

OFSAA CO-EDUCATIONAL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

The sole basis for the very existence of high school sport is the contribution it makes to the general educational experience of those students who participate.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. Date:

The OFSAA Co-educational Swimming Championship shall be held during the first week in March unless extraordinary circumstances dictate a change.

2. Location:

The location of the Championship shall be decided not later than the OFSAA Annual Meeting held in April of the school year prior to the Championship.

3. Meet Structure:

(a) the OFSAA Swimming Championship shall provide competition in the High School, Open and Para-swimming divisions. Classification of swimmers is as follows:

(i) **Para-Swimmer**

All para-swimmers must have a classification provided by accredited classifiers, to compete in OFSAA. Classifiers can be contacted via -

Special Olympics Ontario - <http://slam.canoe.ca/OntarioSpecialOlympics>
Swim Ontario - <http://www.swimontario.com>

Classifications for Para-swimming Competitors:

- S1-10 are physically disabled;
- S11, S12, S13 are blind;
- S14 are mentally disabled;
- SO are Special Olympic athletes.

NOTE: SNC charts will be used to score the S1-S14 categories and Special Olympic charts will be used to score the SO category.

(ii) **Open Division**

A swimmer who has competed for and/or trained with and/or been registered with a SNC club or equivalent as of November 1st of the year prior to the current school year shall be eligible to compete in the Open Division only provided that he/she is a bona fide member of the school team.

A swimmer who, during the current school year, has competed for and/or trained with and/or been registered with a non-SNC competitive swim club* shall be

eligible to compete in the Open Division only, provided that he/she is a bona fide member of the school team. If a **grade 9 swimmer** has ceased to compete for and/or practise with and/or is no longer registered with a club after November 1st of the current school year, he/she shall be eligible to swim in the high school division.

A "non-SNC competitive swim club" is defined as a club which practices outside the school curricular and/or extra curricular programs and whose athletes compete in scheduled swim meets for the club during the school swim season.

(iii) **High School Division - Junior and Senior Events**

All other swimmers (i.e. not Para-swimmers or Open swimmers as defined above) who meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in Regulation #7, and who are bona fide members of the school team compete in this division.

(b) Boys' competition and girls' competition shall be conducted over two days in the following events:

(i) **High School Division:**

Senior Events -

100 Metre Freestyle	100 Metre Backstroke
200 Metre Freestyle	100 Metre Breaststroke
100 Metre Individual Medley	200 Metre Freestyle Relay
50 Metre Freestyle	200 Metre Medley Relay
50 Metre Butterfly	

Junior Events -

50 Metre Freestyle	100 Metre Freestyle
50 Metre Backstroke	100 Metre Individual Medley
50 Metre Breaststroke	200 Metre Freestyle Relay
50 Metre Butterfly	200 Metre Medley Relay

(ii) **Open Division:**

Open Events -

200 Metre Individual Medley	200 Metre Freestyle
100 Metre Butterfly	100 Metre Breaststroke
100 Metre Backstroke	400 Freestyle Relay (as defined in Regulation 5(h))
100 Metre Freestyle	100 Metre Individual Medley
50 Metre Freestyle	
200 Metre Medley Relay (as defined in Regulation 5(h))	

(iii) **Para-swimming Division**

100 Metre Freestyle	50 Metre Freestyle
50 Metre Backstroke	

- (c) Heats shall be conducted prior to Championship finals. Consolation finals shall be held following the corresponding Championship final.
- (d) The pool will be open for warm-ups prior to the heats and the finals. The warm-up schedule shall be determined by the convening committee and shall be distributed in the school information packages.
- (e) A scratch meeting shall be held prior to the Meet.
- (f) All Para-swimming division swims are timed finals. Coaches of Para-swimmers must meet prior to the championship finals each day as called by the meet management. Tapping and starting devices will be checked at this time.
- (g) Para-swimmers will be scored using the IPC classification charts according to their respective classifications. S14 and SO swimmers will be scored as the same category.

4. Rules and Officials

Revisions to rulebooks governing play at the OFSAA Championship shall be reviewed by the Sport Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors prior to implementation at any Championship.

- (a) S.N.C. rules shall govern competition at the OFSAA Championship with the following exceptions:
 - (i) all scratches for finals must be lodged with the clerk of the course within 30 minutes of the session. Failure to do so results in disqualification of the individual from all subsequent events.
 - (ii) IPC swimming rules shall govern the Para-swimming portion of the competition.
- (b) The Convening Committee shall be responsible for obtaining competent officials for the OFSAA Championship.
- (c) School coaches, competitors and officials only shall be allowed on the pool deck.
- (d) SNC warm-up procedures shall be in effect.
- (e) Any suspensions or disciplinary actions in Association competition shall be carried forward into OFSAA competition.
- (f) During the running of the competition, pace clocks shall be turned off.

5. Entry:

- (a) Entries will be accepted from Association convenors only.

- (b) All entries to OFSAA shall come from the Association Swim Championship meet or from an OFSAA qualifying meet.
- (c) A **school** may have a maximum of two (2) competitors in each individual event in each division and one (1) school relay team in any relay event. In Para-swimming events a school may enter any number of Para-swimmers with only the top two scoring in each event.
- (d) Competitors may enter up to three (3) events; only two (2) of which may be individual events. Competitors that enter more than the allotted (3) events, will have their excess events removed at the discretion of the OFSAA Championship Convenor.
- (e) Each event winner from the Association Swim Championship meet, or from an OFSAA qualifying meet may enter OFSAA for that event plus any swimmers making the time standard for the event at the association qualifying meet.
- (f) All Para-swimmers who participate in the Association/qualifying meet are eligible to compete at OFSAA. There are no Time Standards for these events.
- (g) A **relay team** may be made up of six (6) competitors, any four (4) of whom may swim, but for all six(6) listed the relay is considered an event.
- (h) For the Open Relays, teams may consist of swimmers from the High School Division, the Open Division, or any combination thereof.
- (i) A Para-swimmer competitor who chooses to swim in the Para-swimming division may not swim in the corresponding event in the High School or the Open division. For the other events, however, he/she may swim in the High School division only or the Open division only.
- (j) Entries, registration fees and OFSAA participation fees **shall** be received by the OFSAA Championship Convenor by the entry deadline. Fee amounts owing will be sent to each association convenor once the association commitments have been determined for the OFSAA Swimming Championship, and will be based on the previous year's entry numbers plus a (ten)10 percent increase. Fees will also be assessed after the championship and any adjustments will be made to balance the association's account. Late entries will only be accepted if they can be accommodated and shall be subject to a penalty of an additional entry fee.
- (k) For associations withdrawing a team(s) after the commitment deadline the minimum sanction imposed will be a fine equal to the entry fee. Further, if the withdrawal takes place at a time that impacts on the convenor, financially or logistically, a further fine may be issued. This fine may encompass costs incurred by the convenor for entry fee, banquet meals, banners, etc. as reviewed and approved by OFSAA. The association and/or school may also be brought forward to the Board of Reference sanctions.

6. Expenses:

A school Registration Fee and an event Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover operating costs of the tournament. Any Association that does not meet its entry commitment after it has declared an entry into the Championship will be required to submit the entry fee and a report will be made to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own travel, meals and accommodation for the event.

7. Eligibility:

(a) Team Eligibility

OFSAA Swimming is classified as a **Team Sport**. Only bona fide members of a school team which is coached by a staff member from that school may enter the OFSAA Championship.

- (i) a **school team** is defined as a team composed of a minimum of six (6) members who train as a team for at least two (2) consecutive months from September to March involving at least two (2) pool practices per week under the direction of a coach;
- (ii) a **coach** is a teaching staff member of that school who is responsible for the team and is present at a majority of practices and all competitions. This may still allow for coaching assistance of a purely technical nature;
- (iii) a **bona fide school team member** is a student from that school who actively participates as a swimmer in the majority of practices of his/her school team.
- (iv) in the event of a lack of available pool time, a school can petition to be declared eligible under the signatures of the coach and principal.
- (v) attendance at ten (10) practices is to be verified by the completion of a practice eligibility form by the coach and principal.

(b) Student Eligibility

To represent a school in any activity co-ordinated by the Federation a student **must**:

- (i) be eligible for competition under the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules (Playing Regulations) of the Association to which his/her school belongs;
- (ii) be certified as eligible by the Principal of the school;
- (iii) meet the following age requirements:

Junior - the individual's birth certificate indicates that he/she has not reached his/her 15th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held;

Senior - the individual's birth certificate indicates he/she has not reached his/her 19th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.

- (iv) be in Grades 9-12;
 - (v) be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy (By-Law 5, Section 4(f));
 - (vi) be eligible for no more than five (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section 4(g));
 - (vii) have signed the Rules of Behaviour signature form for the competition.
 - (viii) **Effective immediately Para-swimmers with an S14 classification and/or Special Olympics are permitted to compete until the age of 21 and shall be eligible for no more than seven (7) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9.**
- (c) No team, on which a swimmer has been deemed ineligible after the start of the meet (i.e., start of the first event), shall receive any team awards; nor shall the team be scored in the overall standings. However, the remaining members of the team are eligible to receive individual awards.
- (d) High school coaches who have swimmers participating in recreational swim programs may petition for eligibility in the High School Division through their Association convenor to the Chairperson of the OFSAA Sport Advisory Committee for Swimming or designate. Applications must be received by December 31st.

Questions regarding the eligibility of any swimmer should be directed to the OFSAA Swimming Chairperson.

Questions regarding eligibility of any swimmer raised at the OFSAA meet should be directed to the OFSAA Swimming Chairperson. Procedures outlined in the S.N.C. rule book will be followed until the case is resolved.

8. Time Standards:

- (a) Time standards shall be used as a requirement for entry to the OFSAA meet for those swimmers who do **not** win their event at the Association/qualifying meet; official splits will be recognized as official entry times.
- (b) The time standards for the **High School and Open Divisions** shall be based on the average of the 24th place from the two previous OFSAA championships in the event.
- (c) There shall be no time standards for the Para-swimming Division.

9. Uniforms:

All competitors are expected to dress in uniforms that are neat, clean and which maintain the integrity of the school's/Association's name, colours and logos. No sport club insignia on swim suits, caps or other apparel shall be permitted. A sport club is defined as a community, provincially or nationally based organization whose primary purpose is participation in organized competition in single or multi sport programs. Sponsorship recognition is permitted to be visible but must conform with the placement guidelines outlined in By-Law 6, Section 2(h). In addition, swimmers are governed by the SNC Regulations, specifically (p. 1.5, GR 7.1 and 7.2).

Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate attire in the competition area, AND use the designated locker room or change area to change to and from competition attire.

Incidents of non-compliance shall be forwarded to the Competition Committee for resolution.

This criteria must be met both on and in the immediate vicinity of the competitive area and during the awards ceremonies.

Swimmers will be permitted to wear swim suits that contradict the SNC guidelines for cultural and/or religious reasons at the discretion of the meet referee.

10. Scoring:

All events shall be scored as follows to determine team champions:

1st-40; 2nd-37; 3rd-34; 4th-32; 5th-31; 6th-30; 7th-29; 8th-28; 9th-26; 10th-24; 11th-23; 12th-22; 13th-21; 14th-20; 15th-19; 16th-18; 17th-16; 18th-15; 19th-14; 20th-13; 21st-12; 22nd-11; 23rd-10; 24th-9; 25th-8; 26th-7; 27th-6; 28th-5; 29th-4; 30th-3; 31st-2; 32nd-1. All position points for **relays** are doubled (e.g. 1st-80; 12th-44).

11. Awards:

- (a) **Individual:** OFSAA medallions shall be presented to the first three (3) finishers in each event. OFSAA ribbons shall be presented to the fourth through eighth place finishers in each event.

Team: Team Championships shall be declared for Junior Girls' High School Division, Senior Girls' High School Division Junior Boys' High School Division, Senior Boys' High School Division, Girls' Open Division (includes points from Open 400 Metre Freestyle Relay), Boys' Open Division (includes points from Open 400 Metre Freestyle Relay), Para-swimming Division and Overall Combined (combination of High School, Open and Para-swimming Divisions)."

- (b) The schools represented by these Championship teams shall receive banners to be retained by the schools.
- (c) Placement of swimmers in the Para-swimming Division will be determined based on their classification and points allotted for their finishing time using the appropriate charts.
- (d) OFSAA-ineligible athletes, who were permitted to compete at the local league or Association level, shall not receive OFSAA medals, either at the Championship or after the event.

12. Supervision: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 1)

A teacher is defined as a member of the Ontario College of Teachers or a holder of an Ontario Teacher's Certificate or equivalent.

- (a) For team sports ("A team consists of all athletes from the same school who qualify for Federation competition as a unit..." {reference By-Law 5, Section 3}), a teacher from the same school, or a retired teacher, as approved by the principal of the school, must accompany and be

responsible for the team.

- (b) For individual sports (those sports in which athletes from a school qualify for federation competition as individuals), the principal of the school may designate an adult who is not a teacher to accompany the athletes. In addition, a teacher, or a retired teacher, must be present and on site and designated by the principal to be responsible for the athlete(s).
- (c) For all sports, where the teacher, as indicated in (a) and (b) above, is not of the same sex as the athlete(s), and where the athlete(s) are required or might be required to stay overnight, a supervisory adult, as approved by the principal of the school, of the same sex as the athlete(s), must be present and available at the accommodation site for the duration of their stay in the accommodation.
- (d) For the purposes of supervision, Swimming may recognize (b) above.

13. Registration:

Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the team\athlete(s), upon receipt of a completed Rules of Behaviour signature form, Practice Eligibility form, payment of registration fees and photo forms.

14. Deportment: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 2)

- (a) A team is defined as, "All participants representing the same school at an OFSAA Championship event".
- (b) A participant is defined as, "Anyone who has been granted proper authorization to enter a restricted area." "Restricted area" includes "those areas occupied by athletes and to which access by the general public is restricted or prohibited."
- (c) All participants are expected to abide by the, "Rules of Behaviour for Participants to OFSAA Championships". (see Appendix to By-Laws)
- (d) Supervising adults are responsible for the behaviour of participants for the duration of the Championships.
- (e) Teams are open to censure for failure of its participants to abide by the "Rules of Behaviour".
- (f)
 - (i) All coaches are expected to adhere to the Code of Ethics for Coaches to OFSAA Championships. (See Appendix II)
 - (ii) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Statement of Principle on Recruiting. (See Appendix IV)
 - (iii) Spectators are expected to adhere to the Code of Behaviour for Spectators. (See Appendix III)
 - (iv) All coaches are expected to adhere to the "Return to Play Guidelines". (See Appendix VI)
 - (v) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Policy on dispensing drugs, medication and food supplements. (See Appendix IX)
- (g) All schools entering a Federation Championship shall, by signature of the school principal

on the Championship Entry Form, acknowledge responsibility for making restitution for damage resulting from misconduct by their participants.

- (h) Interfering with an official on duty or exhibiting other irresponsible behaviour, or using obscene or abusive language in the pool area, may cause a swimmer to be scratched from the rest of the meet. The physical or verbal assaulting of an official or causing wilful damage in the pool area by a swimmer, coach, or anyone else associated with a team is a major offence. The offender(s) shall be excluded from the meet, ordered from the pool area and/or the building at the discretion of the referee, and barred from re-entry for the remainder of the meet. The offence shall be reported to the Competition Committee. (Ref. SNC Rulebook, CSW 10.19.4 and .5)
- (i) No artificial noisemakers are permitted at OFSAA Championship events.

15. Medical:

- (a) Provision shall be made by the Convenor to have a medical doctor in attendance or readily available and to follow appropriate hygienic precautions with regard to bodily fluids and communicable diseases. (See Appendix IV to the By-Laws.) Qualified first-aid personnel and equipment shall be available at the Championship site. Coaches shall provide all consumable medical supplies (e.g. tape, bandaids) for their athletes.
- (b) All competitors must abide by health and safety regulations at the convening pool. All accidents must be reported.

16. Jury of Appeal:

The Jury of Appeal shall consist of three (3) individuals: the chairperson of the OFSAA Swimming Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member and one (1) other member appointed by the Championship Convenor. The Jury of Appeal shall handle disputes which fall within the realm of:

- (a) Tournament Structure and Procedure;
- (b) Rules and Officials;
- (c) Uniforms and Equipment;
- (d) Scoring.

Tournament structure and procedure concerns shall be addressed no later than the end of the coaches' meeting.

A dispute must be submitted in writing to the Convenor or Designate together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within thirty (30) minutes, except as provided within specific sport governing regulations, of the conclusion of the event in which the incident under dispute occurred. Decisions of the Jury of Appeal shall be final.

A report of the Jury of Appeal decisions shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

17. Competition Committee:

- (a) The Competition Committee shall consist of three (3) individuals: the Championship Convenor, or designate; an OFSAA staff or Executive Committee Member, or designate; and the Chairperson of the OFSAA Swimming Sport Advisory Committee, or designate. The Competition Committee shall handle disputes regarding:
- (i) Eligibility;
 - (ii) Department;
 - (iii) Supervision and registration;
 - (iv) Social;
 - (v) Medical personnel;
 - (vi) Awards.

If a dispute cannot be resolved by the Competition Committee within a reasonable period of time, the event will continue and the dispute may be referred to a Board of Reference - General. (Please note that eligibility under the OFSAA Transfer Policy cannot be addressed at OFSAA events (By-Law 5, Section 4 (f)).

Disputes which fall within the jurisdiction of the Competition Committee must be received in writing to the Convenor or designate, together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within a reasonable time frame.

Appeals to the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be addressed to the Board of Reference - General.

A report of the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

- (b) The Competition Committee shall be the body empowered to delay/cancel an event(s) due to unforeseen circumstances at the site(s).

***All Federation Championships are non-smoking events.
This includes the use of all tobacco related products.***

Participants must obey the Ministry of Education's Code of Conduct.