

2009-2010 Season Update

Membership/Times for North Carolina Swimming

To: NCS Coaches

From: Membership Chair/Times Chair Suzanne Heath

NCS Registrar Barb Frith

As we begin a new year it would be beneficial if we review the protocols for the handling of swim meets by your LSC Registrar Barb Frith and your Times Chair Suzanne Heath. A very important piece of legislation was passed yesterday at the NCS HOD in Greensboro. This rule is effective immediately!

If un-registered swimmers compete in a NCS Sanctioned competition, there will be a fine of \$100 per swim imposed on the coach/club who entered the swimmer in the meet.

This rule has been part of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations for many years; NCS has adopted the rule for use in our LSC effective immediately. Reasons for the rule include the validation of your insurance with USA Swimming. If an incident were to occur at a meet where un-registered swimmers were competing, your insurance would be void and you, your club, your board, and the LSC could be held accountable. This is not a situation that we wish for anyone to be in; it is preventable by insuring that only registered swimmers compete in a sanctioned competition.

To review, there are three kinds of swim meets:

Sanctioned – where all swimmers, officials, meet directors are members of USA Swimming and USA-S technical rules are used.

Approved – where not all participants are members of USA Swimming but USA-S technical rules are used (for example, a YMCA closed invitational or championship level meet).

Note: No YMCA dual meets may be approved for times to be included in the SWIMS database. This is from the YMCA National Swimming and Diving Committee.

Observed – where another association's (NFHS, NCAA, USMS) rules are used and participants are not necessarily USA Swimming members; swims may be observed by USA Swimming officials for compliance with USA-S technical rules (such as a high school championship level meet or a college dual meet/invitational/championship meet). Applications for observation must be submitted to Suzanne Heath for authorization of any observed meet in North Carolina. Please email Suzanne.heath@ncswim.org or suzanneheath@suddenlink.net for specific information.

Using Meet Recon for Meets

In order to insure that only registered swimmers are entered into a sanctioned meet, all meet hosts are required to submit a MM Back Up for Meet Recon to Barb Frith, NCS Registrar at registration@ncswim.org . This back-up should be sent no later than 7 days before the first day of your meet (the back-up would be due on the Friday one week plus one day before a meet beginning on the next Saturday). Barb will run the recon and send a file back to the meet host that shows any registration issues (misspelled names, incorrect IDs, and unregistered swimmers). As meet host, you should correct the meet database for the misspelled names, incorrect IDs. You should also email the recon to any team who has unregistered swimmers entered in the meet or swimmers with errors. The entering coach should correct his/her TM database for spelling/ID errors. By having the recon completed early, the coach of an unregistered athlete has time to contact Barb and get the swimmers registered or scratch them from the meet. NCS does not do on-deck registration. If you have late entries the day of the meet, the meet host is responsible for checking the swimmer's registration (membership card, official team list or online by seeing if they have swum in a sanctioned competition in the 2009 year).

Failure of the entering coach to register the swimmer or scratch him/her will result in a fine of \$100 per swim. These errors show up in the holding tank for times – the errors are sent to Barb who can then confirm whether membership has taken place or a fine needs to be assessed and the times deleted.

After the Meet

After the meet host has determined that the times/results are valid for the meet, the SwmmBkup file should be sent to Richard Pockat at meet.results@ncswim.org.

- If you captured relay lead off splits, these should be examined for possible errors.
- If you are starting relay swimmers in the water, do not capture relay lead off splits.
- Large meets with dive overs or chase starts need very special attention to the validity of times in the results.
- For relays to go into the database, all four swimmers' names must be listed in the meet file.
- Any intermediate time (such as a 100 split from a longer event) must be individually requested for data entry. Contact Suzanne Heath at Suzanne.heath@ncswim.org .

Other Issues

- Coaches are responsible for insuring that their certifications are up to date. If a certification is expired, you will not be permitted to coach on deck at a meet.
- An LSC coaches' list is sent to a meet host prior to the meet. A list of those with expired certifications is also sent to the meet host who is responsible for denying these coaches the ability to be on deck with an expired certification.
- Coaches' membership cards and officials' membership cards are to be visible on their person while on the pool deck. (Barb will print you an extra card if you need one.)

Have a great 2009-2010!