

# Minnesota Swimming, Inc.

## Proposed Legislation/Policy

This form must be submitted a minimum of 8 days prior to the Board of Directors Meeting to be acted upon at that meeting. (Copies of all proposed legislation will be sent to all Board Members, along with the agenda, and posted on the website.)

Date Submitted: April 7, 2008

Date of Board Meeting to be discussed: May 2008

Name of Legislation: Permissible 12 & Under Competitive Apparel

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### Description of Issue:

The sport of swimming is already expensive for families (year-round training dues, fundraisers, weekend-long meets, hotels, meals, etc.). The introduction of full body coverage suits is driving this cost up even higher. In addition, athletes are becoming dependent on "fast" suits for their meets. This downplays the formation of attitudes that are so valuable to young people (hard work & attention to detail vs. technology). It also becomes a "keeping up with the Jones family" situation where families feel pressured to buy the suit because everyone else is doing it.

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### Solution/Rationale and Proposal/Legislation Requested:

We should eliminate the high body coverage suits for our 12 & Under athletes (actually I would like to see them gone even further up the chain, and I would support a friendly amendment to that effect). The following rule is in place in Southern California swimming (since 2000) and I believe it should be adopted here also.

Swimwear in age group competition...The swimsuits worn for all age group competition, shall conform to USA Swimming Rule 102.9 and shall not extend past the top of the shoulder (the acromial process of the scapula) nor further down the leg than the top of the kneecap (Patella)."

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Effective Date: September 1, 2008

Method of Implementation: Teams need to be notified immediately via e-mail and the MSI website. Meet officials need to be trained to watch for this and to announce it at all pre-competition meetings. Announcements should be made over all PA systems. Vendors need to be notified of the change also.

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Proposed by: Billy Howard

Club: Med City Aquatics

Board Member Submitting: Billy Howard

Title: Age Group Vice Chair

Action: (Adopted) (Defeated) (Adopted—Amended) (Tabled) (Postponed) (Withdrawn) (Referred to Committee)