

## GEORGIA SWIMMING INC.

### SCRATCH RULE

The Scratch Rule used in all meets in Georgia where the meet format includes preliminary heats, consolation finals, and finals, is the same "Scratch Rule" as found in Section 207.12 Administrative Conduct of USA Swimming Championships, of the 2010 USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Certain Georgia LSC additions listed below apply to all timed final meets as well.

#### “207.12.6.D. Scratching from finals:

- (1) Any swimmer qualifying for a C, B, or A (bonus and consolation final or) final race in an individual event who fails to compete in said final shall be barred from further competition for the remainder of the meet, except as noted in paragraph E. A declared false start under 101.1.3F or deliberate delay of meet under 101.1.5 is not permitted and will be regarded as a failure to compete.
- (2) In the event of withdrawal or barring of a swimmer from competition the Referee shall fill the C, B, or A (bonus and consolation final or) final, when possible, with the next qualified swimmer(s). First and second alternates shall be announced along with the final qualifiers. These alternates shall not be penalized if unavailable to compete in the finals.
- (3) Where C and B (bonus and consolation) finals have not been swum and a barring or withdrawal is known to the Referee, the Referee shall reseed the C, B, or A (bonus final, consolation final and the) final, if necessary, to insert the alternate(s) in the appropriate lane(s), filling all lanes in the final.
- (4) If the C or B (bonus and consolation) final has already been contested, the (championship) final shall be swum without reseeding for the empty lane(s).

#### E. Exceptions for failure to compete – No penalty shall apply for failure to withdraw or compete in an individual event if:

- (1) The Referee is notified in the event of illness or injury and accepts the proof thereof.
- (2) A swimmer qualifying for a C, B or A (bonus or consolation final or) final race based upon the results of the preliminaries notifies the Referee within thirty (30) minutes after announcement of the qualifiers for that race that they may not intend to compete and further declares their final intentions within thirty (30) minutes following their last individual preliminary event.
- (3) It is determined by the Referee that failure to compete is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the swimmer.”

Georgia LSC Additions:

***Unless otherwise stated in the final sanctioned Meet Information:***

1. Swimmers that qualify for any additional heats beyond the above mentioned “C, B and A” final heats as announced in the Meet Information will also be subject to the above rules concerning scratching from finals.
2. In all deck seeded events, a swimmer who has checked in, been seeded and fails to compete in said event, shall be barred from his or her next individual event, except as noted in section E above. This rule also applies in timed finals meets where the meet management has placed limits on the number of heats to be contested or the number of individual entries to be accepted for deck-seeded events.
3. There is no scratch rule governing relays and there is no penalty regarding relay scratches.
4. Qualifiers for all finals heats and the first and second alternates are those as identified on the original results of the preliminary heat. Any qualifier who has moved up into this group as a result of the posting of corrected preliminary results after original results have been posted shall not be subject to penalty.
5. The meet official designated to receive initial intentions not to compete and final intentions shall be announced at the beginning of each session. It is suggested that this official be the Clerk of Course.
6. On the final day of LSC Championship competitions, any swimmer who has checked in for finals and fails to compete will be assessed a \$50 fine. This fine must be paid before the next LSC Championship meet in which the swimmer intends to compete or the swimmer will be barred from competition.
7. A “Positive check-in procedure” shall be used for deck seeded events. A swimmer’s intent to swim a race shall be denoted by the swimmer’s or swimmer’s coach’s initials entered next to the swimmers name on the official entry sheet posted at the Clerk of Course.

Adopted by the HOD  
April 18, 2010