

## FAQ's about Transfers and 'Unattached' Swimmers

### 1. How do I go about transferring to another team?

- Download the [transfer form](#), found on the Registration section of the website, fill out all of the information, and send it to the NES Office with the \$5 fee.
- Both the coach of your old team, and the new team, will be emailed notice of the transfer. The new team will also receive a SWIMS file of your times to import into their Team Management database.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** there is a line on the transfer form to sign indicating that you have no outstanding debt to the team you are leaving. The coach of the new team should check with the old team to verify this. Please be advised that the New England Swimming Office cannot get involved with financial disputes without a court order.

### 2. How long do I have to wait before I can be "attached" to the new team?

- The waiting period is 120 days from the last date of competition, **in a USA** sanctioned, approved or observed meet, as a member of your old team. **(Rec League meets are not counted)**

### 3. How long is the waiting period if I want to transfer from a team to UN status?

- There is no waiting period

### 4. How long is the waiting period if I want to transfer back to my old team, from Unattached status?

- If you didn't represent any other club from the time you switched to UN, you can transfer back to your old team without a waiting period.
- If you did compete and post results under another team name (excluding College and Prep School Teams that are strictly non-USA Swimming Clubs), you will have to wait the 120 days.

### 5. What exactly does Unattached status mean?

- A swimmer in "unattached" status can still practice with a team, be a part of that team's activities, but cannot score, or post times as a member of that team, until their 120 day waiting period is over.
- Unattached swimmers cannot compete in any relays at Championship meets. Regular calendar meet hosts may allow unattached swimmers to swim relays, but those times would not be entered into SWIMS as a time for a team and would be considered exhibition.

### 6. Sometimes whole groups of swimmers are "unattached". Are they a "real" team?

- Yes, they are a real team, but, they are not recognized as a NES/USA Swimming team because they have not completed the USA Swimming club registration process.
- They sometimes use other names after their UN status to identify their group, such as UN-Sea Serpents.
- They can enter into meets as UN-Sea Serpents, but the results will be imported into the SWIMS database as UN-NE.
- They can only swim relays, as a group, in exhibition status, and at the permission of the Meet Director. They cannot swim relays at Championship Meets.

### 7. Will the SWIMS database only keep my times when I am attached to a team?

- No, your times follow your USA Swimming ID #. So, if last year you swam on one team, and then transferred to another, all of your times stay with your name, including when you were in “Unattached” status

**8. Is it ok for an individual swimmer to be “unattached (UN-NE)” all the time?**

- Yes, many times a swimmer will practice on their own and, for whatever reason, cannot be a part of a team. They have all of the same privileges regarding entering meets and posting results. They cannot be a part of a relay team.

**9. Will unattached swimmers be covered by USA Swimming’s insurance?**

- Yes, all members registered with USA Swimming are covered by their insurance policy. For specific coverage, please reference the insurance policy online at: [HERE](#)

**10. If a group of swimmers are swimming “unattached”, will they be covered as a “team”?**

- As long as the unattached athletes are supervised at all times by a USA Swimming coach member, they have insurance coverage during practice

**11. How does an unattached swimmer enter a meet if they are not associated with a group, or coach, that would enter them?**

- Simply contact the meet entry chairperson, that is listed on the meet information page, and ask if you can enter their meet. They will then direct you how they would like you to enter. Usually it is through a paper entry form or written in the text of an email. You will send the payment directly to the entry chairperson by the proper deadline. Read the entire meet information packet associated with the meet, because you should be as aware of the procedures as a team/coach would be.

**Unattached Swimmers:** You should keep a copy of your USA SWIMMING Athlete member card available so that you can reference your ID#. This # is needed for entering meets and for other tasks you may want to do on the USA Swimming website. The ID # is 14 characters long: birthdate (xx00yy), first three letters of first name (abc), middle initial (d), first 4 letters for last name (efgh).