

NVSL Diving Rules for the Operation and Administration of the Synchronized Diving Event

Purpose: The Synchronized Diving Event cultivates and invites divers of basic developing skills across broad age group levels to participate in a once a season specialty meet held under the direction of the NVSL Diving EXCOM. The rules below specify entry requirements, age groups, scoring, officials, diving performance standards, and judging/refereeing criteria applicable to the Synchronized Diving Event.

Qualifications: The Synchronized Diving Event is intended for divers to develop basic skills in synchronized diving. Diver participation eligibility must conform to Dive Rule 1.m. of the current NVSL Handbook. The meet manager(s) shall decide acceptance of potential meet entrants for participation in the Synchronized Diving Event. (reference: Dive Rule **1.n.** of the current season's NVSL Handbook).

Age Groups: Separate events for boys and girls in the following age groups: 12 and under (12U), 13 and up (13+). Each diver must meet the age qualification per the current season's NVSL Handbook Dive Rules (reference: Dive Rule 2.c.(2)).

Paired Diver Composition: Divers from differing NVSL-affiliated pools may compete together as synchronized diving partners.

- Divers of mixed age groups may compete as partners, but must compete in the 13+ group.
- Diving partners must compete as either two boys or two girls.
- A diver may compete with no more than one partner.

Order of Dives for the Age Groups: Paired divers in age groups 12U and 13+ shall perform the number of dives in the order specified in the list below:

12U group – 3 dives¹

- 101 only (fall-ins (001) are not allowed)^{1,2}
- 201 only (fall-ins (002) are not allowed)²
- 1 optional dive (jumps (100 or 200) are not allowed)^{1,2}

13+ group – 4 dives¹

- 101 only (fall-ins (001) are not allowed)^{1,2}
- 201 only (fall-ins (002) are not allowed)²
- 2 optional dives (jumps (100 or 200) are not allowed)^{1,2}

¹ All forward facing dives must be performed with a running approach, standing approaches are not allowed;

² Both divers must perform the same dive in the same position.

Meet sheets shall be prepared and submitted per the instructions contained in the current season's NVSL-published Synchronized Diving Event flyer.

Officials (Referee and Judges): The Synchronized Diving Event shall be judged by a nine (9) judge panel, consisting of four (4) execution judges and five (5) synchronization judges. Two (2) execution judges will be assigned to each diver. One of the nine (9) judges may act as the referee.

Synchronized Diving Scoring: In arriving at a total score for the dive, the following actions shall be taken:

- Eliminate the highest and lowest score of the four (4) execution judges
- Eliminate the highest and lowest score of the five (5) synchronization judges
- Add up the remaining two (2) execution judge scores and three (3) synchronization judge scores, five scores in all
- Multiply the resultant sum by 0.6; multiply that resulting product by the DD* to arrive at the total score for the dive.

*The dive DDs are those listed in the current NVSL and/or *World Aquatic* Tables of Dives.

Judging/Refereeing and Performance Standards: Standards for the Synchronized Diving Event shall be the same as those for all other NVSL dive meets and follow the diving rules as specified in the current NVSL Handbook. Synchronized diving is judged by the execution of the individual dives and the synchronization of the divers. When judging the synchronization of the dives, the overall impression of the synchronization of the dives must be taken into account. The factors to be considered in judging synchronized diving are:

- The similarity of the starting position, the approach, the take-off, and height
- The coordinated timing of the movements during the flight
- The similarity of the vertical angles of the entry
- The comparative distance from the springboard of the entry
- The coordinated timing of the entries

Other Judging/Refereeing Considerations:

- If either diver enters the surface of the water before the other diver leaves the board, the referee shall declare a failed dive.
- The referee shall declare a balk (two-point deduction from all judges) when there is a restart by one or both divers.
- The execution judges must not be influenced by any factor other than the technique and execution of the dive, not both dives, nor the synchronization of the divers.
- When either or both divers perform a dive other than that announced, the referee shall declare a failed dive.
- When an execution judge considers that a dive of different number has been performed by the diver, the judge shall award zero (0) points, notwithstanding that the referee has not declared a failed dive.
- If both the execution judges of one diver award zero (0) points, the referee shall declare a failed dive.
- The synchronization judges must not be influenced by any factor other than coordinated performance of the two divers and not the execution of both dives.
- If all the synchronization judges award zero (0) points, the referee shall declare a failed dive.
- When any of the faults to the factors described in the Judging/Refereeing and Performance Standards above are shown, each synchronization judge shall deduct ½ to 2 points, according to his/her opinion.