National Federation of State High School Associations



# Diving Officials' Guidelines Manual



2010-11

### INTRODUCTION

This manual is provided to improve the consistency of officiating high school diving. It is based on the premise that the purpose of diving judges at a meet is to ensure fair competition for all participants in accordance with the rules established by the NFHS. In order to accomplish this, officials must understand the rules and enforce all rules without regard for the outcome of the competition.

This manual is not meant to be "another rules book." Rather, it has been designed to help all officials understand their role in conducting competition. While it should be especially useful for new and less experienced officials, it will also help the veteran official hone their organizational skills along with their mechanics of officiating.

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### NATIONAL FEDERATION OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS

- Officials at interscholastic athletic events are participants in the educational development of high school students. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility. The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all interscholastic officials.
- Officials shall master both the rules of the contest and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.
- Officials shall work with each other and their state associations in a constructive and cooperative manner.
- Officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interaction with athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.
- Officials shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.
- Officials shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.
- Officials shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that athletes, coaches and the public hold for the profession.
- Officials shall, while enforcing the rules of competition, remain aware of the
  inherent risk of injury that competition poses to athletes. Where appropriate, they
  shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear
  unreasonably hazardous and not allow warm up or competition to begin until the
  situation is properly corrected.
- Officials shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.

### THE DIVING REFEREE

Refer to NFHS Rules 9-6 through 9-8

The diving referee is the head diving judge and has full authority over other diving judges. The diving referee's decision is final.

### Before diving competition, the diving referee should:

- arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the meet to examine water depth, the diving boards, diving equipment and pool conditions.
- if necessary, be sure lane lines and backstroke flags are removed from the diving area.
- require diving score sheets be submitted by a designated time, allowing adequate time for review of the score sheets.
  - o For dual meets:
    - The number of team entries in diving shall be the same as the number of swimmers allowed in each swimming event.
    - Diving shall count as one of the athlete's two individual entries for the meet.
    - The divers from the visiting team have the choice of selecting the odd or even diving positions. A single diver from the visiting team may select any of the odd or even positions, i.e., 1, 3, 5, which may be different than the lanes selected for the team's swimming lanes.
    - The diving referee, or their designee, should check the diving score sheets for the following: (This is performed as a courtesy to the diver and his/her coach. The primary responsibility for accuracy of the diving score sheet lies with the diver and coach.)
      - The diver's name and school, diver and coach signatures, dive number and position, the order in which the dives will be performed, and that the designated DD for the voluntary dive is circled and not greater than 1.8. Remember: the dive number and position are the official description of each dive;
      - That all divers have the correct Voluntary Dive Group for the week: Week #1 – forward group; week #2 – back group; week #3 – inward group; week #4 – twisting group; week #5 – reverse group (unless determined otherwise by the state association.);
      - That the five optional dives come from at least four of the five dive groups, and may include any dive from the voluntary dive group other than the voluntary dive, and;
      - Be sure no dive is repeated.

### o For 11-dive meets:

 The number of team entries shall be determined by meet management.

- Diving shall count as one of the contestant's two individual entries for the meet.
- The order in which the divers shall perform shall be determined by lot and the same relative position shall be maintained throughout all levels of the competition.
- The diving referee, or his/her designee, should check the diving score sheets for the following: (This is performed as a courtesy to the diver and his/her coach. The primary responsibility for accuracy of the diving score sheet lies with the diver and coach.)
  - The diver's name and school, diver and coach signatures, dive number and DD for voluntary dive(s) circled (if electronic diving entries are being used, the voluntary dives will not be circled), position, written description, degree of difficulty, and the order the dives will be performed. Remember: the dive number and position are the official description of each dive;
  - That all divers have eleven dives listed;
  - That the five voluntary dives (two in the preliminary round, two in the semifinal round and one in the final round) come from each of the five groups with their assigned DD and have a sum total of 9.0, or less;
  - That the six optional dives include at least one from each of the five groups and that no more than one optional dive from the same group is performed through the semifinals (i.e., first eight rounds), and;
  - That all five groups are represented in the first eight rounds of competition and no dive is repeated.
- have a meeting with the coaches, and divers if necessary, to discuss the following:
  - o the order in which the divers will perform;
  - warm-up procedures before and during competition (immediately prior to the diving competition, each diver is allowed one approach, with or without a water entry at the diver's discretion);
  - responsibility for diving sheets;
  - o a diver 'withdrawing from competition';
  - the importance of the diver listening to each dive as it is announced and what to do if a dive is announced incorrectly;
  - quieting the crowd;
  - o requests for performing a dive again due to a distraction;
  - requests to wipe water from the diving board before assuming a starting position, and;
  - o any special rules which will apply to the competition.

- meet with the other diving judges to review calls by the referee, individual judges' responsibilities, the scale for awarding points, their locations while judging diving and discuss any other unique circumstances related to diving.
- The following areas should be covered:
  - o judges should NOT discuss the competition with other judges;
  - if a judge is also a coach, it is only appropriate for them to talk to their own divers;
  - deduction of 2 points for a balk or violation of the forward approach as directed by the diving referee, and;
  - not showing their score until it is called for and not delaying once the score has been called for.

### During the diving competition, the diving referee should:

- determine disqualifications as per the NFHS rules and notify competitors and/or their coach.
- determine and announce failed dives, as per the NFHS rules.
- allow divers to withdraw from competition and treat this the same as a 'declared false start' taken by swimmers.
- deduct 2 points from each judge's award for a violation of the forward approach or a balk as per the NFHS rules.
- declare an unsatisfactory dive when:
  - o the dive is clearly done in a position other than what is written;
  - the diver hits the board;
  - o the diver does not attempt to come out of a tuck or pike position, or;
  - o the diver does not attempt to come out of a twist.
- not invoke a penalty unless they are absolutely certain it is warranted. The diving referee may confer with another judge regarding a failed dive.

### Following the diving competition, the diving referee should:

- review, or designate other diving officials to review, the score sheets for accuracy, establish the order of finish and have the scores announced.
- sign the diving score sheet.

### **DIVING JUDGES**

Refer to NFHS Rules 9-7 and 9-8

While there are many aspects to being a good diving judge, knowledge of the rules is a must. Knowing the rules regarding the five elements of dives (starting position, approach, takeoff, flight and positions, and entry into the water) is essential to being a

diving judge. It is important for diving judges to review the diving guidelines and silhouettes frequently.

## Diving judges should:

- be sure to consider all five elements of a dive when scoring. Judge the entire dive independently, selecting a score promptly upon completion of the dive.
- be consistent and fair to all the divers. Score all divers on the same basis.
- remember the specific rules requiring deductions by a diving judge.
- trust their instincts, judge what is seen and use the entire range of numbers 10-0.
  Do not allow outside factors such as other officials, spectators, coaches and
  team members to enter into the judging process. Individual judges do not have
  to agree with the rest of the panel; the score in the middle isn't always the correct
  one.
- if in doubt, give the benefit to the diver.
- not show the score for a dive until it has been called for and not delay once their score has been called for.

It is important to hear the announcer read the dive and dive description in order to develop a mental picture of the dive to be completed. Begin judging the dive when the starting position has been established and do not stop judging the dive until the diver has passed below the surface of the water. Once the dive is completed, select a score quickly without consulting another diving judge. If there is an error in a score read by the announcer, bring it to the attention of the diving referee immediately.

Diving judges, who are also coaches, may converse with their divers at times determined by the diving referee, but may not do so when it will distract them from a dive being performed by another diver. (Coaches may only officiate if it is allowed by their state association.)

### THE DIVING ANNOUNCER

Refer to NFHS Rule 9-6

### The diving announcer should:

- be familiar with diving and review the dive sheets prior to competition in order to clarify any questions. This is a good opportunity to review for correct pronunciation of names.
- make any announcements directed by the diving referee, i.e., no flash photography, quiet during competition, etc.
- announce the order in which the divers will perform.

- announce each dive in the following manner: "Name of the diver, dive number, position, dive description, and degree of difficulty." Making this announcement slowly and clearly is a must for the competitors and diving judges.
- announce the judges' scores in the same order every time, as has been determined by the diving referee.
- under championship format, announce the names and places, or names and scores, of the divers at the completion of the preliminary and semifinal rounds for those advancing to the next round of competition.
- announce the final individual and team scores.

### **GUIDELINES FOR JUDGING DIVING**

### Starting Position

- Forward Diver should demonstrate good posture with arms in a position of the diver's choice.
- Backward/inward Diver should demonstrate good posture, with the head upright, arms in a position of the diver's choice. A diver may move the arms to a variety of preparatory positions provided there is no attempt to start the dive.

### Approach

 Forward – Diver must take at least 3 steps, plus a hurdle, prior to takeoff for the front approach. These steps should be natural walking steps with no stiff, jerky awkward or exaggerated arm or leg movements.

### Hurdle

• The last step in the forward approach, called the hurdle, consists of the diver lifting the leg (diver's choice of which leg) to a right angle at the hip and knee. The other leg pushes down on the board and helps the diver jump to the end of the board where they land on two feet. The hurdle is the foundation for the rest of the dive, thus an important element for judges to observe.

### Takeoff

- <u>Forward</u> The diver shall stop oscillating the board just before or after assuming the starting position. The diver must take at least 3 steps prior to the hurdle, and should land from the hurdle close to the end of the board in a nearly straight body position. Good balance is essential. Too much lean forward or backward will affect the success of the dive.
- <u>Back/inward</u> The diver shall stop oscillating the board just before or after assuming the starting position. Once the diver assumes the starting position, the board can be oscillated up to four times prior to moving the arms from the

starting position. The oscillations shall not be so large as to disrupt the tempo or smoothness of the dive. After moving the arms from the starting position, the diver may continue to oscillate the board until the takeoff occurs. At NO time should the balls of the feet/foot lose contact with the board. If the feet/foot leave the board or excessive oscillation occurs (more than 4) prior to the arm movement, the judge should deduct ½ - 2 points for each violation.

 Balance on the balls of the feet should be maintained as the arms move in time with the leg push to assist lift from the board. Too much lean forward or backward will affect the success of the dive.

### Flight

- Once in the air, the diver should demonstrate control of the dive. Contributing to control is the diver's height and power along with grace, beauty and accuracy. The dive position (pike, tuck or straight) should be clearly defined. Good form should be displayed by means of body tightness and toe point which is maintained throughout the entire dive flight. The arms may be in the position of the diver's choice during flight, but shall be kept still until just before entry into the water when they should be brought together and extended beyond the head in line with the body for head-first entry or against the sides of the body with straight elbows for feet-first entry.
- Straight position (A) the body shall not be bent either at the knees or hips, knees and feet together, toes pointed.
- Pike position (B) the body shall be bent at the hips, leg straight and together, toes pointed.
- Tuck position (C) the body shall be bent at the hips and knees, knees together, toes pointed.
- Free position (D) a combination of positions may be used to perform certain twisting dives.

**NOTE:** Flying somersaults required the straight position be maintained from the takeoff until the body has rotated to the horizontal position.

### **Entry**

- The entry into the water should be as vertical as possible with the body straight and toes pointed. The diver's line into the water is only one segment of the total dive and should not be over judged. Splashless entries (known as "rip" entries) are impressive and are a critical part of the total dive. However, since the entry is the last part of the dive seen, it is easy to judge the entry, forgetting mistakes in takeoff and/or flight. Avoid this common trap. Conversely, a good dive with a rip entry is automatically a better dive and deserves a higher score.
- The dive is completed and scored when the body passes below the surface of the water.

Properly executed dives should be performed a safe distance from the board and walls.

### **DIVING POINT AWARDS**

- 10 9 Exceptional No visible flaws Approach, hurdle, height, distance, execution and entry are all exceptional.
- 8½ 7½ Excellent Approach, hurdle, height and distance slightly affected. Execution well defined.
- 7 6 Good Approach and hurdle unaffected. Height and distance acceptable.
   Execution defined, entry controlled, but slight affected.
- 5½ 4½ Satisfactory Approach and hurdle acceptable. Height and distance adequate. Execution complete and entry slightly over or under.
- $4-2\frac{1}{2}$  Deficient Approach and hurdle affected. Height and distance inadequate. Execution affected and entry over or under.
- 2 ½ Unsatisfactory Approach and hurdle affected. Height and distance inadequate. Execution not complete or broken position. Entry significantly affected.
- Failed dive.

### Diving judge's deductions:

- Deficient dives:
  - the diver partially alters the position of the dive during flight;
  - a diver enters the water with one or both hands above the shoulders on a dive requiring a feet-first entry, or with one or both hands below the shoulders on a dive requiring a head-first entry.

### • ½ – 2 point deduction:

- not stopping the oscillations of the board just before or after the starting position is assumed in a back/inward takeoff;
- excessive oscillation during a back/inward takeoff;
- foot/feet leaving the board prior to a back/inward takeoff;
- spreading knees in the tuck position;
- when executing flying somersaults, does not hold the straight position until the body is horizontal to the surface of the water;
- o entering the water to the side of the board, and;

twisting manifestly from the board.

### Diving referee's deductions:

- 2 point deduction from each judge's score for:
  - violations of the forward approach
    - minimum of 3 step approach followed by a jump off one foot to a landing on both feet at the end of the board. Takeoff shall be from both feet simultaneously to an adequate height to perform the dive.
  - balks (Declared before the diving judges have scored the dive)
    - It is a balk if the diving referee believes the diver interrupts the continuous execution of the dive after assuming starting position.

## Unsatisfactory dive (maximum score of 2 points):

- a dive clearly done in a position other than that described on the diving score sheet;
- a diver hitting the board, and;
- o a diver not attempting to come out of the tuck, pike or twisting position.

### • Failed dive (0 points awarded):

- executing a dive other than that given on the diving score sheet;
- not assuming a starting position;
- falling into the water;
- being assisted by another person;
- o not executing the pike before the twist for dives #5111B and 5211B;
- does not contact the water with the head or hands first on a head-first dive or with the feet first on a feet-first dive;
- not attempting to come out of a twist;
- twists the shoulders 90 degrees, more or less, than indicated on the diving score sheet when the diver's feet/hands contact the water;
- repeats a dive;
- o steps off the board after assuming the starting position;
- performs a dive requiring a forward approach from the standing forward position;
- does not record the official description of the dive (dive number and position) on the diving score sheet;
- o commits two balks;
- o in a dual meet, does not perform the voluntary dive first;
- in a championship meet, does not perform the voluntary and optional dives as specified;
- o performs a dive not listed on the diving table, or;
- twists the shoulders more than 90 degrees before the feet leave the board.

### • Disqualifications by the diving referee:

Diver does not make a sincere attempt to perform the dive;

- It becomes obvious the dives listed on the diver's score sheet are too difficult for the diver;
- Diver unnecessarily delays in the performance of a dive;
- o Diver behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner, or;
- Diver fails two dives for any reason.

### SIMPLIFYING THE DIVE NUMBERS

### The meaning of the dive numbers:

- It is important for a diving judge to know the meaning of the dive numbers so they can begin to prepare to judge the dive at the time it is announced by the diving announcer. The dive number and position define the dive to be performed.
  - 100's = forward dives
  - 200's = back dives
  - 300's = reverse dives
  - o 400's = inward dives
  - 5000's = twisting dives
  - o Position designations:
    - Straight or layout position = "A"
    - Pike position = "B"
    - Tuck position = "C"
    - Free position = "D"
- For forward, back, inward and reverse dives:
  - o the first number indicates the direction of travel:
  - the third number indicates the number of half somersaults;
    - 2 = 1 somersault
    - $3 = 1\frac{1}{2}$  somersaults
    - 4 = 2 somersaults, etc.
  - 1, 2 or 3 somersaults = a feet-first entry;
  - o  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  or  $3\frac{1}{2}$  = a head-first entry;
  - o dives with an odd third number should always enter the water head-first;
  - o dives with an even third number should always enter the water feet-first,
  - o non-twisting dives with the second number of "1" indicates a "flying" dive.
- For twisting dives:
  - the second number indicates the direction of travel;

- o the third number indicates the number of half somersaults;
- o the fourth number indicates the number of half twists to be performed.
  - $1 = \frac{1}{2}$  twist
  - 2 = 1 full twist
  - $3 = 1\frac{1}{2}$  twists
  - 4 = 2 full twists
  - $5 = 2\frac{1}{2}$  twists
  - 6 = 3 full twists

See the chart below for examples of what the four numbers in a twisting dive mean.

Group	Category	Somersaults	Twists
5	1	3	2
Twisting	Forward	# of 1/2 SS	# of half Twists

# Twisting dives with a head-first entry

Dive Group	0, 1, 2, 3 Twists	1/₂, 11/₂, 21/₂ Twists
Forward	Facing the board	Looking away
Back	Looking away	Facing the board
Reverse	Facing the board	Looking away
Inward	Looking away	Facing the board

# • Twisting dives with a feet-first entry

Dive Group	0, 1, 2, 3 Twists	½, 1½, 2½ Twists
Forward	Looking away	Facing the board
Back	Facing the board	Looking away
Reverse	Looking away	Facing the board
Inward	Facing the board	Looking away

# **ONE METER DIVING TABLE**

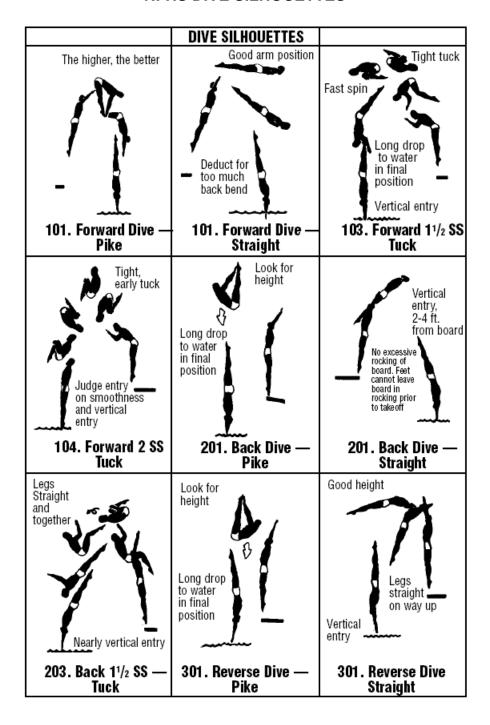
Any dive from a group may be designated as a voluntary dive. It will receive its assigned DD through 1.8. Any voluntary dive with a DD greater than 1.8 will be assigned a DD of 1.8.

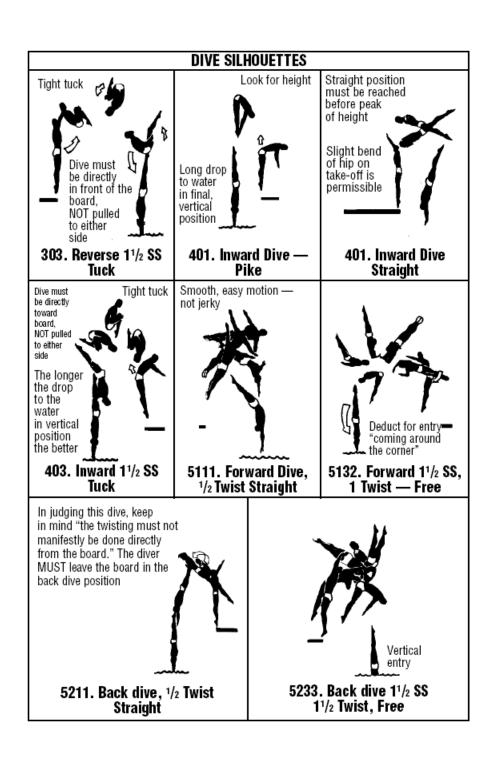
# **NFHS One Meter Diving Table**

Dive No.	Forward Dives	C Tuck	B Pike	A Straight	D Free
101	Forward Dive	1.2	1.3	1.4	
102	Forward 1 SS	1.4	1.5	1.6	
103	Forward 1½ SS	1.6	1.7	2.0	
104	Forward 2 SS	2.2	2.3	2.6	
105	Forward 2½ SS	2.4	2.6		
106	Forward 3 SS	2.9	3.2		
107	Forward 3½ SS	3.0	3.3		
112	Forward Flying 1 SS	1.6	1.7		
113	Forward Flying 1½ SS	1.8	1.9		
	Back Dives	С	В	A	D
201	Back Dive	1.5	1.6	1.7	
202	Back 1 SS	1.5	1.6	1.7	
203	Back 1½ SS	2.0	2.3	2.5	
204	Back 2 SS	2.2	2.5		
205	Back 2½ SS	3.0	3.2		
212	Flying Back 1 SS	1.6	1.7		
	Reverse Dives	С	В	Α	D
301	Reverse Dive	1.6	1.7	1.8	
302	Reverse 1 SS	1.6	1.7	1.8	
303	Reverse 1½ SS	2.1	2.4	2.7	
304	Reverse 2 SS	2.3	2.6	2.9	
305	Reverse 2½ SS	3.0	3.2		
312	Flying Reverse SS	1.7	1.8		
	Inward Dives	С	В	A	D
401	Inward Dive	1.4	1.5	1.8	
402	Inward 1 SS	1.6	1.7	2.0	
403	Inward 1½ SS	2.2	2.4		

404	Inward 2 SS	2.8	3.0		
405	Inward 2½ SS	3.1	3.4		
412	Inward Flying SS	2.0	2.1		
413	Inward Flying 1½ SS	2.7	2.9		
	Twist Dives	С	В	Α	D
5111	Forward Dive, ½ Twist	1.6	1.7	1.8	
5112	Forward Dive, 1 Twist		1.9	2.0	
5121	Forward 1 SS, ½ Twist				1.7
5122	Forward 1 SS, 1 Twist				1.9
5124	Forward 1 SS, 2 Twists				2.3
5126	Forward 1 SS, 3 Twists				2.7
5131	Forward 1½ SS, ½ Twist				2.0
5132	Forward 1½ SS, 1 Twist				2.2
5134	Forward 1½ SS, 2 Twists				2.6
5136	Forward 1½ SS, 3 Twists				3.0
5152	Forward 21/2 SS, 1 Twist	3.0	3.2		
5211	Back Dive, ½ Twist			1.8	
5212	Back Dive, 1 Twist			2.0	
5221	Back 1 SS, ½ Twist				1.7
5222	Back 1 SS, 1 Twist				1.9
5223	Back 1 SS, 11/2 Twists				2.3
5225	Back 1 SS, 2½ Twists				2.7
5227	Back 1 SS, 31/2 Twists				3.1
5231	Back 11/2 SS, 1/2 Twist				2.1
5233	Back 1½ SS, 1½ Twists				2.5
5235	Back 1½ SS, 2½ Twists				2.9
5251	Back 21/2 SS, 1/2 Twist	2.7	2.9		
5311	Reverse Dive, ½ Twist			1.9	
5312	Reverse Dive, 1 Twist			2.1	
5321	Reverse 1 SS, ½ Twist				1.8
5322	Reverse 1 SS, 1 Twist				2.0
5323	Reverse 1 SS, 1½ Twists				2.4
5325	Reverse 1 SS, 2½ Twists				2.8
5331	Reverse 1½ SS, ½ Twist				2.2
5333	Reverse 1½ SS, 1½ Twists				2.6
5335	Reverse 1½ SS, 2½ Twists				3.0
5351	Reverse 2½ SS, ½ Twists	2.7	2.9		
5411	Inward Dive, ½ Twist		1.7	2.0	
5412	Inward Dive, 1 Twist		1.9	2.2	
5421	Inward 1 SS, ½ Twist				1.9
5422	Inward 1 SS, 1 Twist				2.1
5432	Inward 1½ SS, 1 Twist				2.7
5434	Inward 1½ SS, 2 Twists				3.1

### **NFHS DIVE SILHOUETTES**







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