



SWIM ONTARIO POSITION REGARDING SUIT TECHNOLOGY

APRIL 26, 2009

Swim Ontario and the SDC have been monitoring the advancements made in swim suit design and their impact on the sport over the past year and has been discussing the possible effects on competition at the Age Group level.

Using the SNC and Swim Ontario LTADS as a reference for direction, Swim Ontario's direction is to restrict/manage the use of "High-Tech" competitive suits at the age group level. This position has been developed in the interest of equal opportunity, fair and equitable competition, promotion of competitive readiness and to prevent the deterioration of proper skill development in Age Group athletes.

The following is the proposed changes to regulated swim suits in age Group competition.

1. All swimwear worn by competitors in sanctioned Swim Ontario competitions conducted in Ontario shall be commercially available and as a minimum standard, in compliance with SNC and FINA regulations.
2. Swimwear worn by competitors in sanctioned Swim Ontario Age Group events shall conform to the following design- effective (September 2009)
 - i. Men's Swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that covers at most the body surface from the hips to knee (jammer style). Swimwear must not extend beyond the waist or below the knees.
 - ii. Women's swimwear is limited to one(1) swimsuit that is of "open back" or "open shoulder" designs that may extend down to the knee. Swimwear must not extend below the knees.
 - iii. Swimwear must not have a zipper, any type of fastening system. Drawstrings will be permitted in male jammer or brief.

- iv. For reasons of modesty a brief bottom will be allowed under the suit for males and a bikini type top will be allowed for females.

An Age Group Event is defined as any 14 and under swimming event conducted under Swim Ontario sanction. This includes Junior Provincial Championships, Regional Championships and all Club Invitational.

**Please note that this does not apply to any SNC hosted competitions, OUA/CIS competition and Ontario Sr. Provincials or specifically identified competitions as per Swim Ontario as *"EXEMPT"*.

The swimsuit policy will be included in the meet package at the time of sanctioning and published with the sanctioned meet package on swimmeet.ca.

This policy will go into effect as of September 1, 2009.