



National Federation of State High School Associations

Memorandum

To: State Association Swimming & Diving Administrators

From: Alan Beste / Becky Oakes

Subject: Application of Rules 3-3-1, 2

Date: January 14, 2010

FINA, the international rules organization for swimming, is introducing a new method to authenticate those swimming suits which are in compliance with their new rules regarding construction and design. Those suits meeting the rule requirements shall display a FINA mark and individual barcode. This barcode is mandatory. The NFHS staff has been receiving questions as to whether or not this logo is a manufacturer's logo. Under NFHS Rule 3-3-2, a suit displaying this barcode is not illegal. This marking is not a second manufacturer's logo and is not considered a form of advertising. A high school swimmer may compete in an otherwise legal suit that displays the new FINA barcode.

Another frequently asked question is whether or not a swimmer may wear a second item under the single swimsuit due to medical, religious or modesty reasons. The rule is specific that only one suit is permitted. However, the rule further allows a swimmer with a special need to request customization by way of the school to the state association.

Each situation should be considered on an individual basis. If it is necessary to customize and wear a second item, such item shall be worn under the competition suit, must meet the requirements of no zippers, be of textile material, permeable, etc.

For example, for religious reasons, the arms and legs of a female swimmer are to be covered. An item could be worn under the suit, but could not be a full body swimming suit due to adding the extra compression. The wearing of more than one suit, unless necessary and approved by the State Association, is a violation of the rule.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Becky Oakes, boakes@nfhs.org.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

BO:af

cc: Bob Gardner, NFHS
NFHS Swimming and Diving Rules Committee

Mailing Address: PO Box 690 | Indianapolis, Indiana 46206 | **Phone:** 317-972-6900 | **Fax:** 317.822.5700 | www.nfhs.org
Shipping Address: NFHS Distribution Center | 1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive | Indianapolis, Indiana 46202