

Common Feedback Points from Summer Competitions 2015

The following items were the most commonly raised points in the feedback gathered at IAG Division 2 and IAG Championships & Summer Open 2015.

Each item raised has been taken on board and considered by the appropriate group with some of the decisions made already outlined in the Club & Coaches Handbook. Below we strive to explain a number of items that were raised and the reasons behind them being as they are.

1. *Split older age group finals*

This has been considered by the National Performance Committee - rationale behind combining these is to give more 15/16 girls and 16/17 boys an opportunity for a second swim. In 2015, there was an average of 14 swimmers from the younger age group in finals. Should we revert to separate finals, only 10 will get a second swim, and some events will not have a full 17&Over or 18&Over final. It has been decided to run with one final for 15/16 girls/16/17 boys and one final for 17&Over girls/18&Over boys for 2016.

2. *Split competition over two weekends*

This has been considered by the National Performance Committee however will not change for 2016 – will be considered for new Olympic Cycle. It was agreed in 2013 that drastic changes would not be made to the competitions until the next Olympic Cycle, but that reviews of QTs would take place if required, and necessary changes made to keep as one competition until after the 2016 event

3. *Sessions too long – QTs need to be reconsidered*

This has been considered by the National Performance Committee – the qualification standards for both IAG Championships & IAG Division 2 have been amended for 2016

4. *Too warm*

This is due to the air handling system in the venues – the air temperature needs to be one degree warmer than pool to avoid building steaming up

5. *Secure hotel deals – very expensive to stay for 5 days*

Swim Ireland have been working with the hotels to get a competitive rate however accommodation rates, particularly in Dublin, are quite high in the summer period and this is challenging

6. *Keep swimmers out of spectator area*

We try to tell clubs they need to sit in team area – this needs to be policed by clubs

7. *Split medal ceremonies*

Running individual ceremonies would add an additional 40-60 minutes to each finals session. Each ceremony takes minimum 5 minutes. With four sets of medals per event this is at least 20 minutes per ceremony (rather than the 8-10 it takes when combining the age groups)

8. *Bring back 50s*

This was considered by National Performance Committee and the decision was made not to re-introduce the 50s

9. *No open final in 400s*

The open final will remain for 2016 however no awards will be made for this. Medals for the 400m events will be presented at the end of the morning session – the open final is purely a chance for swimmers to swim the event again in the evening

10. *Middle session led to v long day for coaches and officials*

Unfortunately, without adding another day to the competition or without lengthening all morning sessions it is necessary to keep this session

11. *No wi-fi*

This has been raised with the management of the National Aquatic Centre