

Utah High School Swimming Officials update 10/07/19

Good Day Fellow Officials

In this email I would like to address a few issues with you all

1. Testing
2. Swim Suit coverage compliance
3. Swim Suit Exemption with letter of accommodation
4. Officials Shirts

1. I just got off the phone with Jeff Cluff with uhsaa concerning our officials testing. He had a meeting with Arbiter to address the testing issues that we have had, and learned of some internal issues Arbiter has had the past month which has had direct consequences to our testing being available for October 1 start. And that they are working on it but worse case scenario the test would not be available for another few weeks, or it could happen within a few days. That being said, Jeff had a solution, to send out a pdf copy for you all to take the test, and when it becomes available on line you can go sign in and put your answers in. He assured me he would let me know via text message when the test would be up on Arbiter, and I in turn could let you all know of its availability. This is a combined Stroke and Turn, Starter and Referee test, open book, you will find the test attached below.

2. Swim Suit coverage, many of you are aware of the Alaska incident where a swimmer was disqualified for illegal attire for the suit not covering her buttocks, We in Utah want to be pro active so we do not have any issues here. We have many shapes and sizes of swimmers, as well as many Legal swimming suits of various cuts, which fit each body type differently. I asked the Activities Association to make a ruling as to our suits so that we all may judge in the same manner, Their ruling is " if the suit is of one piece, of decent appearance, of woven/knit textile material, is air and water permeable, does not aid in buoyancy, made with no zippers or fastening systems other than a waist tie for a brief or jammer, then it is considered a legal suit. **If a swimmer is intentionally hiking a suit up or rolling it up, or down, this is not appropriate and the coach should be notified. as per the rules book".**

The rules book states "Females shall wear suits which cover the buttocks and breasts and shall not extend beyond the shoulders or below the top of the kneecap, nor cover the neck, Males shall wear suits which cover the buttocks and shall not extend above the waist or below the top of the kneecap." Until the NFHS defines how much of the buttocks must be covered, we are going to go with the school approved uniform or a suit that follows all of the NFHS guild-lines as being appropriate, regardless of body type that is wearing it. Suits should be worn as the manufacturer has intended. Please see page 94 of the rules book under suit coverage.

3. Swim suit exemption and letter of accommodation, We have a swimmer with a condition who has requested permission to wear a rash guard, he is from Millard. Attached you will find the letter of accommodation from the Activities Association. Referee's this letter shall be presented to you prior to the start of a meet with Millard.

We also have two trans gender swimmers this season, I am waiting for instruction/letter of accommodation as to how they are to be legally attired. I will pass this information on as I get it.

4. Officials Shirts, The shirt pictured on the site says to purchase the volleyball shirt, which is white, and not Navy which is the color we wear. I was then instructed to look at the softball shirt which is navy but of a thicker material. I reached out to Out West Officials as to the sublimated shirt they had offered last season, and in response they would like to work with us in having our own Swimming Officials shirt instead of purchasing another sports shirt for our sport. I hope this process is a quick and easy one, Please know that any navy polo style shirt is appropriate, until we can get this worked out.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to work towards a smooth process for swimming officials.

Respectfully  
Robyn Peterson  
801-404-6994