RECENT INTERPRETATIONS

1. Are bathing caps part of the uniform?

   **Answer:** Yes, and club caps are not allowed. They can be turned inside out but, if the logo is still recognizable, the cap may not be worn. Also, caps may only have one manufacturer's logo.

2. Where are photographers allowed on deck?

   **Answer:** On page 90 in the 2016-17 NFHS Rule Book, the topic of photographers was addressed under Points of Emphasis, stating that they may not be behind the starting blocks. In the 2017-18 Bulletin II, they were limited in PA to between the flags on the sides of the pool only. Please enforce with no exceptions, for the safety of all athletes.

3. When can a ruling on a dive be changed?

   **Answer:** Rule 9.6.2 j - Resolve any disagreement on one dive prior to the next dive. After diving is over, it is too late to make changes except in the tabulating of scores.

4. During the pre-event diving warm-ups, what is the diver allowed to do?

   **Answer:** Each diver may perform two approaches or entries, feet first or head first with a dive. Ex: 103 B.

5. With postseason competition coming up, what information can I, as an official, reinforce to coaches so that they encourage their parents, who purchase tech suits online, what to watch for with the tech suits?

   **Answer:** When tech suits are purchased, you must check the size of the logo. It must be 2 1/4 square inches measured off the body, with no side being larger than 2 1/4 inches. Suits with a FINA logo do not guarantee a legal logo size. Some suits purchased online or overseas have logos larger than 2 1/4 inches and are not legal. The logo may be blackened out, if possible, to be worn.

6. With many pools not having a working clock, can officials wear watches?

   **Answer:** The no jewelry rule includes watches, which can be put in your pocket and taken out at the end of the meet to record the time. This also applies to fit bits, which function properly in your pocket.
RECENT INTERPRETATIONS CONTINUED

7. What do I do if a diver lists 212 on their dive sheet for competition and when checked by the dive program, the dive is accepted?

   **Answer:** Hopefully, the referee looks over the sheets and can let the coach know that this dive is no longer on the NFHS dive table and it was removed from the 2016-17 rule book and this dive cannot be performed and another dive must be chosen. If the referee does not catch this error and hears the dive announced as a 212, Flying Back 1SS, they should stop the diver and check the sheet. If that is the dive to be performed, call Fail Diver per rule 9.7.5.p which states: A dive is failed if, in the diving referee’s opinion, the diver performs the dive not listed on the diving table.

RJP USE WITH BLOCK WITH WEDGES

To clarify the parameters when using RJP with blocks with wedges for Relay Starts, the following protocols will apply: See Appendix B, page 104 in the NFHS Rule Book.

1. Dual Confirmation will be used on all relay take-offs.

2. RJP will be used on all relay take-offs.

3. Wedges will be on all blocks and can be removed if the team does not want to use them.

4. A differential of -0.10 will be a disqualification with the electronic reading and one take off judge calling an early takeoff or dual confirmation of both takeoff judges.

5. A differential of -.09 through -.01 will be a disqualification with the electronic reading and one take off judge calling the early takeoff.

6. A differential of 0.00 through 0.09 with the electronic reading is a legal start.

7. The ruling on takeoffs on blocks with wedges states that: **Take off judges shall observe the second, third and fourth swimmers to ensure at least one foot is in contact with the surface of the starting platform in front of the wedge during take off.**

8. A take off where the swimmer starts with one foot or both feet behind the wedge and then steps over the wedge and steps on the platform in front of the wedge is a legal start.

9. A take off where the swimmer starts with both feet on the wedge is an illegal start.

10. When contact is lost on the platform prior to take off on blocks with wedges, the same procedures will be used to call an early take off leading to a disqualification.
PROTOCOLS FOR RJP USE

In order to provide a fair and consistent use of the Electronic Relay Judging System, the following protocols shall be followed (Championship and District Meets):

1. Complete a test run of the pads in each lane. Ex. Using two swimmers per lane, the first swimmer will start mid pool and swim into finish where the second swimmer will take off and repeat a second take off with the swimmer who just started.

2. Check for functioning of the pads in each lane.

3. Begin the 200 Medley Relay Event.

4. If during the race, a pad malfunctions, then the traditional method of two judges on each side of the pool calling an early take off shall be used to provide a fair and consistent ruling for all teams.

5. If there is a second malfunction in the next heat or another race, the pads shall be removed and dual confirmation by four judges, two on each side of the pool shall be used for the remaining events.

If you are interested in working the State Meet in the future, it is required that you attend the PIAA State Official’s Convention once every five years, and be an official in good standing. Please consider attending this year’s convention.

August 9 & 10, 2019
Hilton Harrisburg