may be  
498 made by application to and approval of Pacific Swimming Sanctions. All LSC awarded Age Group Meets  
499 need approval from the Age Group Chair, and all LSC Senior meets need approval from the Senior Chair. All  
500 Zone awarded meets need approval from Zone Sanction Chair.

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## SECTION 3 5

### CONDUCT OF MEETS

#### A. Rules

1. Meets shall be conducted under current rules and regulations of USA Swimming and Pacific Swimming. The sanction application and meet announcement shall be submitted by the deadlines outlined in the Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
2. At each sanctioned competition, every warm-up session shall be supervised and controlled using the warm-up procedures adopted by Pacific Swimming. A complete copy of the Pacific Swimming warm-up procedures shall be provided with each sanction and shall be posted at the Clerk of Course during the meet.
3. Except for coaches accompanying athletes participating under the provisions of USA Swimming's "open border" policy, all persons acting in any coaching or officiating capacity shall show proof of valid USA Swimming membership in accordance with Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
4. All animals except service animals are prohibited from all areas of the competition venue.
5. In Preliminaries and Finals meets, the finals may not begin less than one hour after the completion of the last preliminary heat that day.
6. No athlete will be eligible to participate in a Pacific Swimming-sponsored swim meet if the athlete or the athlete's family is indebted to Pacific Swimming. Resolution of the indebtedness subsequent to selection or entry in a Pacific Swimming-sponsored swim meet may not make the athlete eligible for participation. An athlete will not be eligible for further participation as long as the indebtedness remains unresolved.
7. Timing systems to be provided by meet hosts of all meets sanctioned by Pacific Swimming shall conform to USA Swimming Timing Rules Article 102.24. Minimum timing system requirements are described in USA Swimming Policies and Procedures.
8. Any meet having qualifying time standards not in accordance with those published by Pacific Swimming shall be approved by the Board of Directors prior to being sanctioned.

#### B. Meet Operations

1. Entries
  - a. Competitors shall be current athlete members of USA Swimming. The meet host shall check all athlete registrations against the USA Swimming SWIMS database.
  - b. At all sanctioned meets that include time trials, only athletes that are entered in an individual event in the meet are eligible to enter time trials.
  - c. Once the meet or a meet session has met an imposed capacity and has closed, all further meet entries and payments shall be returned per Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
    - (1) The host club shall accept entries in the order they are received and they, entries to a CAP (Mou12) on meets in which entries h. Athletes from the host club shall not be given preference or exception.
    - (2) Failure of the host club to notify, in the prescribed manner, the athletes that their entries are not being accepted, shall result in a complaint filed with the Pacific Swimming Administrative Review

Board. A host club not attempting to notify non-accepted entrants may be barred by the Board of Directors from hosting meets the following year.

## 2. Check-In

- a. No event shall be closed more than thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled start of the session. Close of check-in for remaining events shall be no more than sixty (60) minutes before the estimated time of the start of the first heat of the event. ~~Zone Board of Directors~~ **may modify this rule for Zone meets in order to facilitate the check-in process. Any such modification must be posted in a location clearly visible to the coaches and athletes.**

## 3. Scratch Down Procedures

- a. Mandatory Scratch-down ~~—~~ If conditions warrant, the referee, with the concurrence of the meet director, may require athletes to scratch an event or events in order to regulate and control the length of time for competition in a sanctioned meet.
  - (1) Meet announcements shall include the following statement “If local conditions warrant it, the meet referee, with the concurrence of the meet director, may require a mandatory scratch down, subject to the provisions of Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations.”
  - (2) The mandatory scratch procedure shall be applicable to timed final events only.
  - (3) To the maximum extent possible, the mandatory scratch requirement shall be applied uniformly to all age groups and all athletes.
  - (4) The entry fee for each event scratched pursuant to the mandatory scratch procedure shall be refunded in full to athletes in cash prior to the close of the meet.

## 4. No Show Penalties

- a. Age Group Meet: Refer to Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations Section 4.
- b. Senior Meet: Refer to Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations Section 5.

## C. Meet Results

1. Meet results shall be submitted to Pacific Swimming no later than 48 hours after the completion of the meet, in the manner and format prescribed in Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
2. Failure to provide meet results as required shall be grounds for denying future sanctions.

## D. Financial Reports, Meet Summary Reports and Fees

1. Financial Reports, Meet Summary Reports and Fees must be submitted to Pacific Swimming in accordance with the Policies & Procedures. ~~Meet financial report, meet summary report and payment of fees due Pacific Swimming shall be received by the Treasurer within 30 days after the last day of the meet.~~
2. ~~Failure to provide the meet financial report and payment of fees due Pacific Swimming as specified shall subject the meet host to a penalty of 10% of the Pacific Swimming share of the meet fees and may provide grounds for denying future sanctions.~~
3. ~~A meet summary report is a copy of the documentation from the meet management software used to determine and calculate the number of individual and relay entries and the corresponding fees due to Pacific Swimming. The meet summary report shall be attached to the meet financial report. Failure to supply~~

the documentation will trigger a reminder e-mail to the club. If the documentation is not provided to the Treasurer within 14 days of the reminder, a penalty fee of 25% of the fees paid to Pacific Swimming shall be assessed to the club.

4. Invoices shall be emailed to clubs who incorrectly calculate the amount due to Pacific Swimming. Payment shall be received by the treasurer within 14 days of the reminder. If the payment has not been postmarked by that deadline a penalty of 10% of the amount due will be added to the amount due. If the invoice has not been paid within 30 days of the reminder, the club shall not be eligible to host a sanctioned meet until the payment has been received.



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## SECTION 4 6

### AGE GROUP COMPETITION

#### A. ~~Qualifying Times For Age Group Meets~~ Meet Formats & Qualifying

##### ~~1.~~ 1. Far Western Championships

a. Meets to be Preliminaries and Finals and may not include Time Trials.

b. Meets may combine the 15-16 and 17-18 age groups.

c. Meets shall be awarded to the host team by the LSC.

##### 2. Junior Olympic Championships

a. Meets to be Preliminaries and Finals and may not include Time Trials.

b. Meets events to be swum in single-age categories and have single-age time standards.

c. Competition Age categories shall be 10 & Under, 11, 12, 13, and 14.

d. Meets may include mixed gender relays.

e. Meets shall be awarded to the host team by the Meet Award Committee.

##### 3. 10 & Under Championships

a. Athletes shall be 10 years of age or under on the first day of competition.

b. Competition Age categories shall be 6 & Under, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

c. Meets may include mixed gender relays.

d. Meets shall be awarded to the host team by the Meet Award Committee.

##### 4. Zone Awarded Meets

a. Zones shall determine the category and format used in zone awarded meets.

##### 5. Athletes shall be qualified for a specific meet in a given stroke and distance when they have equaled or bettered the time standard for that event.

##### 26. Only times in the USA Swimming SWIMS database shall be acceptable to qualify for Junior Olympics and Far Westerns ~~level~~ level competition and LSC Championship meets. In all other Age Group competition, coach-verified entry times may also be accepted.

##### 37. Athletes who compete in a meet event at or better than the minimum standard shall thereafter be considered to be qualified in that particular event in all courses and may not again compete in the same event in a lower standard meet, even if they have not actually performed at or better than the time standard.

##### 48. Qualifying By Stroke and Distance

a. An athlete who achieves any Pacific Swimming age-group qualifying standard in one course (SCY, SCM, or LCM) shall be considered qualified at that same standard in the equivalent stroke and distance in all courses.

b. Athletes maintain their time standard level for the duration of a meet even if they qualify for the next level during the meet. This rule also applies to relay events.

- 620 c. Any athlete, upon changing age groups, who has already met any standard in an event offered in the  
621 new age group shall be considered qualified at that level for that event in the new age group, as long as  
622 the time has been achieved in the qualifying period (if any) for entry into the meet.
- 623 d. Athletes, who enter an event for which they are not qualified, or who have met the next higher time  
624 standard, shall scratch the event.

## 625 B. Eligibility

### 626 1. Individual Eligibility

- 627 a. Registered athletes, up to and including age 18, are eligible to compete in the Age Group program  
628 in those events scheduled for their age group and shall swim in events offered for that age or age  
629 group for an entire meet. Age on the first day of the meet governs for the entire meet.
- 630 b. Athletes are eligible to compete only in the individual events for which they qualify in any meet unless  
631 provisions in the meet announcement allow for bonus events.
- 632 c. In multi-classed meets, the zone may further restrict an event to a specific time standard.
- 633 d. Invitational meets are open only to athletes from invited clubs. Invited clubs shall be named in the  
634 sanction.
- 635 e. Athletes registered in other LSCs may swim in Pacific meets for which they qualify with the exception of  
636 Junior Olympics and Age Group 10 & Under Championships.
- 637 f. To be eligible for a Pacific Swimming All Star [MOU15] or Challenge meet team, Challenge Meet  
638 team, an athlete shall be a lawful resident of the United States and a member of Pacific Swimming.  
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2. Event Limitations

- a. In Preliminaries and Finals meets, an athlete may compete in not more than three (3) individual events per day.
- b. In Timed Finals meets, an athlete may compete in not more than five (5) individual events per day.
- c. An athlete may enter as many events as they wish, but shall not compete in more than the maximum events allowed by the meet format, and are not guaranteed a refund of excess entry fees.

C. Conduct of Meets

1. ~~All Pacific Swimming Age Group Far Western, Junior Olympics, and Age Group Championship meets shall be Preliminaries and Finals meets. All other Pacific Swimming Age Group meets shall operate as a Timed Finals meet. Zones shall determine the format to be used in zone scheduled meets.~~ Championship meets may offer all events that are officially recognized by USA Swimming in each age group. One or both distance events (1000/1650 Y Free in SCY and 800/1500 M Free in LCM) may be offered.
2. Age Group meet formats will be outlined in the Minimum Age Group Meet Criteria documents established by the Age Group Committee.
3. Individual Scratch Rule – Athletes shall inform themselves of the meet starting time and shall report to the proper meet authorities promptly upon call.
  - a. Pre-Seeded Meets
    - (1) Athletes shall report promptly to the starting blocks when their event/heat is called.
    - (2) Any athlete not reporting for or competing in an individual timed final event shall not be penalized.
    - (3) Any athletes not reporting for or competing in a preliminary heat when finals are scheduled shall not be penalized.
  - b. In Zone awarded meets that are Deck Seeded
    - (1) No event shall be closed more than 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the session. Close of check-in for remaining events shall be no more than 60 minutes before the estimated time of the start of the first heat of the event. Athletes who fail to check-in shall not be seeded in the event.
    - (2) Any athletes not reporting for or competing in an individual timed final event that they have checked in for shall not be penalized.
  - c. In LSC awarded meets that are Deck Seeded
    - (1) No event shall be closed more than thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled start of the session. Close of check-in for remaining events shall be no more than sixty (60) minutes before the estimated time of the start of the first heat of the event. Any change to the closing time of check-in shall be described in the meet announcement. Athletes who fail to timely check-in shall not be seeded in the event. Athletes who fail to check-in shall not be seeded in the event.
    - (2) ~~Athletes entered in a timed final individual event that is Deck Seeded who have checked in for that event, shall compete in the event unless they notify the clerk of the course before seeding for that event has begun that they wish to scratch. Failure to compete in an event shall result in being barred from their next individual event.~~

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~~(3) Athletes entered in an individual event in a Preliminaries and Finals meet that is Deck Seeded who have checked in for that event, shall compete in the event unless they notify the clerk of the course before seeding for that event has begun that they wish to scratch. Failure to compete in an event shall result in being barred from their next preliminary individual event.~~

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d. Scratching from Consolation Finals and Finals

- (1) Athletes may scratch or declare their intent to scratch a final event, or multiple final events at the beginning of competition for that day.
- (2) Any athlete qualifying for any level of finals in an individual event who does not wish to compete shall scratch within thirty (30) ~~30~~ minutes after the announcement of qualifiers. During this period, qualifiers may also notify the referee that they may not intend to compete in consolation finals or finals. In this case, they shall declare their final intention within thirty (30) ~~30~~ minutes after the announcement of qualifiers following their last individual preliminary event.
- (3) In the event of a withdrawal or barring of an athlete from competition, the referee shall fill the consolation final or final when ~~possible~~ possible, with the next qualified athlete(s). First and second alternates shall be announced along with the final qualifiers. These alternates shall not be penalized if they are unavailable to compete in the finals.
- (4) Where consolation finals have not yet been swum and barring or withdrawal is known to the referee, the referee shall ~~shall~~ may reseed the consolation final and the final, if necessary, to insert the alternate(s) in the appropriate lane(s), filling all lanes in the final.
- (5) If a consolation final has already been contested, the Championship final shall be swum without reseeding for the empty lane(s).

e. Penalty for No-Show at Finals

- (1) Any athlete qualifying for a consolation final or final race in an individual event who fails to report to the blocks in said consolation final or final race prior to calling the alternate shall be barred from the remainder of any final events for that day. Should the athlete have no additional final events for that day they shall be barred from their next preliminary event.
- (2) If the No-Show occurs on the last day that the athlete is entered in an individual final event in the meet, and no other individual event penalty is applicable, the athlete shall be fined \$100.00. The fine will be increased to \$150.00 if after thirty (30) ~~30~~ days of receiving the letter of notification the party has not made the payment.

f. Exceptions – No penalty shall apply for failure to withdraw or compete in an individual event if:

- (1) The referee is notified in the event of illness or injury and accepts the proof thereof.
- (2) It is determined by the referee that the No-Show is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the athlete.
- (3) The athlete qualified for any level of finals due to scratches of one or more original finalists.
- (4) The athlete is an alternate for any level of finals.

g. Relay Scratch Rule – Any relay team entered in a relay event that fails to compete in or report for that event shall not be penalized.

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## SECTION 5.7

### SENIOR COMPETITION

#### A. Meet Formats & Qualifying — ~~Senior Competitions~~

1. Senior Circuit
  - a. The minimum age shall be thirteen (13) years old
  - b. Meets to be Preliminaries and Finals and ~~to~~ may include Time Trials
2. Senior 2
  - a. The minimum age shall be twelve (12) years old, ~~(except High School Walk-On Meets, where athletes shall have been in high school or be a minimum of fifteen (15) years old.)~~
  - b. Meets shall be either Timed Finals or Preliminaries and Finals and may include Time Trials in Preliminary/Final meets.
3. Senior Open
  - a. The minimum age shall be eleven (11) years old
  - b. Meets shall be either Timed Finals or Preliminaries and Finals and may not include Time Trials.
4. An athlete shall qualify in any sanctioned or approved competition, or in an observed swim.
5. ~~An athlete who qualifies for Senior competition in a specific stroke and distance shall be considered qualified in the same stroke and distance in all courses.~~

#### B. Eligibility

1. Senior Meets
  - a. In Senior Circuit and Senior 2 Preliminaries and Finals meets, athletes are eligible to enter all events in which they have equaled or bettered the listed time standards and shall not compete in more than three (3) individual events per day.
  - b. In Senior 2 Timed Finals and Senior Open meets athletes are eligible to enter all events in which they have equaled or bettered the listed time standard, but shall not compete in more than four (4) individual events per day.
  - c. Proof of time using the USA Swimming SWIMS Database as a standard shall be used to verify times for all athletes entering Senior Circuit and Senior 2 meets, and **11-12 year old** and ~~under~~ athletes entering Senior Open meets. The time shall have been achieved prior to the closing date for entries to the meet. If the time cannot be proven prior to the meet, the athlete shall not be allowed to check-in for the event until the entry time has been proven. When possible, the coaches will be notified of their athletes who have not proven their entry time.

#### C. Conduct of Meets

1. Senior meets shall offer all events that are swum in the National Championship meets. Relay events are optional. One or both distance events (1000/1650 Y Free in SCY and 800/1500 M Free in LCM) may be offered.



2. Senior meet formats will be outlined in the Minimum Senior Meet Criteria document established by the Senior Committee.
3. Individual Scratch Rule – Athletes shall inform themselves of the meet starting time and shall report to the proper meet authorities promptly upon call.

~~a.~~ **Pre-Seeded Meets**

- ~~(1) Athletes shall report promptly to the starting blocks when their event/heat is called.~~
- ~~(2) Any athletes not reporting for or competing in an individual timed final event shall not be penalized.~~
- ~~(3) Any athletes not reporting for or competing in a preliminary heat when finals are scheduled shall not be penalized.~~

~~b.~~ **a. Senior -Timed Finals Meets that are Deck Seeded**

- (1) No event shall be closed more than thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled start of the session. Close of check-in for remaining events shall be no more than sixty (60) minutes before the estimated time of the start of the first heat of the event. Athletes who fail to check-in shall not be seeded in the event. Times of close of check-in for events shall be described in the Meet Announcement.
- (2) Athletes entered in a timed final individual event that is Deck Seeded who have checked in for that event, shall compete in the event unless they notify the clerk of the course before seeding for that event has begun that they wish to scratch. Athletes who declare a false start or are charged with delay of meet are considered to have competed in that event. Failure to compete in an event will result in being barred from their next individual event.
- ~~(3) Athletes entered in an individual event in a Preliminaries and Finals meet that is Deck Seeded who have checked in for that event, shall compete in the event unless they notify the clerk of the course before seeding for that event has begun that they wish to scratch. Failure to compete in an event shall result in being barred from the rest of his/her events that day including relays. If the athlete qualified for a final before missing an event they may swim that final.~~

~~c.~~ **b. Senior Trials and Finals Meets that are Deck Pre-Seeded.**

(1) PRELIMINARIES Preliminaries

- ~~(1) i.~~ Coaches wishing to scratch athletes must follow the instructions listed in the meet sheet. The scratch deadline for Saturday's preliminaries shall be 5:30 pm ~~FRIDAY~~ Friday via email to the Head Referee and Administrative Referee. The scratch deadline for Sunday's preliminaries shall be 30 minutes after the start of Saturday's ~~FINALS~~ Finals. The scratch box will be located at the Scratch Desk at the start of the meet on Saturday until the scratch deadline. The penalty for failing to show in an individual preliminary heat in which such athlete is entered and has not been scratched or has not declared a false start will be:
- ~~•~~ ii. The athlete will be barred from the rest of his/her events that day
  - ~~•~~ iii. If the ~~a~~ Athlete qualifies for a final before missing an event, they may swim that final.
  - ~~•~~ iv. The athlete must positively check-in with the Admin Ref for any subsequent days' preliminary events they are entered in if they wish to swim that event.

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NOTE: Heat sheets for the next day will be posted as described in the meet sheet.

(2) Finals:

- i. Any athlete qualifying for any level of finals in an individual event who does not wish to compete shall scratch within thirty (30) minutes after the announcement of qualifiers. During this period, qualifiers may also notify the Referee that they may not intend to compete in Bonus, Consolation or Championship Finals. In this case they shall declare their final intention within thirty (30) minutes after the announcement of qualifiers following their last individual Preliminary Event.
- ii. In a non-positive check-in Preliminaries & Finals meet [MOU16] any athlete qualifying for a Consolation Final or Championship Final race in an individual event who fails to compete in said Bonus Final, Consolation Final or Championship Final race prior to calling the alternate shall be barred from further competition for the remainder of the meet. If the No-Show occurs on the last day that the athlete is entered in an individual final event in the meet, and no other individual event penalty is applicable, the athlete shall then be fined \$100.00.
- iii. The fine shall be increased to \$150.00 if after thirty (30) days of receiving the letter of notification the party has not made the payment.

4. Scratching from Bonus and Consolation Finals and Finals

- a. Athletes may scratch or declare their intent to scratch a final event, or multiple final events at the beginning of competition for that day.
- b. Any athlete qualifying for any level of finals in an individual event who does not wish to compete shall scratch within 30 minutes after the announcement of qualifiers. During this period, qualifiers may also notify the referee that they may not intend to compete in consolation finals or finals. In this case, they shall declare their final intention within 30 minutes after the announcement of qualifiers following their last individual preliminary event.
- c. In the event of a withdrawal or barring of an athlete from competition, the referee shall fill the bonus final, consolation final or final when possible with the next qualified athlete(s). First and second alternates shall be announced along with the final qualifiers. These alternates shall not be penalized if they are unavailable to compete in the finals.
- d. Where bonus or consolation finals have not yet been swum and barring or withdrawal is known to the referee, the referee shall reseed the bonus final, consolation final and the final, if necessary, to insert the alternate(s) in the appropriate lane(s), filling all lanes in the final.
- e. If a bonus and consolation final has already been contested, the Championship final shall be swum without reseeding for the empty lane(s).
- f. In a Preliminaries and Finals meet, for final heats where athletes are not provided any recognition other than an opportunity to compete, alternates may be inserted into empty lanes regardless of order that finals are swum. USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Article 102.5.6(B)

5. Penalty for No-Show at Finals

- 835 a. ~~Any athlete qualifying for a bonus final, consolation final or final race in an individual event who fails to~~  
836 ~~report to the blocks in said consolation final or final race prior to calling the alternate shall be barred~~  
837 ~~from further competition for the remainder of the meet.~~
- 838 b. ~~If the No Show occurs on the last day that the athlete is entered in an individual final event in the meet,~~  
839 ~~and no other individual event penalty is applicable, the athlete shall be fined \$100.00. The fine shall be~~  
840 ~~increased to \$150.00 if after 30 days of receiving the letter of notification the party has not made the~~  
841 ~~payment.~~
- 842 4. Exceptions – No penalty shall apply for failure to withdraw or compete in an individual event if:
- 843 a. The referee is notified in the event of illness or injury and accepts the proof thereof.
- 844 b. It is determined by the referee that the No-Show is was caused by circumstances beyond the control of  
845 the athlete.
- 846 c. The athlete is an alternate for any level of finals
- 847 5. Relay Scratch Rule – Any relay team entered in a relay event that fails to compete in or report for that event  
848 shall not be penalized.  
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## SECTION 6 moved to Section 1

### ZONE MEET AUTONOMY

#### A. Rules

1. Eligibility of athletes and conduct of meets shall conform to Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations except as follows:
  - a. Zones may restrict entry to residents of the zones in certain meets.
  - b. Meet time standards may be set by the Zone
  - c. Meet format may be set by the Zone
  - d. Zone meets shall be reviewed and approved by the meet referee and Zone Sanction Chair prior to submission to Pacific Swimming Sanction Chair for final approval.
  - e. Zones may make their own policies regarding restrictions to be applied to their athletes.
  - f. Each Zone may set their own requirements for minimum number of officials required per club for Zone meets, and shall meet or exceed the requirement set by USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

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## SECTION 7 8

### CLOSED LEAGUES WITHIN PACIFIC SWIMMING

#### A. Sanctions

1. Meets shall be sanctioned by Pacific Swimming in accordance with [Section 13.D. \[MOU17\] \[D18\] of these Rules Regulations](#). [Sanction](#) applications shall be requested from the Pacific Swimming Sanction Chair or the local Zone Sanction Chair
2. All clubs and/or leagues shall be a member of USA Swimming to be eligible to host a sanctioned meet.
3. Dual Meets may submit one blanket application to cover sanctions for all scheduled dual meets with one (1) copy of the schedule and one (1) copy of the list of events to be offered in the dual meet to the Zone Sanction Chair and Pacific Swimming Sanctions Chair. Meet dates and list of events offered shall be included if meet events vary.
4. Championship meets shall be sanctioned separately.
5. Member leagues which charge entry fees for a meet by individual, by club or through the league shall pay all fees to Pacific Swimming. The fee schedule can be found in Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures.
6. Dates of league championship meets shall be approved by the zone in which the meet will be held.

#### B. Age Groups

1. In Closed League meets, athletes shall compete within the age groups specified in Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations [Sections 1 3.B.1. \[MOU19\]a.](#)

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## SECTION 8 9

### OFFICIATING

#### A. Operation of Swimming Meets

1. Pacific Swimming meets shall be staffed by currently registered non-athlete members of USA Swimming certified as officials. Officials certified by Pacific Swimming or other LSCs, who are volunteers shall be qualified by training and experience in the various capacities of officiating.
2. Officials' positions and duties are described in the USA Swimming Rulebook.

#### B. Organization

1. All currently registered non-athlete members of USA Swimming certified as an official registered with Pacific Swimming shall be considered Pacific Swimming officials.
2. The LSC Officials Chair shall preside over the Officials Committee.
3. The LSC Officials Chair shall appoint, with the advice and approval of the Pacific Swimming General Chair and the Zone Chair, an Officials Chair or Co-Officials Chairs in each of the five zones. The Zone Officials Chair appoint qualified officials to conduct officials' clinics as necessary. Zone Chairs may appoint assistant officials chairs. *When Zones have more than one Officials Chair, should they be considered co-chairs to be appointed as above or one officials chair per Zone with the Zone given the authority to appoint an assistant officials chair?* [MOU21]

#### ~~C. Duties of the Zone Officials Chair or Co-Officials Chairs~~ may need to make this plural

- ~~1. Schedule and conduct training clinics in the Zone.~~
- ~~2. Maintain a list of trained officials, indicating qualifications of these people based on experience, performance, and interest.~~
- ~~3. Zone Officials Chair is responsible for the a Assignment of qualified officials to Zone scheduled and sanctioned meets as needed.~~
- ~~4. Assist the LSC Officials Chair and meet directors in obtaining qualified officials suitable to the needs of scheduled LSC meets.~~

#### DC. Qualification of Officials

1. Clinics for the instruction of officials in various capacities shall be conducted by qualified instructors and hosted by the Officials Committee, Zones, and clubs.
2. All clinics shall be sanctioned and shall be approved by the Pacific Swimming Officials Chair or the Zone Officials Chair. A sanction fee is not required.
3. Persons instructed as officials at clinics shall serve at meets as trainees under the supervision of experienced qualified officials. Certification of officials shall require the evaluation of the trainee and/or official according to Pacific Swimming Officials Advancement Criteria and recommendation by meet referees under whom the training was accomplished in addition to the clinic instruction and the approval of the Zone Officials Chair.



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4. The position and level for which the official is certified shall be entered into the Officials Tracking System database of USA Swimming.
5. Swimming officials shall wear a uniform of appropriate clothing prescribed by the Officials Committee during the performance of duties and display their current USA Swimming membership card at all times while performing their duties.

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## SECTION 9 10

### TRAVEL SUPPORT

#### A. Purpose

1. To help defray the travel costs of Pacific Swimming athletes, coaches, and officials ~~clubs with athlete members competing in~~ or attending “national” Sectional level and higher meets as determined by the Board of Directors.
2. ~~To help defray the travel costs of Pacific Swimming coaches attending “national” level meet as determined by the Board of Directors.~~

#### B. ~~Control of Funds~~

1. ~~The Treasurer shall have control of disbursements. The disbursements shall be managed in accordance with Pacific Swimming Bylaws Article 6.7.12. [mou22] All disbursements shall be paid to Pacific Swimming registered~~
2. ~~No travel support payment will be made to a club if the club, coach or athlete is indebted to Pacific Swimming. No payment will be made until the indebtedness has been resolved.~~

#### C. Eligibility

##### 1. ~~Representation~~

- a. ~~The athlete shall compete attached to a Pacific Swimming club or compete unattached as a Pacific Swimming member.~~
- b. ~~The coach shall be a USA Swimming registered coach in good standing.~~
- c. ~~For relay only athletes’ travel support, see Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures Senior Travel Support Guidelines.~~

##### 2. ~~Registration~~

- a. ~~To be eligible for travel support athletes shall meet the eligibility and registration requirements as stated in the Pacific Swimming Policies and Procedures~~

##### 3. ~~Travel Support Requirements~~

- a. ~~A copy of the club’s Travel Policy shall be on file with Pacific Swimming’s Membership Office.~~
- b. ~~A signed Code of Conduct for all athletes attending the meet shall be on file with Pacific Swimming’s Membership Office.~~
- c. ~~A signed Coaches / Managers Code of Conduct for all coaches and managers attending the meet shall be on file with Pacific Swimming’s Membership Office.~~

##### 4. ~~Citizenship~~

- a. ~~To be eligible for travel support, an athlete shall be a United States citizen or have a permanent resident visa issued by the United States.~~

##### 5. ~~Appeals~~

- a. ~~A club can appeal the decision of the Travel Committee.~~ Pacific Swimming staff to the LSC Administrative Board of Review Directors.

968

969 SECTION 10 11

970 Pacific Swimming Travel Policy \*

971 Athletes, ~~HONOR CODE~~ and Coaches/Manager and Parents Code of Conduct

972 ~~A. \*The Pacific Swimming Travel Policy includes:~~

- 973 • ~~(Pacific Swimming Clubs and Leagues,~~
- 974 • ~~Medical Consent and Release, and~~
- 975 • ~~Liability Release, Waiver, or Permission to Participate)~~

976 E. Purpose

- 977 1. The purpose of the Athlete, Parent Honor Code and Coach/Manager Code of Conduct is to define and
- 978 govern the behavior of athletes, coaches, managers, parents, and other staff members employed,
- 979 associated with or representing Pacific Swimming-sponsored travel trips. These Policies and Codes Honor
- 980 Code shall apply to all of the above-mentioned individuals while attending and participating in events or
- 981 competition acknowledged, sanctioned, sponsored or hosted by Pacific Swimming The Honor Code is These
- 982 Codes are designed to instill basic honorable principles in laying the foundation for one to act in an
- 983 appropriate, ethical and responsible manner in furtherance to the achievement of excellence in the sport of
- 984 swimming and in life. Pacific Swimming and USA Swimming expect members to behave appropriately,
- 985 ethically and responsibly in order to further the achievement of excellence in the sport of swimming and in
- 986 life. The purpose of the Pacific Swimming Travel Policy, Athletes Honor Code and Coaches/Managers Code of
- 987 Conduct is to define and govern the behavior of athletes, coaches, managers and other staff members
- 988 employed, associated with or representing Pacific Swimming-sponsored travel trips. These Policies and
- 989 Codes Honor Code shall apply to all of the above mentioned individuals while attending and participating in
- 990 events or competition acknowledged, sanctioned, sponsored or hosted [D23] [MOU24] by Pacific Swimming.
- 991 Code is These Policies and Codes are designed to instill basic honorable principles in laying the foundation
- 992 for one to act in an appropriate, ethical and responsible manner in furtherance to the achievement of
- 993 excellence in the sport of swimming and in life.

994

995 F. B. Authority

- 996 1. A The review committee (consisting of the Age Group Chair or his delegate, the Head Coach, the Age Group
- 997 Coach(es) of the individual(s) involved, a female athlete, a male athlete, and a non-coach member) shall
- 998 have the enforcement authority to act and to effectuate adherence to the Honor Code and the Code of
- 999 Conduct in compliance with Pacific Swimming and USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, Policies and
- 1000 Procedures, and guidance. In the occurrence of a Code of Conduct violation, Pacific Swimming is required to
- 1001 report the violation to the National Review Board of USA Swimming. Pacific Swimming may only convene
- 1002 the Administrative Review Board to hear complaints and appeals regarding administrative matters within
- 1003 Pacific Swimming which do not rise to the level of Code of Conduct violations and are not appeals of
- 1004 sanction decisions. any additional restrictions that may be required for a specific event or function.

## **G.C. Applicability**

1. ~~The Honor Code~~ **These Policies and Codes** shall apply to and are subject to adherence and compliance by all athletes, coaches, managers, parents, and other staff members while attending and participating in events or competition acknowledged, sanctioned, sponsored or hosted by Pacific Swimming or its subsidiaries.

## **H.D. Compliance**

1. Each athlete, coach, manager, parent, or other staff member of Pacific Swimming or of any club representing Pacific Swimming in competition is required to sign the Pacific Swimming ~~Athletes Honor Code~~ (see Policies & Procedures Manual), or the Pacific Swimming Athlete, Coaches/Manager, or Parents Code of Conduct (see Policies & Procedures ~~Manual~~).
2. The signed document shall be turned in before the competition and a signed copy of the document shall be available at the competition.
3. ~~If needed, at the conclusion of the event, a committee consisting of the Age Group Chair, the head coach, a member of the staff, and two member athletes shall conduct an evaluation to determine if any aspects of the honor code/code of conduct were violated and to make recommendation for changes, if necessary. Said evaluation shall be submitted to the Board of Directors within seventy-two (72) hours following the event.~~

## **I.E. ~~Pacific Swimming Travel Policy, Athlete Honor Code and Coaches/Manager, and Parents~~ Code of Conduct**

- The Board of Directors is authorized to update the Athlete, Coach/ Manager, and Parent Code of Conduct whenever changes are desirable or mandated by USA Swimming. The current versions of the Athlete, Coach/Manager, and Parent Code of Conduct are published in the Policies & Procedures. (Reference P&P) ~~The Board of Directors is authorized to update the Pacific Swimming Travel Policy, Athletes Honor Code and Coaches / Managers Code of Conduct whenever changes are desirable or mandated by USA Swimming. The current versions of the Travel Policy, Athletes Honor Code and Coaches / Managers Code of Conduct will be published in the Policies & Procedures manual.~~

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## SECTION ~~11~~ 12

### ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

1. Pacific Swimming recognizes the prevalence of electronic communication and social media in today's world. Many of our athletes use these means as their primary method of communication. While Pacific Swimming acknowledges the value of these methods of communication, Pacific Swimming also realizes that there are associated risks that shall be considered when adults use these methods to communicate with minors.
2. All communications between a coach or other adult including but not limited to official chaperone, manager and athlete shall be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about club activities. The content and intent of all electronic communications shall adhere to the USA Swimming Code of Conduct regarding Athlete Protection.
- ~~3. Pacific Swimming will follow the current version of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy (MAAPP) which is located on the USA-Swimming website. unless Pacific Swimming may impose additional adopts more stringent requirements for specific meets which will be included in the meet announcement. Any exceptions will be noted below.~~
- ~~4. (MAAPP requirements for Electronic Communications may be inserted here if desired)~~
- ~~5.3. (Any Pacific Swimming specific requirements that are more stringent should be listed below (c25))~~

6. The Board of Directors is authorized to update the Electronic Communication Policy whenever changes are desirable or mandated by USA Swimming. -The current Electronic Communication Policy will be published in the Policies & Procedures manual.



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1055 **4. APPENDIX A — ~~Section Appendix A~~ transferred to P&P**

1056 **~~PACIFIC SWIMMING ATHLETES HONOR CODE~~**

1057 This Honor Code and any additional guidelines regarding conduct will be reviewed by the Head Coach at the first team  
1058 meeting.

1060 Upon notification of any violation of the Honor Code, a review committee (consisting of the Age Group Chair or his  
1061 delegate, the Head Coach, the Age Group Coach(es) of the individual(s) involved, a female athlete, a male athlete, and a  
1062 non-coach member) shall promptly investigate the circumstances of the violation, notify the individual(s) charged of a time  
1063 for hearing, and shall conduct an informal hearing on the evidence. This review committee shall then promptly determine  
1064 what disciplinary action, if any, shall be taken. Code of Conduct violations will be immediately referred to the Zone Board of  
1065 Review. All other violations and disciplinary actions will be reported to the Pacific Swimming Administrative Review Board.

1066 I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a member of Pacific Swimming understand and will comply with the following as  
1067 (Athlete) \_\_\_\_\_ approved by the Pacific Swimming Board of Directors:

- 1068 1. ~~The possession or use of alcohol, tobacco products or controlled substances is prohibited throughout the~~  
1069 ~~designated duration of the trip.~~
- 1070 2. ~~I have read and agree to adhere to the current version of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy~~  
1071 ~~(MAAPP)~~
- 1072 3. ~~Curfews will be established and adhered to during the trip.~~
- 1073 4. ~~Attendance is required at all team functions which include, but are not limited to, meetings, practices, exhibitions,~~  
1074 ~~press conferences, and competitions unless otherwise excused or instructed by the head coach, or designated~~  
1075 ~~person in charge of the team.~~
- 1076 5. ~~The hallway door will be left fully open (so the interior of the room can be viewed from the hallway) when any~~  
1077 ~~athletes other than those assigned to occupy the room are in the room.~~
- 1078 6. ~~Uniform requirements established for the trip will be followed.~~
- 1079 7. ~~Proper respect, sportsmanship and courtesy towards coaches, officials, administrators, competitors, and the public,~~  
1080 ~~will be displayed.~~
- 1081 8. ~~The manner in which one behaves will present a positive image of Pacific Swimming and will provide an atmosphere~~  
1082 ~~to meet the competitive performance objectives.~~
- 1083 9. ~~Additional guidelines may be established as needed to ensure the safety and well-being of the team members and will~~  
1084 ~~be adhered to during the trip.~~

1085 \*\*\*\*\*

1087 I understand that failure to comply with the Pacific Swimming Honor Code as set forth in this document or additions  
1088 necessary for the safety and well-being of the team members may result in disciplinary action which may include but is not  
1089 limited to the following:

- 1090 1. ~~Disqualification from one or more swimming activities.~~
- 1091 2. ~~Dismissal from team and return home at my own expense.~~
- 1092 3. ~~The infraction(s) will be reported to the Pacific Swimming Administrative Review Board [D26] [MOU27] who may take~~  
1093 ~~disciplinary action including but not limited to disqualification from future Pacific Swimming sponsored activities.~~  
1094 ~~The Administrative Review Board will refer complaints regarding conduct that may violate the USA Swimming~~  
1095 ~~Code of Conduct or otherwise violate the policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by USA Swimming, or~~  
1096 ~~conduct that may bring USA Swimming, Pacific Swimming or the sport of swimming into disrepute to the USA~~  
1097 ~~Swimming National Review Board.~~

1098 I may appeal any disciplinary action in accordance with USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Part Four and Pacific Swimming  
1099 Bylaws Article 10. [MOU28]

\_\_\_\_\_(Printed Name of Athlete)\_\_\_\_\_(Signature)\_\_\_\_\_(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_(Printed Name of Parent or Legal Guardian)\_\_\_\_\_(Signature)\_\_\_\_\_(Date)

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APPENDIX B



**Coaches/Managers Code of Conduct Section** — **Appendix B transferred to P&P**

I, the undersigned staff member agree to participate in the Pacific Swimming sponsored activity named below. I agree to abide by the standards of conduct outlined below, in addition to those guidelines established by the activity director at the activity site. Any additional guide lines regarding conduct will be presented at the first team meeting following establishment of these guidelines:

1. Staff members are required to attend all team functions. These include, but are not limited to, meetings, training sessions, practice sessions, competitions, exhibitions and press conferences unless excused by the activity director.
2. The possession or use of alcohol, tobacco or any controlled substances, is prohibited.
3. I have read and agree to adhere to the current version of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy (MAAPP)
4. Staff members are prohibited from wearing any home team clothing or trying to recruit swimmers, either directly or indirectly, for their home club.
5. Staff members are required to help supervise the athletes at all times during the activity.
6. Barring acceptable extenuating circumstances, failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in the following:
  - a. Code of Conduct violations will be immediately referred to the Zone Board of Review.
  - b. Loss of compensation for the activity
  - c. Suspension from participating in future activities
  - d. Reimbursement to Pacific Swimming for all costs incurred on my behalf
7. The Pacific Swimming Administrative Review Board shall within 30 days determine the penalty and notify the staff member of their findings.
8. Any disciplinary action may be appealed in accordance with USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Part Four and Pacific Swimming Bylaws Article 10. [MOU29]

Signature

Date

Print Name

[CB30]

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**CATALOG OF CHANGES**

October 10, 2015	HOD approved revisions of Rules and Regulations document
October 10, 2015	Old Rules and Regulations archived
October 28, 2015	Rules and Regulations formatted for uniformity
November 16, 2015	<p>Section 1E1b(1) and (2) reworded to match website regarding new Senior Records</p> <p>Section 2B1 chart changed to spell out Preliminaries and Finals and change CBA+ to Age Group Meets</p> <p>Section 3B3a(1)3 reworded for clarity</p> <p>Section 4C1 reworded and capitalization corrected for meet names</p> <p>Section 9C1c reworded information regarding relay-only swimmer travel support, redirecting them to Policies and Procedures.</p>
November 19, 2015	Section 6A1e removed for redundancy
January 22, 2016	Section 5A5 sentence removed as it is a Procedure not a Rule



May 7, 2016	<p>Section 1B1b &amp; c moved to Section 1B1a(2) i &amp; ii</p> <p>Section 1B1a(3) wording deleted</p> <p>Section 2B1 wording changed from “class” to “category”</p> <p>Section 3B3a(3) wording changed</p> <p>Section 4A1-4 wording changed to remove “class”</p> <p>Section 4B2 deleted; Section 4B3 becomes 4B2</p> <p>PC P&amp;P Section IX2.0 becomes R&amp;R Section 2A3o</p> <p>PC P&amp;P Section IX3.0 becomes R&amp;R Section 3A8</p> <p>PC P&amp;P Section IX12.0 becomes R&amp;R Section 2A5</p> <p>Section 4C2c(2) deleted wording to close loophole</p> <p>Section 4C2c(3) deleted wording to close loophole</p> <p>Section 4C2e(1) deleted wording to close loophole</p> <p>Section 5C3b(2) deleted wording to close loophole</p> <p>Section 3D3 changes 30 days to 14 days</p> <p>Section 3D4 added re: invoices and penalties</p>
October 19, 2016	Section 2, Far Western Late Entry wording added
May 19, 2018	<p>Section 5C4-5 changed to positive check-in</p> <p>Section 5A3b changed Senior Open Meet parameters</p> <p>Section 2B1 changed Senior Meet categories for fees</p> <p>Appendix B changed wording on allowable substances</p>
<a href="#">TBD</a>	<p><a href="#">Summary of Proposed Changes to Rules and Regulations:</a></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">1. Renumbered Table of Contents including page numbers. Note: Will wait until all additions and deletions are completed before renumbering pages and making sure that the Index is correct.</a></li> <li><a href="#">2. Added Zone Descriptions and Membership Classes and House of Delegates</a></li> <li><a href="#">3. Incorporated Zone Meet Autonomy into Section 1</a></li> <li><a href="#">4. Section 3 -Clarify ability for teams / organizations to host meets in a different Zone or LSC providing they receive</a></li> </ol>

	<p><u>appropriate approvals.</u></p> <p><u>5. Section 4 -Swim Meet Preparation - Meet Announcement. Allowed for</u></p> <p><u>new announcement requirements by United States Swimming.</u></p> <p><u>6. Section 4 -Swim Meet Preparation - Entry Fees. Added permission for</u></p> <p><u>Pacific Swimming to add a credit card processing fee for OME</u></p> <p><u>Defined amount of FW late entry fee due to Host and to LSC</u></p> <p><u>Updated LC participation fee to \$14</u></p> <p><u>7. Updated Scratch procedure for Senior meets</u></p> <p><u>8. Permission granted to Zone BOD to modify the check in process to</u></p> <p><u>facilitate Zone level meets.</u></p> <p><u>9. Added to Travel Support Requirements</u></p> <p><u>c. A signed Coaches / Managers Code of Conduct for all coaches</u></p> <p><u>and managers attending the meet shall be on file with Pacific</u></p> <p><u>Swimming's Membership Office.</u></p> <p><u>10. Updated Section XXX -Pacific Swimming Travel Policy</u></p> <p><u>11. Updated Section XXX -Electronic Communication</u></p> <p><u>12. Moved Appendix A - Pacific Swimming Athletes Honor Code and</u></p> <p><u>Appendix B -Pacific Swimming Coach/Manage Code of ConflictConflict to</u></p> <p><u>the Policy and Procedures Manual.</u></p> <p><u>Also, various wordsmithing to clarify the meaning and intent of various rules, flexibility to include new requirements mandated by USA-S and updates to allow for current operating procedures and interpretations.</u></p>

