

MEMORANDUM

To: LSC Officials Chairs

From: Disability Swimming Committee

Re: Incentive Program for Inclusion of Swimmers with a Disability in Sanctioned LSC Competitions

Date: August 24, 2006

Beginning September 1, 2006, referees may be asked by the meet host to sign a document that indicates that swimmers with a disability competed in the sanctioned competition for which they were meet referee. Please advise the referees in your LSC of this program and provide them with the following information and guidelines.

1. Prior to the start of competition, a meet host should provide the referee with a listing of swimmers with a disability entered in the meet. If the form is not provided in a timely fashion and it becomes difficult for the referee to verify the information, the referee may refuse to sign the form.
2. By the end of the meet, the referee should have verified that the swimmers listed did compete in at least one event (individual or relay) and that the swimmers were disabled according to the definition provided in Article 105 of Rules and Regulations. (Disability is defined as a permanent physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more life activities. Examples include amputations, spinal injuries, cerebral palsy, mental retardation, autism, severe hearing loss, severe visual impairment, dwarfism, mobility impairments, etc.)
 - a. Mark Y or N in the appropriate column next to each swimmer's name, indicating whether the swimmer is disabled.
 - b. Mark Y or N in the appropriate column next to each swimmer's name, indicating whether the swimmer competed.
 - c. Sign each line next to the athletes' names indicating that you attest to the information provided.
 - d. If you are unsure that a swimmer is disabled, mark the appropriate column with a "???" You are not required to do further research.
 - e. Return the form to the meet host at the conclusion of the meet.
 - f. The competition must be sanctioned by the LSC on behalf of USA Swimming. Do not sign the form if the competition is simply approved or observed.
3. Any questions, please contact Randy Julian at USA Swimming headquarters, (719) 866-4578, rjulian@usaswimming.org.

Thank you!