

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. Events and/or Classifications:

(a) The OFSAA Swimming Championship shall provide competition in the High School, Open and Para-swimming divisions. In the High School Division there shall be competition in two (2) age classifications: Junior and Senior. For purposes of classification the high school season begins November 1st.

(b) Classification of swimmers is as follows:

(i) High School Division

i) A swimmer who exclusively trains with and competes with/for their high school and does not train or compete with/for any other aquatic program or program with an aquatic component.

ii) A swimmer in grade nine is eligible who has ceased to train or compete with/for any other aquatic program or program with an aquatic component prior to the high school swim season (as stated in (a) above).

iii) A swimmer in grade ten or above is eligible who has ceased to train or compete with/for any other aquatic program or program with an aquatic component prior to the previous high school season (as stated in (a) above).

(ii) Para-Swimmer

All para-swimmers must have a classification provided by an OFSAA designated classifier to compete at the OFSAA Swimming Championship.

Classifications for Para-swimming Competitors:

- S1-10 are for physical impairment;
- S11, S12, S13 are for visual impairment;
- S14 are for intellectual impairment;

NOTE: IPC charts will be used to score the S1-S14 categories.

(iii) Open Division

All other swimmers (i.e. not Para-swimmers or high school swimmers as defined above) who meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in Regulation #5, and who are bona fide members of the school team must compete in this division.

(iv) Classification

If a teacher-coach has a swimmer whose eligibility is unclear or is unsure of the proper classification, refer to Section 5. Eligibility (d) below.

(c) 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	

2. Championship Structure and Procedures:

- (a) Heats shall be conducted prior to Championship finals. Consolation finals shall be held following the corresponding Championship final.
- (b) 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.
- (c) A scratch meeting shall be held prior to the Meet.
- (d) 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.
- (e) Para-swimmers will be scored using the IPC classification charts according to their respective classifications.

(f) **Time Standards:**

- (i) 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; official splits will be

recognized as official entry times.

- (ii) If more than 34 swimmers qualify for an event the new qualifying time for the next OFSAA championship will be the average of the 24th times from the championship and the previous championship. If 30 to 34 swimmers qualify for an event the qualifying time remains unchanged. If less than 30 swimmers qualify for an event then the new qualifying time is 1 % slower than the current qualifying time.
- (iii) There shall be no time standards for the Para-swimming Division.
- (g) Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the athletes upon receipt of the required entry materials as outlined on the OFSAA Swimming Championship website.
- (h) The teacher-coach/supervisor must attend the coaches' meeting. If the coach is a non teacher, then both the teacher-supervisor and the coach must attend the meeting.

3. Entry:

- (a) Entries will be accepted from Association convenors only.
- (b) Entries must be received by the deadline date as indicated in the coaches' information on the OFSAA Swimming website. Late entries will only be accepted if they can be accommodated, and an additional entry fee shall be charged.
- (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, 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 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) Any suspensions or disciplinary actions in Association competition shall be carried forward into OFSAA competition. The Association convenor is responsible for reporting such student-athlete and the nature of the disciplinary action.

4. Expenses:

- (a) Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own entry fee, and travel, meals and accommodation for the event.
- (b) 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.

5. Eligibility:

(a) School/Team Eligibility

To represent a school in any activity coordinated by the Federation, a school/team must:

- (i) conduct a 'bona fide' high school program consisting of a minimum of four (4) members and a minimum of two (2) pool practices per week for at least two (2) consecutive months between September and March, under the supervision of a teacher as certified by the school principal
- (ii) participate in an Association-approved league if one is held
- (iii) participate in the Association Championship or qualifying event. If neither is held, then the team must participate in two (2) competitions
- (iv) 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;
- (v) 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.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) attendance at ten (10) practices is to be verified by the completion of a practice eligibility form by the coach and principal.

(b) Individual 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.
Para-swimmers with an S14 classification 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.
- (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) participate as a member of a 'bona fide' member of the high school program as outlined in (a) above and attend the majority of practices and competitions
- (ix) have participated in the Association Championship or OFSAA-qualifying event
- (x) not participate in both the OFSAA Championship and any event in that same sport on the same day

- (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 or non-competitive 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. NOTE: All petitions that are approved will expire at the end of the school year and must be re-petitioned by December 31st annually.
- (e) Questions regarding the eligibility of any swimmer should be directed to the OFSAA Sports Advisory Committee Swimming Chairperson.
Questions regarding eligibility of any swimmer raised at the OFSAA meet should be directed to the OFSAA Sports Advisory Committee Swimming Chairperson. Procedures outlined in the S.N.C. rule book will be followed until the case is resolved.

6. Rules and Officials

- (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) **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).
- (c) School coaches, competitors and officials only shall be allowed on the pool deck.
- (d) SNC warm-up procedures shall be in effect.
- (e) During the running of the competition, pace clocks shall be turned off.
- (f) Any issue should be brought to the Session Referee by the coach within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective event

7. Uniforms and Equipment:

- (a) **General**
 - (i) 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.
 - (ii) 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.
 - (iii) Swimmers will be permitted to wear swim suits that contradict the SNC guidelines for cultural, gender and/or religious reasons at the discretion of the competition coordinator.

- (iv) 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.
- (v) This criteria must be met both on and in the immediate vicinity of the competitive area and during the awards ceremonies. Incidents of non-compliance shall be forwarded to the Protest Committee for resolution.

(b) Sport Specific

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

8. Awards:

- (a) Team Championships shall be declared in the following:
 - (i) Girls' Junior and Senior High School Divisions,
 - (ii) Boys' Junior and Senior High School Divisions,
 - (iii) Girls' Open Division (includes points from Open 400 Metre Freestyle Relay),
 - (iv) Boys' Open Division (includes points from Open 400 Metre Freestyle Relay),
 - (v) Para-swimming Division
 - (vi) Overall Combined (combination of High School, Open and Para-swimming Divisions).
- (b) The schools represented by the Championship teams in each of the above divisions shall receive an OFSAA banner to be retained by the school.
- (c) OFSAA gold, silver, and bronze medallions shall be presented to the first three (3) finishers in each event; ribbons to the fourth through eighth place finishers.
- (d) 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.
- (e) OFSAA-ineligible athletes who were permitted to compete in the local or Association Championship shall not receive OFSAA medals, either at the Championship or after the event.

9. 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.

10. Department: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 2)**(a) Definitions**

- (i) A team is defined as, "All participants representing the same school at an OFSAA Championship event".
- (ii) 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."

(b) Codes of Behaviour

- (i) All participants are expected to abide by the, "Rules of Behaviour for Participants to OFSAA Championships". (see Appendix to By-Laws)
 - (ii) Supervising adults are responsible for the behaviour of participants for the duration of the Championships.
 - (iii) Teams are open to censure for failure of its participants to abide by the "Rules of Behaviour".
 - (iv) All coaches are expected to adhere to the Code of Ethics for Coaches to OFSAA Championships. (See Appendix II)
 - (v) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Statement of Principle on Recruiting. (See Appendix IV)
 - (vi) Spectators are expected to adhere to the Code of Behaviour for Spectators. (See Appendix III)
 - (vii) All coaches are expected to adhere to the "Return to Play Guidelines". (See Appendix VI)
 - (viii) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Policy on dispensing drugs, medication and food supplements. (See Appendix IX)
- (c) 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 **Protest** Committee.
- (d) No artificial noisemakers are permitted at OFSAA Championship events.

11. Social:

- (a) If a special event is arranged, all team members and coaches must attend.
- (b) Participants are expected to wear 'dress casual' attire. No jeans, shorts, tank tops, or hats are permitted.
- (c) Should there be an instance of improper attire, the Protest Committee shall deal with the matter and forward a report to the Board of Reference-Sanctions.

12. Medical:

- (a) Coaches shall provide all consumable medical supplies (e.g. tape, bandaids, ice packs) for their athletes.
- (b) All competitors must abide by health and safety regulations at the convening pool. All accidents must be reported.

13. Protest Committee

All disputes during an OFSAA Championship/Festival shall be directed to the Protest Committee for resolution.

- (a) The Protest Committee shall consist of three(3) individuals; the chairperson of the Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member, and one other member appointed by the Championship convenor. The Head official in some cases, may serve as a member of the Protest Committee. Members of the Protest Committee must not have any conflict of interest relevant to the incident under protest..
- (b) All protests must be submitted in writing to the Championship convenor or designate, shall fully outline the incident under protest, and shall be accompanied by a \$50.00 fee (refundable if protest is upheld).
- (c) A protest must be submitted within thirty (30) minutes of the completion of the game/event in which the incident under protest occurred, or within thirty minutes of the occurrence if protesting an incident outside the field of play.
- (d) The following areas may not be protested at a Championship/Festival:
 - Officials' decisions
 - Eligibility of transfer students
- (e) Any disputes or protests re: tournament structure and procedure must be addressed no later than the coaches' meeting.
- (f) The Protest Committee shall be the body empowered to delay/modify/cancel an event due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. weather conditions) at the site(s).
- (g) Decisions of the Protest Committee shall be final.

A report of all appeals and decisions shall be forwarded to the OFSAA Board of Reference – Sanctions, who may determine that additional sanctions are necessary.

***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.

SPORT SPECIFIC DIRECTIVES

1. Officials

- a) The Convening Committee shall be responsible for obtaining competent officials for the OFSAA Championship.
- b) The head official must attend the coaches' meeting, and is encouraged to hold an officials' meeting prior to the start of the first race, when possible. Otherwise the head official is responsible for communicating the information to all officials participating.

2. 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.)
- b) Qualified first-aid personnel and equipment shall be available at the Championship site.