



Memorandum: New Rules (Sept 2017)

To: SNC Technical Staff, Provincial EDs, OCRC members, Coaches (CSCTA), Officials

From: Bill Hogan (OCRC Chair) Sept 12, 2017

The new FINA rules for swimming (SW rules, GR rules, and Open Water rules) were approved in July 2017 in Budapest and are posted on the FINA website - <http://www.fina.org/content/fina-rules-regulations> Once they are incorporated into our Canadian rulebook and translated, together with the Canadian CSW, CGR, CFR, COW. and PARA rules, the new Canadian Rulebook will be published. That process is nearing completion. Of course, there is still ongoing consultation with our coaches, the SNC staff, EDs, and senior Officials as we put together our own CSW, Facilities, Open Water, Para, and National Meet Rules.

In the interim, I have compiled and printed below some of the new rules that will we need to be mindful of at our own meets earlier in the swim year. I will present a complete review of all rule changes and updates at the Officials' Symposium in Toronto November 4-5, 2017.

Some of the new FINA rules that can also be found on the FINA website:

- SW 1.2.2** Where Automatic Officiating Equipment is not available, such equipment must be replaced by a chief timekeeper, one (1) timekeeper per lane, and one (1) additional timekeeper.
- SW 2.6.2** Jurisdiction for the Inspector of Turns at the start end commences from the start signal until the completion of the first arm stroke, except in Breaststroke where it shall be the second arm stroke.
- SW 2.6.4** Jurisdiction for the Inspector of Turns at the finish commences from the beginning of the last arm stroke before touching.
- SW 2.6.9** Inspectors of turns shall report to the Referee any violation on signed cards detailing the event, lane number, and the infraction.
- SW 9.2** In Freestyle, the swimmer must be on the breast except when executing a turn. The swimmer must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.



Canadian Rules that are important incoming changes:

CGR 5.2.2 In competitions that are not National Level, Trials, or Selection meets, the referee shall exempt swimwear from compliance with the GR 5 Swimwear rule for a participating swimmer, where an exemption is requested for medical or religious reasons, and the fabric of the swimwear is a permeable open mesh textile and would not reasonably be seen to be creating a technical advantage. Such an exemption would only be granted for the swimsuit coverage requirements. Such an exemption may be granted for a) a swimsuit that covers more of the body, such as modesty swimwear, or b) the use of a separate garment worn underneath a regular swimsuit.

CGR 5.2.3 Swimwear not listed on the FINA website is permissible at all Club/Provincial meets, (see FINA BL 8.6). However, the swimwear fabric must be of a permeable open mesh textile material. Such swimwear includes training or 'drag' suits, modesty swimwear, as well as religious cover-ups.

CGR 5.2.4 A swimsuit that covers more of the body than stated in FINA BL 8.3 such as modesty swimwear or religious cover-ups, or the use of a separate garment worn underneath a regular swimsuit, is also permitted providing the fabric is permeable open mesh textile material and does not give the swimmer an advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance. Swimwear for National level Swimming Canada Team Selection meets or Swimming Canada Designated Meets must adhere to the FINA Rule. (ex: Trials competitions or events deemed to be National Team Selection competitions based on the meet handbook). Provincial Sections may also enforce FINA level suits only for certain level Provincial meets as specified by the Provincial Section.

CSW 3.5.2 Class Two Sanctioned Time Trial

- (i) A Class Two Time Trial is a swimmer's attempt to achieve a time which may qualify the swimmer for entry into future meets;
- (ii) Class Two Time Trials may be conducted on a less stringent basis than sanctioned meets. For example, several swimmers may swim at the same time, they need not be doing the same event or swimming the same stroke; they need not be the same sex, and two timekeepers per lane are sufficient;
- (iii) Individual freestyle events of 800m or longer may be conducted with more than one swimmer per lane;
- (iv) Records shall not be accepted from Class Two Time Trials.