

RULE TOLERANCES POLICY

- SQ Referees will not disqualify swimmers aged 7 years and under at any meet under any circumstances.
- At all **non-qualifying meets**, SQ Referees will make every effort to avoid disqualifying swimmers aged 8 and 9 years by applying tolerances to the Swimming Rules. This will also occur at **qualifying meets** if the host club designates certain events where Rule Tolerances are to apply.
- Times recorded in events where Rule Tolerances are applied cannot be used to qualify for meets conducted by SQ, for Championship events run by Regional Associations, or for the Australian Junior Excellence Program (JX).
- Swimmers who participate in events where Rule Tolerances are applied will be given a Stroke Correction Form when they infringe the rules (see sample on following page). This will enable coaches to specifically address problems identified by the Meet Referee with their respective swimmers. (The form is available for downloading on the [SQ website](#) under the Inside Swimming/Club Information/Club Manual/Swim Meet links.

Notes:

- Host clubs may elect to have events for older swimmers conducted under Rule Tolerances if they wish. SQ's Calender of Events contains information on the application of Rule Tolerances at approved swim meets.
- It is important that clubs hosting swim meets, when sending out invitations, identify the specific events where Rules Tolerances will apply – e.g. 25m Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, and Butterfly for 6 & Under, 7, 8, 9 and 10 year-olds. If the host club wishes, the same program could also offer 50m events for 8, 9 and 10 year-olds applying the full rules to allow the more capable junior swimmers to achieve qualifying times.
- It is up to host clubs to decide whether to present medals or other awards for events where Rule Tolerances are applied.



Swimming Stroke Correction Form	
This swimmer has been noted by the Referee doing something which, at a meet other than this, would more than likely result in them being disqualified.	
Start	
Started before the starting signal or wasn't still for the start	
Freestyle	
Pulled on the lane ropes	
Swam underwater during the race	
Backstroke	
Turned over off their back before the finish of the race	
Pulled on the lane ropes	
Performed illegal turn	
Breaststroke	
Didn't surface in time after the start.	
Swam with an alternating type of kick	
Swam with a dolphin kick	
Hands went back past the hips during the race	
Swam underwater during the race	
Moved off the breast during the race	
Touched at the turn/finish with one hand	
Butterfly	
Moved off the breast during the race	
Non synchronous movement of the arms	
Swam with an alternating type of kick	
Swam with a breaststroke kick	
Didn't bring arms forward at the same time	
Didn't bring arms forward OVER the water	
Touched at the turn/finish with one hand	
Other	
Didn't finish in the same lane as they started	
Didn't swim the entire race distance	
Didn't touch the wall at the turn	
Swam past the 15m mark underwater	

This should be handed to your parents and/or Coach