

Dear Pacific Swimming Board members,

18 September 2017

On behalf of our Zone 4 clubs, I want to raise some **points of discussion regarding motion 1709MR1** addressing timely submission of athlete registration data by meet hosts. I do so in this format, ahead of the BOD meeting, to help save discussion time at the meeting, and to ensure nothing gets "lost in translation" over my phone connection.

I fully understand the importance of timely submission of registration data, both before and after the meet, to ensure compliance with Pacific Swimming and USA Swimming rules. And I support amending our Policies and Procedures to better enforce such timeliness.

My concern is with the pre-meet deadline being proposed, given the severe penalty also being proposed.

1. Recommend at least 48 hour deadline instead of 24 hour deadline after meet close. Meet hosts often need to wait to ensure that all postmarked entries have been received before finalizing meet entries, especially when there has been a postal holiday during that time frame. And there may be other time constraints that don't always allow for a Thursday submission. Also, as I understand it, the registration exceptions are (quite rightly) not returned until 24 hours (or less) before the meet starts, to ensure that all possible pending registrations are processed first. So I'm not understanding why it is important to have the registration data 24 hours after meet close, which is typically a full week before the exceptions report needs to be run. **Would it make more sense to require receipt 72 hours prior to the start of the meet instead?**

2. Accommodation for meets that permit deck entries. Zone 4 has had several meets sanctioned recently that permitted deck entries, due to low attendance numbers. The deck entry language has several restrictions, including a requirement to produce acceptable proof of registration at the meet, if not already entered and verified through the regular entry process. I just want to **ensure that the language being proposed will not change the ability to allow meet hosts to offer a deck entry option when needed.**

3. Potential perception of a double-standard for timeliness. Especially around this time of year, I hear complaints from our local clubs about the amount of time it takes to get new registrations processed, and sometimes about registrations getting lost and needing to be resubmitted. This should in no way be taken as criticism of the LSC registration staff, who have a huge work load around September 1st and again in December-January. But it does raise the question, **what is Pacific Swimming able/willing to do to help improve timeliness at the LSC end of the registration process?** For example, with the many athletes from Sierra Nevada Swimming who attend our meets, registration exceptions are very easily solved during the 24 hours before a meet. They self-register and pay their fees using Sierra Nevada's online system, and bring their receipt to the meet as proof. Problem solved. **I have yet to hear a compelling reason why Pacific Swimming could not rapidly adopt a similar online registration capability for athletes, and save a huge amount of time, work, and headache for ALL involved with meet entries and registrations.**

Thank you for reading this far, and for considering our concerns.

--Jim Morefield, Zone-4 Chair