

Common Disqualifications (DQ) from Berlin 2023 World Games

For a list of ALL DQ's in Berlin [click here](#)

Total DQ's See below a breakdown of the most common disqualifications at the 2023 Berlin World Games. This data can help coaches identify key focus areas in training and support athletes in racing with confidence and consistency.

308

DQ CODE: OL

Over Level

92

Happens in: All strokes

An over-level disqualification in Special Olympics swimming occurs when an athlete competes in a race that is at a level higher than their registered level. This disqualification is part of the learning process and a standard aspect of the meet experience.

DQ CODE: 4.4

Early Start

39

Happens in: All strokes

An Early Start disqualification in Special Olympics swimming occurs when a swimmer leaves the block/wall or initiates a movement before the start signal at the start of the race.

DQ CODE: 10.11

Relay - Early Takeoff

32

Happens in: Relays all strokes

A Relay Early Take Off disqualification in Special Olympics swimming occurs when the next swimmer in the relay's feet are not in contact with the starting platform before the preceding swimmer touches the end of the pool.



DQ CODE: 7.6

Missed two-handed touch 25

Happens in: Breastroke & Butterfly

A missed two-handed touch disqualification in Special Olympics swimming occurs when a swimmer fails to touch the wall with both hands simultaneously at the turn and finish.

This rule is particularly important for breastroke and butterfly strokes, where a two-hand touch is required for turns and finishes.

DQ CODE: 6.4.1

Missed wall at turn 18

Happens in: All strokes

A missed wall at turn disqualification in Special Olympics swimming occurs when a swimmer fails to touch the wall during their turn in their respective lane of the race.

DQ CODE: 7.5.1

Feet not turned out in Breastroke 17

Happens in: Breastroke only

A feet not turned out in breastroke disqualification in Special Olympics swimming occurs when the swimmer does not have both feet turned out during the propulsive part of the kick. Scissor kicks are most common causes of this DQ as they are not permitted in this stroke.

TIPS FROM MICHAEL & KIERA



Coaching beyond speed

Teach the rules with the same care as technique and speed. When athletes feel supported and know what's expected, they swim with confidence, and confidence leads to clean races, meaning less disqualifications.

