

Important Changes to the SAL Competition By-Laws

Please take note of the following important changes to the Swimming Australia By Laws take effect from 1 January 2010:

CBL14.1 General Swimsuit Guidelines

- (1) The swimsuits of all swimmers shall be in good moral taste and suitable for the individual sports discipline.
 - (2) All swimsuits shall be non transparent and must conform with FINA approved standards in all respects.
- or
- (3) Until otherwise directed by SAL, swimmers may wear 'traditional' swimsuits provided the suits meet the following criteria:
 - (i) Men's swimwear may not extend above the navel or below the groin. Women's swimwear shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulders or below the groin.
 - (ii) No zippers or other fastening devices are allowed except for a waist tie on traditional swimsuits.
 - (iii) Suits must be of textile material and must not contain any non textile material such as polyurethane or neoprene.
 - (4) The referee of a competition has the authority to exclude any competitor whose swimsuit does not comply with this rule.
 - (5) Swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit.

CBL14.2 Additional Swimsuit Guidelines for Age Group Events

- (1) All swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events (18 and under) conducted in Australia by SAL shall be commercially available products.
- (2) Swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events shall conform to the following design:
 - (i) Men's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that covers at most the body surface from navel to knee. Swimwear may not extend above the navel or below the knees;
 - (ii) Women's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that is of "open back" and "open shoulder" designs that may extend down to the knee. Swimwear must not extend below the knees. Swimwear must not have a zipper or any type of fastening devices except for a waist tie on traditional swimsuits.

- (iii) Suits must be of textile material and must not contain any non-textile material such as polyurethane or neoprene.

**CBL 14.2 is similar to CBL 14.1 but allows competitors to wear swimsuits that conform to the 2010 FINA style and material guidelines or have not been submitted to FINA for approval.*

Implementing the New Swimsuit Rules

These Championship By Laws have been updated to fall into line with the recent swimsuit rule changes made by FINA. The list of FINA approved suits for 2010 can be found at the link below:

http://www.fina.org/project/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2768&Itemid=49

This list is not all-inclusive and is not the final list. As additional suits are approved, they will be added to the list by FINA so it is recommended to revisit this site regularly if you are in doubt.

Please note that in some cases the suit models reflected on FINA's list have the same name as previously manufactured suits which do not meet the new technical swimsuit requirements. Before purchasing any of the suits on the list, be sure to ask if the suit is the new model which meets the new requirements. New suits will also be tagged as FINA approved swimsuits and only those suits bearing this tagged will be considered FINA approved by SAL.

In addition to the FINA approved swimsuits, these Championship By-Laws allow the use of "traditional swimsuits" provide the suits meet the criteria mentioned in the By Laws.

Age Group Events

In addition to the FINA Approved list the swimsuit guidelines for age group events allow competitors to wear swimsuits that have not been approved by FINA provided they meet the guidelines relating to textile material, fastening devices and coverage (see CBL14.2.2).

Open Water Events

CBL 14.1 does not apply to SAL open water events; however CBL 14.2 still applies to SAL age group open water events.

Records

SAL national open records can only be ratified if performed in a FINA approved swimsuit. The revised SAL record application form requires the make and model of the suit to be lodged for approval.

SAL age group records can only be ratified if performed in a swimsuit that meets the guidelines outlined in CBL 14.2.

The revised SAL record application form requires the make and model of the suit to be lodged for approval.

Qualifying Times

Any official qualifying time achieved since January 1 2009 can be used regardless of the suit worn.

If you have any questions in relation to swimsuits at Swimming Australia events please contact Tim Arnold on 02 6216 5645 or tim.arnold@swimming.org.au. If you have queries relating to swimsuits at State events please contact the relevant State Association.