

July 1, 2006

To: DIAA Board of Directors  
From: Swimming & Diving Committee

Re: Modification of NFHS Rule 9 – 1 – 1

Diving is included as an event in NFHS Swimming & Diving competition according to Rule 5.1.1 of the NFHS Swimming & Diving Rule Book. In Delaware, Diving is included in all dual meet competition and at the DIAA High School State Championships in February. However, under Rule 9.1.1 (Pen. 2), when 'diving [cannot be] conducted because of inadequate water depth...', diving is not conducted and points may or may not be awarded based on whether the 'home' club had given prior notice to the visiting team of the inadequate water depth.

Currently, there are only four pools in the State of Delaware which normally host high school dual meet competition that have sufficient water depth to hold the diving competition. Diving remains as an event in dual meets held at those pools, and Diving continues to be a scoring event at the State Championships meet.

In October, 2003, the DIAA Board approved a modification to Rule 5-1-1 which allows teams competing in a dual meet competition at a facility which cannot hold diving due to insufficient water depth to conduct the diving event at a different facility prior to the dual meet and to include the results of that competition in the score of the subsequent dual meet. This modification (see attached letter) was intended to provide more opportunity for divers to participate in competitions and to achieve the qualifying score required for the State Championships. This policy is summarized below:

- *The opposing schools in the dual meet must both agree to conduct the diving event at another facility prior to the scheduled dual meet;*
- *The divers from the opposing teams must perform at the same facility and in the same rotation; divers from other schools may also be performing in the same rotation;*
- *The divers from the opposing teams must be scored by the same judges;*
- *The prior diving competition can be held no earlier than the Monday of the week before the date of a scheduled dual meet.*

*If a separate diving event has been legitimately conducted and the subsequent dual meet is then postponed and rescheduled for a later week, the results of the diving event shall remain valid and included in the dual meet at the time it is rescheduled.*

*The Athletic Director of the school that is host for the scheduled subsequent dual meet is responsible for contacting the Athletic Director of the school with the diving facility to obtain permission to conduct the pre-meet diving competition at that school's diving facility; in most cases, the pre-diving competition will be held as part of another regularly scheduled dual meet at that facility. The host Athletic Director is also responsible to notify the assignor of the Delaware Swimming and Diving Officials Association that a pre- diving event will be held. Without such permission and notification, the pre- diving event may not be held.*

*The aforementioned modification is not available if a scheduled dual meet is being held in a facility that can accommodate diving according to the NFHS Rules. In such a case, the diving event must be contested as part of that regularly scheduled dual meet in accordance with NFHS Swimming and Diving Rule 5-1-1.*

As noted, scores achieved by divers under the above procedure can be used to qualify for the DIAA State Championships. However, many divers from schools that normally compete at facilities without diving events still have limited opportunities to achieve the qualifying score for the State Championships. In some cases, their opportunities are limited by the unwillingness of a visiting team to participate in the above procedure. In order to provide additional opportunities for divers to achieve a qualifying score, a further modification to Rule 5-1-1 is proposed. The present proposal will allow divers from a school which cannot hold diving at their 'home' pool due to inadequate water depth to participate as 'Exhibition' divers at other regularly scheduled dual meets among Delaware teams, provided that:

- Both Teams in the scheduled dual meet agree to the inclusion of the Exhibition diver(s) in the meet; furthermore, the Athletic Director of the host school for the scheduled dual meet must be notified and agree to the participation by the Exhibition diver(s);
- A coach (or other school representative) of the Exhibition diver(s) must be present during the pre-meet practice and diving competition;
- Inclusion of the Exhibition diver(s) will not exceed the number of total divers (combined girls and boys) that are permitted by NFHS entry limits for the scheduled dual meet;
- Participation by an Exhibition diver may not exceed the DIAA limit or 16 competitions by individual participants. In addition, the Team represented by an Exhibition diver must not exceed the limit of 16 Team competitions unless that Team had a corresponding competition where diving was not held due to inadequate water depth and the Exhibition diver did not compete in such meet in any other swimming event; and
- The DSDOA assignor has been notified of the expected participation by the Exhibition diver(s); the assignor will notify the officials regarding the Exhibition diver(s).

This proposal has been reviewed by and is supported by the DIAA Swim Committee.