

MAJOR CHANGES FOR 2007

Drafting/Slipstreaming: Drafting is defined. (Glossary)

Meet Schedule: Three new meet schedules for national championship meets were approved. (article 104.5.2A)

Championship Entry Procedures for 18-Year-Olds: For national championship meets, an 18-year-old may register for USMS membership at the championship venue but must have entered the meet by the entry deadline and must be 18 at least by the day prior to the beginning of competition. (A 17-year-old can enter the meet by the entry deadline and can then register for USMS membership upon turning 18. the swimmer must be 18 by the day before the meet starts and that is the last day an 18-year-old can register for USMS and still compete at the national championship meet.) (article 104.5.4A[1])

Seeding at National Championships: At national championship meets, competitors of the same gender may be required to swim two-to-a-lane in freestyle events over 200 meters if only one course is available and the meet day is projected to last longer than 12 hours. (article 104.5.5B[2])

Timers at National Championships: At national championship meets, the two timers per lane will each use a backup button and at least one timer will use a stop watch (instead of each using a stop watch and at least one using a backup button). (article 104.5.10C)

Swimwear – Watches: Watches may be worn in open water competition. (article 303.6.6)

Electronic Timing/Incorporating Chip Timing into OW Events: there must be a backup timing system at an open water event in which electronic timing “Chips” are used. (article 304.5.1)

Team Event Recognition: All-American status will be extended to Long Distance Relay Teams. (article 305.11.2)