

Proposed Emergency Amendments to the USMS Rules of Competition

2003 Proposed Changes to the USMS Rules of Competition

The following submissions have been submitted for consideration as emergency proposed amendments to the USMS Rules of Competition.

R1 101.3.3 P.17 Oregon

101.3.3 - Kick

All up and down movements of the legs and feet must be simultaneous. The position of the legs and feet need not be on the same level, but they shall not alternate in relation to each other. The breaststroke or whip kick may be used exclusively or interchangeably with the dolphin kick while doing the butterfly stroke at any time during the race. However, when the breaststroke or whip kick is used, the arms must be recovered over the top of the water ~~with each~~ prior to the next breaststroke or whip kick, except after the last such kick before the turn or finish. After the start and after each turn, if the breaststroke or whip kick is used, only one kick is allowed prior to the arm pull that brings the swimmer to the surface. A scissors kicking movement is not permitted.

Rationale: The problem is the association of the recovery with each kick. A strict literal reading would lead one to conclude that two breaststroke kicks could be made in-between recoveries because the first kick could be associated with the preceding stroke and the second kick with the subsequent stroke. This rule has been interpreted this way at a local USMS meet, thus it is believed that this is necessary as emergency clarification. Current wording leaves the sequencing to misinterpretation. Clarifying the sequence as proposed would eliminate the potential for misinterpretation. Specifying a sequence is done in breaststroke so doing so in butterfly would not be a unique solution nor precedent setting.

R2 104.1 P.39 Colorado

105.11 Meet Categories

USMS national championship meets shall be awarded in the following categories and held during the following dates:

104.1.1—Short Course Yards (25 Yards ~~or 25 Meters~~)

Between April 15 and May 31.

104.1.2—Long Course (50 Meters)

Between August 1 and September 15.

104.1.3—Short Course Meters (25 Meters)

Between November 15 and December 31.

Associated changes:

104.2. **MEET NAME**

The official name shall be (insert year) United States Masters Swimming National (insert Short Course Yards, Short Course Meters, or Long Course Meters) ~~Course~~ Championships.

104.5.2—Program

A 4-day program for national championship meets will be used. With the approval of the Championship Committee, a 5-day program may be used.

A Meet schedules (2003–2006)

Schedule 1

2003 Short Course Yards

2004 Long Course

Schedule 2

2003 Long Course

2005 Short Course Yards

Schedule 3

2004 Short Course Yards

2005 Long Course

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2005 Short Course Meters

2006 Short Course Yards

2006 Long Course

2006 Short Course Meters

104.5.4 .B(2) Distribution of entry form—The entry form for individual events and all meet information shall be published in an official USMS publication and on the USMS Web site at no cost to the meet host. Short course yards nationals information shall be published in the January–February issue, ~~and~~ long course nationals information shall be published in the May–June issue, and short course meters nationals information shall be published in the September-October issue. The individual and relay entry forms and any additional information the host desires shall be posted on the USMS Web site as soon as the entry form and information are available and no later than 5 months prior to the first day of the meet.

Rationale: Two of our core objectives are to Build the membership and to Serve the membership. Adding a new national championship for Short Course Meters addresses both of these. First, Masters membership typically increases within the LMSC in which nationals are held, adding the third championship provides an additional avenue for growth. Second, based on a Discussion Forum survey, a significant percent of the respondents are in favor of adding this new national championship, therefore adding SCM would be a valued service to our membership. In addition national championship events generate a significant amount of revenue for the host organization and USMS.

In addition to the above proposed changes, the rules committee will bring to the House of Delegates the issue of whether or not pools measured prior to January 1, 2003 whose measurements would not meet our current requirements should be considered compliant with our current requirements. Specifically, the HOD will be asked if USMS should accept the pool measurements in cases where fewer than all of the lanes were measured. If the HOD were not to accept these measurements the pools will have to be measured according to the current requirements.