

## CODES OF EXCEPTION

### STARTS

- A ASSISTANCE REQUIRED
- B BLACKENED GOGGLES
- E UNABLE TO GRIP FOR BACKSTROKE START
- H HEARING IMPAIRED LIGHT OR SIGNAL REQUIRED
- T TAPPERS
- Y STARTING DEVICE

### DURING SWIMMING

- 0 NIL
- 1 ONE HAND START
- 2 RIGHT HAND TOUCH
- 3 LEFT HAND TOUCH
- 4 RIGHT HAND TOUCH WITH SIMULTANEOUS INTENT TO TOUCH WITH OTHER
- 5 LEFT HAND TOUCH WITH SIMULTANEOUS INTENT TO TOUCH WITH OTHER
- 6 SIMULTANEOUS INTENT TO TOUCH
- 7 PART OF UPPER BODY MUST TOUCH
- 8 RIGHT FOOT MUST TURN OUT
- 9 LEFT FOOT MUST TURN OUT
- 12 LEG DRAG OR SHOW INTENT TO KICK
- + DOLPHIN KICK IS ABLE TO BE PERFORMED

### STROKES

- |           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| FREE      | NO EXCEPTIONS ('NIL')         |
| BACK      | ONLY EXCEPTION '1' MAY APPLY  |
| BUTTERFLY | EXCEPTIONS '2'-'7' MAY APPLY  |
| BREAST    | EXCEPTIONS '2'-'12' MAY APPLY |

## Codes of Exception

The Codes of Exception are assigned to an athlete by the classifiers and are only to guide the technical officials. The technical official shall officiate by the IPC Swimming Rules and Regulations and NOT by the Codes of Exception. The Codes of Exception are referred to within the IPC Swimming Rule and Regulations within Section 7 Definitions.

Code	Exception	IPC SW Rule	Interpretation and Guidance
<b>H</b>	Hearing Impaired – Light or Signal Required	3.1.7 3.1.8 5.4.4.3	Swimmer with hearing impairment and requires a light, signal or touch start. A strobe light may be placed by the starter or beside the relevant swimmers blocks. Other signals can be used such as an arm gesture. Support Staff may be used to perform a touch start.
<b>Y</b>	Starting Device	3.1.3.7 3.3.1.3	Swimmer uses a device when starting. A starting device is any assistive device that enables the swimmer to perform an effective start. Typical devices include straps, cords or towels which enable swimmers to grip effectively for back stroke starts. Starting devices must be approved by IPC Swimming prior to use.
<b>E</b>	Unable to Grip for Backstroke Start	3.3.1.2	Swimmer is unable to hold the backstroke grips due to missing or weak hands and/or wrist. This code means a swimmer is permitted to start in backstroke without using the backstroke grips, holding the top of the starting pad instead.
<b>A</b>	Assistance Required	3.1.3.2 3.1.3.7 3.1.8 3.3.1.3	Swimmer requires assistance at the start or finish. Swimmers are entitled to a Support Staff who provides assistance at the start, to enter the pool or access the starting blocks prior to commencing the race and/or to assist exiting the pool at the end of the race.
<b>T</b>	Tappers	2.15.1 3.7.10	Swimmer with visual impairment who require a tapper. A tapper will use a tapping device to notify the swimmer when they are approaching the turn, by a single or double tap to the head or shoulder of the swimmer. A tapping device is typically homemade consisting of a rod or pole long enough to reach out into the lane with a soft end piece. Tappers are compulsory for S/SB/SM11 swimmers. If a tapper is required at both ends, a separate tapper must be used. Tapping devices must be approved by IPC Swimming prior to use.
<b>B</b>	Blackened Goggles	3.8.8	For S/SB/SM11 swimmers it is compulsory to wear blackened goggles unless they have two (2) prosthetic eyes. The goggles should be checked at the end of the race by a technical official. If the swimmer has no eyes they are not required to wear blackened goggles.
<b>0</b>	Nil	N/A	No exceptions apply to the swimmer, able bodied swimming rules apply.
<b>1</b>	One Hand Start	3.3.1.1	The swimmer cannot grip the start with 2 hands. They will place one hand/arm on the start, but the other arm may sit next to the gripping arm, be in the water, or be non-existent.
<b>2</b>	Right Hand Touch	3.4.6.3 3.5.4.3	The swimmer uses right arm to perform the swim stroke, so must touch at the turn and finish with the right hand or arm.
<b>3</b>	Left Hand Touch	3.4.6.3 3.5.4.3	The swimmer uses left arm to perform the swim stroke, so must touch at the turn and finish with the left hand or arm.
<b>4</b>	Right Hand Touch With Simultaneous Intent To Touch With Other	3.4.6.1 3.5.4.1	The swimmer must attempt to touch the wall with both arms/hands stretched forward. This exception allows the swimmer to touch with the right hand/arm while simultaneously extending the left arm forward, even if the left hand does not touch the wall.
<b>5</b>	Left Hand Touch With Simultaneous Intent To Touch With Other	3.4.6.1 3.5.4.1	The swimmer must attempt to touch the wall with both arms/hands stretched forward. This exception allows the swimmer to touch with the left hand/arm while simultaneously extending the right arm forward, even if the right hand does not touch the wall.
<b>6</b>	Simultaneous Intent To Touch	3.4.6.4 3.5.4.4	The swimmer must attempt to touch the wall with both hands simultaneously. A swimmer who uses both arms during the stroke and has some restriction in the shoulder/elbow must try and touch with both arms stretched forward simultaneously. Only the longer arm may touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously.
<b>7</b>	Part of Upper Body Must Touch	3.4.6.2 3.5.4.2	Allows for any part of the swimmers upper body to touch the wall at the turn or finish. Athletes will typically touch with their head or shoulders or their shortened arm(s).
<b>8</b>	Right Foot Must Turn Out	3.4.5.1	The swimmer must turn out their right foot when performing the propulsive part of the breaststroke kick.
<b>9</b>	Left Foot Must Turn Out	3.4.5.1	The swimmer must turn out their left foot when performing the propulsive part of the breaststroke kick.
<b>12</b>	Leg Drag OR Show Intent To Kick	3.4.4.1	The swimmer may choose to either drag both legs or show intent to kick. The swimmer must maintain the leg drag or the intent to kick throughout the race and may not change. E.g. a swimmer cannot drag legs for first 50m then begin kicking in the last 50m.
<b>+</b>	Dolphin Kick Is Able To Be Performed	3.4.1 3.4.5	The '+' code is not so much a rule exception but rather informs officials the swimmer is physically capable of performing a butterfly kick. If this action is observed during the normal breaststroke cycle, it is a violation of IPC Swimming rule 3.4.5. Remember: Any swimmer is permitted to take a single butterfly kick at any time prior to the first breaststroke kick after the start or turn as detailed in IPC Swimming Rule 3.4.1
<b>Freestyle</b>		No Exceptions (Nil)	
<b>Backstroke</b>		Only Exception '1' may apply	
<b>Butterfly</b>		Exceptions '2 – 7' may apply	
<b>Breaststroke</b>		Exceptions '2 – 12 and +' may apply	