

NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: The Head of Physical Education
Date: September 2009
Subject: GCE Physical Education Resources

OCR GCE Physical Education Practical Units G452 and G454

Dear colleague

I would like to draw your attention to some important information about the assessment and administration of the practical units for GCE Physical Education at the start of the 2009/10 academic year.

Estimated entries

It is absolutely vital that you make accurate estimated entries for the practical units through your exams office. This means that the majority of your candidates should have estimated entries made for units **G452 (AS)** and **G454 (A2)**. Unit 2567 is available for candidates who are re-sitting, but we do not anticipate many candidates being in this position. Please check with your exams office that they are aware of your candidate numbers for the correct units and that if you do not have 2567 re-sits that this is set to zero on your estimated entries.

Attending moderation

Moderation is part of the examination process and as such if a candidate is called to attend moderation then they should be present on the day. If a candidate cannot attend for a legitimate reason, such as injury or a clash with another examination, the moderator must be made aware of this prior to the moderation visit and a suitable alternative candidate must attend the moderation instead. Failure to attend moderation without a justifiable reason or without the moderator receiving prior notice may result in the candidate being awarded no marks for the unit in question.

Centre Authentication Form (CCS 160)

Your moderator must be sent a signed Centre Authentication Form along with all of your other paperwork for each practical unit assessed at your centre. These can be found on the OCR website.

Seasonal Activities

The allowance for some activity marks to be submitted for 15 May rather than 31 March at AS level was put in place to recognise that some activities, often referred to as *summer* activities, could not be assessed properly in time for 31 March. However increasingly there seems to be confusion about what falls into this category, so in the interests of clarity there will now be a set list. **Any activity not on the list must be assessed by 31 March for both AS and A2 (ALL A2 assessments must be completed by 31 March in any case).** All candidates must also have a minimum of one activity mark submitted on 31 March as per the requirements of the specification.

The following are deemed seasonal and can have AS marks submitted by 15 May (accompanied by DVD evidence):

Baseball; Cricket; Mountain Walking; Rock Climbing; Rounders; Skiing; Snowboarding; Tennis; Track and Field athletics.

Centres should note that candidates being assessed in these may still be called to moderation and asked to answer questions on or demonstrate knowledge of skills associated with these activities even if final assessment of them by the centre has yet to take place.

Amendments to G452 coursework guidance

Following feedback some amendments have been made to the assessment criteria for AS unit G452 and you should conduct your assessments with the updated criteria, which is available on the OCR website (details later on in this notice). In summary, the main changes are:

1. Circuit Training – candidate will now follow one set exercise programme and devise another programme themselves.
2. Evaluating and Planning for Improvement in Performance (EPIP) – the criteria now clarifies further the requirement for candidates to respond immediately to a performance which has been witnessed, rather than view a performance and then go away and prepare a response over an extended period of time. Candidates may use brief notes taken while watching the performance to assist their response but should not bring extensive, pre-prepared notes with them.

New G454 coursework guidance

A draft version of this has been on the OCR website since 08 June 2009. This will be finalised in time for the start of the academic year and hard copies will be dispatched to all centres in the autumn term. We are currently consulting with various organisations about reviewing the draft A2 performance tables and these may have to be added to the website as a separate document depending on the length of time this work takes.

More resources available on the OCR website

We will be making ongoing efforts to improve the resources available for you to use in your delivery of the OCR GCE Physical Education specification on the website. The main page from which these can be accessed is at:

http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/asa_levelgceforfirstteachingin2008/physical_education/documents.html

I would urge you to visit the site regularly in order to access these materials. Guidance on Special Activity Submissions and the June 2009 Report to Centres about units G451 and G452 have already been added.

Coursework Administration Guide

One of the resources which are being added to the website is a guide for you to use in the administration of the GCE Physical Education specification, specifically the practical units. I hope that this will prove helpful and again would encourage you to look at this in September in order to ensure that your department and exams office are familiar with the key dates and requirements associated with units G452 and G454.

The document also includes Frequently Asked Questions, Key Dates and Timelines and Guidance on Special Considerations.

I hope that this information will prove useful to you.

Alex Harris, Qualifications Manager for GCE Physical Education

Any enquiry about this notice should be referred to the OCR Customer Contact Centre, (01223 553998), OCR, 1 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB1 2EU.