

# Key Changes to Triathlon Australia Race Competition Rules

Version 1.0 July 2015

## Purpose

This document is designed to give an overview of changes to the Triathlon Australia Race Competition Rules. It is an educational document to highlight key changes but is not designed to be an interpretation of the rules.

## Approval for use.

This version Race Competition Rules (RCR) was approved by the Triathlon Australia Board on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and was published on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 on the Triathlon Australia website. They are therefore effective for any event held on or after 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015.

## Commentary

Where a change in the RCR affects the application of the RCR that item has been highlighted in yellow. There have been other changes made which were for clarity or to incorporate other documents into the RCR. The most significant change to the RCR is the incorporation of relevant sections of the old Participant Policy. This information is contained in Appendices C to I. Where possible, the RCR have been brought into alignment with the International Triathlon Union Competition Rules. (ITU CR)

## Key Changes

### Water Temperatures

Temperature limits for wetsuits have been aligned with the ITUCR.

For elite events the wetsuit determination temperature is 22 degrees for swim segments above 3000m.

For age group events the wetsuit determination temperatures are 22 degrees (for swim segments less than 1500m) and 24.5 degrees for longer segments.

A guide for Event Organisers and Technical Delegates is now provided, taking into account air temperature which may adjust the determination of applicable water temperature. As always, the final determination of temperature is made in the interests of athlete safety.

### Draft Legal events for Age Group Races.

Currently the rules for this style of racing only cover equipment to be used. At draft legal races held in 2015/16 additional "Special Rules" will be developed to ensure the fairness and safety of each event. It is envisaged that these Special Rules will be incorporated into the RCR for release in July 2016.

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### Assess penalties not listed in the RCR.

It has been clarified that Technical Officials are allowed to assess penalties even if not listed in the RCR if it is determined that an unfair advantage has been gained or a dangerous situation created. In all cases this would be under the direction of the Race Referee. Refer to the infringements flow chart in Appendix I.

### Multiple Yellow Card Penalties.

Where the bike course is less than 80km, -two or more yellow card penalties may result in disqualification. When the course is equal to or more than 80km, three or more yellow cards may result in disqualification. In both cases the competitor is permitted to complete the event as the disqualification will be determined by the Race Referee at the completion of the event.

### Red Card Violation

Where a competitor is shown a red card they are NOT required to serve a time penalty and may complete the event. They must report to the race referee at the completion of their event.

### Disqualification

A race referee may use other evidence to disqualify an athlete such as that information supplied by a timing company.

### Suspension or Expulsion

For more severe infringements, a competitor may have a further penalty assessed by the STTA or TA. This is after reference from the Technical Delegate and/or the Race Referee. Possible reasons for this occurring are listed in the RCR.

### Appendix D – Competition Categories

These have been reworded for clarity and to cover the current completion landscape. They have been divided into the High Performance Pathway Categories and Age Group Categories. Those in the high performance pathway categories should ensure they have the applicable level of membership to be able to compete in those categories.

### Appendix H – Appeal Procedures

The timelines for appeals to a race competition jury on the decision of a race referee has been extended to cover the late finish time of some events.

## Intent of the RCR

It is important to know the intent and purpose of a rule so that it may be intelligently applied in a given situation. A competitor must not be permitted an advantage not intended by a rule, or to place the health or welfare of anyone in jeopardy. To implement this philosophy, many of the rules are written in general terms. This practice minimises the necessity for a multiplicity of rules and provides the Technical Officials with ample authority to adapt their application of the rules to fit conditions. Technical Officials must base their determination on whether an advantage, not intended by the rules, has been gained or health or welfare of any athlete has been jeopardised.

## Questions

Any questions regarding these rules should be directed to the National Manager Technical at [technical@triathlon.org.au](mailto:technical@triathlon.org.au).

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