

SWIMWEAR GUIDANCE

The ASA Swimming Management Group were asked to consider a relaxation of Regulation 411, for individuals who as a result of either their religious beliefs or a pre-existing medical condition would like to wear a swimsuit which would otherwise be considered “Illegal” at a competitive swimming event.

Having given consideration to the questions the Swimming Management Group would like to offer the following advice to all those involved in competitive swimming either as an event organiser, participant, technical official or volunteer.

This guidance is for ASA Events only - WASA and SASA have not as yet amended their rules/guidance

At all levels of licensed meet (1,2,3 and 4), and ASA National Events (Summer, Winter, County Team and Masters Championships) the event referee(s) shall remain in control of the competition and shall remain free to use their discretion, experience, training and common sense in order to make decisions with regard to ensuring a fair and even competition for all participants.

At all levels of licensed meet (1,2,3 and 4), and ASA National Events (Summer, Winter, County Team and Masters Championships) the ASA Swimming Management Group has decided to allow a relaxation of Regulation 411, so that for either religious or medical reasons swimmers may compete in a swim suit that covers more of the body than would otherwise be permitted.

- Suits shall be made of a textile material as per the current FINA Rules.
- There is no limit to how many pieces the suit is made up from (i.e. “Trousers/bottoms”, top and head covering).
- Suits which the referee believes would be capable of enhancing a swimmers performance will not be permitted.
- Swimmers wishing to swim in such a suit shall (either themselves or their representative) present the suit to the event referee for inspection prior to their swim.
- The referee’s decision shall be final.

Once the referee has been informed of a swimmer wishing to wear a suit, as described above, there is no requirement for the referee to question the swimmer further, the ASA Swimming Management Group do not want athletes being asked why they wish to wear the suit.

(cont.)

Some examples of suits which WOULD be considered to be acceptable under this guidance would be:



Some examples of suits which WOULD NOT be considered acceptable under this guidance would be:



ASA Swimming Management Group
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