



RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

## NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: Teachers of GCSE Physical Education

Date: November 2007

Subject: GCSE Physical Education

### GCSE Physical Education – Information for 2008

The report for the 2007 Examination covers a number of issues that arose concerning both the practical components of the qualification and the written paper and is available on the OCR website. Information should also have been disseminated to centres via moderators. Listed below are changes in the moderation process for 2008 and other information which I hope is useful.

#### Analysing Performance

In order to streamline the moderation day and to increase the size of the sample your moderator will request that you send six pieces of work to him/her before the moderation. This will be returned on the day of the moderation

The requirement that the AP work is in an activity that matches one of the four practical activities will be relaxed this year. It is expected that in the majority of cases that the AP code a will match an activity but it is no longer mandatory. **The AP activity must be one of the activities listed in the relevant specification.**

If a candidate is relying on a verbal response for their mark this **MUST** be supported by video evidence. The video should contain the questions and answers and be led by the member of staff. It is envisaged that each candidate would present for approx 4 minutes. It is expected that most candidates will continue to present written work. Centres may use whichever method is most appropriate.

The additional guidelines (issued in Oct 2005) are now posted on the web site.

The emphasis should be on the candidates' ability to look at a performance and identify weaknesses and demonstrate the knowledge of how to improve the weaknesses. Large amounts of material on required qualities/skills and knowledge about fitness will not gain marks. Applied, relevant knowledge is what is needed. Where an activity is highly fitness dependant (eg. distance running) then improvement through a fitness programme is relevant. Otherwise candidates should concentrate on progressive skill improvement. Good training programmes mention a time frame but do not list activities for each day of the week. Instead they concentrate on how a weakness will be developed through progressive practices.

## **Use of email**

Moderators are being encouraged to use email where possible as it provides a better communication trail. Centres are asked to acknowledge receipt of emails and respond to requests as soon as possible. Where errors in paperwork occur CW Amend forms have been sent to centres for completion and returned causing a delay in the process of at least a week. This year in cases of a few errors, moderators will send the form by email. Centres must acknowledge receipt and agreement (or otherwise).

## **Exercise Area**

Candidates can only offer one activity from this area. If they do they must offer activities from a further **TWO** activity areas ie. a total of three areas.

This area concentrates on exercise and is not an opportunity to introduce new activities eg Mountain Biking into Cycling.

## **Activity Codes**

Centres must use the correct codes as listed on the back of the CSF.

## **Coursework Summary Form**

This must list candidates in the same order as the MS1.

## **Offsite Activities**

Any activity that could not be reasonably moderated at the centre is defined as being 'offsite'. Centres must provide filmed evidence of all offsite marks that are entered by candidates. This can be in Video (Full size VHS as small cassettes vary so much), CD or DVD format.

Candidates need to be very clearly marked and the film accompanied by a written rank order (or appearance order) with marks and identifiers on it.

Where description of the environment is relevant please include this (e.g. type of slope in skiing).

## **OCR Website**

This has been updated recently. This now has all the relevant forms and other information (this letter will be posted there). Soon there will be information on relating Governing Body Awards to GCSE standards, offsite activities, reports to centres and video evidence.

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