

Limited Waiver of 120 Day Rule (Article 203.3)

For athletes who have already requested a transfer -

- 1. A script has been written for SWIMS that will automatically attach any athlete with a last competition date between Nov. 15 and Jan. 15. These individuals are in the 60 to 120 day window since their last competition. This process will only need to be run once.*
- 2. Another script has been written that will change the attach date from 120 days to 60 days from the date of last competition for athletes who are currently less than 60 days from their last date of competition.*

For athletes requesting a transfer with a last date of competition between now and Aug. 31 –

- 1. Registrars will enter the transfer request as usual and SWIMS will continue to calculate the attach date as 120 days out.*
- 2. The script mentioned in #2 above will run each night and adjust the attach date to 60 days out.*

Registrars will continue handling transfers as normal in these instances and the changes will be made automatically.

For athletes who transferred from Team A to Team B and then want to go back to Team A, no penalty will be applied. That is, they can re-attach to their “home” team immediately. This can be handled by the LSC registrar just the same as when an athlete returns home from his college/university/secondary school – the re-attach date is the same as the date the transfer is requested, no last attached date is entered.

Limited Partial Waiver of Article 203.3

USA Swimming recognizes that member athletes have been displaced from their clubs due to the extraordinary and monumental challenges the COVID-19 pandemic. USA Swimming believes enabling displaced athletes to be included as part of a team is important in recovery. Therefore, USA Swimming requested and was granted a limited waiver of Article 203.3 for a limited period of time and for a specific purpose pursuant to the authority granted to the Rules and Regulations Committee. The purpose of these waivers, effective immediately, is to temporally eliminate or shorten the time that must elapse before a swimmer is permitted to represent a USA Swimming team in a USA Swimming open competition.

First, a waiver of Article 203.3 was granted to any athlete who is returning to a club from which they transferred between March 15, 2020 and May 31, 2021. This permits an athlete who transferred to a new club during this period to return to their original club without incurring the 120-day penalty. LSC Membership/Registration Chairs will manage this manually consistent with existing processes.

Second, a reduction of Article 203.3 time period from 120 days to 60 days was granted for any athlete who transferred to a new club with a last date of attachment between November 15, 2020 and August 31, 2021. This permits athletes who are currently within the 120-day window and who participated in open competition on or before to January 15, 2021, to attach immediately to their new club. This also permits athletes to attach to a new club 60 days after the last date of open competition while representing a member club through the 2021 long course season. USA Swimming will automatically attach athletes who are currently within the 120-day window for the period of this waiver.

The express purpose of these waivers is to temporally eliminate or shorten the time that must elapse before a swimmer is permitted to represent a USA Swimming team in a USA Swimming open competition. Nothing in the waivers is intended to affect the prohibition against improper recruiting set forth in Article 304.3.11.

Please contact your LSC Membership/Registration Chair or membership@usaswimming.org with any questions.