SUPPORT PERSONNEL — persons in an open water swimmer's escort craft who provide for feeding, navigating, coaching, and other supporting activities.

SUSPENSION — deprivation of all rights of membership in USA Swimming.

SWIMS (SWIMMING WEB-BASED INTERACTIVE MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM) — a single integrated database system which includes USA Swimming membership data and a databank of achieved times that are considered official and are recognized for proof of entry and recognition programs.

TAPPER — Personal Assistant who uses a pole with a soft-tipped end to tap a blind or visually-impaired swimmer as notification of turns and finish.

TEXTILE MATERIALS — natural and/or synthetic, individual and non-consolidating yarns used to constitute a fabric by weaving, knitting, and/or braiding, or as further defined under current World Aquatics swimwear rules.

TIME STANDARD — the time a swimmer must have previously achieved in order to compete in that event at a designated competition.

TIME TRIAL — an event conducted within or independently of a meet where the swimmer races against the clock to establish an official time.

TIMED FINAL HEATS OR TIMED FINALS — competition in which only heats are swum and final placings are determined by the times achieved in the heats.

TOUCH — contact with the end of the course.

TRYOUT — practices where a swimmer who is not a member of USA Swimming participates with a USA Swimming member club for a period not to exceed thirty (30) consecutive days in a twelve (12) month period to determine the swimmer's interest in becoming a member of USA Swimming.

TURN — a point where the swimmers reverse or change direction.

UNATTACHED — status of a member who does not represent a club or World Aquatics member Federation in competition.

UNESCORTED SWIM — an open water event where swimmers compete without a designated support craft.

USA SWIMMING — USA Swimming, Inc., a Colorado corporation.

VENUE — the area located on the sides and ends of the pool, spectator area, team areas within the pool facility (e.g., portion of the building designated for teams and swimmers, or fenced area around an outdoor pool), locker rooms, and such other areas as may be specifically designated by the host club or organization, meet director, or referee. In open water competition, the geographical area and environs where the meet is conducted.

VERTICAL — perpendicular to the water surface.

VIRTUAL MEET — a competition held at multiple venues.

WALL — vertical portion of the pool, contiguous surfaces of the deck and overflow gutter, the front portion of the starting block or platform, or the touchpad at the end of the course.

WARNING SIGNAL — a bell, whistle, air horn, or other appropriate audible device.

WAVE — at an open water event, a second or subsequent start used if the start area cannot accommodate all contestants at the same time.

WEBSITE — the official site maintained by USA Swimming on the internet (usaswimming.org).

WETSUIT — a swimsuit made of material providing thermal insulation.