

Michigan Swimming

FORM FOR PROPOSED NEW RULE OR PROCEDURE

Revised 4/10

This form should be submitted a minimum of 20 days prior to the Board of Directors Meeting to be acted upon at that meeting. (Copies of all proposed legislation will be sent to all Board Members for their consideration, recommendation and possible Approval.) This form can also be used to submit Rule and Procedure proposals at the House of Delegates.

Date Submitted: July 25, 2010

Date of Board Meeting to be discussed: July 25, 2010 or next meeting

Affected Rule or Procedure: Proof of Time procedure for State Meets

Description of Issue: for many years, there has been complete confusion as to what are the "qualifying meets" for the State Champs, that is, which meets can be used for entry purposes. This confusion existed before the SWIMS database and continues today, in part due to poorly worded text dealing with "Invitationals". This confusion has 1) allowed various clubs/coaches and individuals to put on various types of events (non-sanctioned, non-approved) to then use as qualifying times which is 2) contrary to the concept that State Meet QTs should be achieved at legitimate governing body Sanctioned events, 3) has created extremely unfair practices as only clubs with the ability to secure timing systems, pools and officials for events can do this, 4) has caused divisiveness between geographical areas of the LSC and, very importantly, 5) has caused the proof of time process carried out by the MS Office to become imperfect, very time consuming, expensive, etc. These are contrary to the entire proof of time process for the LSC's highest level of Championship Meet.

Requested New Rule or Procedure:

See pages 2 and 3. This 1) clarifies the portions of rules in question, 2) inserts a new paragraph re: "qualifying meets"—it's either on the list, or it isn't—similar to the new FINA/USA swimsuit rules, 3) removes the idea that clubs can throw together so called non-sanctioned, non-approved "Invitationals" of any sort at any time and use those times as QTs, 4) clarifies that Summer and Winter League meets can't be used, and 5) will work very well with OME, if OME is also passed.

Proposed by (must be a current member): Kirk Nissley, MS NTV.

Club: Unattached

Board Action:

(Adopted by Board) _____

(Adopted by Board with modification) _____

(Board recommends rejection) _____

(Board recommends referral to House of Delegates) _____

Proposed State Meet Clarification & Changes

Eligibility

- 1) At the time of entry all swimmers must be current athlete members (either annual or seasonal) of Michigan Swimming and reside within the USA.
- 2) The swimmer must have achieved a SCY, SCM or LCM time equal to or faster than the qualifying standards (referred to as Q1 times). Times are NOT converted since this meet has multi-course qualifying standards (SCY, SCM and LCM). Q1 qualifying standards are included in this meet announcement.
- 3) The entry time must have been achieved during the qualifying period. Refer to the specific paragraph below.
- 4) The entry time must have been achieved at a "qualifying meet". Refer to the specific paragraph below for the specific "qualifying meets" that can be used to enter this meet. *Do not use* times from meets that are not listed - if you have any questions, please contact the Office of Michigan Swimming prior to sending in the entry.

Qualifying Period

The qualifying time must have been achieved on or since January 1, (prior year) thru the entry deadline.

Qualifying Meets

The Q1 qualifying time must have been achieved at one of these meets:

- 1) A USA/LSC Sanctioned/Approved/Observed meet or a Foreign Meet Sanctioned by a FINA member (other than USA Swimming) included in or eligible for inclusion in the USA Swimming SWIMS database. This means that the time should be currently included/viewable in the USA SWIMS database, except for very recently achieved times that have not yet been processed into the SWIMS database. (Additional proof of time is not required if the time is contained within the SWIMS database.).
- 2) A NCAA competition that meets the NCAA definition of a bona fide competition pursuant to the NCAA rulebook. This generally means that times from all NCAA regular season meets (duals, tris, invites, conference and season ending championships) are accepted. (Proof of time will generally be required since the great majority of these times are not found in SWIMS).
- 3) A MHSAA (or other High School Association) State Meet or *season ending* Conference/League Meet (i.e. the final HS meet except for the HS State Meets. (Proof of time will generally be required, although the Michigan HS State Meets are Observed and found in SWIMS). Times from ALL other HS meets (common examples would be duals, tris, invites, intersquad, intrasquad, last chance, etc) will not be accepted.
- 4) The October (Girls) and February (Boys) MISCA meets. (Proof of time required).
- 5) YMCA: YMCA State, Zone and National Meets. Also, any USA/LSC Approved YMCA Invitationals. (Times from all such meets should already be in the SWIMS Database).

Proof of Time

This is what is referred to as a "proof of time" meet. This means that that all submitted entry times must be proven/verified by a specific point in time or the entry will be scratched. If an entry time is not pre-proven/verified the swimmer will be scratched from the event and the MS Office will notify the club's entry chair via the email address stated on the entry form of the rejected entry. Once the entry is rejected, no proof of time will be accepted and the swimmer is out of the event.

The SWIMS database maintained by USA Swimming contains results of all Sanctioned, Approved and Observed meets held in the USA and certain other International Meets. If the time is in SWIMS it may be viewed from the USA Swimming website by selecting **Times & Teams > Times Search > Individual Times Search** and running a search using the athlete name.

****All individual entries submitted for the State Championships will be pre-proven/verified for qualifying time eligibility at the Michigan Swimming Office by comparing the submitted entry time against the SWIMS database. If a qualifying time is contained within SWIMS, there is no need to submit a proof of time for that entry. If a qualifying time is not in SWIMS, a proof of time must be submitted to the MS Office for that swim. [If a time is not in SWIMS this generally means that the entry time came from a meet that was *not* Sanctioned, Approved or Observed by USA/LSC Swimming OR the Sanctioned, Approved or Observed meet has not yet been processed].**

Proof-of-Time must be in accordance with the type of time entered (LCM, SCY, or SCM). **ACCEPTABLE PROOFS** include printed meet results which clearly identify the meet host, the location of the meet and the date the meet was held (swim date must be on or after January 1, (prior year)) as well as the name of the event and the names, clubs and times of other swimmers in the event. The **PREFERRED PROOF** is a locked Meet Manager backup of the meet results. Team Manager export files will work but are NOT preferred. Computer printed award labels, time cards signed by a meet referee and similar items are not acceptable for proof purposes.

To simplify the process, Coaches / Entry Chairs should also include a **Meet Entry Report** from Team Manager or Team Unify. This report will include the names and dates of the meets where the swimmers achieved the entry times for this meet. Times from relay leadoffs and splits from individual events which are being submitted as entry times should be noted on this form or in the accompanying e-mail. See the 'help' section in the software you are using for instructions on creating the Meet Entry Report with its associated proof of times.

All proofs ***must be received*** at the **Michigan Swimming Office by three days after the initial entry deadline [insert date here]**. It is preferred that clubs collect these and send them in one batch to the MS Office.

Mail or e-mail all proofs and the Meet Entry Report (NO FAXES) to the Michigan Swimming Office, PO BOX 1784, Midland, MI 48641-1784, or to JBCartmill@hughes.net. DO NOT MAIL OR EMAIL THESE TO THE MEET HOST/MEET ENTRY COORDINATOR.

* Proof of Time for times submitted under the "New Cut Extension": The email form requires that the meet where the new cut was achieved be specified. There is no need to submit paper proof of time for new cuts, however, if it is discovered that the submitted new cut is falsified or does not comply with other entry time requirements, the submitter will be automatically fined \$250 payable immediately and the athlete suspended from further participation in any MS Sanctioned or Approved meets until the fine is paid. Further, if the athlete has already competed in the event, any achieved time will be declared a nullity, not submitted to the SWIMS Database and the State Meets Results (and awards if any) will be modified accordingly. The MS Board of Review may impose additional penalties in their discretion.