

## 2016-17 MHSAA SWIMMING AND DIVING RULES INTERPRETATIONS & UPDATES

### 1. IMPORTANT DATES:

	GIRLS	BOYS	U.P.
Practice Begins	Aug. 10	Nov. 21	Nov. 7
First Contest	Aug. 19	Dec. 3	Nov. 19
Swim Opt-Out Due Date	Nov. 14	Mar. 6	Feb. 13
Regional Diving	Nov. 10	Mar. 2	---
Final Meet	Nov. 18-19	Mar. 10-11	Feb. 18

### 2. VOLUNTARY DIVE SCHEDULE:

Girls Meets Beginning Aug. 22, 2016 (any meet before Aug. 22, use week one)

<u>Dive Group</u>	<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Dates</u>		
Forward	(1,6,11)	Aug. 22	Sept. 26	Oct. 31
Back	(2,7)	Aug. 29	Oct. 3	
Inward	(3,8)	Sept. 5	Oct. 10	
Twisting	(4,9)	Sept. 12	Oct. 17	
Reverse	(5,10)	Sept. 19	Oct. 24	

Boys Meets Beginning Dec. 5, 2016: (any meet before Dec. 5, use week one)

<u>Dive Group</u>	<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Dates</u>		
Forward	(1,6,11)	Dec. 5	Jan. 9	Feb. 13
Back	(2,7,12)	Dec. 12	Jan. 16	Feb. 20
Inward	(3,8,)	Dec. 19	Jan. 23	
Twisting	(4,9)	Dec. 26	Jan. 30	
Reverse	(5,10)	Jan. 2	Feb. 6	

UP Meets Beginning Nov. 21, 2016: (any meet before Nov. 21, use week one)

<u>Dive Group</u>	<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Dates</u>		
Forward	(1,6,11)	Nov. 21	Dec. 26	Jan. 30
Back	(2,7)	Nov. 28	Jan. 2	
Inward	(3,8)	Dec. 5	Jan. 9	
Twisting	(4,9)	Dec. 12	Jan. 16	
Reverse	(5,10)	Dec. 19	Jan. 23	

### 3. QUALIFYING TIMES FOR 2016-17

EVENT	GIRLS DIV. 1	GIRLS DIV. 2	GIRLS DIV. 3	BOYS DIV. 1	BOYS DIV. 2	BOYS DIV. 3
200 MED. RELAY	01:53.39	01:56.59	02:00.19	01:41.59	01:44.79	01:46.49
200 FREESTYLE	01:57.49	02:00.99	02:04.89	01:47.49	01:49.89	01:53.99
200 IND. MEDLEY	02:15.69	02:17.69	02:22.19	02:01.29	02:03.89	02:09.29
50 FREESTYLE	24.99	25.39	25.89	22.29	22.59	22.89
100 BUTTERFLY	01:00.29	01:01.39	01:03.29	53.89	55.39	57.49
100 FREESTYLE	54.49	55.59	56.89	48.99	50.09	50.59
500 FREESTYLE	05:18.79	05:26.59	05:42.09	04:54.49	05:00.09	05:12.49
200 FREE RELAY	01:42.89	01:44.79	01:46.79	01:31.09	01:32.79	01:35.19
100 BACKSTROKE	1:00.59	01:01.89	01:04.59	55.59	57.79	59.19
100 BRSTSTROKE	01:09.79	01:10.69	01:14.19	01:01.59	01:02.79	01:05.19
400 FREE RELAY	03:45.09	03:49.59	03:56.29	03:19.69	03:24.39	03:30.39

### 4. MHSAA RULE CHANGES/MODIFICATIONS

- A. Swim officials –The official's uniform for swimming and diving is a white shirt and navy blue slacks.  
Regular Season –navy blue slacks or dress shorts are legal. All Final officials will wear navy blue slacks. If shorts are worn during regular season they must be mid-thigh to knee length.
- B. A student may wear a knee brace without any medical documentation or approval by the state association.
- C. Goggles are not part of the uniform; therefore, there is no logo restriction.
- D. The "only one suit allowed" rule is for swimmers, not intended for divers.
- E. Starting pistols shall not be used in any meet. A bell, horn, whistle or air horn may be used.

### 5. NFHS RULES CHANGES

**1-5-2, 3-6-1d:** Deck changing has been defined as changing into or out of a swimsuit when wearing just one suit in an area other than a permanent or temporary locker room, bathroom, changing room or other space designated for changing purposes. Incidents of deck changing will result in the assessment of an unsporting behavior penalty.

**6-4-1b:** The protocol for determining an official time when a touch pad malfunctions on a lane was changed. Backup buttons and/or watch times, as outlined in the protocol, will now determine the official time.

**8-2-4c:** The final leg of the individual medley and the medley relay requires the swimmer to be at or past vertical toward the breast before any stroke, kick or propulsive motion.

**9-4 Table:** The Flying Back 1 SS (212) and the Flying Reverse 1 SS (312) have been removed from the NFHS Diving Table, while new dive (5142) has been added.

**9-5-5:** The balk has been more clearly defined and should be called when a diver assumes the starting position and he/she makes an obvious attempt to start the approach or press, and stops the continuous execution of the dive prior to the water entry.

**9-7-5q:** When using the forward approach, a dive is failed if, in the diving referee's opinion, the diver performs an additional bounce(s) on the end of the board after the culminating hurdle.

## **6. NFHS POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

- A. The backstroke ledge is not allowed in high school competition.
- B. Tie back suits are considered illegal equipment given the use of a fastening system.
- C. Photographers should be limited to areas adjacent to the starting area.

## **7. START RULE FOR MHSAA COMPETITIONS - FORWARD START:**

In all swimming races (exception: Backstroke and Medley Relay races), the referee will give a preliminary signal by whistle to notify the swimmers to line up behind or beside their respective starting platforms. The referee may give brief instructions deemed necessary. The referee then shall turn control of the competitors over to the starter.

The starter shall verbally direct the swimmers to "step up" at which time each swimmer shall step onto his or her starting platform and shall stand in any position on the block, without excessive noise or movement. The starter may give brief instructions deemed necessary.

Upon the starter's verbal command, "Take Your Mark," each swimmer, with no unnecessary noise or movement, shall immediately assume any desired starting position on the starting platform. Sufficient time shall be allowed to enable each swimmer to assume a stationary starting position; however, all swimmers are expected to take their starting positions (with at least one foot at the front edge of the platform) at approximately the same time, and unnecessary noise, movement, or delays shall not be permitted. When the starter sees that the swimmers are stationary, the starter shall start the race.

## **8. EARNING QUALIFYING SCORES** - Close to the end of regular season competition in individual sports where qualifying scores must be obtained in order to enter the MHSAA tournament series, coaches sometimes search for an event to enter team members who still need to qualify.

If you are confronted with this situation, be sure you are complying with all MHSAA regulations. Review the following statements to be sure you are following all MHSAA regulations before entering an athlete in a non-scheduled meet to obtain qualifying scores.

The athletic administration must be aware of and approve the additional end of the regular season competition the team is participating in.

- ◆ A team must have an opponent from another school, organization, or group.
  - ◆ There must be a full complement of officials.
  - ◆ Swim in the event for which you attempt to qualify.
  - ◆ There must be school and officials contracts signed.
  - ◆ Added-on contests cannot exceed the maximum number of allowed regular season meets or days of competition for the team or individual.
  - ◆ Competition in a full schedule of events (not diving) must be arranged (not a few selected events).
- Remember, a team or individual cannot earn qualifying scores unless it competes against an opponent. A cooperative team is considered one team for competition purposes.

## 9. FINAL MEET INFORMATION:

- A. For up-to-date information check the MHSAA Web site [www.mhsaa.com](http://www.mhsaa.com).
- B. SWIM FINALS:
  1. Each swimmer must have equaled or bettered the qualifying time in a bona fide high school varsity meet
  2. Relays – The combination of swimmers participating at the Final Meet must be capable of equaling the Qualification Time
  3. Electronic entries are required
  4. **Entries are due Monday by noon, the week of the Finals.**
  5. Psych sheets will be posted Weds., by Tues. evening, entries are closed.
- C. DIVING REGIONALS:
  1. Regional dive locations will be posted on the Web
  2. Entries due Tuesday at noon prior to the Thursday meet
  3. Electronic entry is required. ([www.cleanentries.com](http://www.cleanentries.com))
  4. Divers can modify dives until 1½ hours prior to meet on Thursday
  5. First bounce on board –Thursday two (2) hours prior to meet.
  6. Host management determines when the diving competition begins - no earlier than 3 p.m. and not later than 5 p.m.
  7. All divers perform the first five (5) dives, then cut to 20. Those 20 divers will do three (3) more dives, then cut to 16. The 16 divers will complete their last three (3) dives and the top 12 advance to the Final Meet.
  8. At Diving Regionals – No one, including the host school's divers or any diver coached by the host school's coach, may use the Regional diving facility within one hour of the scheduled warm-up.
- D. DIVERS HAVE TWO OPPORTUNITIES FOR QUALIFICATION:
  1. Have placed ahead of all divers from opposing schools in actual varsity meet competition in at least 5 meets. **OR**
  2. In league/conference meet or in a season ending varsity invitational (if school does not belong to a league) as many divers may qualify to the Regional Meet as there are schools which are participating in diving. **AND**  
In a Conference Meet, add a qualifying spot (to Regional) equal to the number of returning Final Meet participants from that conference.

**10. The season limitation** for any individual or team is 17 days of competition. A two-day meet counts as two days of competition – Except that the entire qualifying rounds of diving competition could be on a separate day than all swimming events and the meet would count as only one day of competition (or two days of competition for a two-day swim meet.)

- 11. Legal Swimsuit - ART. 2 . . .** The uniform consists of a suit and, if worn, cap(s).
- a. The suit or cap(s) may display the name and/or number of the competitor, school or mascot.
  - b. Advertising or name other than that permitted in 3-3-2c is prohibited.
  - c. A single visible manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference, no more than 2¼ square inches is permitted on each item of the uniform (suit and cap(s)).
- New d. An American flag, not to exceed 2x3 inches, and either a commemorative or memorial patch, not to exceed 4 square inches and with written state association approval, may be worn on each item of the uniform.

NOTE: The FINA mark and/or individual barcode on certain swimsuits designating that the suit has been approved for FINA and/or USA Swimming competition is not considered to be a second manufacturer's logo nor a form of advertising. Such swimsuits with a FINA marking shall be legal for NFHS competition (unless they have more than one manufacturer's logo).

PENALTIES: When an official discovers a competitor wearing illegal attire as described in Article 2, the official shall:

1. when observed prior to the start of the heat/dive, notify the competitor to make legal the attire before becoming eligible to compete. If the competitor cannot comply without delaying the start of the heat/dive, the competitor is disqualified from the event/dive and shall not be eligible for further competition until in legal attire;
2. when observed after the heat/dive officially begins, disqualify the competitor at the completion of the heat/dive; nullify the competitor's performance time/score and he/she shall not be eligible for further competition until in legal attire.

**ART. 3 . . .** Suits worn by swimmers shall be limited to the following requirements:

- 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 swimsuit shall be:
  1. constructed of a woven/knit textile material;
  2. permeable (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 system 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 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.

**PENALTIES:** When an official discovers a competitor wearing an illegal swimsuit by the wearing of two suits or a suit which is of an illegal construction, the official shall:

1. when observed 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 that event and shall not be eligible for further competition until in a legal swimsuit;
2. when observed after the race has officially begun, 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.

## **12. The NFHS rule (3-3-4) states:**

The use of tape is permitted to treat a documented medical condition which allows a competitor to compete, but not to gain an advantage over the remainder of the field. The meet referee must be presented with signed documentation from an appropriate health-care professional before permitting the swimmer to compete. Tape may be used by divers to support the wrists, ankles, etc in a preventable manner without medical documentation.

There are times when an injury to a swimmer occurs onsite.

In such cases either the host school medical personnel or the school's own medical personnel shall provide the necessary medical care which may result in the need for the use of tape.

**Situation:** A swimmer from Team A cuts his/her foot needing to be treated and taped to allow for further competition in the meet. The swimmer is treated by (a) host school medical personnel or (b) Team A's medical personnel. The meet referee accepts the treatment and allows the athlete to continue in competition.

**Ruling:** Correct procedure providing treatment is from appropriate health-care provider onsite.

**Situation:** A swimmer during the 50 free, jams, breaks or dislocates his/her index finger as he/she finishes the race. The swimmer reports back to the block to compete in the 100 free and now has two fingers taped together to stabilize the injury. The referee allows the swimmer to compete.

**Ruling:** Legal. Tape may be worn for valid medical reasons to cover a wound or treat an injury.

**Situation:** During the pre-meet warm up, the referee notices three (3) swimmers from the same team wearing kinesio tape. Swimmer A has a double strip on his/her calf, Swimmer B has a sports tape wrapped around his/her knee and Swimmer C has a compression tape on his/her shoulder. The coach is only able to produce documentation from a health care professional for Swimmer C. The referee asks swimmer A and B to remove their tape.

**Ruling:** Correct procedure. Competitors shall not wear or use any device to aid their speed, buoyancy or body compression. Tape may only be used to cover a wound or for a documented injury.

**Reminder:** Preventive taping by divers to support their wrists, ankles, etc requires no medical documentation.

The rule was meant to establish a procedure to follow at the local level to address when and how a competitor may use tape to treat a documented medical condition. Each local school will determine (similar to the evaluation for concussion) who qualifies as their health care professional. This procedure is intended to eliminate the potential for abuse of using tape for reasons other than for medical conditions.

## **13. Backstroke Finish (8-2-1e)**

- After breaking the surface of the water, the swimmer must remain on the surface until the finish
  - Any part of the swimmer's body is on or above the surface
- The only exception to remaining on or above the surface once breaking the water surface is for turns
- Only when the entire body is submerged is there a violation of the rule
- This new change applies to both the finish in the backstroke and the finish of the leg of the backstroke in the IM and MR.
- The problem being addressed here is "submerging well before the true finish".

For officials, watch the swimmer approaching the wall – if the swimmer submerges prior to the turn judge having to shift attention to the touch wall – this would be a disqualification

- For referees: only call a completely submerged swimmer kicking into the wall (this would be a violation)
- If a swimmer has misjudged the wall and is reaching or lunging to touch wall – chances are the chest or feet or hand/arm are on or above the water – ok.
- Once again, this change is looking for a swimmer making an obvious attempt to submerge and stay under water a "distance" to finish race/leg.