



MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL FINA MEMBER FEDERATIONS

FROM: FINA, Lausanne

DATE: 17th June 2010

RE: FINA SWIMWEAR RULES – MASTERS SWIMMING

Dear Sirs,

Following the recent decision of the FINA Bureau related to “**FINA SWIMWEAR RULES - MASTERS SWIMMING**”, please see below the amendment to FINA BL 8.5.

BL 8.1, BL 8.2, BL 8.3 and BL 8.4 remain as approved by the FINA Bureau. The only amendment is to FINA BL 8.5.

Please note that this amendment takes immediate effect and will be published in the new edition of the FINA Handbook 2009-2013.

BL 8.1 All FINA approved swimwear to be used at the Olympic Games and FINA World Championships must be approved by FINA at least twelve (12) months prior to the start of the respective competition. In addition, it must be available for all competitors by 1st January of the year of the Olympic Games or FINA World Championships

BL 8.2 In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. No additional items, like arm bands or leg bands shall be regarded as parts of a swimsuit.

BL 8.3 From January 1, 2010 swimwear for men shall not extend above the navel nor below the knee, and for women, shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor shall extend below knee. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials.

BL 8.4 From June 1, 2010 Open Water swimwear for both men and women shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor shall extend below the ankle. All Open Water swimsuits shall comply with the FINA Criteria for Materials and Approval Procedures.



BL 8.5 From January 15, 2010 in Masters Pool Swimming competitions the rules BL 8.1, BL 8.2 and BL 8.3 apply. From June 1, 2010 the rule BL 8.4 applies also for the Masters Open Water Swimming competitions.

It is clarified that swimsuits which fulfill the shape requirement set forth in BL 8.3, respectively BL 8.4 (for Open Water Swimming) can be accepted even if they do not bear a valid FINA approval label provided they effectively and evidently fulfill the material requirements set forth in the current FINA Requirements for Swimwear Approval. This is the case for swimsuits made of traditional permeable textile (i.e. open mesh material) material (such as cotton, Nylon, Lycra and the like) with no application of surface treatment closing the open mesh structure. In case of doubt in this respect and when notably such doubt concerns a swimsuit used at the occasion of a World record, an actual check of the swimsuit can be required from the competitor or Certifying Official and the swimsuit is to be forwarded to the FINA Office for submission to an actual control of all or parts of the requirements.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Cornel Marculescu", is centered below the text "Yours sincerely,". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cornel Marculescu
Executive Director

CM/ck