



**THE RULES
OF
SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES LTD
Incorporating
GENERAL RULES,
SWIMMING RULES, AND
OPEN WATER SWIMMING RULES**

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FOREWORD TO THE SWIMMING RULES

These rules contain the requirements for the conduct of Swim Meets at any level ranging from State, Area and Club Championships. Therefore, whilst the Swimming Rules incorporate the salient principles of the FINA Swimming Laws many have been expanded over the years to cater for the contingencies encountered by Swimming New South Wales

Swimming New South Wales has embraced the need for all Technical Officials to be aware of the current Rules that apply to the Sport. In particular, all Referees must meet and maintain the re-accreditation requirements as determined and published by Swimming Australia Limited (SAL) and the Company from time to time. In the Rules a reference to "a Referee" means a person who has attained the referee's credential and who meets the re-accreditation requirements.

The Swimming Rules in the following sections are based on the Rules and principles laid down by FINA and SAL. For the purpose of the following Rules an EVENT shall include a scratch race, a handicap or championship or other swimming competition, heat or final. "Notes" and "Clarifications" DO NOT form part of the Swimming Rules but rather are for guidance and understanding.

A reference to "Men" and "Women" includes all age groups in each sex; the prefixes "GR" and "SW" followed by a number indicate a reference to the General Rules and Swimming Rules respectively, as the context requires.

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NOTE:

All General Rules and Swimming Rules that relate to "Handicapping" and "Handicap Events" have been transferred to the Club Manual and are now guidelines for the conduct of handicapping and handicap events.

OPEN WATER SWIMMING RULES

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PART 4

GENERAL RULES

GR1 THE POOL

- GR1.1 Standards for FINA Olympic Pools are found on the FINA website, www.fina.org under FINA Facilities.
- GR1.2 For Championships of New South Wales the Board may approve a venue pool of lesser standard than stated in GR1.1, PROVIDED THAT, the length is not less than 50 metres for Long Course Championships and not less than 25 metres for Short Course Championships prescribed in GR10.
- GR1.3 An unenclosed pool is one which permits the ingress and egress of the water. For events conducted in these pools the height of the starting platform shall not exceed 1.5 metres nor be less than 0.3 metres.
- GR1.4 As a minimum all swimming activities including competition events and training conducted by a Member Association must be conducted in accordance with the Company's Safe Diving Depth Policy

GR2 GENERAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

- GR2.1 A Member Association shall not conduct a championship event, having a title or limitation of persons qualified to compete, without the consent of the Board unless:
- GR2.1.1 the event is a championship of a Member Association which is confined to its members and the name of which is confined to the name of the Member Association; or
- GR2.1.2 the event is a championship bearing the name of an area other than the words 'New South Wales' or 'State' and is controlled by a Member Association having sole jurisdiction in the whole of the territory covered by that area.

GR3 CHAMPIONSHIP CONDITIONS OF ENTRY, DRUG TESTING

- GR3.1 All New South Wales Championships shall be conducted in pools which comply with the conditions prescribed by the Swimming Rules for the establishment of New South Wales Records. The Board may approve qualifying times for entry to championship events, authorise Random Drug Testing by an appropriate authority and other conditions of entry as appropriate to the meet.
- GR3.2 All entrants in a New South Wales Championship shall abide by and be subject to the Swimming New South Wales General Rules, Swimming Rules, Open Water Swimming Rules, By-Laws, Policies, and published procedures.

GR4 DOPING CONTROL

GR4.1 The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) is the appropriate authority to conduct Random Drug Testing on a selected number of swimmers in events at specific Company Meets. Such authority shall observe the pertinent provisions as necessary of the Doping Control Rules of the FINA.

The sanctions provided by the FINA Doping Control Rules if a swimmer is found to have a positive result implying the use of a banned substance are specific and mandatory.

NOTE:

ASADA has been established by the Australian Sports Commission in conjunction with the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) to monitor the use of Drugs in Sport in accordance with the requirements of the International Olympic Committee. ASADA has the authority to test athletes at random during training or competition and report any positive test results to the AOC and SAL.

GR5 CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRANT REQUIREMENTS

GR5.1 Swimming New South Wales Open and Age Championships are open only to the following:

GR5.1.1 Swimmers eligible to represent NSW who are registered with a Swimming New South Wales Club and meet the entry qualifying time for the event.

GR5.1.2 Swimmers eligible to represent Australia who are registered with another State's swimming organisation and meet the entry qualifying time for the event.

GR5.1.3 Members of other Federations affiliated to FINA who meet the entry qualifying time for the event as a visitor provided they hold a valid clearance from their Federation.

GR5.1.4 Non Australian citizens who are registered with a Swimming New South Wales Club and meet the entry qualifying time for the event.

GR5.1.5 A swimmer representing a State or a Club affiliated to a State swimming organisation shall be registered with that State or Club prior to the closing date for entries for the particular championship being entered.

GR5.1.6 A swimmer who is a member of another Federation affiliated to FINA shall not be eligible to represent a Club or score points for a Club.

GR5.1.7 Clubs must certify (on the summary sheet) a swimmers status in accordance with GR 5.1.1 to GR 5.1.6.

GR5.1.8 In the event of a question arising as to the eligibility of any swimmer under this General Rule to represent or score points in any event for any Club the swimmer so affected shall be at liberty to refer that question to the Board.

GR5.2 In Swimming New South Wales Age Championships not more than two (2) visitors shall be permitted to contest the final.

This Rule does not apply to Age Open Water Swimming Championships.

GR5.3 Country Championships. Except as decided by the Board, only a first claim member of a Club in the following Areas shall be eligible to compete in Swimming New South Wales Country Championships. Australian Capital Territory, Central Tablelands, Central Western, Coast and Valley, Far North Coast, Far Western, Mid North Coast, Murray, New England & North West, Riverina, South Eastern, South Western and Western

GR5.4 Metropolitan Championships. Except as decided by the Board, only a first claim member of a Club in the following Areas shall be eligible to compete in Swimming New South Wales Metropolitan Championships. Metro South East, Metro North West, Metro South West, Northern Suburbs and Warringah.

GR5.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of GR5.1 when a team of visiting overseas swimmers being members of a body affiliated to the FINA which has been specifically invited by the Company to tour New South Wales, the Board shall be authorised to permit members of such team to contest championships detailed in GR5.3 and GR5.4.

GR5.6 OPEN WATER SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the case of two or more Open Water Swimming Open or Age Championships being conducted concurrently a swimmer shall not be permitted to enter more than one event and all swimmers shall have attained the age of 12 years for distances up to and including 5,000 metres, 13 years for distances up to and including 10,000 metres and 14 years for distances over 10,000 metres on the day of the conduct of the event.

GR6 CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FORM, AGE DETERMINATION

GR6.1 New South Wales Championship entry and age determination shall require:

GR6.1.1 an entry for a New South Wales Championship event shall be made at the direction of the Company either electronically or on the official Company form or card provided which shall include the entrant's best time for the distance, in accordance with the conditions of entry, showing the meet and date when the time was established, being equal to or better than the qualifying time approved for this event, current registration number, and in the case of an Age event, date of birth and shall also include a certificate of swimmer status in accordance with GR 5.1.7. The entry shall be endorsed by the Secretary or other responsible official of the entrants Club and forwarded to the Company together with the entry fee.

GR6.2 An entrant in an Age Championship shall be of the specific age on the first day of the meet series, PROVIDED THAT, such meet shall not exceed a period of

sixteen (16) days and, if the Board so desires, shall produce a certificate of registration of birth or other satisfactory evidence of date of birth signed by the parent or guardian of the entrant.

GR7 FAILURE TO ACHIEVE QUALIFYING STANDARD

GR7.1 Any swimmer who fails to achieve the qualifying time for the event entered is subject to review and may be sanctioned by the Board.

GR8 CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEE

GR8.1 The Board shall set an entry fee for the following:

Individual Events

Team Relay Events

Open Water Swimming Events; and

such fees shall be advertised in the New South Wales Swimmer and the fixture listings.

NOTE:

Entrants in an Open Water Swimming Championship shall be required to pay the member Annual Registration fee before the first Open Water Swimming Event entered in the current Company year as provided in By Law 6.

GR9 NEW SOUTH WALES OPEN AND AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND OTHER SWIM MEETS

GR9.1 The Board shall determine the order of events and the duration of the Championships and such other swim meets as it determines from time to time, giving as much notice as possible to members. The Board shall also determine annually the format for the conduct of the Open and Age Championships Meet for the ensuing summer season. PROVIDED THAT, the format so determined shall be advertised at the time of calling entries for the Meet.

NSW CHAMPIONSHIP PROCEDURES

GR9.1.1 MARSHALLING PROCEDURE:

Any swimmer who fails to report personally to the Marshalling area at least ten minutes prior to the scheduled time for the start of the session on that day if entered in the first or second events, or at the time of the start of an event at least two events prior to the event in which they are entered shall be deemed to be withdrawn. Once reported, a swimmer is not permitted to leave the marshalling area unless approval is first obtained from the Marshal. All heats (including heats of the 800 metres and 1500 metre freestyle) shall be deemed to be one event for the purpose of this Rule.

NOTE:

For example if entered in Event 9, the swimmer must have personally reported to the Marshal before the start of the first heat of Event 7.

GR9.1.2 WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE:

HEATS

A swimmer, who fails to report personally to the Marshal by the specified time (see GR9.1.1), or, who having reported and subsequently leaves the marshalling area for any reason without the permission of the Marshal, shall be deemed a withdrawal.

FINALIST AND RESERVES

GR9.1.2.1 In all competition, finalists, and reserves (there shall be only two reserves listed) wishing to be withdrawn from a final shall do so in writing and signed by the swimmer or his/her authorised representative within 30 minutes following the posting of the results of the event in which the qualification took place.

GR9.1.2.2 A swimmer or relay team not having withdrawn as provided in GR9.1.2.1 and who does not compete in the event, shall be deemed a late withdrawal except where there are medical reasons or proven hardship and the swimmer or relay team's Club shall be fined the sum of \$100.00. The Board shall determine the acceptability on all matters where medical reasons or hardships are claimed and its determination shall be final.

GR9.1.3 RELAY EVENTS

In relay events the names of the swimmers and the order in which they are to swim shall be submitted in writing to the Chief Recorder or delegate prior to the commencement of the session at which the relays are to be swum.

In Club relays a maximum of one (1) swimmer from a younger age group may participate.

A swimmer may only appear in one (1) relay team list for that event.

A club may enter no more than two (2) teams per relay event.

Where a club enters two (2) teams both teams may score points provided the qualifying time has been met..

NOTE: At the NSW State Age 13 – 18 Championships, in club relays a maximum of one (1) swimmer from a younger age group may participate, however at these championships only athletes who are aged 13 years or older are allowed to compete.

GR10 NEW SOUTH WALES SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

GR10.1 Swimming New South Wales shall each year conduct;

- GR10.1.1 long course and short course NSW Swimming Championships, NSW Country Swimming Championships and NSW Metropolitan Swimming Championships, and
- GR10.1.2 NSW Open Water Championships and such exhibition and/or non championship events for both Open and Age group swimming separately for both male and female swimmers, selected from the table below and as may be determined by the Board from time to time.

| Events | Distances in metres | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|--------|---------|-----|-----|------|
| Freestyle | 50 | 100 | 200 | 400 | 800 | 1500 |
| Backstroke | 50 | 100 | 200 | | | |
| Breaststroke | 50 | 100 | 200 | | | |
| Butterfly | 50 | 100 | 200 | | | |
| Individual Medley | | 100 | 200 | 400 | | |
| Club Freestyle Relay | 4 x 50 | 4x 100 | 4 x 200 | | | |
| Club Medley Relay | 4 x 50 | 4x 100 | | | | |
| Open Water Swimming | Distances in metres | | | | | |
| Freestyle | 5,000 | 10,000 | 25,000 | | | |

NOTE

The order of events and the duration of the championships shall be determined by the Board which shall give as much notice as possible of such determination to Members.

Age Championship events shall be restricted to swimmers who are the specified age on the first day of the meet as defined in GR6.

Except as decided by the Board, only a first claim member of a Club in an Area as defined in GR5.3 shall be eligible to compete in Swimming New South Wales Country Championships.

Except as decided by the Board, only a first claim member of a Club in an Area as defined in GR5.4 shall be eligible to compete in Swimming New South Wales Metropolitan Championships.

The procedure for the conduct of the New South Wales Open Water Swimming Championship events shall, where possible, be in accordance with the FINA Open Water Swimming Rules.

In the case of two or more Open Water Swimming Open or Age Championships being conducted concurrently a swimmer shall not be permitted to enter more than one event and all swimmers shall have attained the age of 13 years for distances up to and including 10,000 metres and 14 years for distances over 10,000 metres on the day of the conduct of the event.

Swimming New South Wales shall recognise Records established for the individual and team events being swum in the Open and Age Championships as listed in GR10 excluding Open Water Swimming as there are no records within this discipline.

GR11 CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

GR11.1 A swimmer placed first, second or third in the final or timed final of New South Wales State Championship shall be awarded a medal of special design approved by the Board, PROVIDED THAT;

GR11.2 in a Teams Championship the awards shall be made to the members of the teams placed first, second and third. Awards will only be awarded to the swimmers who contest the final of that event;

GR11.3 the first three (3) Swimming New South Wales registered swimmers in a New South Wales Age Championship final shall be awarded a medal, however a similar placed swimmer who is not a Company member shall be awarded an appropriate medal; and

GR11.4 In all New South Wales Championships a finalist ribbon or other appropriate award will be awarded to those swimmers in a individual event other than medallist who are placed in the final or to those swimmers placed in a time final being equal to the number of lanes of the pool used for the championships.

GR11.5 PRESIDENT AWARD

Awarded to the respective Swimming New South Wales registered male and female swimmer in the Open Championship achieving the highest point score, using the FINA rankings, in an individual event.

GR11.6 The Ion King Trophy will be awarded to the respective Swimming New South Wales Country registered male and female swimmer in the Country Long Course and Short Course Championships achieving the highest percentage against the State Age or Open record for that individual event

GR12 CHAMPIONSHIP POINTSCORES

GR12.1 POINTSCORE GENERAL:

GR12.1.1 In each case points shall be awarded in order of placing, in accordance with the following:

GR12.1.1.1 for Finals the placings shown in the table in GR12.1.1.3 shall include Timed Finals for individual and relay events for the first number of placings being equal to the number of lanes, not exceeding ten (10), of the pool actually used for the conduct of the Championship Meet, or

GR12.1.1.2 for Open Water Swimming Championships the placings shown in the table in GR12.1.1.3 shall be for the first ten (10) places,

GR12.1.1.3 the points shown in the following table shall be for the first ten (10) places:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| 1 st place | 35 points | 6 th place | 17 points |
| 2 nd place | 30 points | 7 th place | 14 points |
| 3 rd place | 26 points | 8 th place | 11 points |
| 4 th place | 23 points | 9 th place | 8 points |
| 5 th place | 20 points | 10 th place | 5 points |

GR12.1.1.4 Where two (2) or more individual swimmers or relay teams are accorded the same placing, the appropriate points shall be allocated for that placing and the next one or more respective numerical placings shall be deleted accordingly.

GR12.1.1.5 Where a swimmer / team is disqualified or does not achieve the entry qualifying time for the event, points shall not be awarded

GR12.2 STATE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

GR12.2.1 A swimmers with a disability point score will be compiled for disability events only for which all clubs, NSW and visiting, shall be eligible to receive points

GR12.2.2 A point score for able bodied swimmers will be compiled for able bodied events only for which all clubs, NSW and visiting, shall be eligible to receive points.

GR12.2.3 A point score combining both GR12.2.1 and GR12.2.2 will be compiled for the Championship and the winning Club of this point score shall receive the State Open Championship Point Score Award. The second and third placed Clubs shall receive an appropriate Award.

GR12.2.4 A point score will be compiled for Swimming NSW Clubs only, encompassing both swimmers with a disability and able bodied swimmers. Points will only be awarded to first claim NSW swimmers who finish in the top twenty (20) swimmers overall in a particular event. The points from this point score will contribute to the Swimming NSW Top 10 Annual Club Point Score.

GR12.3 STATE OPEN WATER POINTSCORE

- GR12.3.1 A point score will be compiled for Swimming NSW Clubs only, encompassing both 5km and 10km events at both the State Open and State Age Open Water Championships.
- GR12.3.2 The winning Club of this point score shall receive the State Open Water Championship Point Score Award. The second and third placed Clubs shall receive an appropriate Award.
- GR12.3.3 The points from this point score will contribute to the Swimming NSW Top 10 Annual Club Point Score.
- GR12.4 STATE AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
- GR12.4.1 A point score will be compiled for the 10 & Under – 12 Years State Age Championships
- GR12.4.1.1 The winning Club of this point score shall receive the 10 & Under – 12 Years State Age Championship Point Score Award. The second and third placed Clubs shall receive an appropriate Award.
- GR12.4.2 A point score will be compiled for the 13 – 18 Years State Age Championships.
- GR12.4.2.1 The winning Club of this point score shall receive the 13 – 18 Years State Age Championship Point Score Award. The second and third placed Clubs shall receive an appropriate Award.
- GR12.4.3 A point score combining both GR12.4.1 and GR12.4.2 shall be compiled and the winning Club shall receive the 10 & Under – 18 Years State Age Championship Point Score Award. The second and third placed Clubs shall receive an appropriate Award.
- GR12.4.4 The point score from GR12.4.3 shall contribute to the Swimming NSW Top 10 Annual Club Point Score.
- GR12.5 STATE OPEN WINTER SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS
- GR12.5.1 A point score will be compiled for which all Clubs, NSW and visiting, shall be eligible to receive points.
- GR12.5.1.1 The winning Club of this point score shall receive the State Open Winter Short Course Championship Point Score Award. The second and third placed Clubs shall receive an appropriate Award.
- GR12.5.2 A point score will be compiled for NSW Clubs only and this point score shall contribute to the Swimming NSW Top 10 Annual Club Point Score.
- GR12.6 STATE AGE WINTER SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS
- GR12.6.1 A point score will be compiled for NSW Clubs only and the winning Club of this point score shall receive the State Age Winter Short Course Championship

Point Score Award. The second and third placed Clubs shall receive an appropriate Award.

GR12.6.2 This point score shall contribute to the Swimming NSW Top 10 Annual Club Point Score.

GR12.7 TOP 10 ANNUAL CLUB POINT SCORE

GR12.7.1 On an annual basis Swimming NSW shall present an appropriate Award to the Top 10 Clubs who have accumulated the most points from the point scores encompassed within GR12.2.4, GR12.3.3, GR12.4.3, GR12.5.2, and GR12.6

GR12.8 SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES METROPOLITAN CHAMPIONSHIP:

GR12.8.1 Points shall be allocated in order of placing of first claim members of Clubs in the New South Wales Metropolitan Championships, (see GR10) in each of the following separate Point Score Premierships:

GR12.8.1.1 the Open and Age Individual Swimming Championships; and,

GR12.8.1.2 the Open and Age Individual Winter Swimming Championships

GR12.8.2 In each case points shall be awarded in order of placing in accordance with GR12.1.1 as applicable to this Point Score.

GR12.8.3 The winning Club of each Point Score shall receive the Joseph M. Harrison Trophy and the title Swimming New South Wales Metropolitan Point Score Champions, second and third placed Clubs of each of the Point Scores shall receive an appropriate award.

GR12.9 SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

GR12.9.1 Points shall be allocated in the order of placing of members of Clubs in all Swimming New South Wales Country Championships (see GR10) events in each of the following Point Score Championships:

GR12.9.1.1 the Open and Age Individual Swimming Championship Point Score for Men and the winning Club shall receive the W. J. Payne Shield to be held for one (1) year and Swimming New South Wales Men's Country Point Score Champions,

GR12.9.1.2 the Open and Age Individual Swimming Championship Point Score for Women and the winning Club shall receive the W. J. Payne Shield to be held for one (1) year and Swimming New South Wales Women's Country Point Score Champions,

GR12.9.1.3 the Open and Age Individual Swimming Championship Point Score for Men and Women and the winning Club shall receive the Roger F. Pegram Trophy to be held for one (1) year and Swimming New South Wales Country Championships Point Score Champions Title, and

GR12.9.1.4 the Open and Age Individual Winter Swimming Championships point score for Men and Women and the winning Club shall receive the Nancy Dixon Trophy being the Country Championship Award to be held for one (1) year and the Title of Swimming New South Wales Winter Country Championship Point Score Champion

GR13 EMERGENCY POWERS

Under special circumstances the Board may:

GR13.1 cancel or suspend all or any Championships as set out in GR10; and

GR13.2 suspend GR11 and approve other awards for events and places in lieu of medals

GR14 SWIMMERS INELIGIBLE TO COMPETE

GR14.1 Events for swimmers ineligible to compete according to By Law 33 shall not be conducted at the same meet without permission of the Board.

GR15 AREA AUTHORITY

GR15.1 An Area shall have authority to:

GR15.2 grant permission for the Clubs within its territory to promote and control interclub swim meets, PROVIDED THAT:
approval will not be granted where the proposed date of the meet is on the same date as a SAL or Company conducted meet.

NOTWITHSTANDING the preceding provisions of this General Rule, the Board may at its discretion approve the conduct of a meet deemed to be in conflict with a Company conducted Meet (see By Law 29)

GR15.3 require, if deemed necessary, the value of awards offered at a meet authorised in pursuance of this Rule, to be deposited with the Area Secretary fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meet.

GR16 APPROVED MEETS, FORWARDING OF RESULTS

AREA APPROVAL

GR16.1 An Area shall be authorised to approve the conduct of a Meet for the purpose of the establishment of qualifying standards by a Club in accordance with current SAL and Company Policy. The Area shall forward or cause to be forwarded to the Company Office the names of swimmers and the respective times established being equal to or better than the qualifying standard for an Australian or State Championship Event within seven (7) days of the meet being held or by the closing date for entries for the Championship Event. The Area shall furnish to the Company results of Area Meets within seven (7) days

of the meet being held or by the closing date for entries for the Championship Event, whichever is first in time, or as required by the Board.

SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES APPROVAL

GR16.2 Results from Board approved swim meets, school meets and/or kindred association meets must be submitted in accordance with the requirements of GR16.1

GR17 INTER CLUB EVENTS

An open interclub event is one available to more than one (1) Club, the entrants from each Club shall be first claim registered members of the Club, PROVIDED THAT:

GR17.1 such members shall not compete with those who are not members of the Company except as may be approved by the Board, or members who are ineligible to compete according to By Law 33;

GR17.2 an entrant in age events shall be of the specified age on the first day of the meet series; and

GR17.3 the Board may in extenuating circumstances approve that the period stated in GR6.2. may be extended for a specific non championship age meet series.

GR17.4 In all open interclub Open Water Swimming events a swimmer, who has not attained thirteen (13) years of age on the day of the event, is not permitted to contest distances of over five (5) kilometres.

NOTE:

An open interclub event in this context is one not closed or restricted by special conditions and open does not refer to age grouping (see By Law 25).

GR18 OFFICIALS FOR INDIVIDUAL ATTEMPTS ON RECORDS

GR18.1 Subject to approval by the Board, officials for an individual attempt on a record or a meet promoted and controlled by the Company shall be appointed from the Swimming New South Wales Technical Officials by the Technical Swimming Committee.

GR19 SWIMWEAR

FINA GR5

GR19.1 General Swimsuit Guidelines

GR19.1.1 The swimwear (swimsuit, cap and goggles) of all swimmers shall be in good moral taste and suitable for the individual sports discipline.
FINA GR5.1

GR19.1.2 All costumes shall be non-transparent and must conform with FINA approved standards in all respects
FINA GR5.2

GR19.1.3 In open swimming competitions the swimmer must wear swimsuit in one or two
FINA GR5.3 pieces which shall not extend beyond the ankles, the wrists and the neck. No additional items, like arm bands or leg bands shall be regarded as parts of a swimsuit.

GR19.1.4 The Referee of a competition has the authority to exclude any competitor
FINA GR5.4 whose swimsuit does not comply with this Rule.

GR19.1.5 From 1st April 2009 Swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit

GR19.2 Additional Swimsuit Guidelines for Age Group Events

GR19.2.1 All swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events (18 & under)
conducted in NSW by Swimming NSW and any Member Associations shall be commercially available products.

GR19.2.2 Swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events conducted in NSW by
Swimming NSW and any Member Associations shall conform to the following design – effective 1st April 2009

- (i) Men's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that covers at most the body surface from hips to knee. Swimwear may not extend above the waist or below the knees;
- (ii) Women's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that is of "open back" and "open shoulder" designs that may extend down to the knee. Swimwear must not extend below the knees.
- (iii) Swimwear must not have a zipper or any type of fastening system.

Interpretation of GR19.1.5 and GR19.2.2 (i) and GR19.2.2 (ii)

For the purposes of these General Rules, one (1) swimsuit may include the wearing of a single pair of "briefs" or "bikini bottoms" to ensure the modesty and privacy of swimmers

GR20 ADVERTISING

GR20.1 At all Swimming New South Wales sanctioned meets, competing Areas, Clubs and swimmers must observe the following regarding advertising on clothing and equipment. Areas, Clubs and swimmers should note that GR19 is based on the FINA General Rule GR6 and FINA By-Law 7

GR20.2 Swimwear

Identification in the form of the logo of the manufacturer not exceeding twenty (20) square centimetres on swimwear is permitted. In addition to the foregoing, only one (1) logo of a sponsor is permitted on the swimsuit. The sponsors logo may not exceed twenty (20) centimetres. A two-piece swimsuit shall be regarded as one swimsuit. The name and flag/logo of the Area/Club/State of the competitor shall not be regarded as advertisement.

GR20.3 Pool Deck Equipment

Towels, pool deck clothing and bags may carry two (2) logos (one of the manufacturer and one of the sponsor) each with a maximum size of twenty (20) square centimetres.

Tracksuit tops and bottoms may carry two (2) logos (one of the manufacturer and one of the sponsor) each with a maximum size of twenty (20) square centimetres.

GR20.4 Caps

Area/Club caps may carry one (1) manufacturer's logo of a maximum of twelve (12) square centimetres. The cap may also carry one(1) sponsor name/logo not exceeding twenty (20) square centimetres. The name and the flag/logo of the Area/Club/State of the competitor shall not be regarded as advertisements.

GR20.5 Goggles

Two (2) manufacturer logos of maximum six (6) square centimetres are allowed on goggles but only on the spectacle frame or band.

GR20.6 Body advertisement is not allowed in any way whatsoever.

GR20.7 Advertisement for tobacco or alcohol is not permitted.

GR20.8 This rule does not apply to design advertising and trade marks of SAL, or its commercial sponsors, or the design advertising trademarks of the major sponsor of the Company or a State Association so long as it does not conflict with a sponsor of SAL.

GR20.9 Any advertising logos/identifications, which are not indicated in GR20 are not permitted. In the event that any apparel contravenes these regulations, the swimmer must immediately remove the offending item/s and replace it with apparel, which complies with these regulations.

GR21 ACCIDENTAL OMISSION BY AN OFFICIAL

GR21.1 The accidental omission by an official to perform their duties shall not prevent an event being properly conducted unless such omission has prejudiced the chances of any swimmer in a material way.

GR22 ERROR BY AN OFFICIAL

GR22.1 If an error by an official follows a fault by a swimmer, the fault by the swimmer may be expunged.
FINA GR7.5

GR23 JURY OF APPEAL AND PROTESTS

GR23.1 Protests are possible

FINA GR9.2.1 (a) if the rules and regulations for the conduct of the competition are not observed;

(b) if other conditions endanger the competitions and/or swimmers; or

(c) against the decisions of the Referee, however, no protests shall be allowed against decisions of fact.

GR23.2 Protests must be submitted:

(a) to the Referee

(b) in writing by the responsible team leader or the swimmer, or a representative on behalf of the swimmer

(c) together with a deposit of one hundred (\$100.00) and shall have been lodged within thirty (30) minutes following the conclusion of the respective event.

If conditions causing a potential protest are noted prior to the competition, a protest must be lodged before the signal to start is given.

GR23.3 All protests shall be considered by the Referee. If he rejects the protest, he must state the reasons for his decision. The protestor may appeal against the rejection to the Jury of Appeal whose decision shall be final.

GR23.4 If the protest is rejected the deposit will be forfeited to the management body of the competition. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be returned.

GR23.5 In the event of a protest being upheld the prize shall be awarded in accordance with any revised placings.

GR23.6 Where the subject of the protest cannot be resolved by the Jury of Appeal during the Meet series, the matter shall be referred to the Board for decision.

GR23.7 JURY OF APPEAL

GR23.7.1 For Swimming New South Wales Championships and other swim meets, the Jury of Appeal shall be composed of the Board and such other Board appointed delegates (jury members) for the purpose. The Jury will consist of any three jury members with one of their number as chairman. The decision of the Jury is final.

GR24 PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS

GR24.1 A body offering a challenge prize subject to a guarantee for its return shall, if required, state explicitly to each entrant the exact nature of the guarantee required and where any difficulty arises in arranging the terms the decision of the committee of that body shall be accepted by all parties as final.

GR25 BETTING

GR25.1 Betting shall not be allowed at a meet of an Member Association and it shall be the duty of every Member Association to take the best means in its power to enforce this Rule. Any Member Association failing to take prompt measures to

suppress betting at its meets shall be liable to suspension for such times as the Board may deem necessary.

GR26 SMOKING AND ALCOHOL BANS

GR26.1 At all Company meets smoking or consumption of alcohol shall NOT be permitted during the meet in any area designated for swimmers, either prior to or during competitions.

SWIMMING RULES

SW1 MEET CONTROL

SW1.1 A MEET COMMITTEE shall have jurisdiction over all matters NOT assigned by the Rules to the Referee, judges or other officials and shall have the power to postpone events and to give directions, consistent with the Rules, relating to the methods to be adopted for the conduct of any event which the Meet Committee may deem necessary, PROVIDED THAT:

SW1.1.1 pool admission fees will, in no case, be returned nor expenses allowed to any swimmer in consequence of any postponement or alteration;

SW1.1.2 a MEET DIRECTOR shall be appointed by the Meet Committee as its representative in control of the meet;

NOTE:

The detailed Duties and Responsibilities of a Swim Meet Director are included in Appendix "A";

SW1.1.3 swim meet officials in SW2.13 and SW2.15 shall be appointed by the Meet Committee and be responsible to the Meet Director;

SW1.2 FOR SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES CONDUCTED MEETS:

SW1.2.1 a Referee who is accredited and meets the re-accreditation requirements of SAL and/or Swimming New South Wales as amended from time to time, shall be appointed by the Technical Swimming Committee; and

SW1.2.2 Swim Meet Officials specified in SW2.2 to SW2.12 inclusive and SW 2.14 shall be appointed by the Technical Committee and be responsible to the Referee of the Meet. Swim Meet Officials shall meet and maintain any re-accreditation requirements as determined by SAL and/or Swimming New South Wales and as published from time to time. Appointment as a swim meet official will follow re-accreditation.

SW2 SWIM MEET OFFICIALS, THEIR CONTROL, DUTIES AND POWERS

SW2.1 a REFEREE shall be appointed and:

SW2.1.1 have full control and authority over all officials, approve their assignments and instruct them regarding all special features or regulations relating to the competition. He shall enforce all the Rules and decisions of the Company and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the meet and event or competition, the final settlement of which is not otherwise covered by the Rules;

FINA SW2.1.1

- SW2.1.2
FINA SW2.1.2 may intervene in the competition at any stage to ensure that the Company regulations and rules are observed, shall adjudicate all protests related to the competition in progress;
- SW2.1.3
FINA SW2.1.6 shall disqualify any swimmer for any violation of the rules that he personally observes. The Referee may also disqualify any swimmer for any violation reported to him by other authorised officials. All disqualifications are subject to the decision of the Referee.
- SW2.1.4 have the power to disqualify any swimmer whose action during the conduct of an event in the opinion of the Referee is contrary to the good conduct of the meet;
- SW2.1.5 have authority to commence a race prior to swimmers in the previous race leaving the water;
- SW2.1.6 should the Finish Judges not be able to determine a result, add his placings to clarify the placings within the area of disagreement so that the result may be determined;
- SW2.1.7
FINA SW2.1.3 when using Finish Judges without three (3) digital watches, the Referee shall determine placings where necessary. Automatic Officiating Equipment, if available and operating, shall be consulted, as stated in SW13;
- SW2.1.8 have authority to use any judging or timing devices approved by Swimming New South Wales;
- SW2.1.9 determine the result when a judging device is in use;
- SW2.1.10
FINA SW2.1.4 ensure that all necessary officials are in their respective posts for the conduct of the competition. He may appoint substitutes for any who are absent, incapable of acting or found to be inefficient. He may appoint additional officials if considered necessary;
- SW2.1.11
FINA SW2.1.5 at the commencement of each event, signal to the swimmers by a short series of whistles inviting them to remove all clothing except for swimwear, followed by a long whistle indicating that they should take their positions on the starting platform, or for backstroke swimming and medley relays to immediately enter the water. A second long whistle shall bring the backstroke and medley relay swimmer immediately to the starting position. When swimmers and officials are prepared for the start, the Referee shall gesture to the Starter with a stretched out arm, indicating that the swimmers are under the Starters control. The stretched out arm shall stay in that position until the start is given;

NOTE:

Where circumstances warrant, the short series of whistles may be omitted.

- SW2.1.12 cause the Chief Recorder to be advised of any disqualification of a swimmer;
- SW2.1.13 where possible advise promptly any swimmer so disqualified of the reason; and
- SW2.1.14 signal swimmers to leave the water.

NOTE:

Referees should be acquainted with the "Swimmers with a Disability Rules as published by SAL" and found on its website address, www.swimming.org.au

SW2. 2 a **CONTROL ROOM SUPERVISOR** shall be appointed and shall:
FINA SW2.2

SW2.2.1 be thoroughly familiar with all swimming rules and the operation of the Automatic Officiating Equipment;

SW2.2.2 oversee the operation of the automatic timing operation including the review of back up timing equipment; and

SW2.2.3 report to the Referee, instances of machine failure or apparent failure or of a swimmer's failure to activate the equipment.

SW2.3 a **STARTER** shall be appointed and shall:

SW2.3.1 have full control of the swimmers from the time the Referee turns the swimmers over to the Starter (SW2.1.11) until the race has commenced. The start shall be given in accordance with SW4;
FINA SW2.3.1

SW2.3.2 report a swimmer to the Referee for delaying the start, for wilfully disobeying an order or for any other misconduct taking place at the start, but only the Referee may disqualify a swimmer for such delay, wilful disobedience or misconduct;
FINA SW2.3.2

SW2.3.3 have power to decide whether the start is fair, subject only to the decision of the Referee;
FINA SW2.3.3

SW2.3.4 when starting an event, the Starter shall stand on the side of the pool within approximately five (5) metres of the starting edge of the pool where the Timekeepers can see and or hear the starting signal and the swimmers can hear the signal.
FINA SW2.3.4

NOTE:

When dealing with swimmers a Starter should avoid any inclination to impatience.

For the start of an event the Referee will give a long whistle to alert the Officials and spectators and also to call the swimmers to their positions on the starting platform, or in the case of backstroke events or medley relay events, to

immediately enter the water. At the Referee's second long whistle the swimmers shall return without undue delay to their starting positions in the water.

The Starter assumes control and gives the precautionary command as defined in these Rules. On receiving the command "take your marks" the swimmers will immediately take up their starting position and remain stationary.

When starting an event with a pistol, the pistol should be held over the head.

SW2.4 a **CHECK STARTER** shall be appointed and shall:

SW2.4.1 receive swimmers from the Marshals;

SW2.4.2 place the swimmers in the area designated by the Starter to receive starting instructions;

SW2.4.3 place swimmers in their respective starting positions for the event;

SW2.4.4 signal the Referee when all is in readiness; and

SW2.4.5 maintain general supervision to ensure the costumes of all swimmers are in accordance with the Rules and report any breach of these Rules immediately to the Referee, PROVIDED THAT, for Swimming New South Wales controlled Meets, the Meet Committee may, if considered expedient, delete any or all of the above duties SW2.4.1 to SW2.4.4.

CLARIFICATION:

For appointment as Marshal the qualification is that of Check Starter and at SAL and FINA levels is titled "Clerk of the Course".

SW2.5 the **CHIEF INSPECTOR OF TURNS** shall:

SW2.5.1 ensure that Inspectors of Turns fulfil their duties during the competition;
FINA SW2.5.1

SW2.5.2 receive the reports from the Inspectors of Turns if any infringement occurs
FINA SW2.5.2 and shall present them to the Referee immediately.

SW2.6 one **INSPECTOR OF TURNS** shall be assigned to each lane at each end of the pool and shall:

SW2.6.1 ensure that swimmers comply with the relevant rules for turning, commencing
FINA SW2.6.2 from the beginning of the last armstroke before touching and ending with the completion of the first armstroke after turning. The Inspectors of Turns at the starting end of the pool, shall ensure that the swimmers comply with the relevant rules from the start and ending with the completion of the first armstroke. The Inspectors of Turns at the finish end of the pool shall ensure that swimmers finish their race in accordance with the current rules;

- SW2.6.2 in individual events of 800 and 1500 metres, each Inspector of Turns at the
FINA SW2.6.3 turning end of the pool shall record the number of laps completed by the swimmer in his lane and keep the swimmer informed of the remaining number of laps to be completed by displaying "lap cards". Semi electronic equipment may be used, including underwater display; and
- SW2.6.3 each Inspector of Turns at the starting end shall give a warning signal when
FINA SW2.6.4 the swimmer in his lane has two lengths plus five (5) metres to swim to finish in individual events of 800 and 1500 metres. The signal may be repeated after the turn until the swimmer has reached the five (5) metres mark on the lane rope. The warning signal may be by a whistle or bell.
- SW2.6.4 each Inspector of Turns at the starting end shall determine, in relay events,
FINA SW2.6.5 whether the starting swimmer is in contact with the starting platform when the preceding swimmer touches the starting wall. When Automatic Equipment which judges relay takeoffs is available, it shall be used in accordance with SW13.1;
- SW2.6.5 Inspectors of Turns shall report any violation on signed cards detailing the
FINA SW2.6.6 event, lane number, and the infringement delivered to the Chief Inspector of Turns who shall immediately convey the report to the Referee;
- SW2.7 **JUDGES OF STROKE** shall be appointed and shall:
- SW2.7.1 be located on each side of the pool;
FINA SW2.7.1
- SW2.7.2 ensure that the rules relating to the style of swimming designated for the event
FINA SW2.7.2 are being observed, and shall observe the turns and the finishes to assist the Inspectors of Turns; and
- SW2.7.3 report any violation to the Referee on signed cards detailing the event, lane
FINA SW2.7.3 number and the infringement.
- SW2.8 a **CHIEF TIMEKEEPER** shall be appointed and shall;
- SW2.8.1 assign the seating positions for all Timekeepers and the lanes for which they
FINA SW2.8.1 are responsible. There shall be three (3) Timekeepers for each lane. If Automatic Officiating Equipment is not used there shall be two (2) additional Timekeepers designated, either of whom shall be directed to replace a Timekeeper whose watch did not start or stopped during an event, or who for any other reason is not able to record the time. When using three (3) digital watches per lane, final time and place is determined by time.
- SW2.8.2 ascertain the method of start from the Starter and inform the Timekeepers of
the method to be used,
- SW2.8.3 appoint Chief Lane Timekeepers who shall check and record on a card or slip,
the event, heat number and times of all watches and determine the time for that lane,

- SW2.8.4 ensure that the card or slip is collected from each lane and forwarded to the Chief Recorder and if necessary inspect the watches and the time recorded on the lane,
- SW2.8.5 instruct Timekeepers to zero their watches for the commencement of the next event; and
- SW2.8.6 the Chief Timekeeper may instruct the Timekeepers to record times at the intermediate 100 metre distances in races longer than 100 metres.

NOTE:

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR CHECKING WATCHES PRIOR TO THE START OF A MEET.

After the Chief Timekeeper has assigned the Lane Timekeepers, the following procedure for watch check is recommended,

- all Timekeepers and the Starter are directed by the Chief Timekeeper to a selected area of the pool surrounds,
- all electronic stopwatches are properly energised,
- all watches are started from the gun flash or smoke after a warning command from the Starter,
- watches are run for approximately five (5) minutes and following a warning command from the Starter, the watches are stopped on the gun flash or smoke,
- the three (3) watches of the Timekeepers allocated to each lane are checked by the respective Chief Lane Timekeeper, recorded and the watches held for a supervising check by the Chief Timekeeper if required. The Chief Timekeeper shall also check the watches of the reserve Timekeepers and the Chief Lane Timekeeper,
- the Chief Timekeeper will instruct all Timekeepers to return their watches to zero when satisfied all watches have been checked, and
- any discrepancies in watch readings shall be reported to the Chief Timekeeper and if necessary arrangements are made to have another checked watch replace the watch at fault.

This procedure will ensure that all watches are in readiness and any faulty watch detected before the commencement of the event and will also serve to check the correct functioning of the starting pistol.

SW2.9 **TIMEKEEPERS**, sufficient shall be appointed and:

SW2.9.1 Each Timekeeper shall take the time of the swimmers in the lane assigned to him in accordance with SW11.3. The watches shall be certified correct to the satisfaction of the Meet Management Committee;
FINA SW2.9.1

SW2.9.2 Each Timekeeper shall start his watch at the starting signal, and shall stop it when the swimmer in his lane has completed the race. Timekeepers may be instructed by the Chief Timekeeper to record times at intermediate distances in races longer than 100 metres;
FINA SW2.9.2

SW2.9.3 Promptly after the race, the Timekeepers in each lane shall record the times of their watches on the card, give it to the Chief Timekeeper, and if requested present their watches for inspection. They shall not clear their watches until they receive the "clear watches" signal from the Chief Timekeeper or the Referee;
FINA SW2.9.3

SW2.9.4 keep a personal record of their individual times for every event; and

SW2.9.5 unless a video back up system is used , it may be necessary to use the full complement of timekeepers even when Automatic Officiating Equipment is used.
FINA SW2.8.4

NOTE:

It is desirable to ensure that three (3) Timekeepers are appointed to each lane. There should be two (2) Reserve Timekeepers, one or other of whom shall replace any Timekeeper as directed.

SW2.10 a **CHIEF FINISH JUDGE** shall be appointed and shall:

SW2.10.1 The Chief Finish Judge shall assign each Finish Judge his position and the placing to be determined.
FINA SW2.10.1

SW2.10.2 After the race, the Chief Finish Judge shall collect signed result sheets from each finish judge and establish the result and placing which will be sent directly to the Referee;
FINA SW2.10.2

SW2.10.3 Where Automatic Officiating Equipment is used to judge the finish of a race, the Chief Finish Judge must report the order of finish recorded by the Equipment after each race.
FINA SW2.10.3

NOTE:

COLLATING THE FINISH JUDGES RESULT

The principle to be applied in the collation of the official results on placings is that the decision on any placings must be given to the swimmer who is placed ahead of another by the MAJORITY OF FINISH JUDGES, whose placings are being used in the compilation of the official result.

EXAMPLE:

| Placing | Judge 1 | Judge 2 | Judge 3 | Judge 4 | Judge 5 | Official Result |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 1 st | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 2 nd | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 3 rd | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 4 th | 1 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 5 th | 5 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 6 th | 7 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 7 th | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| 8 th | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |

SW2.11 **FINISH JUDGES** three (3) or more, one (1) of whom shall be the Chief Finish Judge shall be appointed and shall:

SW2.11.1 FINA SW2.11.1 Finish Judges shall be positioned in elevated stands in line with the finish where they have at all times a clear view of the course and the finish line, unless they operate an Automatic Officiating device in their respective assigned lanes by depressing the "push-button" at the completion of the race.

SW2.11.2 FINA SW2.11.2 After each event the Finish Judges shall decide and report the placing of the swimmers according to the assignments given to them. Finish Judges other than push-button operators shall not act as timekeepers in the same event.

SW.2.12 the **CHIEF RECORDER** shall:

SW2.12.1 be responsible for the checking, compilation and distribution of results from the Automatic Officiating Equipment, or from results of times and placings in each event, received from the Referee;

SW2.12.2 **RECORDERS** three (3) or more, one (1) of whom shall be Chief Recorder, shall be appointed and shall:

SW2.12.2.1 control withdrawals, before and after heats or finals, enter results on official forms, list all new records established, and maintain point scores where appropriate;

SW2.12.2.2 supply this information to the Announcer and Press Steward;

- SW2.12.2.3 compile lists of swimmers for any ensuing round or final of an event and distribute as necessary, to officials, press and public.
- SW2.13 an **ANNOUNCER** shall be appointed and shall:
- SW2.13.1 report to the Referee and Meet Director, check the operation of the equipment and become acquainted with the Chief Officials of the meet; and
- SW2.13.2 make all announcements as directed necessary for the conduct and presentation of the meet and generally assist the Meet Director to maintain meet continuity.
- SW2.14 a **PRESENTATION OFFICER** shall be appointed and shall:
- SW2.14.1 obtain the official placings from the Referee and then conduct and prepare the swimmers placed first, second and third for the presentation ceremony. In addition the Presentation Officer is required to arrange for the remaining finalists to receive their finalists awards and prepare recipients for other award presentations and ceremonials.
- SW2.15 a **MEDAL CEREMONY OFFICER** shall be appointed and shall:
- SW2.15.1 report to the Meet Director and receive the allotted medals and other awards for the session
- SW2.15.2 receive results of each event from the Chief Recorder;
- SW2.15.3 allocate appropriate medals for the respective medal presentation ceremony; and
- SW2.15.4 issue finalists awards to the remainder finalists and attend to such other awards ceremony duties as may be required from time to time.
- SW2.16 **OFFICIALS' DECISION MAKING**
- SW2.16.1 Officials shall make their decisions autonomously and independently of each other unless otherwise provided in the Swimming Rules.
- FINA SW2.13.1

GENERAL COMMENTS ON RULE SW2.

The foregoing Rules define the technical duties officials are required to perform. However, there are some general requirements which are applicable to all officials and these are detailed for information.

- It is required that officials arrive at the venue of the fixture attired in the nominated dress for the meet for heats and finals at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the advertised starting time, to become acquainted with the other officials, make themselves familiar with the pool conditions and have everything in readiness for the start of the meet.

- On arrival at the venue all officials must report to the meet Referee to be marked present and receive a programme.
- Because of the responsibilities of the positions the Referee and Chief Recorder would be required to be available at least one (1) hour prior to the advertised start.
- It is essential that each official is properly equipped to carry out the allotted duties. In this regard the REFEREE and JUDGES OF STROKE and INSPECTORS OF TURNS shall carry a whistle, pencils, pens, wrist watch, clipboard and pad, record application forms and the current issue of the Rules of Swimming. The REFEREE shall ensure that all Officials are furnished with a programme and finalists sheets as appropriate and that the Starter has an approved starting device, where applicable.
- The FINISH JUDGES, TIMEKEEPERS and CHECK STARTER shall carry clipboard. pad and pencils. TIMEKEEPERS shall carry their own stopwatches.
- The STARTER should be supplied with the starting pistol and ammunition or such other approved starting device and shall carry a whistle.
- It is desirable that officials acquaint themselves with the judging device, timing device and automatic judging and/or timing device described in SW13.
- Swimmers with a disability may compete in the Company meets. These swimmers must comply with all entry requirements, including the qualifying time, however, the swimmer shall have been registered by a Club and registered by SAL and be in possession of a SAL Registration Card which will advise the swimmer's disability classification and the exemption applicable. The swimmers should personally present their SAL Registration Card to the Referee prior to the start of the meet so that the Referee may note the exception(s) in his programme.

The Referee should use the "Swimmers with a Disability Rules as published by SAL" (see website <http://www.swimming.org.au/>)

SW3 STARTING POSITIONS

SW3.1 For the purpose of a scratch or championship swimming event each entrant shall be required to submit his best competitive time for the relative style and distance on the entry form, to comply with the conditions of entry stipulated by the promoting body.

- SW3.2 Entrants who do not submit a time shall be considered the slowest and shall be listed at the end. If there is more than one such entry, the order of listing shall be determined by draw.
- SW3.3 The number of heats in any event shall be determined by the number of lanes of the pool or the width of the course available for use and the number of swimmers. Subject to SW3.10 the number of qualifiers comprising the final shall be determined by the number of lanes of a six (6), seven (7), eight (8), nine (9) or ten (10) lane pool or the width of the course available for use in an unenclosed pool.
- SW3.4 FOR SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES OPEN, AGE, COUNTRY OPEN AND AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS and scratch events where FINALS are to be contested the Chief Recorder or other properly appointed person shall draw up heats where necessary in accordance with the following:
- SW3.4.1 FOR ONE (1) HEAT
FINA SW3.1.1.1 The entrants shall be seeded as a final as provided in SW3.4.2 and swum as scheduled in the finals session of the meet.
- SW3.4.1.1 FOR TWO (2) HEATS
- The fastest swimmer shall be placed in the second heat, the next fastest in the first heat and the third fastest in the second heat and so on until all swimmers are assigned.
- SW3.4.1.2 FOR THREE (3) HEATS
- The fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, next fastest in the second, next fastest in the first. The fourth fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, the fifth in the second heat and so on until all the swimmers are assigned.
- SW3.4.1.3 FOR MORE THAN THREE (3) HEATS
- The last three heats shall be assigned in accordance with SW3.4.1.2. The heat preceding the last three heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers, the heat preceding the last four heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers and so on until all the swimmers have been assigned in descending order of submitted times within each heat in accordance with the pattern outlined in SW3.4.2.
- SW3.4.2 Except for 50 metre events in 50 metre pools, assignment to lanes shall be, number one being on the right side of the pool when facing the course from the starting end, by placing the fastest swimmer in the Centre lane in pools with an odd number of lanes, or in lane 3 or 4 respectively in pools having six (6), eight (8) and in lane 4 in pools of ten (10) lanes numbered zero (0) to nine (9). The swimmer having the next fastest time is to be placed on his left, then alternating the others to right and left in accordance with the submitted times.

Swimmers with identical times shall be assigned their lane position by draw within the aforesaid pattern. [Refer example tables following SW3.4.3.]

SW3.4.3 When 50 metre events are contested in 50 metre pools, races may be swum, at the discretion of the Meet Committee either from the regular starting end to the turning end or from the turning end to the starting end, depending upon such factors as existence of adequate Automatic Equipment, starter's position, etc.. The Management Committee should advise swimmers of their determination well before the start of the competition. Regardless of which way the race is swum, the swimmers shall be seeded in the same lanes in which they would be seeded if they were both starting and finishing at the starting end. Refer example tables next following:

EXAMPLE EIGHT (8) LANE POOL,

ENTRANTS 1-42 IN NUMERICAL TIME ORDER

| LANE No. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 st Heat | - | - | 42 | 40 | 41 | - | - | - |
| 2 nd Heat | 39 | 37 | 35 | 33 | 34 | 36 | 38 | - |
| 3 rd Heat | 31 | 29 | 27 | 25 | 26 | 28 | 30 | 32 |
| 4 th Heat | 21 | 15 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 18 | 24 |
| 5 th Heat | 20 | 14 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 17 | 23 |
| 6 th Heat | 19 | 13 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 16 | 22 |

EXAMPLE TEN (10) LANE POOL,

ENTRANTS 1-52 IN NUMERICAL TIME ORDER

| LANE No. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 st Heat | - | - | - | 52 | 50 | 51 | - | - | - | - |
| 2 nd Heat | 49 | 47 | 45 | 43 | 41 | 42 | 44 | 46 | 48 | - |
| 3 rd Heat | 39 | 37 | 35 | 33 | 31 | 32 | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40 |
| 4 th Heat | 27 | 21 | 15 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 18 | 24 | 30 |
| 5 th Heat | 26 | 20 | 14 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 17 | 23 | 29 |
| 6 th Heat | 25 | 19 | 13 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 16 | 22 | 28 |

SW3.4.4 SEMI-FINALS and FINALS

SW3.4.4.1 In the semi-finals heats shall be assigned as in SW3.4.2

SW3.4.4.2 Where no preliminary heats are necessary, lanes shall be assigned in accordance with SW3.4.4.1 above. Where preliminary heats or semi-finals have been held, lanes shall be assigned as in SW3.4.2 based, however, on times established in such heats.

SW3.4.4.3 In the event that swimmers from the same or different heats have equal times registered to 1/100th second for either eighth place or sixteenth place, or tenth place or twentieth place in 10 lane configured pools, there shall be a swim-off to determine which swimmer shall advance to the appropriate finals, except where the swimmers agree to determine advancement by draw. Such swim-off shall take place not less than one hour after all involved swimmers have completed their heat. Another swim-off shall take place if equal times are registered again.

SW3.4.4.4 Where one or more swimmers scratch from a semi-final or final substitutes will be called in order of classifications in heats or semi-finals. The event or events must be reseeded and supplementary sheets must be issued detailing the changes or substitutions, as prescribed in SW3.4.2.

SW3.4.4.5 In other competitions, the draw system may be used for assigning lane positions.

SW3.5 FINAL

Where preliminary heats have been held lanes shall be assigned in accordance with SW3.4.2 based however on times established in the heats.

SW3.6 FOR SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES OPEN, AGE, COUNTRY, METROPOLITAN, COUNTRY WINTER, METROPOLITAN WINTER, WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS and scratch events where NO FINALS are to be contested the Chief Recorder or other properly appointed person shall draw up heats where necessary in accordance with the following:

SW3.6.1 the entrants shall be allotted to heats in the numerical sequence of the submitted times, the slowest in the first heat and the fastest in the last heat;

SW3.6.2 the assignment to lanes shall be in accordance with SW3.4.2.

SW3.7 The promoting body may in a final, place any specifically invited swimmer in the centre lane and if heats are necessary may be placed in the final as if the invited swimmer had recorded the fastest time in the heats.

SW3.8 For all Scratch or Championship events, except for the 800 and 1500 metres freestyle events, there shall be a minimum of three swimmers seeded into any one preliminary heat, but subsequent withdrawals may reduce the number of swimmers in such heat to less than three.

SW3.9 AMALGAMATION OF HEATS

SW3.9.1 Where a reduction in the number of heats is possible owing to the withdrawal of swimmers, the Referee shall have the power to amalgamate two or more heats into one heat or all heats into a final, PROVIDED THAT, any alteration of the last heat shall be kept to a minimum.

SW3.9.2 For the purpose of this Rule a swimmer entered in an event who has not reported to the allotted place at the prescribed time shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the event.

NOTE:

PROCEDURE FOR AMALGAMATION OF HEATS

- On receipt of the list of original entries from the Marshals showing those who have withdrawn the Check Starter shall immediately notify the Referee who shall establish the need to amalgamate heats. The actual reseeding and amalgamation into heats or a final shall be delegated to the Chief Recorder. The Referee shall direct the Check Starter to notify the Chief Judge and Chief Timekeeper of the amalgamation and the heat reallocation numbering. The Chief Recorder shall ensure that the Announcer and the Control Room Supervisor receives the swimmer reallocation to heats or a final for public announcement.
- Notwithstanding the foregoing the Company may authorise procedures to establish withdrawals from an event prior to seeding the remaining entrants into heats as prescribed herein.

SW3.10 QUALIFIERS FOR FINALS

SW3.10.1 The number of fastest swimmers from all the heats qualifying to contest the final of an event where heats and finals are to be conducted shall be directed by:

SW3.10.1.1 the organising committee of a scratch event meet, however, the finalists shall not exceed eight (8) where automatic officiating equipment is not employed;

SW3.10.1.2 the Board for Swimming New South Wales Championships, GR10; and

SW3.10.1.3 in Swimming New South Wales Age Championships not more than two (2) visitors shall be permitted to contest the final. (Refer GR5.2)

SW3.10.2 In NSW Championships when "B" finals are conducted, that the following shall apply:

SW3.10.2.1 nineteen (19) or more swimmers contest the heats in an eight (8) lane pool, and twenty five (25) or more swimmers contest the heats of an event in a ten (10) lane pool;

- SW3.10.2.2 when a "B" final is held the swimmers shall be the next fastest group from all the heats;
- SW3.10.2.3 where one or more swimmers withdraws from a final substitutes shall be called from the "B" final in the order of the times established in the heats and the final shall be reseeded by the Chief Recorder and publicly announced. Where one or more swimmers either withdraws from a "B" final or is promoted to a final they shall be replaced by the nominated first or second reserve as the case may be and the "B" final shall be reseeded by the Chief Recorder and publicly announced; and
- SW3.10.2.4 a swimmer who has qualified for the final shall not contest the "B" final of that event.
- SW3.10.3 When a "B" final is to be held it shall immediately follow the final of the event, and
- SW3.10.3.1 For events other than those stated in SW3.10.2, the number of fastest swimmers from all the heats, as directed by the Board, which comprise the final, the next two (2) fastest swimmers shall be reserves to replace qualifying swimmers who withdraw from the final. Where reserves replace qualifying swimmers, the final shall be reseeded by the Chief Recorder and publicly announced.
- SW3.10.4 In the event that swimmers from the same or different heats have equal times registered to 1/100th of a second for eighth place or sixteenth place in an eight (8) lane pool or tenth place or twentieth place in a ten (10) lane pool there shall be a swim off to determine which swimmer shall advance to the appropriate finals, except where the swimmers agree to determine advancement by draw. Such swim off shall take place not less than one hour after all swimmers involved have completed the heats or otherwise at a time mutually agreed by the swimmers.
- SW3.10.5 If requested, a swim off will take place to determine first and second reserves where equal times are recorded

SW4 THE START

FINA SW4

- SW4.1 The start in Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Individual Medley races shall be with a dive. On the long whistle (SW2.1.11) from the Referee the swimmers shall step onto the starting platform and remain there. On the Starter's command "Take your Marks", they shall immediately take up a starting position with at least one foot at the front of the starting platforms. The position of the hands is not relevant. When all swimmers are stationary, the Starter shall give the starting signal.
- FINA SW4.1

SW4.2
FINA SW4.2 The start in Backstroke and Medley Relay races shall be from the water. At the Referee's first long whistle (SW2.1.11) the swimmers shall immediately enter the water. At the Referee's second long whistle the swimmers shall return without undue delay to the starting position (see SW6.1). When all swimmers have assumed their starting positions, the Starter shall give the command "Take your Marks". When all swimmers are stationary, the Starter shall give the starting signal.

SW4.3
FINA SW4.4 Any swimmer starting before the starting signal has been given, shall be disqualified. If the starting signal sounds before the disqualification is declared, the race shall continue and the swimmer or swimmers shall be disqualified upon completion of the race. If the disqualification is declared before the starting signal, the signal shall not be given, but the remaining swimmers shall be called back and start again.

NOTE:

It is permissible for the Starter to give a "Stand Up" command if a swimmer is not stationary or is slow taking his starting position. If the swimmers are asked to "Stand Up" and a swimmer or swimmers do go into the water, if in the opinion of the Referee the false start was caused by the Starter, then the Referee shall have the discretion to allow the swimmers to start again.

SW5 FREESTYLE

SW5.1
FINA SW5.1 Freestyle means that in an event so designated the swimmer may swim any style, except that in medley or medley relay events, freestyle means any style other than backstroke, breaststroke or butterfly.

SW5.2
FINA SW5.2 Some part of the swimmer must touch the wall upon completion of each length and at the finish.

SW5.3
FINA SW5.3 Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it shall be permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface.

SW6 BACKSTROKE

SW6.1
FINA SW6.1 Prior to the starting signal, the swimmers shall line up in the water, facing the starting end, with both hands holding the starting grips. Standing in or on the gutter or bending the toes over the lip of the gutter is prohibited.

SW6.2
FINA SW6.2 At the signal for starting and after turning the swimmer shall push off and swim upon his back throughout the race except when executing a turn as set forth in SW6.4. The normal position on the back can include a roll movement of the body up to, but not including 90 degrees from horizontal. The position of the head is not relevant.

SW6.3
FINA SW6.3 Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race. It is permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn, at the finish and for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and each turn. By that point the head must have broken the surface.

SW6.4
FINA SW6.4 When executing the turn there must be a touch of the wall with some part of the swimmer's body in his respective lane. During the turn the shoulders may be turned over the vertical to the breast after which a continuous single arm pull or a continuous simultaneous double arm pull may be used to initiate the turn. The swimmer must have returned to the position on the back upon leaving the wall.

SW6.5
FINA SW6.5 Upon the finish of the race the swimmer must touch the wall while on the back in his respective lane.

NOTE:

Backstroke start procedure shall be in accordance with SW4.2

SW7 BREASTSTROKE

SW7.1
FINA SW7.1 From the beginning of the first arm stroke after the start and after each turn, the body shall be kept on the breast. It is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time. Throughout the race the stroke cycle must be one arm stroke and one leg kick in that order.

SW7.2
FINA SW7.2 All movements of the arms shall be simultaneous and in the same horizontal plane without alternating movements.

SW7.3
FINA SW7.3 The hands shall be pushed forward together from the breast on, under, or over the water. The elbows shall be under the water except for the final stroke before the turn, during the turn and for the final stroke at the finish. The hands shall be brought back on or under the surface of the water. The hands shall not be brought back beyond the hip-line, except during the first stroke after the start and each turn.

SW7.4
FINA SW7.4 During each complete cycle, some part of the swimmer's head shall break the surface of the water. After the start and after each turn the swimmer may take one arm stroke completely back to the legs. The head must break the surface of the water before the hands turn inward at the widest part of the second stroke. A single downward dolphin kick followed by a breaststroke kick is permitted while wholly submerged. Following which, all movements of the legs shall be simultaneous and in the same horizontal plane without alternating movement.

SW7.5
FINA SW7.5 The feet must be turned outwards during the propulsive part of the kick. A scissors, flutter or downward dolphin kick is not permitted except as in SW7.4. Breaking the surface of the water with the feet is allowed unless followed by a downward dolphin kick.

SW7.6
FINA SW7.6 At each turn and at the finish of the race, the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water level. The head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during the last complete or incomplete cycle preceding the touch.

CLARIFICATION:

"Turned outwards" means that the toes must be turned out beyond the line of the heels.

SW8 BUTTERFLY

SW8.1
FINA SW8.1 From the beginning of the first arm stroke after the start and each turn, the body shall be kept on the breast. Underwater kicking on the side is allowed. It is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time.

SW8.2
FINA SW8.2 Both arms must be brought forward together over the water and brought backward simultaneously throughout the race, subject to SW8.5.

SW8.3
FINA SW8.3 All up and down movements of the legs must be simultaneous. The legs or the feet need not be on the same level, but they shall not alternate in relation to each other. A breaststroke kicking movement is not permitted.

SW8.4
FINA SW8.4 At each turn and at the finish of the race, the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously, at, above, or below the water surface.

SW8.5
FINA SW8.5 At the start and at turns, a swimmer is permitted one or more leg kicks and one arm pull under the water, which must bring him to the surface. It shall be permissible for a swimmer to be completely submerged for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface. The swimmer must remain on the surface until the next turn or finish.

CLARIFICATION:

Over the water is defined as 'that at some stage of the recovery, ie. the forward motion of the arms, the whole of the arms must clear the surface of the water.'

SW9 MEDLEY SWIMMING

SW9.1
FINA SW9.1 In Individual Medley events the swimmer covers the four swimming styles in the following order:

butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle.

SW9.2 In Medley relay events, swimmers will cover the four swimming styles in the
FINA SW9.2 following order:

backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle.

SW9.3 Each section must be finished in accordance with the rule which applies to the
FINA SW9.3 style concerned.

NOTE:

FINA has ruled that in the case of the change from backstroke to breaststroke the swimmer must touch the wall while still on the back before the shoulder has rotated beyond the vertical.

SW10 THE RACE

SW10.1 A swimmer swimming over the course alone shall cover the whole distance to
FINA SW10.1 qualify.

SW10.2 A swimmer must finish the race in the same lane in which he started.
FINA SW10.2

SW10.3 In all events, a swimmer when turning shall make physical contact with the
FINA SW10.3 end of the pool or course. The turn must be made from the wall, and it is not permitted to take a stride or step from the bottom of the pool.

SW10.4 Standing on the bottom during freestyle events or during the freestyle portion
FINA SW10.4 of medley events shall not disqualify a swimmer, but he shall not walk.

SW10.5 Pulling on the lane rope is not allowed.
FINA SW10.5

SW10.6 Obstructing another swimmer by swimming across another lane or otherwise
interfering shall disqualify the offender. Should the foul be intentional, the Referee shall report the matter to the Promoting Body which shall in turn report the matter to the Company.

SW10.7 No swimmer shall be permitted to use or wear any device that may aid his
FINA SW10.7 speed, buoyancy or endurance during a competition (such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, etc.). Goggles may be worn.

SW10.8 Any swimmer not entered in a race, who enters the water in which an event is
FINA SW10.8 being conducted before all swimmers therein have completed the race, shall be disqualified from his next scheduled race in the meet.

SW10.9 There shall be four swimmers on each relay team.
FINA SW10.9

SW10.10 In relay events, the team of a swimmer whose feet have lost touch with the
FINA SW10.10 starting platform before the preceding team mate touches the wall shall be disqualified.

- SW10.11
FINA SW10.11 Any relay team shall be disqualified from a race if a team member, other than the swimmer designated to swim that length, enters the water when the race is being conducted, before all swimmers of all teams have finished the race.
- SW10.12 The members of a relay team and their order of competing must be nominated before the race in accordance with GR9. Any relay team member may compete in a race only once. The composition of a relay team may be changed between the heats and finals of an event, provide that it is made up from the list of swimmers properly entered by a Club for that event. Failure to swim in the order listed will result in disqualification. Substitutions may be made only in the case of medical emergency.
- SW10.13 Except as provided in SW10.16 any swimmer having finished his race, or his distance in a relay event, must leave the pool as soon as possible without obstructing any other swimmer who has not yet finished his race. Otherwise the swimmer committing the fault, or his relay team, shall be disqualified.
- SW10.14
FINA SW10.14 Should a foul endanger the chance of success of a swimmer, the Referee shall have the power to allow him to compete in the next heat or, should the foul occur in a final of an event or the last heat, the Referee may order it to be re-swum.
- SW10.15
FINA SW10.15 No pacemaking shall be permitted nor may any device be used or plan adopted which has that effect.
- SW10.16 Swimmers shall not leave the water at the finishing point in any event until instructed by the Referee.
- SW10.17 Unauthorised persons shall not be permitted in those areas of the pool designated for competition, for the swimmers or officials for the duration of any competition.

SW11 DETERMINATION OF TIMES AND PLACINGS

At any swim meet where the operation of approved Automatic Officiating Equipment is provided:

- SW11.1
FINA SW11.1 The operation of this equipment shall be under the supervision of appointed Officials. Times recorded by Automatic Equipment shall be used to determine the winner, all placing and the time applicable to each lane. The placing and times so determined shall have precedence over the decisions of Timekeepers. In the event that a breakdown of the Automatic Equipment occurs or that it is clearly indicated that there has been a failure of the Equipment, or that a swimmer has failed to activate the Equipment, the recordings of the Timekeepers shall be official (see SW13.3).

SW11.2 When Automatic Equipment is used, the results shall be recorded only to
FINA SW11.2 1/100 of a second. When timing to 1/1000 of a second is available, the third digit shall not be recorded or used to determine time or placement. In the event of equal times, all swimmers who have recorded the same time at 1/100 of a second shall be accorded the same placing. Times displayed on the electronic scoreboard should show only to 1/100 of a second.

SW11.3 Any timing device that is terminated by an Official shall be considered a
FINA SW11.3 watch. Such manual times must be taken by three appointed and approved Timekeepers. All watches shall be certified as accurate to the satisfaction of the governing body concerned. Manual timing shall be registered to 1/100 of a second. Where no Automatic Equipment is used official manual times shall be determined as follows:

SW11.3.1 if two of the three (3) watches record the same time, and the third disagrees,
FINA SW11.3.1 the two identical times shall be the official time;

SW11.3.2 if all three (3) watches disagree, the watch recording the intermediate time
FINA SW11.3.2 shall be the official time,

SW11.3.3 with only two (2) watch times recorded the slowest time recorded shall be the
official time

SW11.3.4 with only one (1) watch time recorded that shall be the official time.

NOTE:

Three watch times are required for Swimming New South Wales Records(see SW12.1).

SW11.4 Should a swimmer be disqualified during or following an event, such
FINA SW11.4 disqualification should be recorded in the official results, but no time or place shall be recorded or announced.

SW11.5 In the case of a relay disqualification, legal splits up to the time of the
FINA SW11.5 disqualification shall be recorded in the official results.

SW11.6 All 50 metre and 100 metre splits shall be recorded for lead-off swimmers
FINA SW11.6 during relays and published in the official results.

PLACINGS

SW11.7 The swimmers concerned in equal placing in an event shall jointly hold the title,
and if the promoting body consents divide the prize involved or shall re-swim the event within seven (7) days at such time and place as the promoting body may direct.

SW11.8 Where a swimmer is disqualified for any reason, including drug misuse or
Doping Control the placing he would have held shall be awarded to the swimmer next placed and the other swimmers advanced accordingly. When

the disqualification occurs after the presentation of the awards, such awards shall be recalled and represented to the appropriate swimmers as determined by this Rule.

SW11.9 For determination of placings (see SW2.1.7) when Automatic Officiating Equipment is not used and if the times registered by the Timekeepers do not agree with the decision of the Finish Judges and where the time of a swimmer placed second is better, the first placed swimmer and the second placed swimmer shall be credited with the times calculated on the average of the actual times recorded for both the first and second places. The same principle is to apply to all placings. It is not permissible to announce times which do not support the classifications made by the Finish Judges.

NOTE:

The Referee shall determine placings when the Finish Judges decision is not supported by the times recorded (see SW2.1.6 and SW2.1.7).

SW12 SWIMMING RECORDS - RECORD ATTEMPTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR RECORDS

A record is the establishment of a performance which equals or eclipses the previous best on record. The Company shall recognise a record of the State by issuing a diploma signed by the Chief Executive Officer PROVIDED THAT it has been established under strict adherence to the Rules and there has been compliance with the Rules governing records.

SW12.1 REGULATIONS, APPLICATIONS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES RECORDS

The regulations which shall apply to all applications for recognition of New South Wales records shall be as follows:

SW12.1.1 The Venue Pool shall have been registered as a course suitable for the establishment of a Swimming New South Wales Record.

SW12.1.2 All records shall be made in fresh or salt still water, that is, without current or tide, in;

SW12.1.2.1 a scratch event; or

SW12.1.2.2 an individual attempt where the swimmer shall swim alone against time PROVIDED THAT notification in writing shall have been given to the Chief Executive Officer of Swimming New South Wales at least three (3) days prior to the date of the attempt so that public advice through the media and or advertisement as deemed necessary can be effected, and the Officials controlling an individual attempt on a record shall be appointed in accordance with GR18 and shall include a Referee, Starter and three (3) Timekeepers or a Control Room Supervisor as a minimum requirement. It is permissible for the Referee to, if necessary, act additionally as Starter.

NOTE:

An individual attempt shall be deemed to mean an attempt on a record by one (1) Swimmer, one (1) State Team duly selected by the State Selectors of bona fide Swimming New South Wales members or one (1) Club Team of four (4) Swimmers duly selected by the Club Selectors of first claim members of a Club, respectively.

SW12.1.3 To effect registration of the pool, the promoting body of a Meet, the owner or an Member Association, shall have the measurements of the course certified by a Registered Surveyor or other qualified Official nominated by the Company and subject to the approval of the Board the venue shall be recorded in a register maintained by the Company listing its compliance with the pertinent rules and suitability for establishing one or more of the record Classes i to xvi as defined in SW12 together with any limitations and other statistics as determined by the Board. A Company certificate stating the suitability of the

pool for the establishment of Swimming New South Wales records and the various classes shall be forwarded to the approved applicant.

SW12.1.4 The swimmer shall wear the regulation costume as specified in the Rules.

SW12.1.5 In an individual attempt on a record or an attempt on a record in a scratch event, pacemaking shall not be permitted nor may any device be used or plan adopted which has that effect nor shall instruction to the swimmer be given after the start of such attempt.

NOTE:

An Age swimmer competing at a recognised meet in an event outside his age group for which he is eligible shall not be deemed to have been aided by pacemaking.

SW12.1.6 The time shall be taken and determined by Officials appointed by the Company.

SW12.1.7 The Referee or other Official shall inspect the watches or electronic timing device used to record the times and the official time shall be publicly announced.

SW12.1.8 Officials controlling an attempt on a record in a scratch event shall be appointed by the Company and shall include a Referee, a Starter, three (3) Timekeepers, or a Control Room Supervisor as a minimum requirement except as provided for in SW12.1.9.5

SW12.1.9 For the establishment of New South Wales records Classes i to xvi inclusive, the Board may approve the use of Automatic Officiating Equipment which complies with the provisions of FINA, PROVIDED THAT, the touch pads shall not be less than 1.9 metres wide.

SW12.1.9.1 Times which are equal to 1/100 of a second if timed by approved Automatic
FINA SW12.7 Officiating Equipment will be recognised as equal records and swimmers achieving these equal times will be called "Joint Holders". In the event of a tie in a record setting race, each swimmer who tied shall be considered to have equal placings.

SW12.1.9.2 The first swimmer in a relay team may apply for a record. Should the first
FINA SW12.8 swimmer complete the first leg distance in record time in accordance with the provisions of the rules relevant to that event, such performance shall not be nullified by any subsequent disqualification of the relay team for violations occurring after the first leg has been completed.

SW12.1.9.3 A swimmer in an individual event may apply for a record at an intermediate
FINA SW12.9 distance if the swimmer, coach or manager specifically requests the Referee that the performance be especially timed or if the time at the intermediate distance is recorded by approved Automatic Officiating Equipment. Such swimmer must complete the scheduled distance of the event to apply for a

record at the intermediate distance provided that in the race the qualifying time is achieved for the event and the swimmer is not disqualified.

SW12.1.9.4 World, Commonwealth and Australian Records will only be recognised if
FINA SW12.6 timed by approved Automatic Officiating Equipment and are in accordance with all the relevant rules of either FINA or SAL.

SW12.1.9.5 Application for New South Wales records established by individual swimmers during competition conducted by school and other kindred associations will only be considered by the Board if;

- (i) Prior approval has been granted by the Board in accordance with the Company's current "School Swim Meet Policy"
- (ii) The competition must have been refereed by a currently accredited, registered Referee
- (iii) The Starter must be a currently accredited, registered Starter
- (iv) The times must have been recorded by Automatic Officiating Equipment or Semi Automatic Equipment in the case of Automatic Officiating Equipment system failure

NOTE: Applications for New South Wales records will only be considered for performances by an individual. Times achieved by members of a relay team representing a school or association which equal or better an existing New South Wales record will not be considered.

SW12.1.10 Every application for the recognition of any record shall be made to the Company on the official form and forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer not more than seven (7) days after the establishment of the time for approval, PROVIDED THAT, for Australian and State Championship Meets promoted and directly controlled within New South Wales by the Company and the official results shall have been produced and certified by the Chief Recorder, the Chief Executive Officer shall be authorised to use such results to substantiate, without written application, a recommendation for approval of a record established at such State Meet.

SW12.1.11 The form shall be signed by:

SW12.1.11.1 the three (3) Timekeepers or the Control Room Supervisor;

SW12.1.11.2 the Official who inspected the watches or the Automatic Officiating Equipment used to record the time;

SW12.1.11.3 the Referee in making the formal application on behalf of the swimmer and stating that the Rules and regulations of Swimming New South Wales have been observed;

SW12.1.11.4 the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of the Company-stating that the venue pool is registered and suitable for the establishment of a specific Class of New South Wales record; and recommending the application for approval.

SW12.1.12 The application shall be considered by the Board for approval or rejection.

SW12.1.13 Records approved by the Board shall be entered into the permanent records of the Company and a Record Diploma shall be issued to individual swimmers and each member of a Relay Team recognising the performance of the swim.

SW12.2 There shall be records in swimming for the State of New South Wales recognised separately for Men and Women, Boys and Girls in the following classes:

- i New South Wales State Open All Comers
- ii New South Wales State Age All Comers
- iii New South Wales State Open
- iv New South Wales State Age
- v New South Wales State Country Open Meet
- vi New South Wales State Country Age Meet
- vii New South Wales State Metropolitan Open Meet
- viii New South Wales State Metropolitan Age Meet
- ix New South Wales State Open All Comers Short Course
- x New South Wales State Age All Comers Short Course
- xi New South Wales State Open Short Course
- xii New South Wales State Age Short Course
- xiii New South Wales State Country Open Short Course Meet
- xiv New South Wales State Country Age Short Course Meet
- xv New South Wales State Metropolitan Open Short Course Meet
- xvi New South Wales State Metropolitan Age Short Course Meet

SW12.3 APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION OF A RECORD

SW12.3.1 Application for New South Wales State Records Classes iii, iv, xi, and xii of SW12.2 is restricted to a Swimming New South Wales registered member, a

team representing Swimming New South Wales or an Area or Club, anywhere in the world.

- SW12.3.2 Application for a Swimming New South Wales State Country or Metropolitan Event Record Classes v, vi, vii, viii, xiii, xiv, xv, and xvi, of SW12.2 is restricted to a first claim member of a Club within the Country area of New South Wales or a first claim member of a Club within the Metropolitan area as defined in GR5.3 & GR 5.4 respectively, for the recognition of a time established at the Swimming New South Wales Country, Metropolitan, Country Short Course and Metropolitan Short Course Championships respectively.
- SW12.3.3 Application for a Swimming New South Wales All Comers Record Classes i, ii, ix, and x of SW12.2 for recognition of a time established anywhere in New South Wales may be made by:
- SW12.3.3.1 a Swimming New South Wales registered member or team of four (4) Swimming New South Wales registered members as prescribed in SW12.3.1, or
- SW12.3.3.2 a visiting swimmer or team of four (4) swimmers who are first claim members of a Club affiliated through an Australian State Swimming Organisation or a bona fide member or members of any Swimming Federation recognised by FINA, competing at an authorised Meet conducted within the boundaries of New South Wales.
- SW12.3.4 In every case a record may be established only when swimmers in an event are all male for a Men's or Boy's State Record and all female for a Women's or Girl's State Record.

NOTE:

Swimming New South Wales All Comers Records Classes i, ii, ix and x of SW12.2 may be claimed by a Swimming New South Wales Swimmer or a team of four (4) Swimming New South Wales Swimmers or a visiting swimmer or team of four (4) visiting swimmers from another state or an overseas member country of FINA, for a performance within New South Wales.

A swimmer claiming a Swimming New South Wales Record Classes iii, iv xi and xii of SW12.2 must be a bona fide member of a Swimming New South Wales affiliated Club for recognition of a performance established anywhere in the world.

A swimmer claiming a Swimming New South Wales Country or Metropolitan Event Record Classes v, vi, vii, viii, xiii, xiv, xv and xvi of SW12.2 must be a bona fide member of a Swimming New South Wales affiliated Country or Metropolitan Club, as appropriate, for recognition of a performance established when contesting a Swimming New South Wales Country or Metropolitan Championship.

It is not permissible to claim a male or female New South Wales record for a performance in a mixed relay scratch event.

SW12.3.5 When a new event is introduced into SW12.2 for which a Swimming New South Wales Record may be claimed, the swimmer achieving the fastest time swum in that event shall be recognised as the record holder

SW12.4 APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION OF AN AGE RECORD

SW12.4.1 Swimmers making application for recognition of an Age Record shall be the age applicable to the record claimed on the first day of the Meet as defined in GR6. 2.

SW13 AUTOMATIC OFFICIATING PROCEDURE

SW13.1 When Automatic Officiating Equipment (see www.fina.org under FINA FINA SW13.1 Facilities) is used in any competition, the placing and times so determined and relay take-offs judged by such Equipment shall have precedence over the timekeepers.

SW13.2 When the Automatic Officiating Equipment fails to record the place and/or FINA SW13.2 time of one or more swimmers in a given race:

SW13.2.1 Record all available Automatic Equipment times and places, FINA SW13.2.1

SW13.2.2 Record human times and places. FINA SW13.2.2

SW13.2.3 The official place will be determined as follows: FINA SW13.2.3

SW13.2.3.1 A swimmer with an Automatic Equipment time and place must retain his FINA SW13.2.3.1 relative order when compared with the other swimmers having an Automatic Equipment time and place within that race.

SW13.2.3.2 A swimmer not having an Automatic Equipment place but having an FINA SW13.2.3.2 Automatic Equipment time will establish his relative order by comparing his Automatic Equipment time with the Automatic Equipment times of the other swimmers.

SW13.2.3.3 A swimmer having neither an Automatic Equipment place nor an Automatic FINA SW13.2.3.3 Equipment time shall establish his relative order by the time recorded by the Semi-Automatic Equipment or by three digital watches.

SW13.3 The official time will be determined as follows FINA SW13.3

SW13.3.1 The official time for all swimmers having an Automatic Equipment time will be FINA SW13.3.1 that time.

- SW13.3.2 The official time for all swimmers not having an Automatic Equipment time will
FINA SW13.3.2 be the three digital watches or the Semi-Automatic Equipment time.
- SW13.4 To determine the relative order of finish for the combined heats of an event,
FINA SW13.4 proceed as follows:
- SW13.4.1 The relative order of all swimmers will be established by comparing their
FINA SW13.4.1 official times.
- SW13.4.2 If a swimmer has an official time which is tied with the official time(s) of one or
FINA SW13.4.2 more swimmers, all swimmers having that time shall be tied in their relative
order of finish in that event.

OPEN WATER SWIMMING RULES

All Swimming New South Wales Limited (SNSW) Open Water Swimming Championships and Open Water Swimming competitions shall be governed by Swimming Australia Limited's (SAL) and SNSW's Rules and By Laws, as determined from time to time, with the following exceptions and additions.

World Championships and FINA events shall be for distances of 25 kilometres, 10 kilometres and 5 kilometres conducted at a venue and course approved by FINA and are conducted and governed by the Rules and Regulations of FINA which are found on the FINA website <http://www.fina.org>.

OWS1 OPEN WATER SWIMMING

OWS1.1.1 OPEN WATER SWIMMING shall be defined as any competition that takes place in rivers, lakes, oceans or water channels, dams, or rowing courses except for 10km events.

OWS1.1.2 MARATHON SWIMMING shall be defined as any 10km event in open water competitions.
FINA OWS1.1.1

OWS1.2 The age limit for all FINA Open Water Swimming events should be at least 14 years of age.

OWS2 THE VENUE

OWS2.1 The Swimming New South Wales Open Water Swimming Championships shall be conducted at a venue as approved by the Board.

OWS2.2 The course shall be in water that is subject to only minor currents or tide and may be salt or fresh water.
FINA OWS5.2

OWS2.3 A certificate of suitability for use of the venue shall be issued by the appropriate local health and safety authorities. In general terms the certification must relate to water purity and to physical safety from other considerations.
FINA OWS5.3

OWS2.4 The minimum depth of water at any point on the course shall be 1.40 metres.
FINA OWS5.4

OWS2.5 The water temperature should be a minimum of 16°C. It should be checked the day of the race, 2 hours before the start in the middle of the course at a depth of 40cm. This control should be done in the presence of a Commission made up of the following persons present: a Referee, a Member of the Organising Committee and one Coach from the Teams present designated during the Technical Meeting.
FINA OWS5.5

OWS2.6 All turns and alterations of course shall be clearly indicated.
FINA OWS5.6

OWS2.7 A clearly marked craft or platform, containing a Turn Judge, shall be
FINA OWS5.7 positioned at all alterations of course in such a manner as not to obstruct a swimmer's visibility of the turn.

OWS2.8 All turning apparatus and Turn Judges' craft or platforms shall be securely
FINA OWS5.8 fixed in a position and not be subject to tidal, wind or other movements.

OWS2.9 The final approach to the finish shall be clearly defined with markers of a
FINA OWS5. distinctive colour.

OWS2.10 The finish shall be clearly defined and marked by a vertical face.
FINA OWS5.10

OWS3 OFFICIALS

OWS3.1 The following officials shall be appointed at Open Water Swimming
FINA OWS2 competitions:

A Referee,

Assistant referees,

Chief Timekeeper plus 3 Timekeepers,

Chief Judge plus 2 Finish Judges,

Safety Officer,

Medical Officer,

Course Officer,

Clerk of the Course,

Recorder,

Race Judges (one per swimmer) except for events of 10km or less,

Turn Judges (one per alteration of Course),

Starter, and

Announcer.

OWS3.2 For events of 10km or less the Safety Officer and Course Officer's positions
and duties are combined.

DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

The **REFEREE** shall:

- OWS4.1
FINA OWS3.1 have full control and authority over all officials and shall approve their assignments and instruct them regarding all special features or regulations related to the competition. The Referee shall enforce all the rules and decisions of FINA, SAL and Swimming New South Wales and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the competition, the final settlement of which is not otherwise covered by these Rules;
- OWS4.2
FINA OWS3.2 have authority to intervene in the competition at any stage to ensure that the Rules are observed;
- OWS4.2.1 In case of hazardous conditions that jeopardise the safety of the swimmers and the officials, in conjunction with the Safety Officer he can stop the race;
- OWS4.3
FINA OWS3.3 adjudicate on all protests related to the competition in progress;
- OWS4.4
FINA OWS3.4 give a decision in cases where the Judges' decision and times recorded do not agree;
- OWS4.5
FINA OWS3.5 signal to swimmers, by raised flag and short blasts on a whistle, that the start is imminent and when satisfied indicate by pointing the flag at the Starter that the competition may commence;
- OWS4.6 disqualify any swimmer for any violation of the Rules that he personally observes or which is reported to him by other authorised officials. Notwithstanding the provisions of OWS6.3 hereof the Referee may decide to enforce the disqualification at the end of the race.

The **ASSISTANT REFEREE** shall:

- OWS4.7
FINA OWS3.7 ensure that all necessary officials for the conduct of the event or competition are at their respective posts. He may, with the approval of the Referee, appoint substitutes for any who are absent, incapable of acting or found to be inefficient. He may appoint additional officials if necessary;
- OWS4.8
FINA OWS3.8 receive all reports prior to the start of the race from the Clerk of the Course, Course Officer and Safety Officer and inform the Referee of their contents fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled start of the race; and
- OWS4.9 except for events of 10km or less, approve the draw for Race Judges and allocate them to their respective escort safety craft; and
- OWS4.9.1 under delegation of the Referee, disqualify any swimmer for any violation of the Rules personally observed

The **STARTER** shall:

- OWS4.10 be stationed in such a position as to be clearly visible to all swimmers;
FINA OWS3.10
- OWS4.11 on signal of the Referee raise a distinctive flag into the vertical position;
FINA OWS3.11
- OWS4.12 simultaneously bring the flag holding arm down, with arm kept straight, and
FINA OWS3.12 activate an audible signal.
- OWS4.12.1 When swimmers start Open Water Swimming events from a fixed platform, the
Starter shall give the command 'take your marks' and then comply with
OWS4.12 immediately upon all swimmers complying with OWS5.6.1

The **CHIEF TIMEKEEPER** shall:

- OWS4.13 assign at least three Timekeepers to their positions for the start and finish;
FINA OWS3.13
- OWS4.14 ensure that a time check is made to allow all persons to synchronise their
FINA OWS3.14 watches with the official running clocks fifteen (15) minutes before start time;
- OWS4.15 collect from each timekeeper a card showing the time recorded for each
FINA OWS3.15 swimmer, and, if necessary, inspect their watches; and
- OWS4.16 record or examine the official time on the card for each swimmer.
FINA OWS3.16

TIMEKEEPERS shall:

- OWS4.17 take the time of each of swimmer assigned. The watches must have memory
FINA OWS3.17 and print out capability and shall be certified correct to the satisfaction of the
Management Committee;
- OWS4.18 start their watches at the starting signal, and only stop their watches when
FINA OWS3.18 instructed by the Chief Timekeeper;
- OWS4.19 promptly after each finish record the time and swimmer's number on the time
FINA OWS3.19 card and turn it over to the Chief Timekeeper.

NOTE:

When Automatic Officiating Equipment is used, the same complement of hand timers is to be used.

The **CHIEF JUDGE** shall:

- OWS4.20 assign each Judge to a position;
FINA OWS3.20

OWS4.21 collect after the race, signed results sheets from each Judge and establish the
FINA OWS3.21 result and placings which shall be sent directly to the Referee.

FINISH JUDGES, (three, one of whom shall be the Chief Judge) shall:

OWS4.22 be positioned in line with the finish where they shall have, at all times, a clear
FINA OWS3.22 view of the finish;

OWS4.23 record after each finish the placing of the swimmers according to the
FINA OWS3.23 assignment given.

NOTE:

Finish Judges shall not act as Timekeepers in the same event.

EACH RACE JUDGE shall:

OWS4.24 be positioned in an escort safety craft, assigned by random draw prior to the
FINA OWS3.24 start, so as to be able to observe, at all times, his appointed swimmer;

OWS4.24.1 where assigned to other positions, such as feeding pontoons or the like, be
able to observe during feeding or when swimmers are passing the position, the
swimmers and/or the swimmers approved representatives

OWS4.25 ensure at all times that the Rules of competition are complied with, violations
FINA OWS3.25 being recorded in writing and reported to the Referee at the earliest
opportunity;

OWS4.26 have the power to order a swimmer from the water upon expiry of any time
FINA OWS3.26 limit so ordered by the Referee;

OWS4.27 ensure that his appointed swimmer does not take unfair advantage or commit
FINA OWS3.27 unsporting impediment on another swimmer and if the situation requires
instruct a swimmer to maintain clearance from any other swimmer.

TURN JUDGES shall:

OWS4.28 be positioned so as to ensure all swimmers execute the alterations in course
FINA OWS3.28 as indicated in the competition information documents and as given at the pre-
race briefing;

OWS4.29 record any infringement of the turn procedures on the record sheets provided
FINA OWS3.29 and indicate the infringement to the Race Judge at the time of infringement by
blasts on a whistle;

OWS4.30 promptly upon completion of the event deliver the signed record sheet to the
FINA OWS3.30 Chief Judge.

The **SAFETY OFFICER** shall:

OWS4.31 be responsible to the Referee for all aspects of safety related to the conduct
FINA OWS3.31 of the competition;

OWS4.32 check that the entire course, with special regard to the start and finish areas,
FINA OWS3.32 is safe, suitable, and free of any obstruction;

OWS4.33 be responsible for ensuring that sufficient powered safety craft are available
FINA OWS3.33 during the competition so as to provide full safety backup to the escort safety
craft;

OWS4.34 provide prior to the competitions to all swimmers a tide/current chart clearly
FINA OWS3.34 indicating the time of tide changes on the course and showing the effect of
tides or current on a swimmer's progress along the course;

OWS4.35 in conjunction with the Medical Officer advise the Referee if, in their opinion,
FINA OWS3.35 conditions are unsuitable for staging the competition and make
recommendations for the modification of the course or the manner in which
the competition is conducted.

The **MEDICAL OFFICER** shall:

OWS4.36 be responsible to the Referee for all medical aspects related to the
FINA OWS3.36 competition and swimmers;

OWS4.37 inform the local medical facilities of the nature of the competition and ensure
FINA OWS3.37 that any casualties can be evacuated to medical facilities at the earliest
opportunity;

OWS4.38 in conjunction with the Safety Officer, advise the Referee if, in their opinion,
FINA OWS3.38 conditions are unsuitable for staging the competition and make
recommendations for the modification of the course or the manner in which
the competition is conducted.

The **COURSE OFFICER** shall:

OWS4.39 be responsible to the Management Committee for the correct survey of the
FINA OWS3.39 course,

OWS4.40 ensure the start and finish areas are correctly marked and all equipment has
FINA OWS3.40 been correctly installed and, where applicable, is in working order;

OWS4.41 ensure all course alteration points are correctly marked, and manned prior to
FINA OWS3.41 the commencement of the competition;

OWS4.42 with the Referee and Safety Officer inspect the course and markings prior to
FINA OWS3.42 the commencement of competition;

OWS4.43 ensure that Turn Judges are in position prior to the start of the competition
FINA OWS3.43 and report this to the Assistant Referee.

The **CLERK OF THE COURSE** shall:

OWS4.44 assemble and prepare swimmers prior to each event and ensure proper
FINA OWS3.44 reception facilities at the finish are available for all swimmers;

OWS4.45 ensure each swimmer is identified correctly with their race number and that all
FINA OWS3.45 swimmers have trimmed fingernails and are not wearing any jewellery,
including watches;

OWS4.46 be certain all swimmers are present, in the assembly area, at the required
FINA OWS3.46 time prior to the start;

OWS4.47 keep swimmers and officials informed of the time remaining before the start at
FINA OWS3.47 suitable intervals until the last five minutes, during which one minute warnings
shall be given;

OWS4.48 be responsible for ensuring that all clothing and equipment left in the start
FINA OWS3.48 area is transported to the finish area and kept in safekeeping;

OWS4.49 ensure that all swimmers leaving the water at the finish have the basic
FINA OWS3.49 equipment required for their well being should their own attendants not be
present at that time.

The **RECORDER** shall:

OWS4.50 record withdrawals from the competition, enter results on official forms, and
FINA OWS3.50 maintain record for team awards as appropriate.

OWS5 THE START

OWS5.1 All Open Water competitions shall start with all swimmers standing on a fixed
FINA OWS4.1 platform or in water depth sufficient for them to commence swimming on the
start signal.

OWS5.1.1 When starting from a fixed platform swimmers shall be assigned a position on
FINA OWS4.1.1 the platform, as determined by random draw.

OWS5.2 The Clerk of the Course shall keep swimmers and officials informed of the
FINA OWS4.2 time before start at suitable intervals and at one minute intervals for the last
five minutes.

OWS5.3 When the number of entries dictate the start shall be segregated in the Men's
FINA OWS4.3 and Women's competitions. The Men's event shall always start before the
Women's event.

- OWS5.4
FINA OWS4.4 The start line shall be clearly defined by either overhead apparatus or by removable equipment at water level.
- OWS5.5
FINA OWS4.5 The Referee shall indicate by a flag held upright and short blasts on a whistle when the start is imminent and indicate that the competition is under Starter's orders by pointing the flag at the Starter.
- OWS5.6
FINA OWS4.6 The Starter shall be positioned so as to be clearly visible to all swimmers.
- OWS5.6.1
FINA OWS4.6.1 On the Starter command "Take your marks" they shall take up a starting position with at least one foot at the front of the platform
- OWS5.7
FINA OWS4.7 The start signal shall be both audible and visual.
- OWS5.8
FINA OWS4.8 If in the opinion of the Referee unfair advantage has been gained at the start the offending swimmers will be given a yellow or red flag in accordance with OWS6.3
- OWS5.9 All escort safety craft shall be stationed prior to the start so as not to interfere with any swimmer, and, except for events of 10km or less where swimmers escort safety craft are not permitted, if picking up their swimmer from behind shall navigate in such a way as not to manoeuvre through the field of swimmers.
- OWS5.10
FINA OWS4.10 Although they may start together, in all other respects the Men's and Women's competitions shall be treated as separate events.

OWS6 **THE RACE**
FINA OWS6

- OWS6.1
FINA OWS6.1 All Open Water competitions shall be Freestyle events.
- OWS6.2
FINA OWS6.2 Race Judges shall instruct any swimmer who is, in their opinion, taking unfair advantage by pacing or slip streaming with the escort craft to move clear.
- OWS6.3
FINA OWS6.3 Disqualification Procedure
- OWS6.3.1
FINA OWS6.3.1 If in the Opinion of the Referee or an Assistant Referee, any swimmer, or escort safety craft, or a swimmers approved representative takes advantage of, by interfering with any swimmer during the race or when feeding, by making intentional contact with any swimmer, by pacing or by slip streaming, the following proceeding shall apply:
- 1st Infringement:
- A yellow flag and a card bearing the swimmer's number shall be raised to indicate and to inform the swimmer that he is in violation of the Rules.

2nd Infringement:

A red flag and a card bearing the swimmer's number shall be raised by the Referee (OWS4.6) to indicate and to inform the swimmer that he is for the second time in violation of the Rules. The swimmer shall be disqualified. He must leave the water immediately and be placed in an escort craft, and take no further part in the race.

- OWS6.3.2 If in the opinion of the Referee, an action of a swimmer or an escort safety craft
FINA OWS6.3.2 is deemed to be "Unsporting", the Referee or assistant referee shall disqualify the swimmer concerned immediately according to OWS4.6. A red flag and a card bearing the swimmers number shall be raised by the Referee or assistant referee to indicate and inform the swimmer and/or the swimmers approved representative of the disqualification.
- OWS6.4 Escort safety craft shall manoeuvre so as not to obstruct or place themselves
FINA OWS6.4 directly ahead of any swimmer and not take unfair advantage by pacing or slip streaming.
- OWS6.5 Escort safety craft shall attempt to maintain a constant position so as to
FINA OWS6.5 station the swimmer at, or forward of, the mid point of the escort safety craft.
- OWS6.6 Standing on the bottom during a race shall not disqualify a swimmer, but they
FINA OWS6.6 may not walk or jump.
- OWS6.7 With the exception of OWS6.6 swimmers shall not receive support from any
FINA OWS6.7 fixed or floating object and shall not intentionally touch or be touched by their escort safety craft or crew therein.
- OWS6.7.1 Rendering assistance by an official medical officer to a swimmer in apparent
FINA OWS6.7.1 distress should always supersede official rules of disqualification through 'intentional contact with a swimmer (OWS6.7)
- OWS6.8 For events over 10km, each escort safety craft shall contain: a Race Judge, a
person of the swimmer's choice and the minimum crew required to operate the escort safety craft.
- OWS6.9 No swimmer shall be permitted to use or wear any device which may be an
FINA OWS6.9 aid to their speed, endurance or buoyancy. Goggles, a maximum of two (2) caps, nose clip and earplugs may be used.
- OWS6.10 Swimmers shall be allowed to use grease or other such substances providing
FINA OWS6.10 these are not, in the opinion of the Referee, excessive.
- OWS6.11 The pacing of a swimmer by another person entering the water is not
FINA OWS6.11 permitted.
- OWS6.12 Coaching and the giving of instructions by the swimmer's representative in the
FINA OWS6.12 escort safety craft is permitted. No whistle shall be allowed on an escort boat.

OWS6.13 When taking sustenance swimmers may use Rule OWS6.6 provided Rule
FINA OWS6.13 OWS6.7 is not infringed.

OWS6.14 All swimmers shall have their competition number clearly displayed in
FINA OWS6.14 waterproof ink on their upper back and arms.

OWS6.15 Each escort safety craft shall display the swimmer's competition number so as
to be easily seen from either side of the escort safety craft.

OWS6.16.1 In all events, time limits shall apply as follows from the finish time of the first
FINA OWS6.16.1 swimmers:

Events of 10km or less 30 minutes

Events of 25km 60 minutes

Events over 25km 120 minutes

OWS6.16.2 Swimmers who do not finish the course within the time limits shall be removed
FINA OWS6.16.2 from the water except that the Referee may allow a swimmer outside the time
limit to complete the course but not participate in any points or prizes
awarded.

OWS6.17 Emergency Abandonment
FINA OWS6.17

OWS6.17.1 In cases of emergency abandonment of races of 10km or less, the race will be
FINA OWS6.17.1 restarted from the beginning at the earliest possible moment.

OWS6.17.2 In cases of emergency abandonment for any race of longer than 10km where
FINA OWS6.17.2 the lead swimmer has accomplished at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the race the final ranking will
be as reported by the head referee. If the lead swimmer has not completed $\frac{3}{4}$
of the race it will be restarted from the beginning at the earliest moment
possible

OWS7 THE FINISH OF THE RACE

OWS7.1 The area leading to the finish apparatus should be clearly marked by rows of
FINA OWS7.1 buoys which narrow as they get closer to the finish wall. Escort safety craft
should be stationed at the approach to and entrance of the finish lane to ensure
that only the escort safety craft authorised to do so enter or cross this
entrance.

OWS7.2 The finish apparatus should, where possible, be a vertical wall at least 5
metres wide fixed if necessary to floatation devices, securely fastened in place
so as not to be moved by wind, tide or force of a swimmer striking the wall.
Where possible and costs permit, the finish should be filmed and recorded by
video system with slow motion and recall facilities including timing equipment.

- OWS7.2.1 When automatic Officiating Equipment is used for timing of competitions in accordance with Rule SW11, microchip transponder technology should be added to the Equipment.
- OWS7.2.2 Where microchip transponder technology is used, it is mandatory for all swimmers to wear a microchip transponder on each wrist throughout the race. If a swimmer loses a transponder the Race Judge or other authorised Official, will immediately inform the Referee who will instruct the responsible official on the water to issue a replacement transponder. Any swimmer who finishes the race without a transponder will be disqualified.
- OWS7.3
FINA OWS7.3 The Finish Judges and Timekeepers shall be placed so as to be able to observe the finish at all times. The area in which they are stationed should be for their exclusive use.
- OWS7.4
FINA OWS7.4 Every effort should be made to ensure that the swimmers' representative can get from the escort safety craft to meet the swimmer as they leave the water.
- OWS7.5
FINA OWS7.5 Upon leaving the water some swimmers may require assistance. Swimmers should only be touched or handled if they clearly display a need, or ask for assistance.
- OWS7.6
FINA OWS7.6 A member of the Medical Team should inspect the swimmers as they leave the water. A chair, in which the swimmer can sit while an assessment is made, should be provided.
- OWS7.7
FINA OWS7.7 Once cleared by the Medical Member, swimmers should be given access to refreshment.