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	<div data-bbox="816 264 972 304"><p>Subject:</p></div> <div data-bbox="816 325 985 396"><p>Athlete Registration</p></div>	<div data-bbox="1250 264 1531 296"><p>EFFECTIVE DATE:</p></div> <div data-bbox="1234 340 1494 443"><p>Approved: 9/20/22 Amended: 1/21/25 Retired:</p></div>

**PURPOSE:** It is the intent and purpose of this policy to ensure compliance with Article 302 of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming. This policy is not intended to be punitive but rather to promote the integrity of the aforementioned rules.

- A. **Requirement for Registration.** All swimmers practicing with a member club or competing in events sanctioned by USA Swimming must be registered as athlete members of USA Swimming. It is the sole responsibility of the club or individual submitting the entry to the host team to ensure and prove that all athletes entered in any Minnesota Swimming sanctioned meet are in good standing prior to participating in any Minnesota Swimming sanctioned meet.
- B. **Proof of Registration – Sanctioned Meets.** Minnesota Swimming shall produce and provide a final recon report prior to the sanctioned meet. If an athlete appears in the meet final recon report at a Minnesota Swimming sanctioned meet as being unregistered and/or as needing to complete their Athlete Protection Training (APT), the athlete shall not be permitted on deck, to warm up, or to compete until the athlete can prove their registration/APT status. That status may be proved by presenting evidence to the Meet Referee and Meet Director of:
  1. the athlete's name on a current year SWIMS team roster dated on or after the date of the final recon report, or
  2. the athlete's name on a current year watermarked club roster from the club's "Club Portal" dated on or after the date of the final recon report, or
  3. the athlete's membership card in their USA Swimming app, or
  4. the athlete's hard-copy membership card.
- C. **Proof of Registration – Approved Meets.** Minnesota Swimming shall produce and provide a final recon report prior to the approved meet. If an athlete appears in the meet final recon report at a Minnesota Swimming approved meet as being unregistered and/or as needing to complete their Athlete Protection Training (APT), the athlete shall not be permitted on deck, to warm up, or to compete until the athlete can prove their registration/APT status using one of the methods stated above in (B), or by providing valid proof of registration for a non-USA Swimming organization (e.g. AAU, YMCA).
- D. **Time By Which Registration Must Be Proven.** The athlete or athlete's coach must present valid proof of APT or registration to the Meet Referee or their designee and Meet Director or their designee no later than the start of warm up at the first session of the meet. Both the Meet Referee or their designee and Meet Director or their designee must view and validate the athlete's registration/APT status for the athlete to be permitted to compete.
- E. **Fine for an Unregistered Athlete Competing.** The fine for an unregistered/non-APT compliant athlete competing in a meet is \$100 per athlete per splash levied against the club or individual submitting the entry. This fine shall be administered by the Minnesota Swimming office under the oversight of the Administrative Vice Chair or their designee.
- F. **Appeal of Fines.** Fines described above in (E) may be appealed in writing to the Administrative Vice Chair within thirty (30) days of notification that the fine is assessed. The appeal shall be considered

within thirty (30) days of receipt by a panel made up of the Administrative Vice Chair, Officials Committee Chair, Senior Coach Representative, and the Senior Athlete Representative. In the event an appeal involves an individual or club affiliated with a panel member, the Administrative Vice Chair or General Chair shall appoint an alternate panel member(s) from the board. Decisions of the panel are final.

- G. **Record of Violations.** A record of all fines shall be kept that includes the name of the fined club or individual, the violation for which they were fined or penalized, and the amount of the fine or penalty. These records shall be maintained by the MNSI Office and available upon request by the Administrative Vice Chair.
- H. **Public Notice of Fines.** Public declaration of violations and fines may be made in the Administrative Vice Chair's regular report to the Board of Directors. These declarations shall be edited to show a generic list of each violation and the fine amount (e.g. one violation where an athlete with expired USA Swimming athlete membership requirements was allowed to participate at a sanctioned LSC meet and competed in 4 events. Fines were assessed in the amount of \$100 for each violation).