

## HOUSEKEEPING REPORT

Pursuant to article 601.1.2, housekeeping changes to the USMS Rules of Competition submitted and approved by the Rules Committee, with the concurrence of the Vice President of Administration, are reported to the House of Delegates in the annual report from the Rules Committee or in a subsequent report (if approved after the annual meeting). These changes will take effect on January 1, 2026.

HK-1	101.6.3	Page 4-5	Modify
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### 101.6 Individual Medley

The swimmer shall swim the prescribed distance in the following order: the first one-fourth, butterfly; the second one-fourth, backstroke; the third one-fourth, breaststroke; and the last one-fourth, freestyle.

*(Articles 101.6.1 and 101.6.2 are unchanged)*

#### 101.6.3 Turns

*(Article 101.6.3A is unchanged)*

**B** The turns when changing from one stroke to another shall conform to the finish rules for the stroke just completed.

~~(1) **Butterfly to backstroke**—The swimmer must touch as described in article 101.3.5. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner, but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the back when the swimmer leaves the wall.~~

~~(2) **Backstroke to breaststroke**—The swimmer must touch the wall while on the back. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner, but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall and the prescribed breaststroke form must be attained prior to the first arm stroke.~~

~~(3) **Breaststroke to freestyle**—The swimmer must touch as described in article 101.2.4. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner and must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.~~

**Rationale:** To remove unnecessary language from the rule book - the World Aquatics and USA Swimming rule books have eliminated the language regarding “transition turns” as being unnecessary to a rule book.

HK-2	102.13.10	Page 16	Modify
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**102.13.10** No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device or substance to enhance speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, fins, power bands, adhesive substances, snorkels, neoprene caps, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the referee. Medical identification items may be worn. Therapeutic elastic tape is prohibited. As a consequence of injury, it is permissible to tape not more than two fingers or toes. Any other kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

**Rationale:** Article 102.12.1E was amended in 2024 to include the underlined statement (see below), but the same change was not made to article 102.13.10. Article 102.13.10 should also have been changed at that time as “another article that requires changing for consistency”.

### 102.12.1 Design

*(Articles 102.12.1A through 102.12.1D are unchanged)*

**E** No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device or substance to enhance speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, fins, power bands, adhesive substances, snorkels, neoprene caps, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the referee. Medical identification items may be worn. Therapeutic elastic tape is prohibited. As a consequence of injury, it is permissible to tape not more than two fingers or toes. Any other kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

HK-3	102.13.10	Page 16	Modify
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**This change is required following adoption of R-4 by the 2025 HOD.**

**102.13.10** No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device or substance to enhance speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, fins, power bands, adhesive substances, snorkels, neoprene caps, etc.). The use of technology and automated data collection devices is permissible for the sole purpose of collecting data. Automated devices shall not be used to transmit data, sounds, or signals to the swimmer and may not be used to aid their speed. Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the referee. Medical identification items may be worn. Therapeutic elastic tape is prohibited. As a consequence of injury, it is permissible to tape not more than two fingers or toes. Any other kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

**Rationale:** R-4 was adopted by the 2025 HOD, and article 102.12.1E is amended to include the underlined statement (see below). This same change was not proposed for article 102.13.10 as “another article that requires changing for consistency”. Update required for consistency.

### 102.12.1 Design

*(Articles 102.12.1A through 102.12.1D are unchanged)*

- E** No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device or substance to enhance speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, fins, power bands, adhesive substances, snorkels, neoprene caps, etc.). The use of technology and automated data collection devices is permissible for the sole purpose of collecting data. Automated devices shall not be used to transmit data, sounds, or signals to the swimmer and may not be used to aid their speed. Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the referee. Medical identification items may be worn. Therapeutic elastic tape is prohibited. As a consequence of injury, it is permissible to tape not more than two fingers or toes. Any other kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

HK-4	104.5.10	Page 39	Modify
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**This change is required following adoption of R-7 and R-8 by the 2025 HOD.**

### 104.5.10 Personnel (also see article 103)

*(Article 104.5.10A is unchanged)*

#### **B Officials**

##### **(1) Meet referee**

- (a)** The meet referee shall be selected by the chairs of the Officials and Championship Committees, with feedback from the meet host and USMS staff. Minimum qualifications for the meet referee shall be defined by Officials and Championship Committee policies.
- (b)** The meet referee shall develop a leadership team (lead administrative refereeofficial, head starter, and lead chief judge) and submit the names to the chairs of the Championship and Officials Committees for approval.

- (2) Additional officials**—A sufficient number of officials shall be assigned to comply with USMS policies on staffing levels for national championship meets.

**(3) Certification**—All officials shall be certified by a USMS-approved certifying body in the capacity to which they are assigned.

*(Articles 104.5.10C and 104.5.10.D are unchanged)*

***Rationale:*** This is a housekeeping item for 104.5.10B[1](b) following adoption of R-7 and R-8 by the 2025 HOD. The new final language proposed in R-7 (shown above) updated this language but R-8 did not. Updates required for consistency.