

Important Note: Although there are references in the following proposals to “male” and “female” because that was the wording used in the original rules, during our rule book editing any and all of those references will be corrected to the current approved wording of “men” and “women”.

MASTERS RULES PROPOSALS

ITEM 1: ADOPT NEW AQUA MASTERS ROUTINE TIMES

MASTERS AND RULES COMMITTEES RECOMMEND APPROVAL

MS 2.7.1 Technical Routine Time Limits:

Events Minutes

Solo/Male Solo ~~1:30~~ 2:00

Duet/Trio ~~1:40~~ 2:20

Team ~~1:50~~ 2:50

MS 2.7.2

There shall be an allowance of ~~15~~ 5 seconds plus the allotted time limit, but there shall be no minimum time limit. For Time Allowances for Walk-On and Deck Movements, see Rules CP 4.2.2.6.2 and 4.2.2.6.3.

MS 2.8.1 Free Routine Time Limits:

Events Minutes

Solo/Male Solo ~~2:30~~ 2:15

Duet/Trio ~~3:00~~ 2:45

Team ~~4:00~~ 3:30

Free Combination 4:00

MS 2.8.2

There shall be an allowance of ~~15~~ 5 seconds plus the allotted time limit, but there shall be no minimum time limit. For Time Allowances for Walk-On and Deck Movements, see Rules CP 4.2.2.6.2 and 4.2.2.6.3.

CP 4.2.2.6 Time Allowances:

CP 4.2.2.6.1 Technical and Free Routines:

1. There shall be an allowance of 5 seconds plus or minus the allotted time limit. For Junior Olympic Championships **and Masters Championships**, there shall be an allowance of 5 seconds plus the allotted time limit, but there shall be no minimum time limit.

Exception: For Collegiate Dual, Invitational, Regional and other routine competition exception, see Rule CO 2.4.5.1. ~~For U.S. Masters Championship exceptions, see Rules MS 2.7.2 & MS 2.8.2.~~

Rationale: To align with new AQUA Masters AS time limits.

HOUSEKEEPING: Change technical routine time limits as noted above in Appendix L.

ITEM 2: SEPARATE TECH AND FREE ROUTINES

MASTERS AND RULES COMMITTEES RECOMMEND APPROVAL

MS 2.7

Competitors may swim a Technical routine and/or a Free routine in Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Trio or Team. ~~Competitors who compete in both the Technical and Free routine in a given event (Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Trio or Team) will be eligible for an award. Competitors who compete in only a Technical or Free~~

routine will be listed in the results and will not be eligible for an award. **All routine events shall be Final events.**

DELETE MS 2.5 (and renumber following)

MS 2.5 Number of Events:

~~Each competitor may compete in no more than 3 different Free routine events (Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Trio or Team) in each U.S. Masters Championship. The Free Combination event does not count as one of the 3 events.~~

Rationale: To align with AQUA Masters AS separation of tech and free routines, and therefore also eliminate the restriction on number of routine events entered.

ITEM 3: ADOPT AQUA RULE FOR OPTIONAL BLACK SUITS IN TECH ROUTINES MASTERS AND RULES COMMITTEES RECOMMEND APPROVAL

MS 2.9 General Requirements for Technical Routines:

MS 2.9.1 Supplementary elements may be added.

MS 2.9.2 Unless otherwise specified in the description of an element:

1. All figures or components thereof shall be executed according to the requirements described in Appendix L, Section 3.04.
2. All elements shall be executed high and controlled, in uniform motion with each section clearly defined.
3. Time limits as specified in MS 2.7.1.
4. ~~Swimwear shall be black and the competitor shall wear a white cap. Goggles may be worn.~~

Rationale: To align with AQUA Masters AS, where there is no requirement for black suit and white cap for technical routines.

ITEM 4: SEPARATE FIGURE COMPETITION INTO TWO AGE DIVISIONS MASTERS AND RULES COMMITTEES RECOMMEND APPROVAL

MS 3 FIGURE COMPETITION

MS 3.1 Figure Competition Divisions: Competitors shall participate **in two age divisions (20-44, 45 and over)** together in the following Figure Competition Divisions: A, B or C.

Rationale: Age divisions were previously eliminated in Figures competition due to so few entries in each division. However, Masters definitely wants to continue the Figures competition and older competitors feel they are at a serious disadvantage competing with everyone together in one group. The decision was made to split figure competitors in each competition division into two age divisions to make it more fair for everyone.

ITEM 5: ORDER OF TECHNICAL REQUIRED ELEMENTS MASTERS AND RULES COMMITTEES RECOMMEND APPROVAL

APPENDIX L

3.04 MASTERS TECHNICAL ROUTINES:

A. (remains the same)

B. (remains the same)

C. The Technical Card is only required for Masters routines if the required technical elements are performed in a different order than the order listed in Appendix L.

APPENDIX L

MASTERS TECHNICAL REQUIRED ELEMENTS:

MASTERS SOLO/MALE SOLO

Technical Required Elements # 1-5 ~~must be performed in the order listed~~ **shall follow the order listed unless a Technical Card has been submitted (refer to 3.04 C).** Element #6 may be performed at any time during the routine.

MASTERS DUET/TRIO

Technical Required Elements # 1-5 ~~must be performed in the order listed~~ **shall follow the order listed unless a Technical Card has been submitted (refer to 3.04 C).** Elements # 6-7 may be performed at any time during the routine.

MASTERS TEAM

Technical Required Elements # 1-5 ~~must be performed in the order listed~~ **shall follow the order listed unless a Technical Card has been submitted (refer to 3.04 C).** Elements # 6-9 may be performed at any time during the routine.

Rationale: AQUA Masters AS does not require elements to be performed in the order listed, but stipulates that an Element Card (Coach Card) be submitted if the elements are not done in that order.

NOTE TO BOD: ITEM #6 IS DELETED FROM THESE PROPOSALS, TO BE RECONSIDERED AT A LATER DATE.

ITEM 6: CHANGE TECHNICAL REQUIRED ELEMENT #4 TO MATCH AQUA (AS 7.5.2.4.)

MASTERS AND RULES COMMITTEES HAVE DELETED THIS PROPOSAL

ITEM 7: ESTABLISH MASTERS AGE DIVISIONS FOR MALE AND GENDER INCLUSIVE EVENTS
MASTERS AND RULES COMMITTEES RECOMMEND APPROVAL

MS 2.11 Routine Age Divisions:

MS 2.11.1 Solo, Duet, Trio:

1. Master: 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80-89, etc. (as high as necessary to accommodate all age entries).

MS 2.11.2 Male Solo **and Duet, Gender Inclusive Solo and Duet,** Team, Free

Combination: 1. Master: 20-34, 35-49, 50-64, 65-79, 80 & older.

Rationale: Due to likely limited entries in Male and Gender Inclusive events at this time, include these in the 15-year span age divisions.