



# CANADA ARTISTIC SWIMMING RULE CHANGES

PASSED JUNE 19, 2018

*Note this document contains a summary of CAS rule changes passed at the Rule Amendment meeting held June 19, 2018. Amendments that were proposed but defeated are included in the minutes from that meeting but are not included in this document (see Appendix A).*

## AMENDMENT 1

### REVISED RULE

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

The terms listed in this section shall have the meaning attributed to it.

1. **"Canadian Espoir Synchronized Swimming Championships"** also known as "Espoir" means the Championships held for Age Group 11&12, 13 – 15 and AWD and will be considered the National Championship for these categories. Events held at Espoir are to be as follows:
  - Age Group 13 – 15 ——— Figures Solo Duet Mixed Duet Team
  - Age Group 11 & 12 ——— Figures Solo Duet Team Skills and Fitness Assessment
  - Athletes with a Disability Events as described in Appendix G
  
2. **"Canadian National Artistic Swimming Qualifier"** also known as the "Qualifier" means a qualifying competition for ~~CASC COSSC and Espoir~~. All routines must compete in the Qualifier in order to be eligible to compete in CASC COSSC and/or Espoir. Events held at the Qualifier are to be as follows
  - Senior FINA: tech/free solo, tech/free duet, tech/free mixed duet, tech/free team
  - Junior FINA: tech/free solo, tech/free duet, tech/free mixed duet, tech/free team
  - Senior FINA/Junior FINA: Free Combination, Highlight Routine
  - Age Group 13 - 15 Figures - Solo - Duet - Mixed Duet- Team
  
3. **"Canadian ~~Open Synchronized~~ Artistic Swimming Championships"** also known as "~~COSASC~~" means the Championship for Senior FINA and Junior FINA categories and will be considered the ~~Canadian~~ National Championships for these categories. Events held at ~~COSASC~~ are to be as follows:
  - Athletes with a Disability: Events as described in Appendix G
  - Age Group 13 – 15: Figures - Solo - Duet - Mixed Duet - Team
  - Senior FINA: tech/free Solo, tech/free Duet, tech/free mixed duet, tech/free team
  - Junior FINA: tech/free solo, tech/free duet, tech/free mixed duet, tech/free team
  - Senior FINA/Junior FINA: Free Combination, Highlight Routine

Renumber 2. as 1. and 3. as 2.

**RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

To effect the change in competition structure to eliminate the Espoir Championships and to reflect the name change to national events. Housekeeping changes will be made to the rest of the rulebook to reflect these changes.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

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**AMENDMENT 2****REVISED RULE****3.1.6 ~~Exceptions to the Age Requirement for Duet, Mixed Duet, Team, Highlight Routine and Free Combination Composition~~ Team Composition and Exemption to Age Category Requirements**

- a) **"Team"** means a group of at least four competitors but no more than eight for Senior FINA, Junior FINA, and National Age Group 13 - 15 competitions at the national and international level. ~~For competitors at provincial meets Age Group 16 - 18, Age Group 13 - 15, Age Group 11&12, Age Group 10 & under, and Masters~~ a team is a group of at least four competitors but not more than ten.

**RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

To allow teams of 10 to swim at provincial meets for development and athlete retention reasons.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 3

### REVISED RULE

#### 3.1.8 Alternates and Substitutes and Team Roster

- h) A roster of ~~a minimum of 4 (four) to a maximum of 12 (twelve)~~ athletes must be submitted for ~~all teams – technical teams, and free teams~~ entered in Age Group 13-15 National, Junior FINA and Senior FINA routine events by the entry deadline for the first team routine event held in their province/territory.
- i) ~~This roster shall be submitted by each province to the National Scoring Leader for verification of entry into the National Qualifier, the Canadian Open, and Espoir meets. This roster should be submitted immediately following the entry deadline for the first routine competition held in each province/territory. Any province that does not submit the required roster by the entry deadline to the National Qualifier shall be fined \$100 per club. The club shall be ineligible to compete in the event until the payment of fine is received by Synchro Canada.~~
- ii) ~~From the roster, up to 10 athletes may be entered into the first and any subsequent tech team event and free team event (8 swimmers plus 2 alternates).~~
- iii) ~~The (up to) 10 athletes (tech and free team) entered may change from meet to meet but can only come from the original roster as submitted.~~
- iv) ~~From this roster all named athletes (up to 12) may enter the figure event (if age eligible) at any competition in which the team on whose roster they are listed is competing.~~
- v) Athletes may be named on more than one entry list roster BUT may only compete on one each of tech team, free team, free routine combination, and highlight routine in the same category at the same competition (see rule 3.1.5 f)
- vi) ~~This rule does NOT apply to Provincial Stream teams.~~

Renumber v) as h)

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

To eliminate the roster rule which no longer serves its original purpose. Changes are also proposed to the "entry" rule 5.1.5 for clarification on the current entry process.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 10

### REVISED RULE

#### 5.1.5 Entries to National Competitions and Championships

##### a) Forms

- i) Registrants must use the current Synchro Canada entry forms or the on-line registration program as directed in the meet information package
- ii) ~~If~~ When requested to do so by the Meet Management, and by the stated deadline for entries found in the meet information package all **completely filled out entry packages** minus the fee payment(s) must be submitted by email to the following:
  - a) ~~Meet manager or designate~~ Synchro Canada National Office staff contact indicated in the meet information package with copy to:
  - b) Synchro Canada ~~scoring chair~~ Chief Scorer for the event
  - c) ~~Synchro Canada events manager by the stated deadline for entries found in the meet information package~~
- iii) Payment(s) must be submitted by mail to the following:
  - a) Synchro Canada National Office ~~Meet manager or designate by the stated deadline for entries found in the meet information package~~
- iv) Where a club believes that a swimmer's coach may change after an entry is submitted it is acceptable to name more than one certified coach, any of who may act as the coach during the competition
- v) The entry package is defined as:
  - 1) Entry forms - including athlete's names, birth years, ~~amateur card numbers~~, coach names, NCCP levels, NCCP numbers, Synchro Canada membership numbers, club contact information
  - 2) ~~Club roster~~ list of athletes indicating the categories entered
  - 3) Entry fee ~~schedule~~ calculation
  - 4) Music practice request
  - 5) Hospitality and other forms
  - 6) Fee payment(s)
- vi) Incomplete entries that are received will be considered late if the missing information is not received by the entry deadline
- vii) ~~Extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Meet Manager in consultation with Synchro Canada Competitions Leader. Late mail is not an extenuating circumstance.~~

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

To clarify the current process for registering for national competitions in place of rosters

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 4

### REVISED RULE

#### 3.3.2 ~~Solution of Disputes~~ Resolution

##### a) **Protests**

- i) No protests shall be made against the judges' marks/scores.
- ii) Protests may be made by ~~anyone having an interest in a participant~~ (defined as: coach or athlete who is 18+ if the coach is not available) registered for the Meet.
- iii) Protests ~~may initially be made verbally, but~~ shall be made in writing to the Referee within 30 minutes from the ~~end-time~~ official results of the event involved are published. The Chief Referee shall arbitrate in case of protest; in the event that mediation is not possible, the matter shall be referred to the Jury of Appeal.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

To clarify the procedures around lodging protests during competitions.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 24

### REVISED RULE

add new 4.7.1 d) Video Review

Change heading on 4.7.1 to Figures/Technical Routines (housekeeping)

4.7.1 d) Video Review for Technical Routines

- i) video review may be used to confirm the award of a zero on technical elements
- ii) the review will be done by at least one and preferably two of: Referee, Technical Monitor, Evaluator, and Head Judge
- iii) the video may be watched in real time or slow motion or both
- iv) stop action and/or freeze frame will be allowed
- v) the video may be reviewed a maximum of 5 times. If the error is not clearly identified and agreed upon by the reviewer(s), the element will be awarded scores by each judge
- vi) for the judge(s) who initially awarded a zero to the element, their score will be calculated by averaging the marks awarded by the judges who did not award a zero to the element

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

Video review must be consistent across the country and there should be clear directions as to what is and is not allowed when reviewing the video. Five is an appropriate number of viewings after which a decision should be reached. Any more and the competition will be delayed unnecessarily. More than one viewing could be necessary due to technical problems. This will follow FINA standards for video review of technical elements/figures.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 5

### REVISED RULE

#### 4.1.1 Age categories

- a) Age categories are:  
Age Requirement

Age Group 10 and under (10U)     ~~1 to 10~~ are 8, 9, or 10 years old (Synchro age 9 or 10)

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

To clarify the intent of the age range for the youngest national age group category

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

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## AMENDMENT 35

### REVISED RULE

Competitive Structure

B) **Excluding national championships.** AWAD and Non-AWAD athletes may compete on blended duets and teams in the "Mixed Abilities" category. This category will follow the guidelines listed in Appendix G. All athletes will compete figures according to their age group and ability level.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

With the introduction of the mixed ability category, we will create a better opportunity for adaptive synchro athletes to be included on teams, instead of just individual events.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 39

### REVISED RULE

#### 4.1.1 Age categories

##### a) Age categories are:

##### Age Requirement

Age Group 10 and under	1 to 10 (already amended in Amendment 5 above)
Age Group 11 and 12	11 & 12
<u>Age Group Novice</u>	<u>Athletes that are 11 years of age and older who have not been registered or competed as a competitive swimmer in the past. A swimmer will only be able to swim in this category for 1 year.</u>
Age Group 13 - 15	13 to 15
Age Group 16 - <del>18-20</del>	16 to <del>18-20</del>
Junior FINA	15 to 18
Senior FINA	15 & over
Masters Solo/Duet	19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80 and over
Masters Trio/Team	19-34, 35-49, 50-64, 65-79, 80 and over
Masters Free Combination	19-39, 40-64, 65 and over

A Competitor must meet the Age Requirement set forth herein above in order to be eligible to compete in a given Age Category.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- Novice Category: Currently there are a few provinces utilizing a Novice age category and the purpose of this addition is to come to a unified category for this group. The category itself is intended to recognize new swimmers to the sport that join at 11 or older and give them an opportunity in their first year to compete against athletes in a similar situation that do not have the background in the sport.
- Age 16-20: This change will allow those that started high school late, or those taking a gap year before starting University, an opportunity to continue swimming. Currently if they started Kindergarten when they were 5 and turned 6 between September and the end of February they will only be going into their grade 12 year when they are 19 by our current standard. Meaning they are obviously ineligible for the University league as they're still in High School and they're also unable to participate in Masters events at the National level at 18 - this rule change will allow us to really have a sport for life.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

# AMENDMENT 40

## REVISED RULE

### 4.2.2 Time Limits for Routines

Including Deck Work, routines shall have the following maximum times, in minutes:

	<b>Solo</b>	<b>Duet/ Mixed Duet</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Free Combination</b>	Highlight Routine
Age Group 10 & Under	1:15 <u>*only allowed for athletes unable to be part of another routine in the club due to numbers</u>	1:45	2:15		
Age Group 11 & 12 & Novice	1:45	2:15	2:45		
Age Group 13 - 15	2:15	2:45	3:30	4:00	
<del>Age Group 16 - 18</del>	<del>2:30</del>	<del>3:00</del>	<del>4:00</del>	<del>4:00</del>	
<u>Age Group 16-20 and Junior/Senior FINA - technical</u>	2:00	2:20	2:50		
<u>Age Group 16-20 and Junior/Senior FINA - free</u>	2:30	3:00	4:00	CASC 4:00	CASC 2:30
Masters Technical	1:30	1:40	1:50		
Masters Free	2:30	3:00	4:00	4:30	
Masters Tech/ Free Trio	Tech - 1:45	Free - 3:30			

Additional Notation: In the Provincial Stream there will be no minimum time and routines may not exceed the maximum time without incurring a time penalty.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- Identify the routine times for the addition of a Novice category and indicate times for 16-20 tech and free routines to match junior/senior FINA for those who choose to offer tech routines
- Recommend that 16-20 do Technical and Free Routines to serve as a better transition for them to CUSSL or Masters programs
- Incorporate some of the duplicate information found in Appendix H into the rulebook to alleviate confusion

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018



## AMENDMENT 41

### REVISED RULE

#### 4.4.1 Free Combination Routine

a) There shall be a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 10 members. For the Provincial Stream of competition combo is only open to athletes who are aged 13 and over.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- Align with National Stream by only having one age group for Combo routines.
- Incorporate some of the duplicate information found in Appendix H into the rulebook to alleviate confusion.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

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## AMENDMENT 8

### REVISED RULE

**4.10** Rule 4.10 is deleted in its entirety and the scoring of 11-12 is addressed by amending 4.7.2g) iv) 2

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

The championship score for all 11&12 routine events shall be based on 60% of the 11&12 figure score and 40% of the routine score.

Note - the Rules/Technical committee has committed to ensuring the scoring rules are clear and correct for each level in the rulebook

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 9

### REVISED RULE

#### 5.1.6 Conduct of the Meet

##### d) Announcing Competitors

- i) Competitors in prelims and finals shall be known by name and swim according to numbers assigned in the draw. Names of the competitors may be printed in the program.
- ii) Before each competitor's swim, the announcer shall announce names as follows:
  - for solos and duets, the name(s) of the swimmers, ~~but not~~ and the club they represent
  - for trios the registered name of the club
  - for teams, the registered name of the club or the team. If the team has chosen a theme, this information may also be provided by the announcer.
- iii) Following each competitor's swim, the announcer shall announce the names of the club, the named routine coach and the swimmer(s).

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

To allow for more information to be available to the spectators watching the event and to show more respect for the athletes' home clubs by name wherever logistically possible.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 11

### REVISED RULE

#### APPENDIX A

#### CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPTION FROM CANADA GAMES MINIMUM AGE RULE (SUBJECT TO CANADA GAMES COUNCIL APPROVAL)

**Delete Appendix A**

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

Canada Games rules and procedures are not the jurisdiction of Synchro Canada and should not be in Synchro Canada's rulebook. Furthermore, they change from Games to Games so it is not practical to include them.

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

## AMENDMENT 13

### REVISED (NEW) RULE

ADD NEW RULE

3.1.6(c)

Athletes may represent and compete for two member clubs in the same season in different routines.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

An athlete may swim a duet with one club and a team tech routine with another. This would allow for seniors to train in a daily training environment in their geographic area, but merge with other senior athletes to form teams, combos, etc.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

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## AMENDMENT 15

### REVISED RULE

3.1.7 b) In Junior/Senior FINA highlight routines and free combination routines the entering club must have entered a tech team event (either Junior or Senior) ~~all entries must enter either junior technical team or senior technical team~~ to be eligible to enter the highlight routine event and/or the free combination routine event. To be eligible athletes on the highlight and/or free combination routine need not have been listed on the tech team roster. ~~A minimum of 50% of the highlight/combination routine members must have competed in the technical team event.~~

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

The rule causes too many complications and is difficult from an administrative perspective. It also prohibits small clubs and seniors looking for decreased training hours from participating.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

(Post Meeting Note: consensus has been determined that the following will be inserted into the rules: A) Free Combination and Highlight routines are OPEN to all clubs that have entered routines (solo, duet, or team) in the competition. Participants in the Free Combination/Highlight routines need not have been members of the qualifying routines and B) If, at the Qualifying meet, the club's qualifying routines fail to advance to the next and any subsequent meet the free combination/highlight routine would continue to be eligible to attend that meet and any subsequent meet.)

## AMENDMENT 28

### REVISED RULE

#### 4.7.2 Routines

##### c) Draw for Order of Swim – Qualifier

iii) The start order draw for 13-15 solo final, 13-15 duet final, 13-15 mixed duet final, Junior FINA and Senior FINA free solo final, Junior FINA and Senior FINA free duet final, Junior FINA and Senior FINA free mixed duet final shall be seeded based on figure results (13-15) or technical routines (Junior FINA and Senior FINA)

(\*Note: The seeding for all order of swim draws needs to be clarified)

##### g) Scoring

##### iv) The Championship Score

3) Championship score for Junior and Senior FINA Events shall be calculated on the basis of 100% of the routine score. There shall be no combined score for Junior and Senior FINA Events. ~~If a combined championship is presented it shall be based on 100% technical score and 100% routine score.~~

##### v) Ranking Routines

4) Placings for purposes of qualifying for finals and selection to subsequent meets are by Championship Score for events involving a Figures session. For Junior/Senior FINA Events, placings for purposes of qualifying for finals and selection to subsequent meets are by routine score.

AND

### APPENDIX B

#### AWARDS AT COSSC AND ESPOIR

##### B1.4 Medal and Ribbon Events at CASC/Espoir:

b) CASC (Senior FINA and Junior FINA) events - 1st place gold medal, 2nd place silver medal, 3rd place bronze medal, for the technical routines

- 1st place gold medal, 2nd place silver medal, 3rd place bronze medal, for the free routines

~~- 1st place gold medal, 2nd place silver medal, 3rd place bronze medal for the technical and free combined score~~

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- This proposal is intended to simplify scoring and awards at meets by separating the award process for Junior/Senior technical and free routines and eliminating combined awards
- Existing rules pertaining to the requirement to be entered in the tech event in order to compete in the free event remain, as this emphasizes the importance of technical development; as per the existing rule, Clubs may opt to enter only the technical event (which again emphasizes the importance of technical development - if resources are limited, the required routine should be the tech routine)
- Additionally, the existing rule requiring 50% of the swimmers on the free routine to have competed in the tech routine remains in place; the rule requiring the same number of athletes to compete on free as competed on tech remains
- The simplification of the awards process alleviates administrative work and on-deck confusion, and further allows Clubs the flexibility to create rosters appropriate to their needs (for example: since

combined awards would no longer be given, there could be multiple tech teams from a club and only a single free team made up of swimmers from both; or the rosters between multiple tech and multiple free teams can be changed as needed by a Club)

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

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## AMENDMENT 23

### REVISED RULE

#### 7.4.6 Routines

##### b) Missing Remainder of Event

~~If a judge is unable to complete the judging of an event, the alternate judge will take over, and the marks of the alternate judge shall be used from the beginning of the event.~~

If one or more judges by reason of illness or other unforeseen circumstances cannot make an award for a routine, the average of the awards of the other judges shall be computed and shall be considered as the award. This shall be calculated to the nearest 0.1 point.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

To align with FINA and to use officials in other capacities, especially in technical monitoring.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

## AMENDMENT 18

### REVISED RULE

4.6.1 b) For technical routines (solo, duet, mixed duet, and team) the swimmers must wear a plain black one-piece suit. A plain black bun cover may be worn. The suit must be devoid of identifying marks other than a manufacturer's logo not exceeding 16 square centimeters. (delete existing rule)

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

Note that item c) in this rule contains the applicable FINA rule  
Athletes will follow routine suit rules for all routine events - in line with FINA.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

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## AMENDMENT 32

### REVISED RULE

#### 4.5 FIGURES

##### 4.5.1 Swimmers' Apparel

b) For **figures** the swimmers must wear a plain black one-piece suit and white cap. The cap must be devoid of identifying marks. The suit must be devoid of identifying marks other than a manufacturer's logo not exceeding 16 square centimeters; nothing may hang/dangle from the suit (including long ties) - nothing on the suit should be able to float. Jewelry is not allowed (see Rule 4.6.1 c) for special exceptions).

#### 4.6 ROUTINES

##### 4.6.1 Swimmers' Apparel

c) For all routines clothing shall conform to FINA specifications as stated below: (see AS 13.9 - 13.14)

i) The swim wear (swimsuit, cap and goggles) of all competitors shall be non-transparent, in good moral taste and suitable for the individual sports disciplines and not to carry any symbol which may be considered offensive. Nothing may hang/dangle from the suit (including long ties) - nothing on the suit should be able to float. In the event that the referee thinks a competitor(s) swim wear does not conform, the competitor(s) will not be permitted to compete until changing into appropriate swim wear.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- Additional details added to cover issues in swimmer apparel at 2017-18 competitions
- Suits with long ties are not appropriate and are a potential safety hazard

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

(Meeting Note: the Rules/Technical Committee will adjust the language in this rule to have more longevity past the current type of swimsuit issue)

## AMENDMENT 33

### REVISED RULE

#### 4.6.1 Swimmers' Apparel

a) Nose clips are allowed for all events. Goggles are allowed with medical certification for routine events. Medical certification to be submitted to the Chief Referee at least 30 minutes prior to the event. Masters and AWAD athletes may use goggles for all events.

### RATIONALE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

An exception in the AWAD Appendix allows a coach on land to provide cues to an athlete with a cognitive disability during a routine. If the athlete can't see the coach without goggles, the exception has no value. It seems pointless for the athlete to provide a medical note on some regular basis to allow the use of goggles. Modifying the rule for AWAD athletes would allow them to wear goggles if they need them without providing a medical note. It doesn't require them to wear goggles, just makes it easier to do so when needed.

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2018

# APPENDIX A

## Rule Amendment Summary of Decisions – 2018

<b>Original Amendment Number</b> <i>(Listed in order of consideration)</i>	<b>Package - Page</b>	<b>Outcome (Passed/Defeated) / Notes</b>
1	A - 1	Passed
2	A - 3	Amendment to amendment – Defeated.
		2) Amendment split into two parts: 1) Regarding teams of 10 – Passed.
		Regarding solo – Defeated.
3	A - 5	Passed
10	A - 7	Passed
26	A - 9	Withdrawn by the mover
29	A - 11	Defeated
4	A - 12	Passed
24	A - 13	Passed
5	A - 14	Passed
25	A - 14	Withdrawn by the mover
35	A - 16	Passed
39	A - 16	Amendment split into two parts: 1) Creation of Novice/Rookie Category – Passed. 2) Inclusion of age category 16-20 – Passed.
40	A - 18	Amendment split into two parts: 1) 10&U Solo – Passed. 2) Identifying music times for novice, age group 16-20 tech and free routines – Passed.
41	A - 20	Passed
8	A - 22	Amendment to amendment – Passed
		Amendment – Passed
9	A - 25	Amendment to amendment (1) – The motion was not addressed (not seconded)
		Amendment to amendment (2) – Passed
		Amendment – Passed
11	A - 27	Passed
13	A - 29	Passed
15	A - 29	The motion was tabled for an electronic vote.
19	A - 30	Defeated
21	A - 31	Defeated
28	A - 32	Passed
27	A - 34	Defeated
31	A - 35	The motion was not addressed (not seconded).
23	A - 36	Amendment to amendment – Withdrawn by the mover
		Amendment – Passed
30	A - 37	Defeated
18	A - 38	Passed
32	A - 39	Passed
33	A - 40	Passed
34	A - 41	Defeated