

## Technical Officials officiating Multi-Class meets in NSW Lessons from the Pan Pacs Para, Cairns, August 2018

### Points of note:

- World Para Swimming has a new set of exceptions, replacing those we are currently using.  
*Do not throw away your 'old' set of exceptions just yet.*
- All athletes are to be re-assessed before the new exception list will apply to them. This assessment is a much longer process than previous. Until an athlete has been re-assessed and classified under the new regime they will continue to compete under the 'old' exceptions.
  - At this point it appears that there are no classifiers in Australia accredited to the new standards, which means that the majority of Australian athletes are swimming under the 'old' exceptions.
  - The only way to identify whether the athlete is to swim under the 'new' or 'old' exceptions is to ask them when they were last classified.
    - If they have been classified since January 1, 2018 they are to be officiated using the 'new' exceptions.
    - Otherwise, 'old' exceptions will apply.
  - It is, therefore, possible to have athletes in the same race swimming under the two different ('new' and 'old') lists of exceptions.
  - Athletes who have not been re-assessed and classified under the 'new' exceptions are not eligible to establish a World Record.
- The 'new' exceptions are included at the end of this document.

### Officiating

Officials should defend the athlete who is swimming within the rules. If you see a swimmer breaking the rules, report it to the Referee for their decision.

### The Start

- Those athletes who will be starting in the water are encouraged to enter the water on the Referee's short whistles.

### Breaststroke and Butterfly

- Athletes with exceptions 2 and 4 **must** swim using one arm only.
- Athletes with exceptions 3 and 5 **must** swim using two arms.

### Breaststroke

- While Rule 11.4.2 stipulates that *All movements of the arms shall be ... on the same horizontal plane*, the plane of the arms need not be strictly 'horizontal', but must be consistent.
- While Rule 11.4.4 stipulates that 'All movements of the legs shall be ... on the same horizontal plane', the plane of the legs need not be strictly 'horizontal', but must be consistent, and the legs must not alternate.

### Butterfly

- An athlete, swimming butterfly with only one arm, must maintain the shoulders/body 'in line with the normal water surface'. If, at any stage, one shoulder blade has significantly more water over it than the other then the swimmer is probably not in line with the normal water surface and should be disqualified.

### During the race

- Judges of Stroke should follow the swimmers from further behind (up to 5m) than is our usual practice.

### After the race

- Judges of Stroke 1 and 4, only, remain to watch the athletes leave the pool. This does not have to be done from a position adjacent to where the athletes leave the water, but can be done effectively from further down the pool.
- Judges of Stroke 1 and 4 check the goggles of athletes with a B exception (S11 swimmers) and signal all clear to the Referee.

## WPS Codes of Exception (2018)

### STARTS

<b>H</b>	Hearing Impairment – light or signal required
<b>A</b>	Assistance required
<b>E</b>	Unable to grip for backstroke start
<b>Y</b>	Starting device
<b>T</b>	Tapper
<b>B</b>	Blackened/opaque goggles

### DURING SWIMMING

<b>1</b>	One hand start
<b>2</b>	Breaststroke – One Hand Touch
<b>3</b>	Breaststroke – Simultaneous Intent to Touch
<b>4</b>	Butterfly – One Hand Touch
<b>5</b>	Butterfly – Simultaneous Intent to Touch
<b>7</b>	Part of upper body must touch
<b>8</b>	Right foot must turn out
<b>9</b>	Left foot must turn out
<b>12</b>	Leg drag or show intent to kick
<b>+</b>	Butterfly kick is able to be performed (illegal in Breaststroke)

Freestyle	No Exceptions (Nil)	
Backstroke	Only Exception '1' may apply	
Butterfly	Exceptions '4, 5, 7' may apply	
Breaststroke	Exceptions: Upper Body	'2, 3, 7' may apply
	Lower Body	'8, 9 or 12, +' may apply