

# TOP 10 REASONS SWIMMERS ARE DISQUALIFIED

Information about the most frequently occurring instances of technical faults that result in disqualification.

**MASTERS SWIMMING WA**

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**masters  
swimming**  
WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA

Order	SW Rule	Rule Description	Examples
1	<b>GR 16</b> <b>SWIMWEAR</b> <b>GR 16.1</b>	<i>FINA requirements for swimwear shall apply to Masters' Competitions.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wore bathers extending below the knee - applies to Women's &amp; Men's bathers.</li> <li>• Wore bathers with clip at the back.</li> <li>• Wore two pairs of bathers.</li> <li>• Swimwear had clasps on the shoulder straps.</li> </ul>
2	<b>SW 4</b> <b>THE START</b> <b>SW 4.4</b>	<i>Any swimmer starting before the starting signal has been given shall be disqualified.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimmer starting off the block (includes "Moving Forward") OR Diving in OR Falling in AFTER "Take your Marks" and BEFORE the starting signal is given, will be disqualified.</li> <li>• Swimmer overbalanced and fell into the water after "take your marks" and before the starting signal.</li> </ul>
3	<b>WW 6</b> <b>BACKSTROKE</b> <b>SW 6.4</b>	<i>When executing the turn there must be a touch of the wall with some part of the swimmer's body in their respective lane. During the turn the shoulders may be turned over the vertical to the breast after which an immediate continuous single arm pull or immediate continuous simultaneous double arm pull may be used to initiate the turn. The swimmer must have returned to the position on the back upon leaving the wall.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the 150m turn, the swimmer turned too early and was unable to complete a continuous arm pull once she had turned onto the breast and, in effect, "Glided" to the wall before turning.</li> </ul>
4	<b>WW 6</b> <b>BACKSTROKE</b> <b>SW 6.5</b>	<i>Upon the finish of the race the swimmer must touch the wall while on the back in their respective lane. Clarification: If a swimmer applies to have one or more intermediate distances especially timed (see SW 12.6.9M) they must complete that distance in accordance with this rule.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the 50m (2nd) turn of the 100m leg of Backstroke, the swimmer was on her front when leaving the wall (i.e. NOT on her back) .</li> <li>• In a 1500m Backstroke swim, a swimmer MUST touch on their back at the end of the 400m &amp; 800m intermediate distances to be eligible to set a record for those distances.</li> </ul>

5	<b>SW 7 BREASTSTROKE SW 7.2</b>	<p><i>From the beginning of the first arm stroke after the start and after each turn, the body shall be on the breast. It is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time except at the turn after the touch of the wall where it is permissible to turn in any manner as long as the body is on the breast when leaving the wall.</i></p> <p><i>From the start and throughout the race the stroke cycle must be one arm stroke and one leg kick in that order. All movements of the arms shall be simultaneous and on the same horizontal plane without alternating movement.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stroke cycle not one arm-pull, followed by a leg kick, at the 75m turn.</b></li> <li>• <b>Arm movement not simultaneous as swimmer stopped to adjust goggles in the Breaststroke leg of the Individual Medley.</b></li> </ul>
6	<b>SW 7 BREASTSTROKE SW 7.5</b>	<p><i>The feet must be turned outwards during the propulsive part of the kick. Alternating movements or downward butterfly kicks are not permitted except as in SW 7.1. Breaking the surface of the water with the feet is allowed unless followed by a downward butterfly kick.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Performed multiple butterfly kicks after the start before the breaststroke kick.</b></li> </ul>
7	<b>SW 7 BREASTSTROKE SW 7.6</b>	<p><i>At each turn and at the finish of the race, the touch shall be made with both hands separated and simultaneously at, above, or below the water level. At the last stroke before the turn and at the finish an arm stroke not followed by a leg kick is permitted. The head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during the last complete or incomplete cycle preceding the touch.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Swimmer did not touch simultaneous with both hands on the turn.</b></li> <li>• <b>Did not touch with both hands on the Breaststroke to Freestyle turn in the Individual Medley.</b></li> </ul>
8	<b>SW 8 BUTTERFLY Incorporating FINA Masters rule MSW3.7 SW 8.2M</b>	<p><i>Both arms shall be brought forward simultaneously over the water and brought backward simultaneously under the water through-out the race, subject to SW 8.5.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Swimmer started the Butterfly with a freestyle stroke.</b></li> <li>• <b>Arms not brought forward simultaneously over the water.</b></li> </ul>

9	<p><b>SW 8 BUTTERFLY SW 8.3M</b></p>	<p><i>All up and down movements of the legs must be simultaneous. The legs or the feet need not be on the same level, but they shall not alternate in relation to each other. A breaststroke kicking movement is permitted for butterfly. A single breaststroke kick is permitted after the start and after each turn prior to the first arm pull and prior to the turn and the finish without an arm pull.</i></p> <p><b>SW 8.3.1M</b> For Butterfly events up to and including 200m, only one breaststroke kick is permitted per arm pull, except that a single breaststroke kick is permitted prior to the turn and the finish without an arm pull.</p> <p><b>SW 8.3.2M</b> For Butterfly events longer than 200m, up to two breaststroke kicks are permitted per arm pull, except that two breaststroke kicks are permitted prior to the turn and the finish without an arm pull.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About 25m from the start, swimmer performed flutter kick to the end of the pool</li> <li>• Movement of legs not simultaneous from about 25m mark</li> <li>• During the stroke cycle the swimmer gave a definite fly kick followed by another movement of legs that were not breaststroke or fly. The “breaststroke kick” was not compliant</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>SW 10.11</b></p>	<p><i>In relay events, the team of a swimmer whose feet lose touch with the starting platform, pool deck or pool end wall before the preceding team-mate touches the wall shall be disqualified.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimmer 2 left wall prior to swimmer 1 contacting the wall – commonly known as a “break”</li> <li>• Swimmer 3’s feet lost touch with starting platform / wall before incoming swimmer touched - commonly known as a “break”</li> </ul>