



# 2011-12 NFHS SWIMMING AND DIVING RULES INTERPRETATIONS

**Publisher's Note:** The National Federation of State High School Associations is the only source of official high school interpretations. They do not set aside nor modify any rule. They are made and published by the NFHS in response to situations presented.

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**Corrections to Rules Book:** 9-8-2e should read "not holding the straight position on a flying somersault until the body is horizontal, and on a flying 1½ somersault holding the straight position until the body is vertical, to the surface of the water;"

**SITUATION 1:** A diver, after taking two steps on his/her forward approach, jumps off two feet before a third step, followed by a culminating hurdle and takeoff from both feet simultaneously at the end of the board and high enough to perform the dive. **RULING:** Violation of the forward approach, diving referee shall deduct two points from each judge's award. **COMMENT:** The diver is required a minimum of three steps before he/she may use additional steps, hops, leaps and/or jumps before the culminating hurdle. (9-5-2, 9-8-1a)

**SITUATION 2:** Team A has a foreign exchange student on the team. He/she would like to wear his/her country's flag on the competition suit. The size of the flag is 3x4 inches.

Team A's coach will not allow the flag to be worn because it exceeds the size of an American flag. If the flag was no larger than 2x3 inches and the state association did not have a policy prohibiting the flag, the foreign flag could be worn. **RULING:** Correct. **COMMENT:** Even though the rule is specific to the American flag, the coach responded to the student within the spirit of the rule and checked with the state association. Only one flag is permitted. (3-3-2d)

**SITUATION 3:** The conference championship swimming and diving meet will be hosted by School A. The conference schools want to use just the default method of establishing the dive order for this 11 dive meet. Unless determined otherwise by the meet director, the default method for determining the order of the dive competition for a championship meet or meet conducted under a championship format shall be by lot. **RULING:** Correct procedure. (9-2-2)

**SITUATION 4:** The lane timer in lane 5 reports that the swimmer missed the

touchpad at the finish, which had moved from proper position. The referee integrates the back-up time for lane 5 of the heat. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** See lane malfunction chart below. (6-4-1)

**SITUATION 5:** Now that the order of diving can be by lot or seeded based on the best 11 dive score submitted for the current season in a championship meet or meet conducted under a championship format, who has the authority to determine the method to place the divers in order at a) an invitational meet conducted under championship format; b) the conference/league championship meet; and c) the state series? **RULING:** In a), it will be the meet director; b) the meet director or by conference policy defer to the meet committee; and c) determined by the state association or could defer to the meet director or meet committee. **COMMENT:** In all situations, the manner of determining the diving order should be communicated to all participating schools in advance. (9-2-2)

| Lane | Primary Pad | Button A | Watch A | Watch B | Pad Minus Button A | Official Time             |
|------|-------------|----------|---------|---------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1    | 52.02       | 52.17    | 52.24   | 52.20   | -0.15              | 52.02                     |
| 2    | 52.03       | 52.14    | 52.11   | 52.16   | -0.11              | 52.03                     |
| 3    | 51.05       | 51.10    | 51.02   | 51.11   | -0.05              | 51.05                     |
| 4    | 50.88       | 50.98    | 51.01   | 50.96   | -0.10              | 50.88                     |
| 5    | 52.42       | 51.99    | 52.00   | 51.98   | 0.43               | 51.96 Late Touch Reported |
| 6    | 51.29       | 51.37    | 51.51   | 51.41   | -0.08              | 51.29                     |
| 7    | 52.15       | 52.23    | 52.28   | 52.31   | -0.08              | 52.15                     |
| 8    | 51.87       | 51.92    | 52.01   | 52.02   | -0.05              | 51.87                     |
|      |             |          |         |         | -0.19              | -0.03                     |

Adjustment calculation – calculate the average difference between the valid primary and valid back-up times of the other lanes in the heat. The average will be added or subtracted from the valid back-up time of the lane that has the malfunction. (If the average difference is a minus number, it is subtracted from the back-up time.)