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To: LSC General Chairs  
LSC Registration Chairs  
Coaches  
Rules & Regulations Committee  
Board of Directors, USA Swimming

From: Bruce W. Stratton, Chair, Rules & Regulations Committee

Subject: Waiver of Article 203.3 with respect to the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials

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Questions have been raised about the applicability of the 120-day rule, under Article 203.3 of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations, to the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Swimming. The primary purpose of the 120-day rule is to prevent abuses resulting from athletes moving from team to team in order to score points and win swim meets for a particular team.

Under the authority granted in Article 202.2.12 which provides that the Rules & Regulations Committee may grant waivers of specific provisions of Part One or Two of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations for limited periods and under specified conditions, the Rules & Regulations Committee is granting the following waiver.

Because a waiver can be granted in the instance of the Olympic Trials without violating the intent of Article 203.3, and because collegiate athletes are faced with funding issues based upon representation at Olympic Trials, the Rules and Regulations Committee has granted a waiver with respect to the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials and the 120-day rule under Article 203.3. Accordingly, the 120-day rule does not apply with respect to participation in those Trials.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the above e-mail address.

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Bruce W. Stratton  
Chair, Rules & Regulations Committee

