

Summation of the BSF Athlete Policy – adopted at Technical Meeting October 7, 2006, and Council Meeting October 9, 2006 Initially posted on website on October 12, 2006

We, the BSF, would like to remind all swimmers about the **mandatory** participation at the RBC Bahamas National Swimming Championships (every single year) at the BKKAC. Swimmers who have qualified for the Olympic Games and/or other International Meets, or swimmers still seeking to qualify for International Meets in the upcoming year, including the Olympic Games, are **required** to participate in the RBC Bahamas National Swimming Championships that directly precedes their selection to any of these teams. In the event you are unable to participate, your exemption request should be sent to the attention of Kathryn Dilletta bsf_news@yahoo.com and also to Valerie Lowe vflowe@gmail.com and to Algernon Cargill algernonc@hotmail.com on or before the entry deadline for Nationals – usually 3 weeks prior to the start date of Nationals. However, we encourage you to submit these requests as early as possible in order to engage in dialogue with the Federation about your participation and/or provide any requested or validating supplemental information.

A copy of the Policy can be found on the Bahamas Swimming website, under the tab for Swimmers and the section entitled Important Notices.

While the Federation will review every request received, only **complete** requests supported with **validating information** will be considered. Notwithstanding the availability of an exception, the Federation strongly discourages swimmers from seeking this exemption and will critically review each request. Further, swimmers receiving any Government and/or BOA assistance are required to participate in the RBC Bahamas National Swimming Championships and *all* swimmers are encouraged to participate in at least the events they intend to participate in internationally.

Athletes living abroad must also provide the Federation with an official authorization at least annually to contact their coach directly and to seek confirmation of training and athletic fitness. A website link to the club/team and the official email address of the coach must be included. The authorization must also include a statement authorizing the coach to release the athletic information on a confidential basis directly to the Federation.

We continue to wish you an injury free and successful training season and look forward to hearing from you with any feedback you may have.