

**National Swimming Forum Position Table  
Jan 2008**

**National Swimming Forum**

No.	Issue	Background	Current Position	Action Required
1/08	National Standard for water competency	<p>This is a proposal for a nationally adopted system for recognising / demonstrating swimming attainment.</p> <p>* This scheme will set competence levels for child swimming ability - which eventually will allow the development of a single scheme.</p> <p>* This can be used to demonstrate what each child's level of swimming competence is. This links in with the "25 metre "question of swimming competence, and how we define the "ability to swim in a watersports context".</p>	<p>Some progress had been made in relation to the establishment of a national standard, the ASA had had informal discussions with a number of key sports and was also looking at a standard for schools and adventurous activities linked to previous LEA work and trips away.</p>	<p>ASA to provide more information at a future meeting after fuller consultation with aquatic sports. It was suggested by ROSPA that an ASA representative attends meeting of the water safety forum on 18 October to take this forward</p>
2/08	National Incident Reporting	<p>The swimming forum have agreed that there was a need for the industry to develop robust data collection and analysis processes for incidents and drowning in swimming pools. It was recognised that this could be undertaken in different ways and it was agreed to press for funding through GIG for research into the best method of data collection with a view to establishing a data collection strategy</p>	<p>Information Group</p> <p>Setting up of a small project group to take forward the development of the prototype database and turn it into a fully functioning system supporting the work of all the advisory groups, production of technical specifications for procuring specialist support of the database and its hosting, Building relationships with potential data providers. Producing regular reports and data analyses.</p>	<p>Safety in Leisure Group have proposed to work with ISRM in a national database for all swimming pool incidents and accidents. Cost identified as £50K per annum to establish and run. Need to consider if this can link with current GIG proposals</p>

3/08	CEN Standards for the Design and Management of Swimming Pools	Standards have been put forward that do not equal the safety standards currently practised in the UK and as established in existing documentation	No action from NWSF. The Chairman following consultation has agreed to vote in favour of the standards particularly due to their impact in Europe but the UK forward will maintain the status quo of UK documentation. BSI to write forward	Matter still to be debated in EN 136 Committee but outcome as previously stated seems likely
4/08	Safe Supervision for Teaching and Coaching of Swimming	This is a jointly agreed document that all Swimming Forum members agree to uphold in terms of teaching ratios and class sizes etc	Existing document is in need of revision and Chairman has agreed to lead this process	Position still being investigated in relation to the Ofsted requirements for childminding which would radically alter existing ratios etc i.e. the maximum numbers of children for whom a childminder may care are as follows: 6 children under 8 years of age; Of these 6, no more than 3 children may be under 5 years of age; although this only applies where care is for more than 2 hrs this is said to be <b>the</b> standard