

NOTICE TO PARENTS: RACING START SAFETY

To avoid risk of serious injury, no swimmer who has not been properly trained should attempt to perform a racing start, from either a starting block or the side of the pool, into less than six feet of water.

USA Swimming has implemented a racing start certification program where a swimmer's coach documents his or her professional judgment that a swimmer has demonstrated sufficient skill to safely perform a racing start into four feet of water in competition.

There are rare occasions when swimmers may participate in swimming competitions <u>not</u> under the supervision of a certified home club coach. In these situations, it is the parent's responsibility to make sure the swimmer does not attempt to perform a racing start in less than six feet of water if the swimmer has not been properly certified by the swimmer's home club coach to do so. (Additionally, should this situation arise, the athlete must be assigned to a certified coach on deck at the meet.)

RACING STARTS CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

		FORWARD						BACKSTROKE			
		Racing Start Certification					Racing Start Certification				
		1	2	3	4	5		NO LEDGE		WITH LEDGE	
		Ş	×	5	£	Shallow	Date	Water Level	Date	Water Level	Date
Name	Age	Sitting	Kneeling	Compact	Stride	Start	Completed	Or Bar Grip	Completed	Or Bar Grip	Completed
Based on personal observation, it is the professional judgment of the Coach that the swimmers identified above are capable of performing a shallow racing start on						Print:		Print:		Print:	
demand and can safely perform a racing start in four feet of water. <u>PRINT AND SIGN FOR EACH SKILL</u>						Sign:		Sign:		Sign:	