



2023 TYR Western Open

Hosted by Charlotte Swim Association (d.b.a. Team Charlotte Swimming) and
Mecklenburg County Aquatics Center

January 27 – 29, 2023

Held at Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center, 800 East Martin King Jr. Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28202-2874
(704) 336-3483

Held under the Sanction of USA Swimming, Inc., issued by North Carolina Swimming, Inc.
Sanction #NC23012

MEET DIRECTOR	MEET ENTRY COORDINATOR
Rob Johnson westernopentsc@gmail.com	Jeffrey Childs 704-307-0327 westernopentsc@gmail.com
MEET REFEREE	MEET MARSHAL
Jeffrey Childs 704-307-0327 westernopentsc@gmail.com	Beginning 1/1/23, clubs must have one male and one female meet marshal per session.

CONDITION OF SANCTION

As a condition of this sanction, Team Charlotte agrees to comply with and to enforce all COVID-19 health and safety mandates and guidelines of USA Swimming, North Carolina Swimming, the State of North Carolina, local jurisdictions in effect at the time of the meet. Further, the meet will be conducted in accordance with individual facility requirements as detailed in the Team Charlotte Meet Plan below. Meets conducted in violation of these requirements and safety plans are subject to having the sanction revoked and will not be issued sanctions for future meets during the COVID-19 sanctioning period.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK DISCLAIMER

Team Charlotte has taken enhanced health and safety measures for athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, and others participating in this meet. You must follow all safety instructions in the following meet sanction. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. Senior citizens and those with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. By attending this meet, you assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.

COVID-19 RELEASE

USA Swimming, Inc., cannot prevent you (or your child(ren)) from becoming exposed to, contracting, or spreading COVID-19 while participating in USA Swimming sanctioned events. It is not possible to prevent against the presence of the disease. Therefore, if you choose to participate in a USA Swimming sanctioned event, you may be exposing yourself to and/or increasing your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19.

BY ATTENDING OR PARTICIPATING IN THIS COMPETITION, YOU VOLUNTARILY ASSUME ALL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 AND FOREVER RELEASE AND HOLD

HARMLESS USA SWIMMING, NORTH CAROLINA SWIMMING, AND EACH OF THEIR OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM ANY LIABILITY OR CLAIMS INCLUDING FOR PERSONAL INJURIES, DEATH, DISEASE OR PROPERTY LOSSES, OR ANY OTHER LOSS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CLAIMS OF NEGLIGENCE AND GIVE UP ANY CLAIMS YOU MAY HAVE TO SEEK DAMAGES, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, FORESEEN OR UNFORESEEN, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Team Charlotte COVID-19 MEET PLAN

NCS FACE COVERING STATEMENT

NCS recommends the proper use of face coverings at all NCS activities and expects all participants, coaches, officials, volunteers, and spectators to comply with all club and facility specific COVID-19 safety requirements and guidelines from USA Swimming, North Carolina Swimming, the State of North Carolina, and local jurisdictions.

LOCAL PROTOCOLS

Team Charlotte may update the capacity plan and COVID-19 safety protocols to reflect the current facility, local, state, and federal COVID-19 guidelines in effect at the time of the meet.

Team Charlotte has discussed specific health and safety procedures with the venue management. Currently, the facility and Team Charlotte have no additional requirements. Compliance with the most current guidelines from USA Swimming, North Carolina Swimming, CDC, State and Local jurisdictions will be maintained throughout the duration of the meet.

FACILITY

The competition pool is a 25-yard pool equipped with 8, 9-foot-wide lanes with non-turbulent lane lines and Paragon starting blocks which will be used for competition in accordance with USA Swimming diving depth guidelines. Minimum depth is 6.5 feet at the scoreboard end and 13 feet at the diving board end. Colorado 6000 electronic timing system with a full color scoreboard will be used. Timing system utilizes touch pads and two buttons and two watches per lane. It is anticipated that two pools will be used, and the final determination will be made based on the number of entries received by the entry deadline. The minimum depth ranges for any configuration utilized is from 6.5 feet. There will be 4 additional lanes available for continuous warm up and warm down. The competition course has been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4). The copy of such certification is on file with USA Swimming.

Spectator seating is in bleachers only. No chairs permitted on deck for spectators. There is ample parking within 100 yards of the facility. Smoking is not permitted inside the building. Absolutely no glass bottles will be allowed on the pool deck. Only meet volunteers, USA Swimming registered athletes and current USA Swimming registered officials and coaches may be on deck.

MEET FORMAT

This is a timed final, prelim/finals Age Group and Senior pre-seeded meet unless otherwise indicated.

Friday – All Events will be swum as Timed finals.

12 and Under: All events will be swum as Timed Finals.

13 and Over: Saturday - Sunday PRELIMS/FINALS – A and B finals for 13/14 and 15 and Over; The Finals heats will be swum B Final, followed by A Final.

The 500 free, for 13 & over only, will be timed finals with all heats swimming in the morning.

Meet Management reserves the right to limit heats of timed final events or add breaks between events if deemed necessary. Breaks will be published in advance of the session and limited to 10 minutes. Events may be combined at the discretion of the Referee. All events will swim slowest to fastest unless noted. Meet Management reserves the right to adjust session start times based on entries. Revisions if any will be published after receipt of entries.

Session	Day	Warm-up	Meet Start	Age Group
1	Friday	4:30 PM	6:00 PM	All
2	Saturday – AM	7:00 AM	8:30 AM	13-14, Senior
3	Saturday – PM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	12 & under
4	Saturday - Finals	4:30 PM	5:30 PM	13 and over
5	Sunday – AM	7:00 AM	8:30 AM	13-14, Senior
6	Sunday – PM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	12 & under
7	Sunday - Finals	4:30 PM	5:30 PM	13 and over

DEADLINE AND MEETING SUMMARY:

Day, Date	Time	For:
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	5:00 PM	Entry deadline
Friday, January 27, 2023	4:00 PM	General Meeting
Friday, January 27 thru 30 th , 2023	60 Min prior to session	Official Briefing
Friday, January 27 thru 30 th , 2023	20 Min prior to session	Timer Briefing

RULES

This meet will be conducted in accordance with the current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, except where rules therein are optional, and exceptions are stated.

TECHNICAL SUIT BAN for 12&Us

Per USA Swimming Rule 102.8.1F, 12 & Under athletes may not compete in Technical Suits at this meet.

A Technical Suit is one that has the following components:

- Any male or female suit with bonded or taped seams regardless of fabric or silhouette; or
- Any male or female suit with woven fabric extending to the knee or mid-thigh regardless of the seam type.

MAAPP

All adults participating in or associated with the meet acknowledge that they are subject to the provisions of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy (“MAAPP”), and that they understand that compliance with MAAPP is a condition of participation in the conduct of this competition.

SAFE SPORT

The NCS Safety Program is in effect for this meet. Coaches are advised to closely supervise their swimmers at all times. Swimmers may be dropped off only in designated safe areas. Swimmers are not permitted in work out rooms, storage rooms, meeting rooms, or control rooms. No glass containers or bottles are allowed inside the facility at any time. Anyone failing to comply with a safety request may forfeit his or her privilege to participate. We strongly recommend each team assign a marshal to monitor warm-up sessions and locker rooms in addition to host team marshal.

Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted in changing areas, rest rooms, locker rooms, or behind the starting blocks. Flash photography of any kind is prohibited at the start of a race.

Deck changes are prohibited.

Any swimmer entered in the meet must be certified by a USA Swimming member-coach as being proficient in performing a racing start or must start each race from within the water without the use of a backstroke ledge. When unaccompanied by a member-coach, it is the responsibility of the swimmer or the swimmer's legal guardian to ensure compliance with this requirement. It is also the responsibility of the swimmer or the swimmer's guardian to request assignment from the Meet Director to a USA Swimming member coach attending the meet if a coach from the swimmer's team is unable to attend.

Unless approved in writing in advance of the competition by the Program and Events Committee Chair or designee, operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, spectator areas, and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials, and/or spectators are present.

Only swimmers, properly certified officials, and coaches, and meet volunteers will be allowed on deck. No spectators will be allowed on deck at any time.

ELIGIBILITY

All athletes must be registered in good standing with USA Swimming, Inc. prior to the entry deadline. Entries listed as "Registration Applied For" will not be accepted. There will be no on-deck registration available at this meet.

All athletes age 18 and older must complete Athlete Protection Training in order to be a USA Swimming registered member in good standing. Any athlete who turns 18 on or after December 31st, 2022, who has not completed Athlete Protection Training by the first day of competition, will be prohibited from participating in the competition until such time as all membership requirements are completed. Times achieved by an athlete who turns age 18 on or after December 31st, who competes in this USA Swimming sanctioned event without completing this membership requirement, will NOT count for qualification or recognition. This includes participation as a member of a relay

MEMBERS WITH DISABILITIES OR

Team Charlotte welcomes all swimmers with disabilities as described in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, Article 105, to participate in our meets.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS Coaches entering swimmers with disabilities that require any accommodations are required to provide advance notice in writing to the Meet Director by the entry deadline accompanying their meet entry file, including the need for any personal assistants required and/or registered service animals. Failure to provide advance notice may limit Team Charlotte's ability to accommodate all requests.

ENTRIES Email is to be used for all entries. Entries must be submitted using Hy-Tek or compatible software. All times must be in short course yards only and **No Times (NT) entries** will not be accepted. A completed and signed Entry Summary Sheet (included in the announcement) and payment in full must be received by the Meet Entry Coordinator **before the start of warm-ups on the first day of the meet, Friday, January 27, 2023**. A swimmer's age on the first day of the meet will determine their age for the entire meet. Team Charlotte entries will be entered first and then accept teams/entries in the order received, until the four-hour rule is reached. Entries received thereafter will be returned immediately.

ENTRY LIMITATIONS 13&Over swimmers are limited to two (2) individual events on Friday, three (3) individual events on Saturday and Sunday, with a total of eight (8) individual events for the meet.

12&U swimmers are limited are limited to (1) individual event on Friday, four (4) individual events on Saturday and Sunday, with a total of eight (8) individual events for the meet.

ENTRY VERIFICATION An email will be sent to the person submitting the entry confirming receipt of the entry within 48 hours of receipt.

ENTRY DEADLINES The Meet Entry Coordinator must receive entries by the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary above. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Meet Referee. Late entry charges will apply. There will be no on deck entries.

ENTRY FEES

Make checks payable to: Team Charlotte; All fees are non-refundable, except if rejected for non-compliance or meet has reached capacity	
Individual Event	\$7.00 per event
NCS Travel Fund	\$3.00 per swimmer
Facility Surcharge	\$20.00 per swimmer
Electronic Heat Sheet Fee*	\$5.00 per swimmer
Late Entry Fee	Double the individual fees listed (if accepted)

***Heat Sheet will be available on Meet Mobile and an electronic copy will be emailed to teams no later than the day before the meet.**

SEEDING The conforming time standard for this meet is short course yards. Swimmers will be seeded and swim from slowest to fastest unless otherwise indicated. Non-conforming times will not be accepted.

CHECK-IN Events 400 yards and longer are positive check-in event. Swimmers who fail to check in by the deadline will be scratched from the event. See schedule below

for deadline.

Individual Events	Check-in Deadline	
13 and Over 400 IM	Friday	5:15 pm
11/12 500 Free	Friday	5:15 pm
13 and Over 1000 Free	Friday	5:15 pm
13 & Over 500 Free	Saturday	9:00 am

- **13 and Over 400 IM:** The 400M Individual Medley will be swum as a timed final event and will be deck seeded after positive check in. It **will be swum fastest to slowest. If one pool is used for competition the event will be swum alternating women and men and may be limited to 4 heats of women and 4 heats of men.** Heats and events may be combined at the discretion of the Meet Referee.
- **11/12 500 Free:** The 500-yard freestyle will be swum as a timed final event and will be deck seeded after positive check in. It **will be swum fastest to slowest. If one pool is used for competition the event will be swum alternating women and men and may be limited to 4 heats of women and 4 heats of men.** Heats and events may be combined at the discretion of the Meet Referee. Swimmers must provide own counter.
- **13 and Over 1000 Free:** The 1000 Freestyle will be swum as a timed final event and will be deck seeded after positive check in. It **will be swum fastest to slowest. If one pool is used for competition the event will be swum alternating women and men and may be limited to 4 heats of women and 4 heats of men.** Heats and events may be combined at the discretion of the Meet Referee. Swimmers must provide own timer and counter.
- **13 and Over 500 Free:** The 500-yard freestyle will be swum as a timed final event and will be deck seeded after positive check in. It **will be swum fastest to slowest. If one pool is used for competition the event will be swum alternating women and men and may be limited to 3 heats of women and 3 heats of men.** Heats and events may be combined at the discretion of the Meet Referee. Swimmers must provide their own counters.

SCRATCHES

The modified NCS Scratch Rule will be in effect at this meet.

There will be no penalty for scratching pre-seeded events at the block.

For positive check-in deck seeded events, a swimmer who is properly checked-in, been seeded, and fails to complete in said event, **shall be barred from their next individual event.**

For all A and B Finals, a swimmer identified as a finalist when preliminary results are announced who fails to compete in said final heat **shall be barred from further competition** for the remainder of the meet unless they declared intent to scratch within 30 minutes of the results announcement. It is the swimmer's

responsibility to scratch from finals. Swimmers are requested to scratch their events regardless of place if they are not returning for Finals.

SCORING

There will be no scoring.

AWARDS

There will be no ribbons at this meet.

RESULTS

Results will be posted on Team Charlotte's website within 24 hours of the meets conclusion. At the conclusion of the meet, teams may obtain Hy-tek backups either on a memory stick or via email attachment.

COACHES

All coaches on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming. Meet Management will require all coaches to show proof of certification/registration and shall prominently display their registration cards or have easy access to their Deck Pass virtual membership cards at all times while on deck. There will be a general meeting at the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary above. Other meetings may be held at the meet referee's discretion. Meet Management requests that at least one coach representative from each team attend all coaches' meetings.

**OFFICIALS/TIMERS/
VOLUNTEERS**

There will be a need for officials. Any official's assistance will be greatly appreciated and will help to ensure a great meet for the swimmers. Team Charlotte welcomes and encourages anyone willing to volunteer to contact the Meet Referee by email prior to the meet. All officials on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming and will be required to show proof of certification/registration to the meet referee or designee by displaying their registration card or be prepared to show their Deck Pass virtual membership card upon request. Official briefings will be held in the hospitality area at the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary. Meetings may be virtual in advance of the meet and assignments may be communicated electronically prior to each session. All officials are strongly encouraged to complete an individual personal review of applicable USAS rules prior to the meet. Officials should report at the time specified by the Meet Referee and bring a mask (if necessary) and a writing utensil.

While TEAM Charlotte strives to provide all the timers, there may be a need for volunteers from other teams to time. Timers should report to the head timer on the pool deck 25 minutes prior to the start of the session.

**HOSPITALITY/
CONCESSIONS**

There will be a hospitality area open to all coaches and officials.

WARM-UP

In accordance with USA Swimming guidelines, there will be a published warm-up procedure for all swimmers and coaches attending the meet. The Marshal will ensure all teams, coaches, and swimmers follow all warm-up procedures. Meet Management reserves the right to change warm-up times according to the number of entries. Warm-ups may be divided into two (2) sessions. All warm-up information will be distributed via email prior to the start of the meet. All procedures will be established and announced during the Coaches/General Meeting as indicated in the Deadline and Meeting Summary above. During the

competition, there will be lanes available for continuous warm-up/down. There is to be no diving or horseplay in this area.

WAIVER/RELEASE

As a team entered in this meet, upon entry you are verifying that all of the swimmers and coaches listed, and attending are registered with USA Swimming. You acknowledge that you are familiar with the Safety Rules of USA Swimming, Inc. and North Carolina Swimming, Inc. regarding warm-up procedures and meet safety guidelines and that you shall be responsible for the compliance of your swimmers with those rules during this meet. Team Charlotte, Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center, North Carolina Swimming, Inc., and USA Swimming, Inc., their agents, employees, and coaches shall be held free and harmless from any and all liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of illness or injury to anyone during the conduct of this meet. You acknowledge that by entering this meet, you are granting permission for the names of any or all of your team's swimmers to be published on the internet in the form of Psych Sheets, Meet Results, or any other documents associated with the running of this meet.

IMAGE RELEASE

All participants agree to be filmed and photographed by the host club approved photographer(s) and videographers and to allow the right to use names and pictures before, during, or after the meet such as in public psych sheets, heat sheets, and results or featured on the host club or NCS website or social media or in public broadcast of the event via television or webcast. Parents and guardians of minor swimmers who do not wish their swimmers to participate in interviews or have individual pictures featured on any media should inform their team's head coach and the Meet Director prior to the meet.

ORDER OF EVENTS

Friday, January 27, 2023

Warm-up: 4:30 PM; Meet Start: 6:00 PM

Girls/Women	Event	Boys/Men
1	*13 and Over 400 IM	2
3	**11-12 500 Freestyle	4
5	9-10 200 IM	6
7	11-12 200 IM	8
9	***13 and Over 1000 Freestyle	10

*Positive check in required; events will be seeded and swim Fastest to Slowest.

**Positive check in required; swimmers must provide their own counter; events will be seeded and swim Fastest to Slowest.

***Positive check in required AND swimmers must provide their own timer and counter; event will be deck seeded and swim fastest to slowest.

Saturday, January 28, 2023
13 & Over Sessions (Prelim/Finals)
Warm-up: 7:00 AM/4:30 PM

Saturday Prelim/Finals		
Girls/Women	Prelims @ 8:30A Finals @ 5:30P	Boys/Men
11	Senior 50 Freestyle	12
13	13-14 50 Freestyle	14
15	Senior 100 Butterfly	16
17	13-14 100 Butterfly	18
19	Senior 200 Backstroke	20
21	13-14 200 Backstroke	22
23	Senior 100 Breaststroke	24
25	13-14 100 Breaststroke	26
27	Senior 200 IM	28
29	13-14 200 IM	30
Break		
31	*13 and Over 500 Freestyle	32

*Positive check in is required; swimmers must provide their own counter; All heats swim in the morning.

Sunday, January 29, 2023
13 & Over Sessions (Prelim/Finals)
Warm-up: 7:00 AM/4:30 PM

Sunday Prelim/Finals		
Girls/Women	Prelims @ 8:30A Finals @ 5:30P	Boys/Men
33	Senior 200 Freestyle	34
35	13-14 200 Freestyle	36
37	Senior 200 Butterfly	38
39	13-14 200 Butterfly	40
41	Senior 100 Freestyle	42
43	13-14 100 Freestyle	44
45	Senior 100 Backstroke	46
47	13-14 100 Backstroke	48
49	Senior 200 Breaststroke	50
51	13-14 200 Breaststroke	52

Saturday, January 28, 2023

PM Session

Warm-up: at the conclusion of the AM session but not before 12:00 PM.

Meet Start: 60 minutes after start of warm-up

Girls/Women	Event	Boys/Men
53	11-12 50 Freestyle	54
55	10 & Under 50 Freestyle	56
57	11-12 100 Butterfly	58
59	10 & Under 100 Butterfly	60
61	11-12 100 Backstroke	62
63	10 & Under 100 Backstroke	64
65	11-12 50 Breaststroke	66
67	10 & Under 50 Breaststroke	68
69	11-12 100 IM	70
71	10 & Under 100 IM	72

Sunday, January 29, 2023

PM Session

Warm-up: at the conclusion of the AM session but not before 12:00 PM.

Meet Start: 60 minutes after start of warm-up

Girls/Women	Event	Boys/Men
73	11-12 200 Freestyle	74
75	10 & Under 200 Freestyle	76
77	11-12 50 Butterfly	78
79	10 & Under 50 Butterfly	80
81	11-12 100 Freestyle	82
83	10 & Under 100 Freestyle	84
85	11-12 50 Backstroke	86
87	10 & Under 50 Backstroke	88
89	11-12 100 Breaststroke	90
91	10 & Under 100 Breaststroke	92

**2023 TYR Western Open
Summary of Fees/Release Form
Complete and email this form along with entries to:
WesternOpenSC@gmail.com**

All Fees in the form of Check are due before the Start of Warmups on Friday January 27, 2023

Team Name	
Club Code	
Coach	
Coach Phone	
Coach Email	
Team Address	

Item	Total Number	Cost per	<i>Total</i>
Individual Entries		\$7.00 per event	
Swimmers (Travel Fund, Heat Sheet, Facility Surcharge)		\$28.00 per swimmer	
Total Fees Due			

Waiver, Acknowledgement and Liability Release:

I, the undersigned coach or team representative, verify that all of the swimmers and coaches listed on the enclosed entry are registered with USA Swimming. I acknowledge that I am familiar with the Safety Rules of USA Swimming, Inc. and North Carolina Swimming, Inc. regarding warm-up procedures and meet safety guidelines and that I shall be responsible for the compliance of my swimmers with those rules during this meet. Team Charlotte, Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center, North Carolina Swimming, Inc., and USA Swimming, Inc., their agents, employees, and coaches shall be held free and harmless from any and all liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of illness or injury to anyone during the conduct of this meet. I also acknowledge that by entering this meet, I am granting permission for the names of any or all of my team's swimmers to be published on the internet in the form of Psych Sheets, Meet Results, or any other documents associated with the running of this meet.

SIGNATURE (Coach or Club Representative)

CLUB

TITLE

DATE

208.3. INDIVIDUAL SCRATCH RULE Swimmers shall inform themselves of the meet starting time and shall report to the proper meet authorities promptly upon call. The meet announcement shall specify all mandatory check-in and scratch deadlines and procedures.

- .1 Pre-Seeded Meets - Any swimmer not reporting for or competing in an individual timed final event shall not be penalized.
- .2 Events Seeded on the Deck - Any swimmer entered in an individual event that is seeded on the deck, in whole or in part, who has checked in for that event, must swim in the event unless the swimmer notifies the clerk of course before the seeding for that event has begun that the swimmer wishes to scratch or as noted in 208.3.4 A or D. Failure to scratch prior to seeding and not swimming the event will result in the swimmer being barred from the next individual event in which the swimmer entered in the meet. Unless the meet announcement states otherwise, events seeded on the deck shall be closed for seeding no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the event except that individual events of 400 meters or longer may be closed for seeding up to twenty-four (24) hours before the expected start of the event if the check-in/scratch deadline occurs after the beginning of the meet and is announced in the meet announcement.
- .3 Preliminary and Finals Events
 - A. Any swimmer not reporting for or competing in a pre-seeded preliminary heat when finals are scheduled shall not be penalized. If the preliminary heat is seeded on the deck then 208.3.2 applies
 - B. Any swimmer qualifying for an A final, scored or not scored, or B scored final race in an individual event who fails to compete in said A or B final race shall be barred from further competition for the remainder of the meet, except as noted in 208.3.4. A declared false start or deliberate delay of meet is not permitted and will be regarded as a failure to compete.
 - C. In the event of withdrawal or barring of a swimmer from competition, when possible, the Referee shall fill the A, B, or C final with the next qualified swimmer(s). First and second alternates shall be announced along with the final qualifiers. These and all other alternates and those qualifying for non-scoring B or C finals shall not be penalized if unavailable to compete
 - D. When the B or C final has not yet been swum and a barring or withdrawal is known in advance by the Referee, the Referee should re-seed the A, B, or C finals, if necessary, to insert the alternate(s) in the appropriate lane(s), filling all lanes in the final. In order to prevent undue delay of the A, B, or C finals, the Referee may elect to fill the empty lane(s), without re-seeding, with the next qualified alternate, or if unavailable, the next qualified swimmer(s) who is/are present in the starting area and ready to swim
 - E. If a C or B final has already been swum, the A final of that event shall be swum without filling the empty lane(s)
- .4 Exception for Failure to Compete - No penalty shall apply for failure to compete in or scratch an individual event if:
 - A. The Referee is notified in the event of illness or injury and accepts the proof thereof.
 - B. The swimmers qualifying for an A final, or B final race based upon the results of the preliminaries notifies the Referee within thirty (30) minutes after announcement of the qualifiers of that final race that they may not intend to compete and also declares his final decision whether or not to scratch within thirty (30) minutes following his last individual preliminary heat, swim-off, or re-swim.
 - C. The swimmer was not named in any finals heat during the initial announcement of results
 - D. It is determined by the Referee that failure to compete is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the swimmer.