

NFHS Swimming and Diving Situations (Rule 3-3-2)

SITUATION: Following completion of the first heat of the 200 IM, with all swimmers out of the pool and the next heat waiting to be called to the starting platform, the coach of Team A approaches the referee to complain that a swimmer from Team B was wearing two suits during his/her participation in the first heat of the 200 IM. No official had observed the swimmer being in two suits. The referee lets the meet continue with no violation by the swimmer from Team B as no official observed a violation. **RULING:** Correct procedure.

SITUATION: As the competitors are reporting to the start of the heat/race, the referee/starter notices the competitor in lane 5 has on a drag suit over a legal swimsuit. The referee/starter informs the competitor only one suit may be worn in competition and if the drag suit can be removed without delay of the start, the competitor may swim. **RULING:** Correct procedure. (3-3-2 Penalty 1)

SITUATION: The swimmers have been called to and are on the starting platforms. The referee/start notices the competitor in lane 5 is wearing two suits. The starter directs the field to stand up and step off the starting platform. The starter then advises the swimmer in lane 5 that he/she is disqualified for wearing two suits in competition and shall not swim the event. The swimmer may swim in later events for which he/she is eligible when wearing a legal suit. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** Following the completion of the heat/race, the coach from the disqualified swimmer's school should be called to the table and notified of the reason for the disqualification. Only one legal, one piece suit shall be worn in competition. (3-3-2 Penalty 2)

SITUATION: The first heat of the 500-yard freestyle is a) completed and as the swimmers are exiting the pool, b) is not yet completed with the last swimmer touching the end wall, and the referee clearly notices a second set of straps extending beyond those of the swimmer's legal suit in lane 3. The referee calls the coach of swimmer in lane 3 to the table and verifies the wearing of the second suit and whether or not there is a letter of approved customization from the state association. With no letter, the coach is instructed in a) that the swimmer is not eligible for further competition until in a legal suit and in b) the swimmer is disqualified from that event and is not eligible for further competition until in a legal suit. **RULING:** Correct procedures. **COMMENT:** Should a situation arise regarding the wearing of a second suit other than the obvious drag/trainers suit, the official should contact a member of the school's coaching staff to verify the wearing of the second item and if there is a letter of authorization before the referee disqualifies the swimmer. (3-3-2 Penalty 3)