



Recommendations for Inclusion of Swimmers with Disability

Goal

Encourage the full inclusion of swimmers with a disability in Ozark Swimming meets and other programs.

Recommendations

- A. In all regular season meets, disabled swimmers need not have achieved the qualifying time standards. The Meet Referee/Meet Director, working with the coach of the disabled swimmer to insure that no undue focus is placed on the swimmer during the meet, shall have the authority to accommodate the swimmer without substantial negative impact on the meet timeline. Examples of such accommodation include:
 - 1) Allow the disabled swimmer to compete at a shorter distance, e.g., a 50 yard distance within a 100 yard event.
 - 2) Seed the disabled swimmer by time rather than age, e.g., a 13-year old disabled swimmer could be seeded in the 11-12 age group of the same event.
- B. In all LSC Championship meets, disabled swimmers may enter provided the swimmer has achieved a time better than 87% of the listed qualifying time for the U.S. Paralympic National Swimming Championships. The entry may involve permission of the Meet Director and Senior or Age Group Chairman.
- C. The Meet Referee may make accommodations as described above (or others, as recommended by the Disability Swimming Committee based upon specific disability). Final seeding decisions rest with the Meet Referee.
- D. Places and awards for disabled swimmers can only be earned in the swimmer's actual event and/or age group. At the discretion of the meet host, special awards may be given to disabled swimmers.

Credit and thanks to Virginia Swimming – this document was based on their example as seen at <https://www.pvswim.org/disability/blsc.pdf>