

## **Article I General Rules for Sports**

### Section I

1. Convention Water-Ball Accuracy and firematic races are open to all fire departments that are members in good standing of the Onondaga County Volunteer Firemen's Association (O.C.V.F.A)
2. A sports team is defined as one (1) or more individual fire departments, provided that the individual(s) departments do not actively participate in sports as a team
3. All fire departments wishing to participate in any convention sports event must attend a minimum of three (3) county sports meetings and sign in at each within 15 minutes from the start of that meeting. (Note: see Article VI, Rule 13)
4. All sports teams wishing to participate in any convention sports events must attend the draw for position to be held on the Sunday prior to convention, including all multi department teams wishing to participate in waterball accuracy. Each sports team will select a representative to represent their team in the draw for position, provide a roster of team members, and choose what races their team will run. All sports teams will elect a captain to represent their team, with proper identification, while the races are being conducted. Those not attending the draw for position will be ineligible to compete in all events. (Exception: see Article I, Section 5.)
5. The only legal excuse to be accepted for failure to attend the "drawing-for-position" or failing to pre-register on time for waterball accuracy contests will in the event of a fire or other fire department emergency call for which your department is activated. In this case, the affected team will automatically be placed at bottom of the list. In the event that such placement would create a bye, the last team legally registered will be granted the bye and the late registering team will play at the end of the first round.
6. All fire departments wishing to participate in any convention sports event must submit a list of the events which that fire department wishes to compete in. Departments will be allowed to compete only in the events for which they have listed. This list shall be submitted on the Sunday prior to convention at the "drawing-for-position".
7. In order to be eligible to compete and collect winnings and/or prizes in any convention sports events, each team must have a minimum of eight (8) firefighters who must appear in the line of March. This rule shall also apply in regard to claiming any convention record, which may be established. Two or more fire departments forming one sports team must have eight (8) firefighters in the line of March. A combination of the two fire departments will meet this requirement with five department members marching in their own unit. For sports prizes only.
8. Any team placing within the top four (4) brackets of any convention sports event shall, if disqualified, be automatically dropped from the winners bracket and the next team placing in that event shall automatically move up into that respective position. Points shall be included.
9. Team captains shall be responsible for keeping their personnel off of the waterball accuracy courts and/or racecourse when that team is not actively competing. All persons are required to stay behind rope and/or barricades twenty (20) feet back from the starting line except for sports officials and team(s) competing. After race the next team(s) will be allowed onto course.
10. All persons are prohibited from the interfering with any sports officials including judges, timekeepers and announcers. Only exception to be team captains wearing proper identification issued by O.C.V.F.A Sports committee. Team captains only to do any talking for their respective teams. Failure to comply with this rule shall constitute grounds for disqualification from that event for the team involved. Also one (1) point shall be deducted from that team's total-points for each infraction of this rule.
11. All team captains or a representation shall be on hand until trophies and/or prize money are awarded.
12. To arrive at the "official time" for any event, the time on three (3) clocks shall be averaged to within one (1) one-thousandth of a second. If upon completion of a heat the time on the three (3) clocks does not agree to within one (1) second of each other, the times on the two (2) clocks in accord will be averaged and the time on the third clock shall be dropped.
13. In case of a tie in any convention sports event the teams tying shall rerun in their original order to determine position. The losing team of the rerun shall be declared the winner of the next position in the standing for that event, regardless of that teams official time during the rerun. All teams tying in an event shall be at the racecourse at the time of the re-run or they will automatically forfeit their chance for a re-run and shall automatically drop down into the lower position.
14. All teams competing in any convention firematic race shall have their choice of available equipment with which to run. Once they have made their choice they must then stick with the equipment they have chosen.
15. In case of an equipment failure in any convention sports event, the affected team will be allowed to rerun that contest after the last team signed up for that contest has completed its run.

16. Any team attempting to win a prize in any event by fraud or deception, foul play or in any way dishonorable, or to infringe upon or evade any of the requirements of these rules and/or regulations set forth herein, shall not be entitled to any prize or "official time" for that event in question. This shall be construed to include the use of any altered equipment, tape, lubricant, baby powder, stones, rocks, or other aids, etc. **NO GIMMICKS ALLOWED!** (Note: see Article I, Rule 17.)

17. A "gimmick" shall be defined as: "1.) a device employed, often illegally, to cheat, deceive, or trick; 2.) An undesirable feature concealed or played down in the promotion of a project; a catch; snag; 3.) A trivial or unnecessary innovation, as a gadget, added to enhance appeal; 4.) a small object whose name eludes one." (Definition taken from: *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language* © 1969,1970, 1971, 1973 by American Heritage Publishing Co., Inc., New York, NY 10020)

18. Any team deliberately wetting another team, or any spectators or sports officials, shall immediately be suspended from any and all further competition for the remainder of the convention and shall automatically forfeit any and all money and/or trophies and/or points already won.

19. Any team belonging to the host fire department of the convention shall be eligible to compete for any and all prize money and/or trophies in any convention sports event.

20. A stand for the sports officials shall be provided and placed in a location whereas to enable a clear, unobstructed view of the entire waterball court and/or race course. No one except for the sports officials shall be allowed on this stand during the course of any convention sports event.

21. Prize money and points money for each place bracket and points towards "All Point Trophy" for that bracket shall be as follows:

First place	\$50.00 and 5 points
Second place	\$35.00 and 3 points
Third place	\$25.00 and 2 points
Fourth place	\$15.00 and 1 point

Prize money to be paid 2/3 by O.C.V.F.A. and 1/3 by convention host fire department of convention.

22. At the conclusion of all competition in all convention sports events, the team with the most points accumulated in the 10 events shall be awarded the "All-Points Trophy." In case of a tie, the teams tying shall be awarded identical trophies.

23. All protests must be submitted in writing to the Sports Committee Chairman or Co-Chairman and must be signed by the protesting team captain. Also, a carbon copy of the protest must be submitted and forwarded to the captain of the team being protested. All protests must be submitted within ten (10) minutes after the team being protested completes its heat or run. Any and all protests not meeting these requirements shall immediately be declared void and the team submitting the protest shall forfeit its right to protest that infraction.

24. All prize money and/or trophies for all convention sports events shall be awarded on Saturday evening at 8:00 p.m.; or within one (1) hour after the completion of all convention sports events if later than 8:00 p. m.

25. No convention sports event shall be run unless a minimum of four (4) teams sign-up to compete in that event.

26. In all convention sports events the decision of the sports officials shall be final.

27. Each eligible sports team shall be allowed only one entry in any and all convention sports events.

28. Any team or contestant in any and all convention sports events, disqualified by any sports official for any reason, shall not receive an "official time" for that event.

29. Any team or contestant, in any and all convention sports events, may be disqualified from any and/or all events for any act(s) of unsportsmanlike conduct shown towards any sports official or other team or contestant, or for any other reason the sports officials feel could jeopardize the safety or tranquility of any convention sports event.

30. In all convention sports events, prizes (money and/or trophies) shall be awarded to the top four (4) teams in each events.

31. During the running of the firematic races and women's waterball accuracy contests on Friday evening, two (2) separate pumpers shall be used, one (1) for the firematic races and the other for the women's waterball accuracy contests.

32. During the running of all convention sports requiring the use of water, a portable pond (minimum capacity of one-thousand (1000) gallons shall be used as the primary water source.

33. No junior fire person competing as a junior fire person shall be allowed to race in the men's or women's sports events.

34. In case of any infraction or disqualification in any sports event after the starting signal has been given, the sports official shall immediately signal a stop to that heat and no official time shall be awarded to that contestant or team.

35. It shall be the responsibility of each sports team to keep up-to-date on all O.C.V.F.A. convention sports rules and regulations. Amendment pages shall be printed each year as necessary listing any new amendments or clarifications.

## **AMENDMENTS**

The following rules were adopted at the April 1994 meeting of the O.C.V.F.A. for the purpose of encouraging the fire departments to host waterball accuracy contests. The rules apply to waterball accuracy contests separate and apart from the annual county convention.

N.B. the term "pushball" was used in the rules adopted. The term "pushball" is identical in every meaning and in every regard to "waterball accuracy contest" as defined in the county sports rules.

### Pushball Overall Point Award Rules

1. 1 pt. Per team entering the event, (max. 2pts.)
2. 2 pts. For hosting an event.
3. Host dept. of the county convention will not receive 2 pts. For hosting an event as they are eligible to participate in pushball.
4. 1<sup>st</sup> place=5pts.  
2<sup>nd</sup> place=3pts.  
3<sup>rd</sup> place=2pts.  
4<sup>th</sup> place=1pt. (if applicable)

Amended Hinsdale Fire Dept Feb. 2004 (Scott McInnis Sports Chairman)

## **ARTICLE II Race Course**

1. The width of the racecourse shall be no less than twenty (20) feet of paved or concrete roadway. All obstacles such as trees, utility poles, guide wires, etc. shall have some type of protective covering if they are within ten (10) feet of either side of the racecourse. Race course shall be available for inspection on the Sunday prior to convention at the "drawing-for-position."

2. The hydrant shall be located on the right-hand side of the racecourse unless that location causes undue hardship on the host fire department. In the event that the hydrant cannot be located on the right had side of the course, the host fire department shall notify the O.C.V.F.A. sports committee no later than the May sports meeting.

3. The racecourse shall be properly marked for all convention sports events and shall include a safety striped marked across the course approximately five (5) feet before the scaffolding. This safety stripe shall serve only as a reference point for the placement of the base of the ladder during the running of the "five-man-ladder race." The purpose for this stripe shall be solely in the interest of safety to contestants and therefore no one shall be penalized for failure to place the base of the ladder on this safety stripe. The race course shall be marked and ready for inspection on the Sunday prior to convention at the "draw-for-position."

## **ARTICLE III Equipment**

1. Hose

All hose shall have brass couplings using Syracuse Standard threads. All female couplings shall turn freely. All hose to be used for any/all convention sports events shall be made available for inspection on the Sunday prior to convention at the "drawing for position." Additional hose shall be available on site of competition in the event of damage to the hose being used. All hose shall be in fifty (50) foot lengths.

## 2. Turnout Gear

All convention sports events requiring the use of firematic turnout gear shall be run with standard issue, unaltered or altered equipment including fire coats, fire boots, fire helmets, etc.

(Note: turnout coat wristlets and fire boot pull on rings are not required, but may be used.)

## 3. Motorized Apparatus

The motorized apparatus to be used for the "motor hose race" shall be available for inspection on the Sunday prior to the convention at the "drawing for position". At this time the motorized apparatus shall also be clocked on the race course and the "official time" recorded.

## 4. Scaffolding

The height of the platform on the scaffolding shall be at least fifteen (15) feet from the ground and no more than sixteen (16) feet from the ground. The support for the ladder to rest against shall be four (4) inches by four (4) inches (4" x 4") and located eleven and one-half (11 1/2) feet from the ground.

5. All other necessary equipment for any/all convention sports events such as buckets, cow tank, nozzle tips, barrel, ladders, etc. shall be available for inspection on the Sunday prior to convention at the "drawing for position".

## **ARTICLE IV Waterball Accuracy Contests**

1. For all convention waterball accuracy contests, two (2) wires shall be used. These wires shall be laid out identically and the "callers" for each team shall operate on the same side of the wire.

2. All convention waterball accuracy contestants shall personally sign up at 6:15 p.m. and shall start on the line at 6:30 p.m. sharp. The only legal excuse to be accepted for failure to register on time will be in the event of a fire or other fire department emergency call for which your department is activated. In this case, the affected team will automatically be placed at the bottom of the list for the first round. In the event that such a placement would create a bye, the last team legally registered will be granted the bye and the late registering team will play at the end of the first round. No team arriving later than the completion of the first round shall be eligible to compete.

3. For all convention waterball accuracy contests, each team shall draw for position prior to the start of each contest.

4. No contestant competing in the one and one-half (1-1/2) inch hose contest on Wednesday evening shall be allowed to compete in the two and one-half (2-1/2) inch hose contest on Thursday evening.

5. In the event of a water shortage, the holding of the waterball accuracy contests shall be left entirely to the discretion of the hose fire department.

6. For all convention waterball accuracy contests, each wire shall be approximately one hundred twenty (120) feet long with a stop or marker placed at each end of each wire. These stops or markers shall be placed fifty-five (55) feet from the center of each wire. A ball approximately ten (10) inches to fifteen (15) in diameter shall be suspended eighteen (18) inches from each wire and fifteen (15) feet from the ground.

## 7. Nozzle Pressures

Operating nozzle pressures for convention waterball accuracy contests shall be as follows:

A. One and one-half (1-1/2) inch hose contest-eighty (80) to one-hundred (100) pounds of pressure at the tip; the tip shall be not more or not less than one-half (1/2) inch.

B. Two and one-half (2-1/2) inch hose contest-seventy (70) to ninety (90) pounds of pressure at the tip; the tip shall be not more or not less than three-quarter (3/4) inch. The pressures stated above shall be checked with the use of a pilot-gauge or piezometer on the Sunday prior to the convention at the "drawing-for-position," and the pump-pressure needed to maintain the proper operating pressures for each hose contest shall be recorded. (Note: the same engine or pumper that is to be used during the actual water-ball accuracy contests shall be used for performing these checks.)

8. All teams competing in any convention waterball accuracy contest(s) shall consist of not more or not less than four (4) contestants that started the contest unless a bonafide injury occurs to a contestant that day.

9. All convention waterball accuracy contests shall begin with the ball located at the center of the wire with two (2) teams of four (4) contestants each standing behind the starting lines.

10. Only one (1) contestant may hold or play the "nozzle" position. (intent of original rule: it is not illegal for the number two (2) contestant in line to hold or play the "nozzle" position along with the number one (1) contestant.)

11. During any/all convention water-ball accuracy contests all four (4) contestants on each team shall have at least one (1) hand on the hose or nozzle at all times. In case of any contestant falling the sports official shall be responsible for determining whether or not contact or control of the hose is lost. Failure to hold hose or nozzle or loss of control shall result in a disqualification of that team for that heat, and credit for the win of that heat will be awarded to the opposing team.

12. In any/all convention waterball accuracy contests, each team at the completion of each heat, shall return water stream to pavement, set (not drop) nozzle on ground (after line is shut down) and exchange ends of wire.

13. All convention waterball accuracy contests shall consist of four (4) heats with each heat to be timed, or three (3) heats if all are won by the same team. The winner each contest shall be determined by either most heats won or by the fastest average time of heats between the two (2) opposing teams.

14. Regulation fire coats and regulation fire boots shall be worn by all contestants at all times during any/all convention waterball accuracy contests(s). No raincoats or non-fire boots shall be allowed. (Note: fire coat sleeves may be worn but are not required.)

15. In any/all convention waterball accuracy contests), any team intentionally turning their water stream on an opposing team shall be automatically forfeit that heat and no "official time" shall be awarded. (See: Article I, rule 19)

## 16. Finals

To determine the top four (4) places in any and all convention waterball accuracy contest(s) the following schedule shall be used, depending on the number of teams in the finals:

### A. Four (4) teams

One plays two, three plays four, winners shall then play for first and second and the losers shall play for third and fourth.

### B. Five (5) teams

Round-Robin; each team shall play each other team once from each end of the wire; one plays two, three plays four, five has the bye; then one plays five, two plays three, four has the bye; then one plays four, two plays five, three has the bye; then one plays three, four plays five, two has the bye; then two plays four, three plays five, one has the bye; Teams with the most wins or the fastest average times shall be declared the winners.

### C. Six (6) teams

All six (6) teams shall play; then the three (3) winners shall play a

round-robin to determine first, second and third place and the three (3) losers shall play to determine fourth place; Round-robin; each team shall play each other team once from each end of the wire; One plays two, three has the bye; then three plays one, two has the bye; then two plays three, one has the bye; teams with the most wins or the fastest average times shall be declared the winners.

### D. Seven (7) teams

The seventh team shall be awarded the bye into the next round; the six (6) remaining teams shall then play; the three (3) winners shall then advance into the next round with the seventh team; these four (4) teams shall then play as directed in Section IV, Rule 16-A.

## 17. Waterball accuracy - One and one-half (1-1/2) inch hose contest

This contest shall be held on Wednesday evening. Tip pressures shall be no less than eighty (80) pounds and no more than one hundred (100) pounds. The size of the tips shall be not more or not less than one-half (1/2) inch. Teams shall be permitted to cross the centerline and may go all the way.

## 18. Waterball accuracy - Two and one-half (2-1/2) inch hose contest

This contest shall be held on Thursday evening. Tip pressures shall be no less than seventy (70) pounds and no more than ninety (90) pounds. The size of the tips shall be no more or not less than three-quarters (3/4) inch. Teams shall not be permitted to cross or touch the center-line and therefore may not go all the way.

19. Two fire departments forming one sports team while competing in waterball accuracy may use one of the two fire departments on the 1-1/2" night and the other department on the 2-1/2" night or the same department on both the 1- 1/2" and 2-1/2" nights, with no member of that sports team participating in both events.

## Article V Firematic Races

### Section A

Prior to the start of any/all firematic race events requiring the use of water through the portable hydrant, the hose line off the portable hydrant shall be checked with a pitot gauge or piezometer to ensure that the operating tip pressure does not fall below seventy (70) pounds of pressure and does not exceed eighty (80) pounds of pressure at any time.

1. Those firematic races scheduled for Friday evening shall be held commencing at 6:00pm. Sharp.
2. Five (5) minutes shall be the maximum amount of time allowed for any/all teams(s) On the race course to ready its equipment at the starting time. If this time limit is exceeded, that team violating the limit shall automatically be disqualified from that event. A sports official shall be responsible for enforcing this rule.
3. After the completion of each heat in every event, the "official time" for each team Shall be announced. Also, official times shall be made available at the completion of that day's events.
4. A flag system shall be used for starting races when necessary.
5. All contestants in any/all events shall wear the athletic type sneakers. No oversized footwear shall be allowed
6. After the completion of each heat in every event, a sports official shall examine all contestants and/or their equipment for compliance with the rules. (See: Article I, Rule 17).

### 7. Equipment Race

All contestants shall start one-hundred fifty (150) feet from finish line wearing athletic-type sneakers (no oversized footwear shall be allowed) with both sneakers laced through the two (2) bottom holes and the two (2) top holes and bow tied at the top. At the starting signal the contestant(s) shall run forty-four (44) feet to fire helmet (no rescue type helmets shall be allowed), fire type hip boots and fire coat (either rubber or canvas). After untying both sneakers and removing the same, the contestants) shall then don both fire type hip boots and pull them up full length, don the fire coat and buckle the top four (4) buckles of fire coat and don the fire helmet, all before leaving the one hundred (100) foot mark on the race course. (Note: equipment may be donned in any order.) The contestants) shall then run one-hundred (100) feet to the finish line. Failure to untie both sneakers or the loss of either boot or failure to buckle the top four (4) buckles of fire coat or the loss of fire helmet before reaching the finish line, shall all constitute grounds for disqualification from the event. Also, all contestants' equipment shall be subject to examination by the Sports Officials upon completion of each heat. No gimmicks allowed. This event shall be run in heats not to exceed a maximum of three contestants per heat. (Note: contestants shall be allowed to touch shoe laces at the starting line before the start of each heat.)

### 8. One Man Ladder Race

Three (3) contestants allowed: One (1) contestant shall start from a line one hundred (100) feet from the finish line and the remaining two (2) contestants may be used to secure the ladder. At the starting signal the contestant running shall leave the starting line and run to and climb a twenty (20) foot ladder, which shall be located at the scaffolding. The contestants shall climb the full length of the ladder unassisted. The contestant shall then grasp and hold the top rung of the ladder and shall not release this hold until instructed to do so by a sports official. Failure to grasp and hold the top rung of the ladder or releasing hold until told to do so, shall constitute grounds for disqualification from the event.

The word "grasp" shall be defined as: 1.) to take hold of or seize firmly with or as if with the hand; 2.) hold firmly with or as if with the hand; to clutch; clasp; 3.) to take hold of intellectually; comprehend. (Definition taken from: ***The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*** ©1969, 1970, 1971,1973 by American heritage Publishing Co., Inc., New York, New York 10020.)

### 9. Three Man Ladder Race

Five (5) contestants allowed; One (1) contestants shall start from a line fifty (50)feet from the finish line, another contestants shall start from a line seventy-five (75) feet from the finish line and another contestant shall start from a line one-hundred (100) feet from the finish line. The

remaining two (2) contestants may be used to secure ladder. At the starting signal all three (3) contestants running shall leave their respective starting lines in consecutive order and run to and climb a twenty (20) foot ladder located at the scaffolding. The three (3) contestants shall climb the full length of the ladder unassisted. The three (3) contestants shall then, in order, grasp and hold the top rung of the ladder and shall not release this hold until instructed to do so by a Sports Official. Failure to run in the proper consecutive order or releasing this hold too soon by any of the three (3) contestants shall constitute grounds for disqualification from the event.

#### 10. Five Man Ladder Race

Maximum of five (5) contestants allowed.

A. Equipment shall consist of one (1) one and one-half (1-1/2) inch play-pipe nozzle, one (1) fourteen (14) foot ladder, one-hundred fifty (150) feet of uncoupled one and one-half (1-1/2) inch hose (with each free end of the hose touching the starting line) and one (1) target.

B. Race objective shall be to couple the three (3) lengths of hose, connect to hydrant, attach nozzle, carry ladder to and place at scaffolding, climb this ladder to the twelve (12) foot mark with hose and nozzle, place the nozzle through the designated rungs of the ladder and trip the target with water-stream from nozzle.

C. Race procedure: The starting line shall be located one-hundred thirty-five (135) feet from the finish line. The target shall be located twenty-five (25) feet beyond the finish line. The hydrant/equipment line shall be located ten (10) feet beyond the starting line (Note: ladder shall be placed so that one (1) end rests on the hydrants/equipment line.) All contestants shall begin from the starting line. At the starting signal the team running shall couple the hose, nozzle and hydrant. Team shall also carry and set (not throw) the ladder up against the scaffolding located at the finish line. This ladder shall then be climbed to the twelve (12) foot mark and the hose line nozzle inserted through the designated ladder rungs. A water stream from this nozzle shall then be used to trip the target located twenty-five (25) feet beyond. If any amount of water, large or small, emits from the nozzle before the nozzle is inserted through the designated ladder rungs, this shall constitute grounds for disqualification from the event. No mechanical kinking or clamping devices of any kind shall be permitted. No equipment shall be touched by any contestants until the starting signal is given by the Sports Official. The race procedure may be carried out in any sequence (e.g.: hose, nozzle, hydrant and ladder). The "official time" shall be taken from the starting signal and shall continue until the target is tripped. (Note: if in the event of a possible hazard to the crowd or a contestant because of poor placement or slipping of the ladder, the Sports Official shall have the authority to halt a race in the interest of safety and a rerun shall be allowed for the team(s) affected after the completion of all other heats in the event).

#### 11. Seven Man Hose Race

A. Up to 7 team members allowed.

B. Prior to start, nozzle and three (3) lengths of 2-1/2" hose will be laid uncoupled and end to end on the course between a hydrant which is 25ft. in front of the starting line and target line which is 200 ft. In front of the starting line. At signal participants will run from the starting line, couple the three lengths of hose, attach to hydrant and nozzle and trip target with water stream from nozzle. All requirements must be met to receive a time. Definition of "uncoupled": couplings not touching in any manner.

#### 12. Wye-Race

Maximum of five (5) contestants allowed.

A. Equipment shall consist of one-hundred fifty (150) feet of two and one-half (2-1/2) inch hose, two (2) two and one-half (2-1/2) inch play-pipe nozzles, One (1) two and one-half (2-1/2)" wye and two (2) targets.

B. Race objective shall be to uncouple one (1) length of hose, couple this hose To the hydrant and connect the wye to the opposite end of this same length of hose. Then to uncouple the other two (2) lengths of hose and attach each length to a butt on the wye connect a nozzle to each hose-length and use water-stream from each nozzle to trip a target. (Note: each nozzle shall trip only that target located on the same respective side of the race course as is the hose-line to which it is connected.)

C. Race procedure: The starting line shall be located one-hundred (100) feet Before the hydrant line. The targets shall be located one-hundred twenty-five (125) feet beyond the hydrant line. Three (3) fifty (50) foot lengths of two and one-half (2 1/2) inch hose shall be placed in a straight, flat line in the center of the race course. This hose shall be coupled hand-tight and inspected by a Sports Official. This hose shall be placed beginning at a line extending down the race course one-hundred fifty (150) feet. The wye and the two (2) nozzles shall be placed on the starting line. All contestants shall also start from the starting line with the wye and nozzles. They shall connect one (1) length of hose to the hydrant and connect the wye to the opposite end of this same length of hose. The remaining two (2) lengths of hose shall then be uncoupled from each other and one (1) length of hose connected to each butt of the wye. The nozzles shall then be connected to each of these lengths of hose and the water-stream from each nozzle shall be used to trip the respective target on each side of the race course. The race procedure may be carried out in any sequence. All teams shall be responsible for setting up their own hose. The hose may be kinked by hand. No equipment shall be touched until the starting signal is

given. The "official-time" shall be taken from the starting signal and shall continue until the second target is tripped by its respective hose line.

### 13. Efficiency Replacement Race

Maximum of twelve (12) contestants allowed.

A. Equipment shall consist of one hundred fifty (150) feet of two and one-half (2-1/2) inch hose, one (1) two and one-half (2-1/2) inch play-pipe nozzle, one-hundred (100) feet of one and one-half (1-1/2) inch hose, two (2) one and one-half (1-1/2) inch play-pipe nozzles, one (1) two and one-half (2-1/2) inch to one and one-half (1-1/2) inch wye and three (3) targets.

B. Race objective shall be to connect the two and one-half (2 1/2) inch equipment to the hydrant and use the water stream to trip the target located on the extreme right-hand side of the race course. Then, to connect the wye to the end of the second length of two and one-half (2 1/2) inch hose, connect the one and one-half (1-1/2) inch equipment to each butt of the wye and use the water stream from each one (1) of the one and one-half (1-1/2) inch hose-lines to trip the remaining two (2) targets. (Note: each hose line shall trip only one (1) target.)

C. Race procedure: The starting line shall be located two hundred (200) feet from the target line. The equipment shall be located one hundred ninety (190) feet from the target line and the hydrant line shall be located one-hundred seventy-five (175) feet from the target line. All equipment shall be placed on the starting line with the hose stretched between the starting line and the equipment line. All equipment shall be placed directly on the ground. The race shall be run in two (2) separate starts, each to be started by the same Sports Official. On the first start, up to eight (8) contestants shall leave from the starting line. They shall pick up the three (3) lengths of two and one-half (2-1/2) inch hose and the two and one-half (2-1/2) inch play-pipe nozzle and couple same, connect this hose to the hydrant, charge the hose line and use the water stream from the nozzle to trip the target located on the extreme right hand side of the race course. As soon as this target is tripped the Sports Official shall signal for the second start of the race. Then, up to four (4) contestants shall leave from the starting line. They shall pick up the two (2) lengths of one and one-half (1-1/2), the two (2) one and one-half (2-1/2) inch play-pipe nozzles and the two and one-half (2-1/2) to one and one-half (1-1/2) inch wye. The two (2) one and one-half (1-1/2) inch nozzles shall be connected to the male end of each of the one and one-half (1-1/2) lengths of hose and this hose shall be connected to the wye. This wye shall be connected to the male end of each of the second length of two and one-half (2-1/2) inch hose, the hose shall be charged and the water stream from each nozzle shall be used to trip the remaining two (2) targets. Only one (1) target shall be tripped with each nozzle. All starting contestants shall remain in the race until the last target is tripped. (Note: the initial eight (8) contestants running the first start of the race shall not be permitted to come back up the race beyond the hydrant line to assist with the one and one-half (1-1/2) inch equipment.) The flow of water may be stopped at any time by kinking the hose by hand, shutting down the hydrant, or by any means so long as only the original starting equipment is used. The "official-time" shall be taken from the starting signal of the first start of the race and shall continue until the third and final target is tripped by its respective hose line. No equipment shall be touched until the starting signal for each start is given.

### 14. Bucket Brigade Race

Maximum of twelve (12) contestants allowed.

A. Equipment shall consist of not more than twelve (12) two (2) gallon buckets, One (1) large cow tank or reservoir, one (1) fifty-five (55) gallon drum modified to overflow at forty-five (45) gallons and a twenty (20) foot ladder placed securely against the scaffolding by the host fire department.

B. Race objective shall be to fill the fifty-five (55) gallon drum, located on the Platform of the scaffolding, with water using only the two (2) gallon buckets provided.

C. Race Procedure: The cow tank or reservoir shall be located by the host fire Department fifty (50) feet from the scaffolding and a means shall be provided so that the water level in the cow tank or reservoir remains constant (i.e. hydrant or pumper). All contestants with buckets shall begin the race behind the starting line located seventy-five (75) feet from the scaffolding. At the starting signal all contestants shall proceed to the cow tank or reservoir and draw water into their buckets. These buckets shall then be hand carried up the ladder and dumped into the drum until water flows from the overflow spout, at which time the race shall be declared over. The platform of the scaffolding where the drum is located shall be at least fifteen (15) feet from the ground but not greater than sixteen (16) feet from the ground. Each team shall designate which contestants are to remain on the platform and the ladder while the remaining contestants fill buckets by hand and forward them up the ladder to the platform. Any buckets dropped into the drum or onto the platform shall be removed before water flows from the overflow spout. Failure to remove buckets before water flows shall constitute grounds for disqualification from the event. All buckets going up the ladder shall contain water. All contestants designated to remain on the platform and the ladder shall be required to carry buckets containing water at the start of the race. The "official-time" shall be taken from the starting signal and shall continue until water begins to flow from the overflow spout of the drum. At the completion of each heat in this event, absolutely no one shall be thrown or dunked into the cow tank or reservoir. (Note: see Article I, Rule 18). Also each team shall be responsible for emptying the drum of water at the completion of their heat.

### 15. Cart Race

Maximum seven (7) participants allowed.

- A. Equipment shall consist of a cart, with four lengths of 2-1/2" hose properly coupled together in the cart hose bed, at the starting line twenty-five (25) feet behind the hydrant.
- B. At the start of the race no piece of equipment or person shall be ahead of the starting line. Up to two(2) hydrant people are allowed to hold hose. The nozzle person may hold the nozzle and up to two (2) pullers shall have hold of the cart handle to start.
- C. At the starting signal, participants shall run down the course with the cart; connect to hydrant; lay the hose, which must come off from the rear of the cart, in a normal manner; manually break the third coupling at one hundred (150) feet; connect the nozzle and trip the right side target located at the line one hundred seventy-five (175) feet from the hydrant. The hose cannot be touched by any participant, except the hydrant people, until the third coupling has touched the ground.

## **ARTICLE VI Sports Officials**

### Section 1

1. The term "sports-official" shall be meant to include all judges, timekeepers, announcers, flagmen, radio operators, etc. and the sports liaison from the host fire department. (Note: Only those person appointed to the O.C.V.F.A Sports committee as "judges" shall have the power and/or authority to vote or decide on any/all official matter(s) concerning any/all convention sports event(s).
2. The Sports Official shall be responsible for administering all rules and regulations set forth herein to promote a fair and competitive spirit of sportsmanship in all convention sports events.
3. The Sports Officials shall have the authority to make any special arrangements or rules at the convention, as not already provided for in these rules and regulations
4. In case of premature termination of any convention sports event through no fault of the contestants (i.e. heavy rains and/or lightening), the Sports Officials shall immediately render a decision and that decision shall become final.
5. The decision of the Sports Officials in any/all convention sports event(s), or in any/all other matters, shall be final
6. The Sports Officials shall furnish a copy of the "final standings" from all convention sports events to a representative of the O.C.V.F.A. and the host fire department, as soon as possible after the completion of all convention sports events, so that prizes may be awarded.
7. Any Onondaga County Volunteer Firefighter or exempt firefighter wishing to become a Sports Official on or after January 1, 1975 must have a minimum of three (3) years experience competing in firematic races on a County Fire Department racing team. (Note: This shall apply only for those persons seeking the position of sports judge.)
8. Any person wishing to apply for the position of Sports Official (judge) must submit his or her name and qualifications signed by his or her Fire Department Chief as verification of same, to the chair or co-chair of the O.C.V.F.A. Sports Committee prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> of the year being considered for application. All applicants must first be approved by the Sports Committee (consisting of Sports Officials and team captains) and then forwarded to the O.C.V.F.A. for their approval. All candidates shall be notified within ten (10) days of their acceptance or rejection.
9. All sports officials used to time races shall be required to familiarize themselves with clocks and/or stop watches prior to the start of any convention sports event.
10. The duties of the Sports Officials shall include the following:
  - A. Assist the host fire department committee in planning for the layout of the waterball accuracy courts and/or racecourse; inspect and approve same.
  - B. Conduct "drawing for position" meeting on the Sunday prior to the convention.
  - C. Receive listings from team captains signifying what events each team wishes to compete in (See: Article I, Rule 6).
  - D. Distribute proper identification badges to designated sports team captains. (See: Article I, Rule 10).
  - E. Review all convention sports rules and regulations with the sports team captains

- F. Inspect all equipment required to promote contest designation
- G. Officiate at all convention sports events and record times for each in all events.
- H. Enforce all rules and regulations listed here in.
- I. Provide paper and carbon to any team captain wishing to submit a protest and rule on same,
- J. Limit all competing teams to a five (5) minute maximum to ready its equipment prior to their heat in any/all convention sports event(s). (See: Article V, Rule 2).
- K. Meet with the host fire department approximately one (1) month prior to convention, if requested, to answer any questions and/or assist the host fire department with any problems and/or plans in regard to any/all convention sports events.
- L. The Sports Officials shall meet at any time prior to the "drawing for position" to review and familiarize themselves with the "Convention Sports Rules and Regulations" and/or any subsequent amendments.

11. All Sports Officials shall be requested not to compete with their respective Fire Departments in any/all Convention sports event(s). Any Sports Official who does compete in any convention sports event shall be prohibited from officiating in that event.

12. Sports Officials shall be appointed prior to all Convention sports events as to what their official duties shall be for each event.

13. No O.C.V.F.A. Sports Committee member or County Officer (including President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Director, Auditor or Custodian) shall be allowed to represent his/her Fire Department for attendance requirements at any County Sports Meeting. (Note: See Article I, Rule 3).

## **ARTICLE VII Schedule**

### Section 1

#### 1. County Sports Meetings

Must attend a minimum of three (3) meetings per year. (See: Article I, Section in.)

#### 2. Drawing for position-mandatory (See: Article I, Rule 4)

The "drawing for position" meeting shall be held on the Sunday prior to convention (usually the second Sunday of July) at 1:00 p.m. at the grounds of the Host Fire Department. The agenda for this meeting shall include the following:

- A. Receive listings from team captains signifying what events each team wishes to compete in. (See: Article I, Rule 6).
- B. Conduct the "drawing for position"
- C. Distribute proper identification badges to designated sports team captains. (See: Article I, Rule 10).
- D. Review all convention sports rules and regulations with the sports team captains.
- E. Inspect all hose and equipment required to promote all convention sports events. (See: Article III, Rules 1 and 5)
- F. Inspect racecourse for layout and markings. (See: Article II, Rules 1 and 3).
- G. Conduct flow tests and check tip pressures for waterball accuracy contests. (See: Article IV, Rule 7).
- H. Inspect motorized apparatus to be used for Motor Hose Race and establish "Official truck time". (See: Article III, Rule 3).
- I. Issue "reserved parking" passes to Sports Officials. (See: Article VII, Rule 7).

#### 3. O.C.V.F.A. Annual Convention

The O.C.V.F.A. Annual Convention shall be held sometime during the second full week of July (Convention usually includes Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday).

#### 4. Convention Schedule

The Convention sports schedule shall be as follows:

- A. Wednesday: One and one-half (1-1/2) inch waterball accuracy contests.
- B. Thursday: Two and one-half (2-1/2) inch waterball accuracy contests.
- C. Friday: Equipment Race, One-Man Ladder Race, Three-Man Ladder Race and Five-Man Ladder Race
- D. Saturday: Wye Race, Efficiency Replacement Race, Bucket Brigade Race, Cart Race and Awards Ceremony

### **ARTICLE VIII Duties of Host Fire Department**

#### Section

1. The Host Fire Department shall make available for inspection on the Sunday prior to convention, all equipment needed to conduct all Convention sports events including the water-ball accuracy courts and racecourse. (Note: See: Article III, Rules 1 and 3; Article IV, Rules 1, 3 and 5.)
2. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for having the waterball accuracy courts (including wires, hose, tips and tip pressures) operational by 5:45 p.m. on the evenings of the waterball accuracy contests.
3. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for providing a means of electric power (AC or DC) for operation of the electronic timer on the racecourse.
4. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for providing a portable pond (minimum capacity of one thousand [1000] gallons) for use during the waterball accuracy contests and firematic races. (See: Article I, Rule 32).
5. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for providing the Sports Officials with cold non-alcoholic beverages throughout all of the convention sports events.
6. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for providing the Sports Officials with dinner immediately following the parade on Saturday, including transportation to and from the place of the dinner.
7. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for providing the Sports Officials with reserved parking and/or parking passes to enable the Sports Officials to park near the waterball accuracy courts and/or racecourse. These passes shall be issued on the Sunday prior to Convention at the "drawing for position" meeting. (See: Article VII, Rule 2, Paragraph 1.)
8. After the completion of all convention sports events on Saturday, the Host Fire Department shall be responsible for providing the Sports Officials with a room or place to meet, so that they may tabulate the results of all Convention sports events and discuss any problems, which may have occurred during the running of any of these events. Also, cold beer and soft drinks shall be provided at this time.
9. The Host Fire department shall be responsible for providing the scaffolding and platform required for the running of the firematic races. (See: Article III, Rule 4.)
10. The Hose Fire Department shall be responsible for providing a sound system to be used for all Convention sports events.
11. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for erecting ropes or barriers to restrict spectators from the waterball accuracy courts and/or racecourse. (See: Article I, Rule 20)
12. The Host Fire department shall be responsible for providing a stand for the Sports Officials to work from during the running of all Convention sports events. (See: Article I, Rule 20).
13. The Host Fire Department shall be responsible for providing a pitot gauge or piezometer on the Sunday prior to Convention at the "drawing for position" and assuring that this pitot gauge or piezometer is readily available during the running of all waterball accuracy contests and those firematic races requiring the use of pressurized water throughout the convention.

**ARTICLE X Convention Firematic's Race Records**

<b>Race</b>	<b>Fire Dept</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Otisco</b>	<b>14.18</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>Tully</b>
<b>One Man Ladder</b>	<b>E. Syracuse</b>	<b>6.167</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>E. Syracuse</b>
<b>Three Man Ladder</b>	<b>Otisco</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>1976</b>	<b>Taunton</b>
<b>Five Man Ladder</b>	<b>Otisco</b>	<b>11.07</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>Otisco</b>
<b>Wye Race</b>	<b>Fairmount</b>	<b>23.00</b>	<b>1960</b>	<b>Jordan</b>
<b>Eff. Replacement</b>	<b>Fairmount</b>	<b>26.840</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>E. Syracuse</b>
<b>Cart Race</b>	<b>Fayetteville</b>	<b>16.211</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>Skaneateles</b>