



Brian E. Wentzel
President – 2009 Season

Kathe Friel
Co-Meet Director, 2009

Lori Adams
Co-Meet Director, 2009

Mary Howard
Treasurer

Candice Abraham
Secretary

To: OMPA Swim Coaches and Families
From: Brian Wentzel, OMPA President
Mitch Reed, Sleepy Hollow Rep/Head Stroke & Turn
Subject: New OMPA Swimsuit Rule
Date: June 24, 2009

As previously communicated in our letter of March 28, 2009, there has been a great deal of controversy regarding use of technical swimsuits over the past year within the global swimming community. In the last several weeks, both FINA, and USA Swimming have made several, sometimes lengthy rulings on the subject. Given the ongoing controversy and constant state of change with the rules, the OMPA Board believes that our league must have its own clear and enforceable standard.

As a result, the OMPA Board has unanimously approved the following rule regarding swimsuits that will be added to the OMPA Rules & Regulations:

Section 1.07: Swimsuits

(a) Swimsuits worn in OMPA competitions must comply with the following:

- i. For female swimmers, the swimsuit shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulders or past the pelvis;**
- ii. For male swimmers, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel or below the knees; and**
- iii. No swimmer shall be permitted to wear two or more suits.**

This rule is based on the descriptions of "traditional suits" in the USA Swimming rules. We determined it to be appropriate for our league for the following reasons:

- it is clear, simple, and enforceable;
- it is consistent with the goals of the OMPA as a recreational swimming league, and ensures that competition will be based on swimmers' ability rather than those having access to the latest suit technology;
- it happens to be consistent with the rules of the Contra Costa County meet.

If you have any questions regarding the rule or its enforcement please contact your OMPA Representative. In the meantime, please communicate the rule change with your swimmers and parents so we avoid having swimmers purchase suits that will not be permitted by the new rule.