

## **Meet Referees**

### **Inclusion of Swimmers with a Disability**

**REFEREE :102.11.9:** May modify any rule for a competitive swimmer who has a disability. Any such modification shall be in accordance with Article 105 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, shall affect only the current meet, and shall not set a precedent.

#### 105.1 GENERAL

**Authority** — The USA Swimming Rules & Regulations grant the Referee the authority to modify the rules for the swimmer with a disability. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities. This section contains guidelines and suggestions for making such modifications. Reference 701.24 for Open Water competitions.

**The following information is to help facilitate the conversation between coaches and meet referees to provide a parallel performance for Central Zone athletes.**

**Accommodations** - Necessary for a swimmer with a disability to access the facility and maneuver to the block.

#### **Examples of Meet Accommodations:**

- Towel on the block to start.
- Assistance at the block before the start.
- Takes longer to get to block or exit the pool.
- Lane preference, the outside lane closest to the starter
- Personal Assistant for mobility or communication.
- Strobe placed at the block

**Modifications** - Any modification of the technical rules allowing a parallel performance for a swimmer with a disability.

#### **Examples of Modifications per Art. 105 in accordance with 105.1.2.**

- Sitting position on block 105.5.1.E(1).
- Starter's arm signals 105.3.1
- Personal Assistant for mobility, tapper (B/VI) or communication, etc. 105.1.3.C and elsewhere.
- Legs, due to immobility, are unable to perform Breaststroke Kick 105.5.2.
- Arms, due to immobility, are unable to perform Breaststroke Touch 101.2.4 Butterfly Touch 101.3.4
- Backstroke start 101.4.1

Questions, contact:

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