A. CLASSES AND TIME STANDARDS

1. Classes of Swimming Competition

a. The following are brief descriptions of the types of meet classes offered on the Arizona competition schedule. Some differences may occur from meet to meet.

1) Senior. This class meet is open to all athletes whose times are equal to or faster than the Arizona State Senior Qualifying Time Standards. In these meets, an athlete who has at least three (3) State Senior Qualifying Times is eligible to swim all events offered (as the meet permits). The Arizona 3 Qualifying Times rule can be waived by specific meet fliers. The meet may be restricted to athletes 15 years of age or older.

2) Senior Development. This class meet is open only to athletes 15 years of age or older whose times are SLOWER than the Arizona State Senior Qualifying Time Standards.

3) Age Group Q+ (plus). This class of meet is open to athletes whose times are EQUAL to or FASTER than the Arizona State qualifying standards for a particular age group.. In these meets, an athlete who has at least three (3) State qualifying times, is eligible to swim all events offered (as the meet permits). The Arizona 3 qualifying times rule can be waived by specific meet flyers.

4) Q- (minus). This class of meet is open to athletes whose times are SLOWER than the Arizona State Age Group qualifying time standards.

5) No Time Standard (NTS). This class of meet does not require a qualifying time to enter.

6) 8 & Under. This class of meet is open to athletes 8 years of age or younger. These are usually 1 day, single session meets with the following age groups: 6 & Under, 7 year olds, 8 year olds. The 8 and Under Championship Meet sessions shall be run separately, no other classes to be included.

b. Interscholastic Competition. Arizona Interscholastic Association ("AIA") sets rules for High School competition. Consult AIA for rules, policy and procedures.

2. Time Standards

a. Time standards regulate the qualifying of athletes for a given class of competition and are set based on the recommendation of Technical Planning Committee and approved by the House of Delegates. No converted times may be used, except as stated in paragraph e below.

b. If an athlete is a Q+ in short course they shall enter a long course meet at the minimum Q+ standard and vice versa.

c. Time standards will be published annually and available on Arizona Swimming's web site. There are <u>no</u> time standards for the 8 & Under age group.

d. Special qualifying times (Q times) are used as time standards for all State Championship meets and other selected meets.

e. Times achieved at an altitude of 3,000 feet or more may be adjusted as provided in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations for the purpose of entering an Arizona Q+ meet.

g. National Reportable Age Group Time is the time standard used for compiling the Top 16 USA Swimming age group times for each season. These are compiled automatically by USA Swimming through SWIMS.

h. Times achieved by USA Swimming athlete members in collegiate, high school, and YMCA meets not sanctioned or approved by Arizona Swimming will be acceptable for USA Swimming Reportable Times only if all of the following conditions are met:

1) The meet must be a championship (national, conference, league, district, sectional, state, or regional) meet or a meet specifically authorized by USA Swimming Program Operations.

2) Request for USA Swimming observers must be made to the Officials Chairman at least 10 days prior to the meet.

3) USA Swimming observers shall be certified stroke and turn judges assigned and approved by Arizona Swimming.

4) Observers must be notified prior to the start of competition about the individual swims for which certification is requested.

5) Sufficient numbers of observers must be on deck at each end of the course to verify USA Swimming Rules compliance.

6) Times of observed swims must be submitted to AzSI in an electronic format that may be uploaded into the USA Swimming database, SWIMS.
   a. such times must include all information necessary to uploading, including but not limited to registered name, USAS id number, event, time achieved etc.
   b. Non-electronic times are not acceptable.