

FINA Suit Update

Just in case you have not yet heard, Blueseventy Nero Comps are legal once again. In a press release yesterday, FINA, the world organization for swimming, re-issued their list of approved technical suits. The entire press release and list of approved suits can be found at Fina.org, (Press Release #46.)

All approved suits, which include the Speedo LZR, Blueseventy Comp Nero, and TYR Tracer Rise, among many others, are legal in US Swimming through December 31, 2009. There will be new guidelines for suits worn in 2010. It is unknown at this date what the new guidelines will be, and when these guidelines will be announced by FINA. NCAA has not yet made a ruling. USMS has already accepted the Blueseventy Nero Comp as well as the initial May 19, 2009 list of FINA approved suits.

The bottom line: If a swimmer will be participating in a USS event before the end of this calendar year, they will need to order a suit ASAP. Quantities of the present suits are even more limited than last spring because many manufacturers will stop producing the present suit sometime this summer.

REMEMBER: At this date it is still unknown whether the present suits will be legal in 2010. Hopefully, FINA will make an announcement soon which will list the criteria for suits allowed next year. The industry buzz is that the new criteria will limit the non-permeable fabric. Thus the presently approved suits will contain the maximum amount of non-permeable fabric that we may ever see.