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| Pacific Northwest Swimming Rules and Procedures | Meet Entry Eligibility and Entry Times |
| Index AD-97-08 | Effective Date 9/24/22 |
| <p>10/31/01: Original 09/01/11: Updated policy to agree with current practice/procedures. 11/19/13: Participating swimmer's registration date clarification. 11/05/18: Added FLEX member athlete 3rd meet notification, procedure. 9/24/22: Amends Meet entry eligibility. PNS Office cannot register a swimmer; must be done by parent, athlete (if over 18).</p> | |

1. Meet entry eligibility

- a. In order to compete in a meet, a swimmer must be entered in compliance with the entry requirements stated in the Meet Announcement.
- b. Ensuring appropriate USA Swimming Registration Status for any entries not processed through OME:
 - i. If USA Swimming Athlete Membership is required by the meet rules, the entering club shall provide a completed and signed Meet Entry Summary or Deck Entry Registration form attesting that the athlete is a properly registered USA Swimming member prior to that athlete being allowed to compete in the meet. Similarly, if the athlete is 18 or over, entering club shall ensure that said athlete has completed the Athlete Protection Training (APT) prior to competition.
 - ii. The effective date of each participating swimmer's current registration, which shall be attested by the coach, club representative, parent, or athlete if age 18 or older, shall be on or before the meet entry deadline.
 - iii. Upon processing the post-meet exception report PNS shall impose a fine of \$100.00 per swimmer:
 - (1) against the club when a coach member or other club representative has signed a Master Entry Summary or Deck Entry Registration form attesting that an athlete is a USA Swimming registered athlete when this is not the case.
 - (2) against the meet host club if a properly completed and signed Master Entry Summary or Deck Entry Registration form cannot be produced for the athlete in question.
 - iv. The registration charges and fines resulting from the above paragraphs are due to the PNS Office prior to the entry deadline of the next meet entered by the team being fined or within fifteen (15) business days after receipt of the fine statement, whichever occurs first.
 - v. Teams and affected individual athletes will not be considered to be in good standing with PNS until all of the above fines and registration fees are paid and as such, they will not be allowed to participate in any PNS related activities until this condition is rectified.
 - vi. All of the above apply to the athlete's parent (or to the athlete if the athlete is age 18 or older) if a Master Entry Summary and/or a Deck Entry Registration form is signed independently of a club.
 - vii. Clubs with a Flex member athlete who is shown to have competed in their third meet will be notified that the athlete in question must be upgraded to a full membership prior to further competition.

2. Event entry times

- a. PNS recognizes the following as entry times for PNS competition:
 - i. Times listed in the USA Swimming SWIMS database.
 - ii. Alternate acceptable times as specified in PNS Policy AD 02-01.
- b. To be able to compete in an event that has qualifying or de-qualifying time standards the athlete:

- i. Must have achieved the applicable event qualifying time in sanctioned or approved competition or in an observed swim during the qualifying time period identified in the Meet Announcement.
 - ii. Must not have achieved the de-qualifying time in sanctioned or approved competition or in an observed swim during the de-qualifying time period identified in the Meet Announcement.
- c. A swimmer maintains his entry classification level for the duration of a meet even if a new classification standard is achieved during a meet.
- d. Upon changing age groups, a swimmer who has met a qualification or de-qualification time standard (including any applicable qualification/de-qualification time periods) for the new age group will be considered qualified/de-qualified for those events in his new age group.
- e. Provided that an athlete has satisfied the event eligibility requirements and provided that the Meet Announcement does not specify otherwise, an athlete may submit an entry time for seeding purposes that represents a reasonable expectation of their performance if the seed time:
 - i. Is not faster than their fastest official time for that event
 - ii. Is equal to or less than any qualifying time standard for that event
 - iii. Is neither equal to nor less than any de-qualifying time standard for that event
 - iv. Does not make the athlete eligible for an award for which he or she would not otherwise be eligible.
 - v. Meets all applicable proof-of-time requirements.
- f. If a meet or event has no qualifying or de-qualifying time standards, a swimmer who has no official time for an event may enter that event as "NT" or "no submitted time." If the Meet Announcement so allows, a swimmer may submit an estimated time for any event in which he or she has no official time.