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Dear Open Water National Championships Competitors:

As of May 9, 2017, USA Swimming has adopted the FINA wetsuit rule for the upcoming Open Water National Championships. The decision to implement this new rule was decided based on recent water temperature readings at Castaic Lake and athlete safety being USA Swimming's number one priority. The new rule reads that for water temperatures lower than 64.4 degrees Fahrenheit wetsuits will be required. For water temperatures above 68 degrees Fahrenheit wetsuits will not be allowed. Between 64.4 and 68 degrees Fahrenheit, wetsuits will be optional.

For the Open Water Nationals 10k, 5k and Open Water Junior Nationals official water temperature will be taken 2 hours prior to the start of the race. Based on the information USA Swimming has received from the Los Angeles County Lifeguards we anticipate that the water temperature will fall between 64.4 and 68 degrees.

Wetsuits must be between 3mm and 5mm thickness. They need to completely cover the torso, back, shoulders, and knees and shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists, or ankles. The FINA Requirements for Swimwear Approval prohibit the variation/modification or customization of the suit.



If you are interested in purchasing a wetsuit you may visit your local triathlon shop or purchase through one of USA Swimming's suit partners. Arena, Speedo and TYR have generously offered a discount to the competitors of the 2017 Open Water Nationals and Open Water Junior Nationals. You can call one of the numbers below to take advantage of this offer.

Arena: 888-90-ARENA

Speedo: Please contact your Sports Marketing Rep or 888-4SPEEDO

TYR: 800-252-7878

Due to the implementation of this rule USA Swimming has changed the start time of the 10k races. The men's race will start at 11am and the women's race will start at 1:30pm. USA Swimming will post the water temperature of the lake daily on the Open Water events page on www.usaswimming.org

If you have any questions please feel free to contact any of the following individuals:

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