From: Rick Beebe, Time Recognition Coordinator

To: Pacific members

Date: July 12, 2015

Topic: Proposed changes to Pacific senior records program

As Pacific’s times recognition coordinator, I have been responsible for updating the Records section of our Rules and Regulations. While most of the changes to the records section are straightforward, I wanted to call the attention of the board and other members of Pacific to a proposed change to senior and 17-18 age group records which is fairly substantial.

Over the past ten years, there has been an increasing trend for college swimmers to register in USA Swimming during their college season, and for the times from observed college meets to be taken in to SWIMS.

Given that with Cal and Stanford, Pacific has two extremely strong NCAA Division 1 programs, and given the fact that increasingly their swimmers are registering in our LSC, Pacific’s senior short course top times and records, and to a lesser extent its short course 17-18 age group top times and record swims, have come to be dominated by times swum in college competition by swimmers who have no background in or long-term connection to Pacific. In addition, college swimmers have frequently swum for their college-related club teams during long course season, thus putting the same pressure on our long course senior records.

My concern became how to resolve this situation so that Pacific’s senior records both reflected its position as a home LSC for strong age group and senior swimmers and its role as a destination LSC for other senior swimmers.

It became clear that there was a need for a set of senior and 17-18 age group records that rewarded athletes who had begun their careers here in Pacific, not just athletes who entered Pacific already competing at the highest levels in collegiate, national, and international competition.

Since its earliest days, Pacific has had a single set of records for senior swimmers and for each age group within age group swimming, but with the concurrence of a committee including several senior coaches and a senior athlete, I am proposing that we have two sets of records for Pacific senior and 17-18 age group swimmers, and that they be defined in the Records section of our Rules and Regulations as follows:

1. **Pacific Senior Program** senior and 17-18 age group records may be set only by Pacific athletes whose date of first registration in Pacific Swimming is prior to Sept. 1 of the calendar year in which the athlete graduated from high school (or the equivalent for non-residents of the U.S. registering in Pacific).

2. **Pacific Open** senior and 17-18 age group records may be set by Pacific athletes who qualify for the senior or 17-18 age group classes regardless of their date of first registration in Pacific

Note that Pacific Senior Program records would not just be times swum by Pacific athletes prior to entering college. Athletes whose career in Pacific began prior to their attending college would remain eligible to set new Pacific Senior Program records in collegiate and post-graduate competition as long as they remain registered in Pacific.

Two points to note about Pacific Open records. First, they would be identical to Pacific’s current senior and 17-18 age group records. Second, a Pacific Senior Program record can be a Pacific Open record as well.

As to the implementation of the new Pacific Senior Program and Pacific Open records, our current senior and 17-18 age group records can serve as our new Pacific Open records. Some of the Senior Program records are going to take some research, but I expect to have the Pacific Senior Program records ready by October when the House of Delegates will have to vote on whatever the Board of Directors passes this month.

I would be happy to answer any questions about these proposed changes before or at the July Board meeting. Please feel free to contact me at [rickbb@sonic.net](mailto:rickbb@sonic.net) or 707-526-7809.