

## 2025 EAC Winter Invitational

December 19-21, 2025

Hosted by Enfinity Aquatic Club  
Held at  
Greensboro Aquatic Center  
1921 West Gate City Blvd., Greensboro, NC 27403

Held under the Sanction of USA Swimming, Inc., issued by North Carolina Swimming, Inc.  
**Sanction #NC25207**

MEET DIRECTOR	MEET ENTRY COORDINATOR
Korey McCulley 620-786-4971 <a href="mailto:kmcculleygso@enfinityfit.com">kmcculleygso@enfinityfit.com</a>	Korey McCulley 620-786-4971 <a href="mailto:kmcculleygso@enfinityfit.com">kmcculleygso@enfinityfit.com</a>
MEET REFEREE	MEET MARSHAL
Matt Butler <a href="mailto:butlerconinc@gmail.com">butlerconinc@gmail.com</a>	Gunther Rodriguez <a href="mailto:grodriguez@enfinityfit.com">grodriguez@enfinityfit.com</a> Adrianna Barone <a href="mailto:abarone@enfinityfit.com">abarone@enfinityfit.com</a>

### CODE OF CONDUCT

Individuals, including spectators, not complying with any safety requirement in place for this competition or with the USA SWIMMING code of conduct or individuals who otherwise impede the effective operation of the meet may be banned from the venue at the Meet Referee, Meet Director, and/or Facility Director's discretion.

### FACILITY and HOST TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Enfinity Aquatic Club has discussed specific health and safety procedures with the venue management. Currently, the facility and Enfinity Aquatic Club 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

Greensboro Aquatic Center is a state-of-the-art indoor facility with four pools. The main competition pool is 9-10 feet deep at both ends and will be configured into one 25-yard course with eight 8-9-foot-wide lanes. All lanes feature non-turbulent lane lines and Paragon starting blocks. EAC will ensure proper course dimensions. Eight lanes will be used for this competition. The Omega electronic timing system will be used. At least three lanes will be open for continuous warm up and warm down. Seating for 1800 spectators is available. The GAC will provide parking for \$5 per day with unlimited entry and exit. Enfinity Aquatic Club will provide free parking for volunteers, coaches, and working officials in the Volunteer Lot. **No outside chairs or coolers are allowed in the facility.**

**As of September 2024, Greensboro Complex and Greensboro Aquatic Center no longer accept cash for parking fees, ticket sales,**

**and concessions. A debit or credit card will be required for payment. Contactless and mobile payment options, including Apple Pay, Google Pay, and Samsung Pay, will be accepted at most payment terminals.**

#### **MEDICAL SUPERVISION**

During the meet, there will be at least one lifeguard at each pool, a lifeguard supervisor, and event coordinator in the facility who are Red Cross certified lifeguards. Each pool has an AED on the pool deck.

#### **MEET FORMAT**

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

Meet Management reserves the right to combine sessions, add sessions, or move an age group or gender to a different session depending on the number of entries in the meet to ensure the meet runs efficiently.

Coaches will be notified by email of any changes to the sessions within 36 hours of the entry deadline. Meet Management also reserves the right to limit, eliminate, and/or combine any heats/events to allow the meet to run in the allotted time.

Session	Day	Est. Warm-up	Est. Meet Start	Age Group
1	Friday	4:30 pm	6:00 pm	OPEN
2	Saturday	7:00 am	8:30 am	OPEN
3	Saturday	4:30 pm	6:00 pm	12&U/13-14/15&O
4	Sunday	7:00 am	8:30 am	OPEN
5	Sunday	4:30 pm	6:00 pm	12&U/13-14/15&O

#### **CHECK IN DEADLINES:**

Day, Date	Time	For:
Tuesday, 12/09	10:00 PM	Entry deadline
Tuesday, 12/16	12:00 PM	Coaches/General Meeting Via Zoom
Friday-Sunday, 12/19-21	60 Min. Before Start	Officials Meeting
Friday-Sunday, 12/19-21	30 Min. Before Start	Timers Briefing
Friday, 12/19	5:30 PM	Positive Check In Deadline OPEN 1000 FR
Friday, 12/19	5:30 PM	Positive Check In Deadline OPEN 1650 FR
Friday, 12/19	5:30 PM	Positive Check In Deadline ALL RELAYS
Saturday, 12/20	8:00 AM	Positive Check In Deadline OPEN 400 IM
Sunday, 12/21	8:00 AM	Positive Check In Deadline OPEN 500 FR

#### **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, and the NCS Safety Program.

#### **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 suit with any bonded or taped seams regardless of its fabric or silhouette; or
- Any suit which includes any woven fabric and which extends past the hips.

#### **MAAPP**

All applicable 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 the MAAPP policy 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, entered in the meet, properly certified officials and coaches, and meet volunteers will be allowed on deck. No spectators will be allowed on deck at any time. Any person on the USA Swimming banned list is prohibited from participating in the meet in any way.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

All swimmers must be registered with USA Swimming, Inc. Swimmers must be registered prior to entry deadline. There will be no on deck registration available at this meet.

**ADULT ATHLETES/APT  
REQUIRED FOR ALL  
ATHLETES 18 & OLDER**

Athletes who will be 18 or older on or before the last day of the meet (Adult Athletes) must be APT certified prior to the entry deadline and throughout the meet. Adult Athletes who are not compliant will not be seeded into their events until they can provide proof of certification. If proof is provided to the Meet Referee after the meet has been seeded and before warm-ups begin on the first day of the meet, the swimmer may be added to the event subject to lane availability in the slowest heat(s) and Meet Director and Meet Referee approval. If proof is not provided by the start of warm ups on the first day of the meet, the athlete will not be permitted to compete. Entry fees for non-compliant athletes are not refundable.

**SWIMMERS WITH  
DISABILITIES**

Enfinity Aquatic Club welcomes all swimmers with disabilities as described in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, Article 105, to participate in our meets. Coaches entering swimmers with disabilities that require any accommodations are required to provide advance notice in writing to the Meet Director and the Meet Referee 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 Enfinity Aquatic Club's ability to accommodate all requests. To request accommodation or modification for swimmers and non-athlete members with disabilities, coaches should complete the USA Swimming Accommodation Form and submit it to the Meet Director and Meet Referee prior to the entry deadline. To request accommodation or modification for swimmers with disabilities, coaches should complete the [USA Swimming Accommodation Form](#) and submit it to the Meet Referee and Meet Director prior to the entry deadline.

**ENTRIES**

Entries should be submitted in HyTek format via email. A completed and signed Entry Summary Sheet (included in the announcement) and payment in full must be received by the Meet Entry Coordinator no later than the entry deadline for entries to be considered complete. Enfinity Aquatic Club entries will be entered first and then complete entries from other teams in the order received. Enfinity Aquatic Club reserves the right to limit entries in order to comply with the four hour rule. Rejected entries will be returned immediately. Unless entries are rejected, entry fees are non-refundable.

All relay-only swimmers, including alternates, must be listed and pay the NCS Travel Fund surcharge.

Enter SHORT COURSE YARDS times only. NT entries will not be accepted. Please make sure the times entered are close approximations to times that can be achieved.

Breaks may be added at the discretion of the Meet Referee.

**ENTRY LIMITATIONS**

Swimmers may enter up to eight (8) individual events for the meet. All swimmers are limited to three (3) individual events per day. All swimmers may enter up to four (4) relay events Friday.

Entries will close with the team that puts the total number of entries over the timeline.

#### 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 Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 10:00PM.** Entries will be accepted only at the discretion of the Meet Director and may be declined once capacity is reached. Enfinity Aquatic Club reserves the right to limit entries to stay within the allocated timeline. **Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Meet Director and will be charged double fees. There will be no on deck entries.**

#### ENTRY FEES

Make checks payable to: ENFINITY AQUATIC CLUB; All fees are non-refundable	
Individual Events	\$10.00 per event
12&U Relay Events	\$17.50 per relay
NCS Travel Fund	\$3.00 per swimmer
Facility Surcharge	\$20.00 per swimmer
Heat Sheet Fee	\$5.00 per swimmer
Late Entry Fee	Double the IE and relay fees listed

#### CHECK-IN

A positive check-in, located in Clerk of Course, will be required for the following events:

- Open 400-yard Individual Medley
- Open 1650-yard Freestyle
- Open 1000-yard Freestyle
- Open 500-yard Freestyle
- Open 400-yard Freestyle Relay
- Open 400-yard Medley Relay
- Open 200-yard Freestyle Relay
- Open 200-yard Medley Relay

Check-in for the events above will be closed 30 minutes prior to the start of each session. Swimmers failing to check in will be scratched from the event and not seeded. A swimmer who has checked in, been seeded, and fails to compete in said event, shall be barred from his/her next individual event unless excused by the Meet Referee.

#### 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 be seeded last (SCY-LCM-SCM). No conversions. Enfinity Aquatic Club reserves the right to combine heats and events at the discretion of the Meet Referee.

**Timed Finals Events:** The 400 IM, 500 Freestyle, 1000 Freestyle, 1650 Freestyle and all Relays will be swum as OPEN events in all of their respective sessions, timed finals, slowest to fastest. Heats of the 1000 Freestyle and the 1650 Freestyle will be interspersed between heats of the Relays during the Friday timed finals session. The 400 IM and 500 Freestyle will be swum in the Saturday and Sunday OPEN Prelim sessions, with the fastest 2 seeded heats swimming in Finals. These events will swim in event order, B Final/A Final and will not be broken out by age group.

**OPEN Prelims & 12&U/13-14/15&O Finals Events:** All non-timed final events will be swum as OPEN events in Prelims. Preliminary results will be divided into 12&U, 13-14, and 15&O for finals seeding. There will be B/A Finals for the 12&U age group, the 13-14 age group, and the 15&O age group. The 12&U 200 Butterfly, 200 Backstroke, and 200 Breaststroke events will be the only exception, in which there will be only an A final for these events in this age group. There will be B/A finals for these events in the 13-14 and 15&O age groups. There is no ready room. All finalists should report to the blocks. Alternates should report to the Starter prior to the event and may swim in the B Final in the event of no shows.

**RELAYS:** All Open relays will be swum as timed finals in the Friday PM Session.

**SCRATCHES** There will be no penalty for scratching pre-seeded events at the block. The NCS Scratch Rule is in effect for this meet.

**SCORING** This meet will not be scored.

**AWARDS** No awards will be given at this meet.

**RESULTS** Results will be posted on Enfinity Aquatic Club's website within 24 hours of the meets conclusion. Meet Mobile will be used for this meet as facility internet connectivity allows.

**COACHES** All coaches on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming. Meet Management will require all coaches to show proof of such by prominently displaying their registration card or be prepared to show their virtual membership card upon request. There will be a coach/general meeting at the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary. 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. Enfinity Aquatic Club welcomes and encourages anyone willing to volunteer to contact the Meet Referee by email prior to the meet or sign in once you arrive at the meet. All officials on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming and will be required to show proof of such to the meet referee by displaying their registration card or be prepared to show their virtual membership card

upon request. A certification card showing the official's level of certification must also be presented. Any official's assistance will be greatly appreciated and will help to ensure a great meet for the swimmers. Official briefings will be held in the hospitality area at the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary.

**HOSPITALITY/  
CONCESSIONS**

There will be a hospitality area open to all coaches and officials. Refreshments will be available at the concession stands. No outside food or drink will be permitted to spectators in the GAC.

**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. 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 on the enclosed entry 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. Enfinity Aquatic Club, North Carolina Swimming, Inc., and USA Swimming, Inc., their agents, employees, officials, 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.

**SPECTATOR BAG  
POLICY**

For safety and efficiency, the Greensboro Aquatic Center recommends entering without a bag. If necessary, guests are permitted to bring one small bag that meets the following guidelines:

- Clear vinyl or Plastic Bag (no larger than 12"x6"x12")
- Clear Vinyl or Plastic Backpack (no larger than 12"x6"x12")
- Small Clutch Bag (no larger than 4.5"x6.5")
- Medical Bags\* (no larger than 12"x6"x12")
- Diaper Bags\* (no larger than 12"x6"x12")
- One-Gallon Clear Plastic Storage Bag

\*Medical bags, including diaper bags when accompanied by a child, will be inspected, and tagged before entry.

Please note this is not a comprehensive list. The Greensboro Aquatic Center reserves the right to deny any bag at any time on a case-by-case basis. Please note that athletes are allowed to bring in their bags and do not have to abide by the above policy.

**EVENT STREAMING**

The Greensboro Aquatic Center will stream this meet on their official YouTube channel. You can access the stream by visiting the link: <https://www.youtube.com/@GreensboroAquaticCenter>



**Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**OPEN Timed Finals Session**  
**Warm-up: 4:30 pm; Meet Start: 6:00 pm**

<b>Girls</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Boys</b>
1	OPEN 200 Medley Relay	2
3	OPEN 400 Free Relay	4
5	OPEN 1650 Freestyle	6
7	OPEN 1000 Freestyle	8
9	OPEN 200 Freestyle Relay	10
11	OPEN 400 Medley Relay	12

**\*\*\* 1650/1000 Freestyle heats will be interspersed between relay events \*\*\***

**Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**Open Prelims Session**  
**Warm-up: 7:00 am; Meet Start: 8:30 am**

<b>Girls</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Boys</b>
13	OPEN 200 Freestyle	14
15	OPEN 100 IM	16
17	OPEN 50 Backstroke	18
19	OPEN 100 Butterfly	20
21	OPEN 200 Backstroke	22
23	OPEN 100 Breaststroke	24
25	OPEN 50 Freestyle	26
27	OPEN 400 IM	28

**\*\*\* 400 IM will be swum as timed finals with the top 8 seeded male and female swimmers competing in the A Final at night \*\*\***

**Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Open Prelims Session**  
**Warm-up: 7:00 am; Meet Start: 8:30 am**

<b>Girls</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Boys</b>
29	OPEN 200 Butterfly	30
31	OPEN 100 Freestyle	32
33	OPEN 50 Breaststroke	34
35	OPEN 200 IM	36
37	OPEN 100 Backstroke	38
39	OPEN 200 Breaststroke	40
41	OPEN 50 Butterfly	42
43	OPEN 500 Freestyle	44

**\*\*\* 500 Freestyle will be swum as timed finals with the top 8 seeded male and female swimmers competing in the A Final at night \*\*\***

**Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**12&U/13-14/15&O Finals Session**  
**Warm-up: 4:30 pm; Meet Start: 6:00 pm**

<b>Girls</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Boys</b>
13	12&U 200 Freestyle	14
	13-14 200 Freestyle	
	15&O 200 Freestyle	
15	12&U 100 IM	16
	13-14 100 IM	
	15&O 100 IM	
17	12&U 50 Backstroke	18
	13-14 50 Backstroke	
	15&O 50 Backstroke	
19	12&U 100 Butterfly	20
	13-14 100 Butterfly	
	15&O 100 Butterfly	
21	12&U 200 Backstroke	22
	13-14 200 Backstroke	
	15&O 200 Backstroke	
23	12&U 100 Breaststroke	24
	13-14 100 Breaststroke	
	15&O 100 Breaststroke	
25	12&U 50 Freestyle	26
	13-14 50 Freestyle	
	15&O 50 Freestyle	
27	OPEN 400 IM	28

**Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**12&U/13-14/15&O Finals Session**  
**Warm-up: 4:30 pm; Meet Start: 6:00 pm**

<b>Girls</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Boys</b>
29	12&U 200 Butterfly	30
	13-14 200 Butterfly	
	15&O 200 Butterfly	
31	12&U 100 Freestyle	32
	13-14 100 Freestyle	
	15&O 100 Freestyle	
33	12&U 50 Breaststroke	34
	13-14 50 Breaststroke	
	15&O 50 Breaststroke	
35	12&U 200 IM	36
	13-14 200 IM	
	15&O 200 IM	
37	12&U 100 Backstroke	38
	13-14 100 Backstroke	
	15&O 100 Backstroke	
39	12&U 200 Breaststroke	40
	13-14 200 Breaststroke	
	15&O 200 Breaststroke	
41	12&U 50 Butterfly	42
	13-14 50 Butterfly	
	15&O 50 Butterfly	
43	OPEN 500 Freestyle	44

### EAC Winter Invitational Summary of Fees/Release Form

Complete and email or mail this form along with entry fees to (checks payable to Enfinity Aquatic Club):

Enfinity Aquatic Club (ATTN: Tim Hillen)

908 Arbor Road

Winston Salem, NC 27104

Email to: thillen@enfinityfit.com

Team Name	
Club Code	
Coach	
Coach Phone	
Coach Email	
Team Address	

Item	Total Number	Cost per	Total
Individual Entries		\$10.00 per event Double For Late Entry	
12&U Relay Entries		\$17.50 per relay	
(Travel Fund, Heat Sheet, & Facility Surcharge)		\$28.00 per swimmer	
<b>Total Fees Due</b>			

#### **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. Enfinity Aquatic Club, Greensboro 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.

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SIGNATURE (Coach or Club Representative)

CLUB

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TITLE

DATE

## **NCS Scratch Rule**

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.