



2012-13 SWIMMING AND DIVING RULES COMMITTEE MEETING PROPOSED RULES/EDITORIAL CHANGES

No.	Page	Reference	PROPOSED CHANGES WITH RATIONALE AND OTHER RULES AFFECTED <small>Underlining shows additions; strikethrough shows deletions</small>	Submitted By	Pass	Fail	No Action
Rule 2 – Pool, Lane & Equipment Specifications							
1	12	2-7-2 new c.	<p>ART. 2 ... c. Track style starting platforms with wedges (back foot plate) are permitted.</p> <p>Rationale: The track style platforms may be adjusted so the wedge/back foot plate may or may not be used by the swimmer. Colleges are now installing this style and many high school championships are held in these facilities. This change is allowing schools to utilize new technology which is also allowed by NCAA and USA Swimming.</p>	Questionnaire			
Rule 3 – Team Personnel							
2	20	3-3-3b2	<p>ART. 3 ... Suits worn by swimmers shall be limited to the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. only one swimsuit shall be permitted in competition. (A swimmer with special needs may request customization through his/her school to the state association.) b. the suit shall be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. constructed of a woven/knit textile material; 2. <u>100% permeable</u>, (100 percent to air and water) except for one post construction, impermeable school name and/or logo which shall not exceed 9 square inches; 3. made so as not to aid in buoyancy and shall not be altered to aid in buoyancy; 4. made with no zippers or other fastening systems other than a waist tie for a brief or jammer and elastic material within the casing/ribbing in the terminal ends (straps, leg openings and waist openings); and 5. constructed so that the style/shape of the suit for the males shall not extend above the waist nor below the top of the kneecap and for females shall not extend beyond the shoulders nor below the top of the kneecap, nor cover the neck. 	Bethany Schott, CO			

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			Rationale: FINA permeability tests only apply to air not water. All “Tech Suits” are water repellant and advertise the fact that no water can or will pass through the textile fabric. If the National Federation has approved all suits that have the FINA barcode, this wording must be changed to the wording used by FINA being 100% Permeable .				
3	21	3-3-3	<p><u>PENALTIES (SECTION 3, Articles 1, 2, & 3): When an official discovers a competitor wearing an illegal swimsuit or illegal attire as described in SECTION 3, Articles 1, 2, & 3, the official shall:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. when reporting prior to the start of the heat, notify the competitor to make legal the swimsuit before becoming eligible to compete. If the competitor cannot comply without delaying the start of the heat, the competitor is disqualified from the at event and shall not be eligible for further competition until in a legal swimsuit; 2. when the competitor has stepped up on the starting platform but prior to the starting device being activated, direct the competitor to “Step Down,” disqualify the competitor from that event and he/she shall not be eligible for further competition until in a legal swimsuit; 3. when the starting device has been activated, disqualify the competitor at the completion of the heat; nullify the competitor’s performance time and he/she shall not be eligible for further competition until in a legal swimsuit. <p>Rationale: The current NFHS rules book has no penalty for a violation of Rule 3.3.1 and 3.3.2. The interpretation from NFHS regarding the penalties for 3.3.1 & 3.3.2 stated that the penalty for illegal attire (not covered in 3.3.3) was removed from the Jewelry penalty section 3.3.5 and therefore covered (although not stated) in the penalty section for rule 3.3.3. This new verbiage helps to clarify.</p>	Bethany Schott, CO			
4	21	3-3-4	<p><u>ART. 4 ... Competitors shall not wear...before competing. The use of tape is permitted to treat a documented medical condition which allows a student athlete to compete, but not gain an advantage over the remainder of the field. The meet referee must be presented with a signed documentation from the student’s physician, and their school’s athletic director before certifying the athlete eligible to compete with tape. Tape may be used by divers to support the wrists in a preventative manner without medical documentation.</u></p> <p>NOTE: Each state...at a disadvantage.</p>	Pete Foley, MA			

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			<p>Rationale: This paragraph should clear up questions about the legality of using compression/kinesiotape by swimmers. It would require the student athlete to obtain documentation at two medical levels and at a local administrative level that there is a legitimate injury that requires taping in order to compete. It would also eliminate the need to obtain state association approval to use taping as currently required by the NOTE after 3-3-4. This reflects the intent of NCAA 3-2 (Artificial Aids), but spells out more clearly who must document the injury.</p>				
5	21	3-3-4	<p>ART. 4 ... A foreign substance may be applied to the body. <u>Body paint and temporary tattoos are not allowed.</u> The referee...</p> <p>Rationale: It seems that “foreign substance refers to the oil from a rub down – body paint and temporary tattoos make a mess on deck and in the pool – and the current statement allows a coach to make things dicey at an event.</p>	Gina Mazzolini, MI			
6	21	3-3-4	<p>ART. 4 ... Competitors shall not wear or use any device to aid their speed, buoyancy or body compression. <u>With the exception of the “Technical Suit” with FINA approved body compression panels.</u> A foreign substance may be applied to the body. The referee shall require a competitor using an excessive amount of a foreign substance to remove it before competing.</p> <p>Rationale: All FINA approved Technical Suits are constructed with body compression panels that aid in speed. The NFHS rules book has not made the appropriate updates to follow along with the changes made by FINA with regard to their Technical Suit approval system.</p>	Bethany Schott, CO			
7	26	New 3-5-8	<p><u>For our athletes’ protection, any photography occurring from behind the starting blocks/platforms while a swim meet is underway (warm-up through its conclusion) is prohibited. This restriction pertains to any photographer or meet personnel (parent, staff, team, hired, independent, media etc.) from taking pictures from behind the starting blocks/platforms. Picture taking on the pool deck will be limited to the areas in front of and to the sides of the starting blocks/platforms.</u></p> <p>Rationale: This addition is necessary to protect high school athletes from having pictures taken of them from unnecessary angles and vantage points.</p>	Bethany Schott, CO			
8	27	3-5-3	<p>PENALTIES: 1. All participants from a team shall be disqualified from that race/heat when a nonparticipating team member enters the water during the race (and that person is disqualified from further competition).</p> <p>Rationale: With the way it reads it could be interpreted that all swimmers in all</p>	Danny Miller, UT			

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			heats of this event are disqualified. We want it to say that the swimmers in that heat are the ones disqualified not the entire event.				
			/// Rule 8 – Swimming Events ///				
9	49	8-1-7	ART. 7... When automatic timing/judging is used, the swimmers must contact the touch pad or end wall between the lane lines where the touch pad should be located when in proper position. touch the pads in their lanes at the end of the racing course to have finished the race or their leg of a relay. Rationale: Clarification and removal of cumbersome language.	Gina Mazzolini, MI			
10	51	8-2-1f	ART. 1 ... The turn requireswall. After the swimmer’s head....., provided such rotation is accomplished by an <u>immediate</u> initiation of the turning action. or continuation into the wall. The initiation of the turning action shall be accomplished by a single-arm or simultaneous double-arm pull.....by an <u>upward</u> or downward underwater movement of the head. Rationale: The proposal is to have the NFHS backstroke the same as the NCAA turn. The wording in the rules book is the same as the NCAA wording with the exception of the phrase “or continuation into the wall”. The understanding is that some HS swimmers are very novice and need some flexibility on executing the turn. Age group swimmers in FINA, YMCA, and USA Swimming do not have that flexibility and learn to the standard. To become closer to having a standardized turn, adopting the NCAA turn will allow for that to happen and still provide the novice additional flexibility in executing the turn. Coaches will teach to the rule. If a rule changes, a swimmer, novice or not, will learn by the new standard. The second part of 8.2.1f is to add ‘upward’ to the definition of initiation of the turning action. In actuality, a swimmer will lift the head to begin the rotation necessary to begin a flip turn.	Ken Gipe, OH			
11	51	8-2-2c	On the start or turn, one arm stroke beyond the hipline followed by one breaststroke kick may be made while the swimmer is underwater; except that after the initiation of such arm stroke and before the breaststroke kick, a single butterfly kick is permitted. <u>Any separation or drifting of the hands/arms prior to the kick constitutes initiation of the arm pull.</u> Some part of the head... Rationale: It is illegal for a swimmer to perform a dolphin kick prior to the initiation of the underwater pullout. Officials have had difficulty in determining what movement signals the initiation of the underwater pullout, specifically in cases which the swimmer pushes from the wall with arms/hands already	Sandy Searcy, IN			

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			separated.				
12	51	8-2-2d	<p>ART. 2 ... There shall be no sculling with the hands at the end of the first arm stroke following the start or turn, <u>which is not part of the initial armstroke.</u></p> <p>Rationale: In USA swimming this rule reads as following: “A breaststroke swimmer moves his hands in a sculling or flipper movement at the end of the first armstroke after the start and also after the turn. Should he be disqualified?’ No, he should not be disqualified. This is legal provided ‘The arms shall move simultaneously and in the same horizontal plane without any alternating movement.’ A sculling motion of the hands only as part of the armstroke is not considered the beginning of a new stroke.” Situation Resolutions – Stroke & Turn p1.1 (note: rule 101.2.2 does not itself directly answer this questions, it is addressed only in this situation resolution reference)</p>	Danny Miller, UT			
			⚓ Rule 9 – Diving Competition ⚓				
13	60	9-2-2	<p>ART. 2 ... The order of divers in championship meets, determined by the meet director, shall be either by lot or by seeding based on the diver’s best competitive 11 dive score submitted. If seeding by dive scores, divers without 11 dive scores shall be seeded by lot at the beginning of the diving order. The same relative position of divers shall be maintained for all levels of competition. <u>Unless determined otherwise by the meet director, the default method for determining the order of the diving competition shall be by lot for a championship meet or meet conducted under a championship format.</u></p> <p>Rationale: The rule should include the standard method (default method) for determining the order of the diving competition absent any action by the meet director.</p>	Diane Hicks, Hughes, NY			
14	63, 64, 66	9-4-New	<p>Delete all of Section 4 and replace with new.</p> <p>“ART. 1 ... In championship meets, the diving competition shall consist of Preliminaries, consolation finals and finals.</p> <p>ART. 2 ... Preliminaries</p> <p>a. The list of dives for the preliminary rounds of dives shall be comprised of six optional dives. The six dive list consists of a dive performed from each dive group and, an additional dive performed from any dive group.</p> <p>b. The dives can be performed in any order.</p> <p>c. No dive number shall be repeated in the preliminary rounds.</p> <p>ART. 3 ... Consolation finals and finals</p> <p>a. Divers will qualify for the consolation finals and finals using the same number of qualifiers used for the swimming events. Where 12 divers score team points,</p>	Roy Botsko, NC, Davis Whitfield, NC			

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			<p>the top six divers will qualify for the finals, and the next six divers will qualify for the consolation finals.</p> <p>b. The diving order shall be the reverse of the order of finish in the preliminaries. Lower scoring divers will compete ahead of higher scoring divers.</p> <p>c. Only the points scored in the consolation finals and finals will be used to determine the final placing of the qualifying divers.</p> <p>d. A consolation finalist shall not place higher than the highest contested place in the consolation finals nor behind a non-qualifier.</p> <p>e. In case of a tie for the last position qualifying for finals, all tied divers will qualify for finals and the remaining divers up to the number of positions scoring team points will qualify for the consolation finals.</p> <p>f. In case of a tie for the last position qualifying for the consolation finals, all tied divers will qualify for the consolation finals.</p> <p>g. The order of tied divers will be determined by lot.</p> <p>ART. 4 ... Dive list for consolation finals and finals</p> <p>a. The list of dives for the consolation finals and finals shall be comprised of six optional dives.</p> <p>The six dive list consists of a dive performed from each dive group and, an additional dive performed from any dive group.</p> <p>b. The dives can be performed in any order.</p> <p>c. The dives can be a repeat of the dives performed in the preliminary rounds, but no dive number performed in consolation finals and finals shall be repeated during the consolation final and final rounds of dives.</p> <p>ART. 5 ... The next two highest non-qualifiers are designated as alternates to guarantee a full complement of divers for the next level of competition. Alternates shall be used provided there is no delay in the meet.</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <p>a. The consolation finals and finals for diving can be run concurrently. The consolation finalists will dive before the finalists for each round of dives.</p> <p>b. Where the consolation finals and finals for diving are held separately, the consolation finals will be held before the finals and the finalists will be permitted at least one practice approach, with or without entry into the water prior to starting the finals.</p> <p>c. When time to hold the competition is limited, the host school may skip the consolation finals and hold only the finals where only the finalists will perform second list of dives. The scores from the preliminary rounds would be used to determine the final places for the consolation finalists.</p> <p>d. When time to hold the competition is very limited, the host school can conduct</p>				

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			<p>the diving event as a finals only event.</p> <p>PENALTIES - Once the competition has started:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If less than 5 groups of dives are listed in the preliminaries, consolation finals, or the finals, the diver is disqualified. 2. If less than 6 total dives are listed for the preliminaries, consolation finals, or the finals, the diver is disqualified. <p>ART. 6 ... In other meets, the competition shall consist of 6 optional dives.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The first optional dive shall be from the target dive group for the week - Week 1 = Forward group, Week 2 = Back group, Week 3 = Inward group, Week 4 = Twisting group, Week 5 = Reverse group, and etc. b. The next 5 optional dives must come from at least 4 of the 5 dive groups and can be performed in any order. c. No dive number shall be repeated in the six dive contest <p>NOTE: For interstate competition, the target dive group of the week shall follow the schedule of the host school's state unless the state association policy determines otherwise.</p> <p>PENALTIES - Once the competition has started:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the first dive is not from the target group for the week, the dive is failed. 2. If less than 4 groups of dives are listed in the final 5 optional dives, the diver is disqualified. 3. If less than 6 total dives are listed, the diver is disqualified. <p>ART. 7 ... For purposes of determining repetition, all dives with the same number, whether tuck, pike, straight or free position are considered the same dive.</p> <p>ART. 8 ... When the meet referee for the diving events is separate from the meet referee for the overall swim meet, the meet referee for the diving events shall have up to 1 hour after the final diving scores are announced and the diving sheets have been returned to the divers to verify and make any corrections to diving sheets and the final results.”</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More divers will be able to participate in championship level meets. 2. Everyone gets to perform all their dives at least once. The current 11 dive format requires cuts in the middle of the contest. It would be like making cuts after 300 yards and after 400 yards in the 500 yard freestyle for swimmers. When time is an issue, the 500 yard freestyle event is swum as a timed finals, but everyone swims the whole 500 yards, and places based on a total performance. In the diving events, final placing is based on just 45% (5 dives) or 				

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			<p>73% (8 dives) of the event for many competitors.</p> <p>3. The quality of the dives being performed in competition will be improved. In many 11 dive contests, the first 5 dives are very good. The next three dives are good to satisfactory. The final 3 dives range from unsatisfactory or failed to a few very good dives.</p> <p>4. The 6 dive list is a much simpler format (1 dive from each dive group and an additional dive from any dive group in any order) as compared to all the convoluted requirements that need to be followed to complete the dive sheet for an 11 dive contest. The dive sheet validation process will be much easier and should take considerably less time.</p> <p>5. There will be more flexibility for running championship diving events and they would be run more like the swimming events. The three options are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preliminaries, consolation finals, finals (consols. and finals can be run concurrently or run with the finals following the consols.). b. Preliminaries, and finals only c. Finals only (1 six dive list by everyone) <p>6. Moving to a six dive list instead of the current 11 list will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Improve the qualifying process for state meets. Some states use 6 dive lists in district and regional meets to determine qualifiers for the state meet. That is similar to using 300 yard freestyle events at district and regional competitions to qualify for the 500 yard freestyle event in the state meet. b. Eliminate the need to explain to parents why teenage high school girls are required to perform over twice as many different dives as adult women are required to perform in the World Championships and the US Senior Nationals. Female NCAA Division I collegiate divers need to perform at least 6 different dives, which is still considerably less than the high school program requires. c. Stop parents from questioning why teenage high school boys have to be able to perform almost twice as many different dives as adult men need for competing in the World Championships, the US Senior Nationals, and the Men's NCAA Division I Collegiate championship meet. d. Safety for the diving event will be improved. Many coaches currently feel the need to push the safety envelope to get the second inward and/or reverse dives needed for the 11 dive list. The rules for most other high school sports events have been modified from higher other levels of competitions to reduce stress on the body and improve safety for high school athletes. This is one of the reasons why high school swimmers do not swim the 1000 yard freestyle or the 1650 yard freestyle events. <p>7. As a judge, I would much prefer to see many of the last 3 dives of a contest</p>				

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			<p>be simple dives performed very well and be able to display high scores. Regretfully, with the current 11 dive contest format, many of the final 3 dives of a contest are barely recognizable and, I dislike having to give very low scores to divers that I know have worked very hard during the season.</p> <p>8. The current NFHS 11 dive list requirement in swimming terms is similar to requiring high school swimmers to swim 3000 yards (almost double the longest event in NCAA swimming (1650 yards) or the World Championships (1500 Meters)) rather than the 6 dive list which is more comparable to the 500 yard freestyle swam as the distance event in high school.</p> <p>9. I heard a coach comment that divers would just crank optional dives and the diver's development would be compromised. A competent diving coach will spend more time working on developing quality dives and having the divers master proper technique rather than allowing divers to chuck a back double and/or butcher the performance of a 5211A just to get an 11th dive. My opinion is: raw score is more important than Degree of Difficulty (DD). Poorly performing higher DD dives is not a formula for success.</p>				
15	64	9-4-6	<p>ART. 6 . . . In other meets, the competition shall consist of one voluntary dive, <u>which must be designated</u> which shall be done first (Week 1 = forward group, Week 2 = back group, Week 3 = inward group , Week 4 = twisting group, Week 5 = reverse group, etc.), and five optional dives, coming from at least four of the five groups and which may include any of the dives other than the voluntary dive. Any dive from a group may be designated as a voluntary dive. It will receive its assigned dd through 1.8. Any designated voluntary dive with a dd greater than 1.8 will be assigned a dd of 1.8.</p> <p>NOTE: For interstate competition, the voluntary dive group of the week shall follow the schedule of the host school's state unless state association policy determines otherwise.</p> <p>Rationale: This change will allow the voluntary dive to be done in any position in the six dive order – it will not be required as the first dive. Dive coaches have requested this to allow them more flexibility in arranging dive orders and selections. It will also not require judges to see the same dive or group 6-12 dives in a row to begin a meet/competition.</p>	Ken Gipe, OH			
16	69	9-6-3a	<p>ART. 3 . . .</p> <p>a. announce before each dive the name of each competitor and describe the dive to be performed (dive, including number, position and degree of difficulty);</p>	Leslie Richard, PA, Brad Cashman, PA			

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			Rationale: Many of our officials (new and old alike) use the dd as a guideline for judging dives. They figure that if a diver is doing a high dd that the diver must be good and many award points on that. By dropping the dd from being announced the judges will be forced to judge the dive and not the diver with a high dd.				
			EDITORIAL CHANGES				
			Rule 1 - Definitions				
1	7	1-3-4	ART. 4 ... A race officially begins when the swimmers are called to the starting platforms by the referee's/starter's long whistle. (See 4-1-3 NOTE) Rationale: Not necessary to list rule reference.	NFHS			
			Rule 3 – Team Personnel				
2	20	3-3-3a	ART. 3 ... Suits worn by swimmers shall be limited to the following requirements: a. only one swimsuit shall be permitted in <u>swimming</u> competition. <u>The restriction on the wearing of more than one suit applies only to swimming events and not the event of diving.</u> (A swimmer with special needs may request customization through his/her school to the state association.) Rationale: The editorial change to this rule would clear up any doubt as to whether or not wearing one suit applies to the divers. This rule was misinterpreted several times in our state. The first sentence in 3-3-1 states: <i>It is recommended all swimmers and divers on the team wear suits of identical coloring and pattern.</i> Officials have read that statement and assumed that Article 2 and Article 3 also applies to divers. Page 24 of rules book does include a specific situation (3.3.1 Situation H) to this rule, but applying the language of 3.3.1 Situation H to Rule 3-3-3 would clear up any doubt that the one suit rule does not apply to diving.	Jason Eslinger, IA			
			Rule 4 – Officials and Their Duties				
3	29	4-1-4	ART. 4 ... State associations may intercede in the event of unusual incidents <u>before, during and after...</u> Rationale: Consistency in NFHS language in all rule books	NFHS			
			Rule 7 - Scoring				
4	46	7-1-2(f)	f. triangular meets with two or more entries per team per event: scoring shall follow 7-1-3a and 7-1-3b; only two relay entries per team shall be scored. <u>Relay points are not doubled.</u>	Tom Shafranski, WI			

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			Rationale: Clarifies the correct scoring rules for relays in a triangular meet.				
			⚡ Rule 9 – Diving Competition ⚡				
5	58	9-1-1f	ART. 1 ... The diving pool may be separate from or part of the swimming pool and the following standards for clearance and water depth are recommended for one meter diving, with the measurement from the: f. water depth at any point 2-5 feet in front of the end of the board, must <u>is recommended to</u> be 12 feet (3.658m) or more, except for pools constructed prior to January 1987, where water depth 2 to 5 feet in front of the end of the board must <u>is recommended to</u> be a minimum of 10 feet (3.045m). Rationale: Eliminates confusion between opening comment in ART. 1 and warrant comment in 9-1-1f.	Ken Gipe, OH			
6	65	9-4	413 Inward Flying 1½ SS.....2.7 2.9 --- --- Rationale: Corrects dive listing by add SS.	NFHS			
7	66	9-5-2	ART. 2 ... The forward approach shall begin with not less than three steps and finish with a hurdle, defined as a jump off one foot to a landing on both feet at the end of the board. The diver may use additional steps, hops, leaps and/or jumps between <u>during</u> the initial three steps and the culminating hurdle. The forward takeoff shall be from both feet simultaneously to an adequate height to perform the dive. Rationale: This change of wording clarifies the intent of the rule change from last year and modification from this past fall. The primary purpose is to simplify what is considered a legal forward approach. This change in wording mirrors the NCAA definition of an approach and takeoff.	Pete Foley, MA			
			⚡ Appendix B ⚡				
8	79	Appendix B	Suggested Protocols for Automatic Relay Judging ... Require there always be at least one human takeoff judge confirming a violation detected by electronic relay takeoff judging system. Rationale: This method provides for greater accuracy as there are still potential problems with the electronic system. The use of the human takeoff judge in concert with the electronic system better fits with the high school philosophy of officiating and potential disqualifications.	Questionnaire			
9	79	Appendix B	Suggested Protocols for Automatic <u>Electronic</u> Relay Judging Equipment 1. In nonchampionship meets, at least one <u>human</u> takeoff judge... In	Questionnaire			

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			championship meets, two <u>human</u> takeoff... 2. 3. If the electronic relay...the decision(s) of the <u>human</u> judge(s) shall not be considered. 4. 5. An alleged rules infraction... Each <u>human</u> relay takeoff... 6. Rationale: Clarification between human judge and electronic judging equipment.				
			POINTS OF EMPHASIS				
1	42	6-3-4	ART. 4 ... may indicate a pad malfunction. Who is responsible for confirming a malfunction (chief timer, timing equipment operator or referee) and then give more explanation on how to determine the cause of the discrepancy. Then depending on the cause of the discrepancy – the result of equipment failure or official's error – declare the information invalid. What is a pad malfunction? What is the responsibility of a swimmer to touch the pad? What constitutes a pad surface? When to call the meet committee and what is its responsibility?	Gina Mazzolini, MHSAA			