

Changes to the British Swimming Extracts of World Aquatics Rules 2023-2025

As at 1 July 2024

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PART ONE: RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL AQUATIC SPORTS

10 FACILITIES

Rules renumbered

- 10.7 At the Olympic Games, World Aquatics Championships, World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m) and World Aquatics Junior Swimming Championships, it shall be the responsibility of the Chairperson of the World Aquatics Technical Swimming Committee (or his/her designee) to determine if a Competitor may receive an additional opportunity to compete in the situation when there is a mechanical or technical malfunction that affects the Competitor.

Example: if the lane-line on either side of a competitor snaps during the first 20m of a 100m race, the Technical Swimming Committee Chairperson may grant the allowance to re-swim the race.

At all other competitions, in the event of an equipment malfunction during a swimming race, the Referee may offer all competitors affected by such malfunction the opportunity to compete again.

- 10.8 In order to protect the health and safety of persons using swimming facilities for the purposes of recreation, training and competition, owners of public pools or pools restricted only to training and competition must comply with the requirements established by law and the health authorities in the country where the pool is situated.

13 PROTESTS AND APPEALS

13.1 Protests

13.1.2 Protest must be submitted

- to the Referee-;'
- in writing on World Aquatics Forms-;'
- by the responsible Team Leader-;;
- together with a deposit of five-hundred (500) Swiss Francs or its equivalent; and
- within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective Swimming or Open Water Swimming event, Water Polo- or match, or Diving, High Diving or Artistic Swimming session from which the protest is being lodged.
- If conditions causing a potential protest are noted prior to the event, a protest must be lodged before the signal to start is given, respective match or session begins.

- 13.1.3 All protests shall be considered by the Rreferee. If the Rreferee rejects the protest, the Rreferee must state the reasons for her/his decision. The Team Leader may appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeal within one (1) hour from the moment when the decision has been communicated. ~~whose~~ The decision taken by the Jury of Appeal shall be final. ~~In Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships, the Commission in each sport shall consider the protest and give recommendations to the Jury of Appeal.~~

- 13.1.4 If the protest is rejected by the Jury of Appeal, the deposit will be forfeited to the management body of the competition. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be returned.

PART TWO: SWIMMING RULES

2 OFFICIALS

~~2.9 Chief Finish Judge – if required~~

Subsequent rules renumbered

2.10 Finish Judges – if required

2.11 Chief Recorder (other than for Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships)

2.12 Recorder (other than for Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships)

2.13 Video Review Supervisor

2.14 Video Review Judge

2.15 Officials' Decision Making

10 THE RACE

10.6 Standing on the bottom during freestyle events or during the freestyle portion of medley events shall not disqualify a swimmer, but they shall not walk.

11 TIMING

Rules renumbered

11.4 If two (2) of the three (3) watches record the same time and the third disagrees, the two identical times shall be the official time.

11.5 If all three (3) watches disagree, the watch recording the intermediate time shall be the official time.

11.6 With only two (2) out of three (3) watches working the average time shall be the official time. When this calculation results in a value that is expressed in thousandths of a second, the final digit shall be dropped without rounding.

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

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

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

15 SWIMWEAR AND WEARABLES

15.1 Competitors must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. No additional items, like arm bands or leg bands shall be regarded as parts of a swimsuit. All swimsuits shall comply with the requirements set forth in these Competition Regulations.

Subsequent rules renumbered

15.2 For swimming competitions, swimsuits for men shall not extend above the navel nor below the knee. For women, the swimsuit shall not cover the neck, nor extend past the shoulder, nor below knee. The swimsuits shall be made from textile materials.

15.3 No swimmer shall be permitted to use or wear any device or swimsuit that may aid his/her speed, buoyancy or endurance during a competition (such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, power bands, or adhesive substances, etc.). The use of technology and automated data collection devices is permissible for the sole purpose of collecting data. Automated devices shall not be utilised to transmit data, sounds, or signals to the swimmer and may not be used to aid their speed. Goggles may be worn. As a consequence of injury, it is permissible to tape not more than one or two fingers or toes. Any other kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the Referee or other designated person.

15.4 A World Record (including Junior World Record and Masters World Record) will only be recognised by World Aquatics if approved swimwear has been used.

World Aquatics may request the Athlete to submit her/his swimsuit worn during the World Record for conducting further analysis in its laboratory.

THREE: OPEN WATER SWIMMING RULES

5 THE RACE

5.15 No objects can be thrown from the feeding platform to the competitors, including sustenance. The competitors shall receive their feeding in biodegradable containers directly from their representative by a feeding pole or by hand.

5.18 Emergency Abandonment

5.18.1.1 Where a competitor/s has completed the race prior to abandonment, the final ranking will be as reported by the Chief Referee having regard to those competitor(s) who have already finished.

8 OPEN WATER SWIMMING FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

~~8.2 Open Water Swimming Facilities for Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships~~

Subsequent rules renumbered

8.2 Automatic officiating equipment for open water swimming

8.2.1 Microchip Transponders

8.2.2 Intermediate Timing Gate

8.3 Automatic Officiating procedure for Open Water Swimming

8.3.1 Any timing device that is terminated by an official shall be considered a watch. Such manual times must be taken by three timekeepers appointed or approved by the Member in the country concerned. All watches shall be certified as accurate to the satisfaction of the governing body concerned. Manual timing shall be registered to 1/10 of a second. Where no Automatic Equipment is used, official manual times shall be determined as follows:

8.3.1.1 If two (2) of the three (3) watches record the same time and the third disagrees, the two identical times shall be the official time.

8.3.1.2 If all three (3) watches disagree, the watch recording the intermediate time shall be the official time.

8.3.1.3 With only two (2) out of three (3) watches working the average time shall be the official time. When this calculation results in a value that is expressed in hundredths of a second, the final digit shall be dropped without rounding.

8.3.2 When the Automatic Officiating Equipment fails to record the place and/or time of one or more competitors in a given race:

8.3.2.1 Record all available Automatic Officiating Equipment times and places,

8.3.2.2 Record all human times and places.

8.3.2.3 The official place will be determined as follows:

- A competitor with an Automatic Officiating Equipment time and/or place must retain his/her relative order when compared with the other competitors having an Automatic Officiating Equipment time and/or place within that race.
- A competitor not having an Automatic Officiating Equipment place shall have their place established by the Chief Referee from the video recording of the finish of the race.
- A swimmer having neither an Automatic Officiating Equipment place nor an Automatic Officiating Equipment time shall establish their relative order by the place recorded by the Finish Judges.