

## CLARIFICATION ON DUAL REPRESENTATION

Rule (as found in the YMCA Rules that Govern Document)

### Section 3: Dual Representation

YMCA Competitive Sports are a membership based, team structured program through which local YMCAs develop youth, promote healthy living and encourage social responsibility.

As a program focused on providing a supportive community, a YMCA competitive team is characterized by a personal, social and sustained commitment to the team in regard to practice, competition and authentic relationships between athletes, coaches and families.

In order to promote this objective, an athlete shall represent only one competitive team in a given sport for a period of 90 days prior to participating in a YMCA championship competition. The one exception is for an athlete who represents his/her High School in scholastic competition during the High School competitive season. In the case of exceptional circumstances, an athlete may seek a waiver of this rule. The championship Event Committee will make a final determination on the eligibility of the athlete in this case.

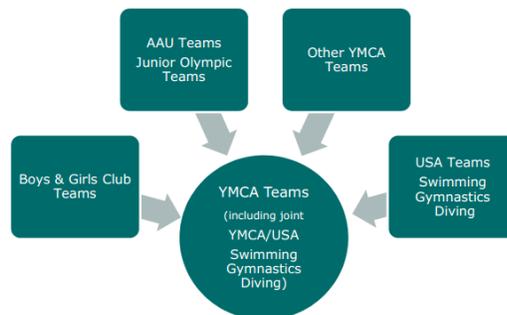
An athlete who represents a YMCA team that is also registered with the designated National Governing Body (NGB) for that sport is in compliance with this rule.

A YMCA athlete may represent a non-YMCA team in the same sport, provided that the non-YMCA team could not compete against the athlete's YMCA team in open competition. Interscholastic teams do not directly compete against YMCA teams and therefore participation on a same sport interscholastic team does not constitute dual representation. (See the Permissible Dual Representation example below).

Examples of situations contrary to the spirit of this rule would be athletes who join a YMCA team from another team in the same sport in order to participate in a championship meet or to garner individual or team recognition. YMCA coaches are expected to demonstrate the integrity and ethics to recognize such potential situations and avoid them.

If an athlete wishes to participate in open competition offered by the sport's National Governing Body ("NGB"), but his or her YMCA is not a member of, and does not participate in the NGB's events, then the athlete may participate in accordance with the NGB's rules.

#### PROHIBITED Dual Representation



#### PERMISSIBLE Dual Representation



### Email to Meredith Griffin, Y-USA:

On Apr 29, 2014, at 11:29 AM, Donald Pirrie <[iowayswimming@gmail.com](mailto:iowayswimming@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Meredith,

Hope all is well with you. Just wondering if I can get some clarification on two points that were brought up to me.

#### 1. CPR Certification Requirement for Coaches

Last year we received an email stating the Y-USA were requiring coaches to have CPR certifications updated yearly, even although the American Red Cross certification is valid for 2 years. Is the one year re-certification something that Y-USA are requiring for coaches?

#### 2. Dual Representation

The Rules that Govern document states in relation to dual representation:

*"In order to promote this objective, an athlete shall represent only one competitive team in a given sport for a period of 90 days prior to participating in a YMCA championship competition."*

I take this as 'cannot be a member of another team' 90 days prior to a championship meet, although I hear others say that it means 'cannot represent another team in in competition prior to the 90 days' (but could technically still be a member of another team) What is the correct interpretation of this rule?

Thanks Meredith,

Donald

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Meredith Griffin <[mergriffin@](mailto:mergriffin@)>  
Apr 30

Donald,

We were initially told by Y-USA last year that CPR certs would have to be renewed yearly (which is the rule for aquatics). But after some discussion and appeals, competitive aquatics was permitted to use the expiration date given on the card (usually 2 years).

**As for dual representation, it is representation, not participation. A swimmer could be swimming with a different USA team for practice but could not represent that team in a meet. That being said, a league could make a more stringent rule than that national rule. Also, the spirit of the rule is that swimmers commit to their Y team and not simply use a Y affiliation to participate in certain meets.**

Does that make sense? Let me know if I confused it further.

Thanks.  
Meredith