



2014-15 NFHS SWIMMING AND DIVING RULES INTERPRETATIONS

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SITUATION 1: At the state meet, the coach of Team A notifies the meet referee between the consolation finals and finals of the 50-yard freestyle that his/her swimmer is withdrawing from the finals with a declared false start. The coach provides the referee with the reason, although not required. The referee acknowledges the declared false start, reminds the coach that the competitor is eligible for further competition in the meet and then notifies the appropriate meet personnel of the declared false start. No change in seeding occurs as the consolation finals are completed. **RULING:** Correct procedure. The event counts as one of the competitor's events. **COMMENT:** A competitor may withdraw from an event during the preliminaries or the finals, including diving, with a declared false start. Notice must be given to the referee at a specified time set by the referee. It is preferred that this time be set before the championship finals to allow a reseeding. (3-2-3, Points of Emphasis)

SITUATION 2: A diver from Team A approaches the board for the first dive

of the competition and the diving referee observes that the diver is wearing tape for support on one knee. No note for medical reasons for the tape has been provided to the official. The diving referee takes no action and the diver completes his/her first dive of the competition. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** Divers may wear tape or a wrap for support with no limitation to the location on the body. (3-3-4b)

SITUATION 3: During the individual medley, the swimmer, when finishing the backstroke section, does not complete the stroke with some part of his/her body on or above the surface of the water. The swimmer is disqualified. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** Within the individual medley, each section must be finished in accordance with the finish rule that applies to the style concerned. (8-2-5, 8-2-1e)

SITUATION 4: All divers have been allowed a specified amount of time for practice prior to the start of the meet. Once the diving competition begins, the coach from Team A

approaches the diving referee at the completion of the preliminaries stating that the divers are to have at least two practice approaches during this break before the semifinals commence. The diving referee clarifies to the coach that the requirement for the practice approaches applies to the time immediately prior to the start of diving competition and thus, does not apply to the time between preliminaries and semifinals in this meet as semifinals immediately follow the preliminary rounds. **RULING:** Correct procedure. (9-2-1)

SITUATION 5: In a championship meet, the meet director informs the coaches at the coaches' meeting that the order of the divers shall be seeded after each cut based upon the divers' scores. **RULING:** Incorrect procedure. **COMMENT:** In championship meets, the meet director has the option to seed the finalists based on their semifinal scores (lowest to highest). This option is only permitted between the end of the semifinals and heading into the finals. (9-2-2)