

## USA Swimming Situations – Stroke & Turn Judge

The following situations have been reviewed by the USA Swimming Officials and Rules Committee

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1. A breaststroke swimmer moves his hands in a sculling or flipper movement at the end of the first armstroke after the start and also after the turn. Should he be disqualified?
2. A senior age group swimmer comes off the 50-meter turn in the butterfly on his back with his arms fully extended and does two dolphin kicks (streamlined) before rolling onto his breast and taking his first arm pull. Is he disqualified?
3. There are yellow buoys on each lane line to mark the 15-meter distance but some buoys shift and slide haphazardly up and down the lane lines. The swimmer's head in Lane #6 breaks the water surface at the edge of the buoy in her lane but the marker in Lane #7 is passed. Is this a DQ?
4. A swimmer in backstroke who has gone past vertical with the shoulder makes the backstroke turn but fails to touch the wall and sculls back to touch. The turn judge reports this as a disqualification. Is this a valid DQ?
5. A swimmer, toward the end of an 8&U 25-yard freestyle, grabs the lane line to rest and, in the process, pushes backwards toward the start end before resuming and completing the distance. What should be the outcome?
6. In a 9-10 100-yard breaststroke event, a swimmer completes 50 yards and, thinking that the race is over, pushes back from the wall to read the scoreboard. At this point, realizing that the race is only halfway over, the swimmer returns to the wall, then pushes off on the breast and completes the required distance in good form. What, if any, call should be made?
7. During a 200-yard IM, a swimmer in the backstroke leg at the turn end rolls onto the breast and his outstretched hand immediately touches the wall. The swimmer thereupon grabs the gutter, places one foot on the wall and the other in the gutter, clearly above the water surface. He pushes off past vertical toward the back and completes the event. Did a violation occur?
8. In the butterfly event, a swimmer misjudges the wall. He finishes the race with his head only, stopping the electronic timing system. Should he be disqualified?
9. In a backstroke event, a swimmer stands up in the middle of the course. He does not walk or spring off from the pool bottom, but rests and then resumes swimming. Is there a disqualification?
10. After the start of a butterfly event, a swimmer incorrectly believes that there has been a recall. He stands up but, realizing that no one else has stopped, he then resumes swimming. Is there a disqualification?
11. A swimmer leaves the pool believing that he has finished his freestyle race. Finding out that he has not swum the correct number of lengths, he enters the pool again to finish. Is this legal or should he be disqualified?
12. A swimmer believes he has finished a freestyle race and walks a few steps away from the wall. He is advised to swim two more lengths. He returns to the wall and completes the required distance. Should he be disqualified?
13. In a backstroke start, a swimmer keeps his toes under the water until the gun sounds and then slides them up and takes off from the gutter. Should any action be taken?

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14. Near the finish in a butterfly race, a swimmer starts his final stroke and finds himself too close-to the wall to make a full recovery, so he ducks his head under and reaches forward simultaneously with both hands underwater from the breast to touch. Is this legal?
15. In a breaststroke turn, the swimmer touches with his left hand and then touches immediately after with his right hand. The turn judge raises a hand, signaling a disqualification. The coach argues that the turn is legal because both hands were on the wall at the same time. Does the disqualification stand?
16. During a 500-yard event, a swimmer misses the wall. The turn judge signals an infraction. At what should be the end of the race, the coach shouts, “swim another 50,” and the athlete does so. Is there any limit to when a swimmer can go back and touch a missed wall? Does the disqualification stand? What if the event is 100 yards or 1,650 yards? Does the length of the race have any bearing on the disqualification?
17. A swimmer in the 100 yard butterfly takes a simultaneous two-arm pull, kicks several times with her arms at her sides, brings both arms simultaneously forward over the water, keeps her arms stretched out in front of her for several kicks and then does another simultaneous two-arm pull. She repeats this process throughout the swim. Should she be disqualified?
18. During the 200-yard individual medley, a swimmer in the backstroke leg approaches the intermediate turn and starts to make a valid continuous turn. The swimmer's hand touches the wall immediately after turning onto the breast. The swimmer, now on the breast, grabs the gutter, places one foot against the wall and the other foot onto the gutter with the toes clearly above the water surface and on the gutter. The swimmer then pushes off on the back and finishes the last leg of the backstroke portion of the race. Is there an infraction?
19. Mary was swimming the 100-yard backstroke. At the first turn, the turn judge indicated a disqualification stating that the swimmer missed the wall on the turn. Mary and her coach both say that she did touch the wall and that her feet just slipped. They also state that Mary could not have pushed off the wall if she didn't touch it.
20. A swimmer says he sprained his ankle and cannot turn his foot out in the breaststroke kick. Should he be disqualified if he does not turn his toes out in the propulsive part of the kick?
21. While swimming the breaststroke, a swimmer touches the wall at the turn with both hands at the same time. However, the swimmer's left hand was at the top of the wall while his right hand touched well below the surface of the water. The turn judge raised her hand and the swimmer was disqualified. Was the call correct?