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## MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 9, 2011

TO: LSC Permanent Offices  
LSC General Chairs  
LSC Officials Chairs

FROM: Dan McAllen  
Chair, Rules & Regulations Committee

SUBJ: Open Water Rule Change

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The Rules and Regulations Committee acting pursuant to the provisions of Rule 511.1 recently amended Open Water Rule 702.5.1 to conform the USA Swimming Rule to the FINA Open Water rule that FINA amended at its December meeting in Dubai. The amended rule 702.5.1 is set forth below in its entirety. The underlined portion of the rule highlights the recent amendment.

“.1 The final approach to the finish shall be clearly defined with markers of a distinct color. The area leading to the finish apparatus should be clearly marked by rows of buoys which narrow as they get closer to the finish wall - this is considered part of the course and the swimmers shall remain within the rows of buoys throughout their approach to the finish. Escort safety craft should be stationed at the approach to and entrance of the finish lane to ensure that only escort craft authorized to do so enter or cross this entrance.”

This rule, as amended, is effective immediately.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel W. McAllen".

Dan McAllen  
Chair, Rules & Regulations Committee