

## 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 1<sup>st</sup>.

- b. **Classification of swimmers is as follows:**

- i. **High School Division:**

- 1. A swimmer is eligible to compete who exclusively trains with and competes for their high school. The student must not train/compete with any other competitive swimming program. The following programs are NOT considered to be competitive swim programs: diving, kayak, canoe, sailing, artistic swimming, water polo, lifeguarding and triathlon. A swimmer is eligible who has ceased to train/compete with a competitive swim program prior to November 1 of the previous school year.
    - 2. A swimmer is eligible to compete who has ceased to train/compete with a competitive swim program prior to November 1 of the current school year AND whose best time has not met the "OFSAA Open Exemption Time" in ANY of the following events: 50 free, 100 free, 200 free, 100 back, 100 breast, 100 fly, 200 IM. The "OFSAA Open Exemption Times" are determined as follows:
      - for Junior aged swimmers, the cutoff time shall be the current 14 Year Old Ontario Age Group Standard plus 25%
      - for Senior aged swimmers, the cutoff time shall be the current 16 Year Old Ontario Age Group Standard plus 25%Refer to the Swim Ontario website for the most recent "Ontario Age Groups (OAG) Time Standards". "OFSAA Open Exemption Times" will be posted on the OFSAA Swim website.
    - 3. A swimmer is eligible to compete who trains with a recreational (non-competitive) swim program for a maximum of 3 hours per week in addition to training with their high school.

- ii. **Para-Swimmer:**

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

- c. **Classifications for Para-swimming Competitors:**

- 1. S1-10 is for physical impairment.

2. S11, S12, S13 are for visual impairment.
3. S14 is for intellectual impairment.

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

**i. 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.

This includes:

- any swimmer who has trained/competed with a competitive swimming program after November 1 of the current school year, regardless of whether or not they have met the OFSAA Open Exemption Times.
- any swimmer who trained/competed with a competitive swimming program during the PREVIOUS school year and whose best time has met the OFSAA Open Exemption time in any event.

**d. 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.

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

**i. High School Division:**

**Senior Events**

100 Metre Freestyle	50 Metre Backstroke
200 Metre Freestyle	50 Metre Breaststroke
100 Metre Individual Medley	200 Metre Freestyle Relay
50 Metre Freestyle	200 Metre Medley Relay
50 Metre Butterfly	Co-Ed 4 x 50 Metre Freestyle Relay

**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

**200 Metre Freestyle**

ii. **Open Division:**

**Open Events**

200 Metre Freestyle	100 Metre Butterfly
100 Metre Breaststroke	100 Metre Backstroke
<b>4 x 50 Metre Freestyle Relay (as defined in Regulation 5(h))</b>	50 Metre Freestyle
100 Metre Freestyle	200 Metre Medley Relay (as defined in Regulation 5(h))
100 Metre Individual Medley	

iii. **Para-swimming Division:**

100 Metre Freestyle	50 Metre Freestyle
50 Metre Backstroke	<b>50 Metre Breaststroke</b>

**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 1% faster than the current qualifying time. 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. For any new events that are added to the Championship, time standards will not be used during the first two years, and each association may send two representatives. In the third year time standards will be based upon the average of the fifth slowest recorded times from the previous two years. In all subsequent years, time standards will be calculated as per all other events.
  - iii. Qualifying time standards for para events will be established by the Para Swim Committee.
- g. Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the student-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 four (4) events; only two (2) of which may be individual events. Competitors that enter more than the allotted four (4) events, will have their excess events removed at the discretion of the OFSAA Championship Convenor. Swimmers in the Para Division may enter up to 3 individual events and any Para Swimming Competitor that enters more than the three (3) allotted events will have their excess event 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, travel, meals and accommodation for the event.
- b. Entry fees are calculated based on information provided at the registration deadline and will be considered final, unless special circumstances occur. The convenor will determine whether special circumstances have occurred or not.
- c. 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 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.
- viii. In accordance with Rowan's Law, have all coaches and trainers confirm in writing on the OFSAA form provided, that they have reviewed the concussion awareness resource and OFSAA Concussion Code of Conduct within the previous twelve (12) months.

**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:
- iv. **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.
- v. **Senior** - the individual's birth certificate indicates he/she has not reached his/her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday by January 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.
- vi. **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.
- vii. Be in Grades 9-12.
- viii. Be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy
- ix. Be eligible for no more than five (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9.
- x. Have signed the Rules of Behaviour Policy signature form for the competition.
- xi. 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.
- xii. In accordance with Rowan's Law, confirm in writing on the OFSAA form provided, that they and their parent/guardian (if student is under 18 years of age) have reviewed the concussion awareness resource and OFSAA concussion code of conduct within the previous twelve (12) months.
- xiii. Have participated in the Association Championship or OFSAA-qualifying event
- xiv. Not participate in both the OFSAA Championship and any event in that same sport on the same day.
- xv. 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.

- c. High school coaches who have swimmers participating in recreational or non-competitive swim programs may petition for eligibility in the High School Division through the Chairperson of the OFSAA Sport Advisory Committee for Swimming or designate. Applications **are available on the Championship website and on the forms section of the**

**OFSAA website** and **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.

- d. 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; 17<sup>th</sup>-16; 18<sup>th</sup>-15; 19<sup>th</sup>-14; 20<sup>th</sup>-13; 21st-12; 22<sup>nd</sup>-11; 23<sup>rd</sup>-10; 24th-9; 25<sup>th</sup>-8; 26<sup>th</sup>-7; 27<sup>th</sup>-6; 28<sup>th</sup>-5; 29<sup>th</sup>-4; 30<sup>th</sup>-3; 31<sup>st</sup>-2; 32<sup>nd</sup>-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:**

All requirements outlined in the OFSAA General Uniform Policy 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.

**Sport Specific:**

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.

**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.

**9. Supervision:**

*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 student-athletes from the same school who qualify for Federation competition as a unit...", 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 student-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 student-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 student-athlete(s).
- c. For all sports, where the teacher, as indicated in (a) and (b) above, is not of the same sex as the student-athlete(s), and where the student-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 student-athlete(s), must be present and available at the accommodation site for the duration of their stay in the accommodation.

**10. Deportment:**

**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 student-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 Policy for Participants to OFSAA Championships".
  - 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 Policy".
  - iv. All coaches are expected to adhere to the Code of Ethics Policy for Coaches to OFSAA Championships.
  - v. School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Statement of Principle on Recruiting.
  - vi. Spectators are expected to adhere to the Code of Behaviour Policy for Spectators.
  - vii. All coaches are expected to adhere to the "Return to Play Policy".
  - viii. School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Policy on dispensing drugs, medication and food supplements.
- 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 OFSAA Sanctions Committee.

**12. Medical:**

- a. Coaches shall provide all consumable medical supplies (e.g. tape, bandaids, ice packs) for their student-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:
  - i. Officials' decisions
  - ii. 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 Sanctions Committee, who may determine that additional sanctions are necessary.

**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 policy on hygienic precautions with regard to bodily fluids and communicable diseases.
- b. Qualified first-aid personnel and equipment shall be available at the Championship site.

***All Federation Championships/Festivals are non-smoking and non-vaping events.***

***This includes the use of all tobacco and vaping related products.***

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

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