

Swimming WA

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MEMO

SWA Policy on Swim Suits

Audience: Club Presidents, Coaches, Technical Officials
Date: 25 February 2009
Distributed by email to: As above
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Members will be aware of the change of policy to the use of Swim suits from Swimming Australia, relevant to

Important Changes to the SAL By Laws for Age Group Events

Swimming Australia (SAL) has been monitoring the advancements made in swim suit design and their impact on the sport over the past few years and their effect on the sport at an Age Group level. In the interest of equal opportunity, fair and equitable competition, and to prevent the deterioration of swimming skill development it has been determined that guidelines for swimsuits for Age Group Events conducted by SAL are required.

The following changes have been made to SAL's By-Laws for the conduct of Age Group Events.

CBL14.2 Additional Swimsuit Guidelines for Age Group Events

(1) All swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events (18 and under) conducted in Australia by SAL shall be commercially available products.

(2) Swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events shall conform to the following design - **effective 1 April 2009:**

- (i) Men's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that covers at most the body surface from hips to knee. Swimwear must not extend above the waist or below the knees;
- (ii) Women's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that is of "open back" and "open shoulder" designs that may extend down to the knee. Swimwear must not extend below the knees.
- (iii) Swimwear must not have a zipper or any type of fastening system.

An **Age Group Event** is defined as any 18 and under swimming event conducted by SAL under the Australian Championships By-Laws. Currently this includes:

- Australian Age Championships (including Age SWD and Age Open Water), and
- State Teams Age Short Course Championships.

Please note that these changes will be in effect from 1 April 2009 and will be in place for the 2009 Australian Age Championships.

The Board of SWA acknowledge the merit in having a consistent approach to this issue for all Swimmers. Accordingly, the SAL policy has been adopted into the policies of Swimming WA. Members should become familiar with 7.15 to 7.18 on Page 65 of the Policy Document, updated January 2009.

David Toll
Executive Director

23 February 2009.