

## Approved Wording changes to Swimming Rules - January, 2024

Rule	Current Wording	New Wording
Vision Statement	To be a leading sport organization, fostering a culture of inclusiveness, fun and achievement.	To be a competitive sport organization, fostering a culture of fair play, inclusivity, fun and achievement.
Mission Statement	The BC Summer Swimming Association (BCSSA) promotes and encourages the development of athletes and volunteers through participation in speed swimming, diving, water polo and artistic swimming.	The BC Summer Swimming Association (BCSSA) promotes, and encourages the development of athletes, coaches, and volunteers through life-long participation in aquatic activities.
Core Values	Through its member clubs, BCSSA provides opportunities for training, competition, and activities in communities throughout BC and surrounding areas.	No change
	BCSSA promotes the development of an individual's capacity to achieve excellence and life skills through participation in competitive aquatic activities.	BCSSA promotes the development of an individual's capacity to achieve excellence and life skills through participation in speed swimming, diving, water polo and artistic swimming.
Table of Contents		Will need to be updated to reflect all changes.
Definitions		Definitions will be moved to end of each book before the Index. Note will be made that Section 1 will now be found at the end of the book. Each BCSSA Sport will have their own rule book with only definitions related to the individual sport.
<b>2.2 Individual Registration</b>		
2.2.1 Registration Requirements b)	c) At the time of registration, the specific aquatic activities of each athlete shall be correctly recorded.	c) At the time of registration, the specific aquatic activities of each Athlete shall be correctly recorded by the Club registrar or delegate.
2.2.2 Sanctions For Not Meeting Requirements		Add: c) Any athlete determined to have been competing in the wrong category shall be disqualified from all incorrectly entered events. Said disqualification shall occur at the time of determination in the current season.

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2.3.1 Registration Timing	c) An athlete who wishes to compete at Regional or Provincial Championships with BCSSA during the competitive season but after the second Thursday of July may do so but will be ineligible to compete at the Regional and the Provincial Championships. All applicable provincial, regional and club fees for such a late registrant shall be paid and submitted to the Provincial Registrar by September 15th	An athlete who wishes to compete with BCSSA during the competitive season, but who registers AFTER the second Thursday of July, may do so but is ineligible to compete at the Regional and the Provincial Championships.
2.3.2 Registration Database and Fees	a) An annual Provincial individual registration fee shall be established by the BCSSA Board of Directors prior to the beginning of each competitive season.	a) An annual Provincial individual registration fee shall be established by the BCSSA Board of Directors no later than February 1st of each year.
2.3.2 Registration Database and Fees	b) Each Regional Board may levy Regional fees by such amounts as may be deemed necessary for regional activities and expenditures.	no change
2.3.2 Registration Database and Fees	c) Each club shall submit a club competitive season individual registration database for each aquatic sport, and fees, to the Regional Registrar by the second Thursday of July.	no change
2.3.2 Registration Database and Fees	d) The Regional Registrar shall submit each club's registration database and fees to the Provincial Registrar by the Monday two weeks prior to the Swimming Regional Championships.	d) The Regional Registrar shall submit each club's registration database and fees to the Provincial Registrar not later than 12 days before the first day of the Regional Swimming Championships.
2.3.2 Registration Database and Fees	e) Clubs shall submit any fees relating to late registrants to the Regional Registrar by September 15th.	remove
2.3.2 Registration Database and Fees		e) A penalty of up to \$1,000 may be assessed by the BCSSA Board of Directors to a region or club that fails to submit its registration database or fees by the deadline.

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2.4.1 Registration Timing	b) Clubs may commence registration and programs for the non-competitive season on September 1st of each year. The closing date for non-competitive season registrations is March 31st of the following year.	b)The closing date for non-competitive season registrations is as set by each Regional Board, but shall be no later than March 31st.
2.4.1 Registration Timing	c) Each club shall submit a club non-competitive season individual registration database, and fees, to the Regional Registrar by February 28th.	Remove
2.4.1 Registration Timing	d) The Regional Registrar shall submit each club's registration database and fees to the Provincial Registrar by March 15th	Remove
2.4.2 Registration Database and Fees	a) A non-competitive season provincial registration fee shall be established by the BCSSA Board of Directors each year.	Remove
2.4.2 Registration Database and Fees	b) Each Regional Board may levy Regional fees by such amounts as may be deemed necessary for regional activities and expenditures.	Change to a)
2.4.2 Registration Database and Fees	c) Each club shall submit a club non-competitive season individual registration database, and fees, to the Regional Registrar by April 3rd.	b)Each club shall submit a club non-competitive season individual registration database, and fees, to the Regional Registrar by April 1st.
2.4.2 Registration Database and Fees	d) The Regional Registrar shall submit each club's registration database and fees to the Provincial Registrar by April 10th.	Change to c)
2.4.2 Registration Database and Fees		d) A penalty of up to \$1,000 may be assessed by the BCSSA Board of Directors to a region or club that fails to submit its registration database or fees by the deadline.
<b>2.5 Protests Regarding Athlete Eligibility</b>		
2.5.1 Responsibilities	b) Any club wishing to protest the eligibility of an Athlete shall, as soon as possible, forward the protest in writing to their Regional Director and regional registrar, along with any relevant documentation.	b) All protests regarding Athlete eligibility must follow the current BCSSA Athlete Eligibility Protest Policy.
2.5.1 Responsibilities	c) Anonymous protests of Athlete eligibility shall not be investigated.	Remove. Will be covered by Athlete eligibility policy
2.5.2 Process	Entire Section	Remove. To be replaced with the new BCSSA Athlete Eligibility Policy.

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
<b>2.6 ATHLETE TRANSFER — COMPETITIVE SEASON</b>		
2.6.1	Athletes may not transfer between clubs after the second Thursday of July.	Athletes shall not transfer between clubs: a) until all relevant paperwork is complete and signed by all parties and, b) after the second Thursday of July.
2.6.2 Intra-Region Athlete Transfer:	a) The transfer of an athlete between two clubs within the same region requires the approval of the Athlete’s parent or guardian as well as the president or designate of each club.	a) The transfer of an athlete between two clubs of the same BCSSA Sport within the same region requires the approval of the athlete, athlete’s parent or guardian if necessary, as well as the president or designate of each club.
2.6.2 Intra-Region Athlete Transfer:	b) A transfer shall be initiated by the Athlete using the transfer form available from the BCSSA.	b) The transfer shall be initiated by the athlete and/or parent/ guardian using the BCSSA transfer form.
2.6.2 Intra-Region Athlete Transfer:	c) The receiving club registrar shall submit the transfer form, signed by the relevant club presidents or designates, to the Regional Registrar.	c) The receiving club registrar shall submit the completed transfer form, signed by the relevant club presidents or designates, to the Regional Registrar.
2.6.3 Inter-Region Athlete Transfer:	a) The transfer of an athlete between two clubs in different regions requires the approval of the presidents or designates of each club and the two Regional Directors or designates.	a) The transfer of an athlete between clubs of the same BCSSA Sport in different regions requires the approval of the athlete, athlete’s parent/ guardian if necessary, president of each club, and the two Regional Directors or designates.
2.6.3 Inter-Region Athlete Transfer:	b) The transfer shall be initiated by the Athlete using the transfer form available from the BCSSA.	b)The transfer shall be initiated by the athlete or parent/guardian using the BCSSA transfer form.
2.6.3 Inter-Region Athlete Transfer:	c)The transfer form shall be signed by the club president or designate and Regional Director of the home region prior to sending it to the second region.	Remove
2.6.3 Inter-Region Athlete Transfer:	d) The receiving club registrar shall submit the transfer form, signed by the relevant club presidents or designates and the Regional Directors or designates to the Regional Registrar.	c) The receiving club registrar shall submit the completed transfer form to the Regional Registrar.

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2.6.3 Inter-Region Athlete Transfer:	e) The Athlete shall not be required to pay any additional Provincial fee but may be required to pay any Regional fee assessed by the receiving region. Club fees are the responsibility of the Athlete.	d) The Athlete shall not be required to pay any additional Provincial fees. Regional and Club fees are the responsibility of the Athlete.
<b>2.7 ATHLETE TRANSFER — NONCOMPETITIVE SEASON</b>		
2.7.1 Process	b) A transfer form is not required for an athlete transfer during the non-competitive season.	b) A transfer form is not required.
<b>2.8 ASSIGNMENT TO A SECOND CLUB TO COMPETE IN AN ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE.</b>		<b>2.8 ASSIGNMENT TO A SECOND CLUB TO COMPETE IN AN ADDITIONAL SPORT.</b>
2.8.1 What is Permitted	a) An Athlete may become a member of a second BCSSA club in order to compete in an aquatic discipline not offered by the home club, as long as the registration takes place prior to the Monday before the second Thursday of July.	a) An Athlete may become a member of a second BCSSA club in their Region in order to compete in a BCSSA Sport not offered by the home club, as long as the assignment form and registration is completed by the Monday before the second Thursday of July.
2.8.1 What is Permitted	b) If another club in the Athlete’s home region offers the desired second discipline, then such an assignment may only be made within the same region as the Athlete’s home club.	b) If another club in the Athlete’s home region offers the desired second BCSSA Sport, then such an assignment may only be made within the same region as the Athlete’s home club.
2.8.1 What is Permitted	c) If no club in the Athlete’s home region offers the desired second discipline, then such an assignment may be made to a club in a different region as long as the BCSSA assignment form and registration takes place prior to the Monday before the second Thursday of July.	c) If no club in the Athlete’s home region offers the desired second BCSSA Sport, then such an assignment may be made to a club in a different region as long as the BCSSA Assignment form and registration is completed by the Monday before the second Thursday of July.
2.8.2 Process	When registering an athlete for a second aquatic discipline, the second club shall indicate the name of the Athlete’s home club on the assignment form, available from the BCSSA.	When registering an Athlete for a second BCSSA Sport, the second club shall ensure that the Athlete Transfer form is completed in its entirety.

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2.8.3 Intra-region Athlete Assignment	a) An Athlete wishing to compete in a discipline not offered by their home club but offered by another club in the same region shall initiate the assignment process to another club in the region using the assignment form, available from the BCSSA.	a) The assignment of an athlete between two clubs of the same BCSSA Sport within the same region requires the approval of the athlete, athlete's parent or guardian if necessary, as well as the president or designate of each club.
2.8.3 Intra-region Athlete Assignment	b) The Athlete shall not be required to pay any additional Regional or Provincial fees. Club fees are the responsibility of the Athlete.	b) The assignment shall be initiated by the athlete and/or parent/ guardian using the BCSSA transfer form.
2.8.3 Intra-region Athlete Assignment		c) The receiving club registrar shall submit the completed assignment form to the Regional Registrar.
2.8.3 Intra-region Athlete Assignment		d) The Athlete shall not be required to pay any additional Provincial fees. Regional and Club fees are the responsibility of the Athlete.
2.8.4 Inter-region Athlete Assignment	a) An Athlete wishing to participate in a discipline not offered by any club in their region shall initiate the assignment process to a club in a different region using the assignment form, available from the BCSSA.	a) The assignment of an athlete between clubs of the same BCSSA Sport in different regions requires the approval of the athlete, athlete's parent/ guardian if necessary, president of each club, and the two Regional Directors or designates.
2.8.4 Inter-region Athlete Assignment	b) An assignment to a club in a different region requires written approval from the two clubs and the two Regional Directors involved.	b)The assignment shall be initiated by the athlete or parent/ guardian using the BCSSA transfer form.
2.8.4 Inter-region Athlete Assignment	c) The assignment form shall be signed by the club president or designate and Regional Director of the home region prior to sending it to the second region.	Remove
2.8.4 Inter-region Athlete Assignment	d) The receiving club registrar shall submit the assignment form, signed by the relevant club presidents or designates and the Regional Directors or designates to the Regional Registrar.	c) The receiving club registrar shall submit the completed assignment form to the Regional Registrar.
2.8.4 Inter-region Athlete Assignment	e) The Athlete shall not be required to pay an additional Provincial fee but may be required to pay any Regional fee assessed by the receiving region. Club fees are the responsibility of the Athlete.	d) The Athlete shall not be required to pay any additional Provincial fees. Regional and Club fees are the responsibility of the Athlete.

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2.8.5 Exceptions to Intra-Region and Inter-Region	Athlete Assignment may be approved by the home club, receiving clubs, the Regional Directors and the Director of the specific aquatic discipline by June 1st of each year.	Under exceptional circumstances, an Individual Athlete Assignment may be approved by the home club, receiving club, the two Regional Directors and the Director of the specific BCSSA Sport by June 1st of each year. Unanimous approval is required for the assignment to be approved. Four or more assignment requests from the same club must be approved by the BCSSA Board of Directors
<b>3.11 BCSSA APPEALS COMMITTEE</b>		
3.11.1	Any club, Athlete, coach, official or other person may appeal any decision or application of BCSSA rules to the BCSSA Appeals Committee.	a) Any club executive member or coach may appeal any decision or application of BCSSA rules to the BCSSA Appeals Committee.
3.11.1		b) The purpose of the appeals process is to determine whether the appropriate process and application of rules was followed. The appeals process is not to simply re-try an original protest or complaint.
3.11.2	In order for an appeal to be considered, the club or person wishing to appeal shall provide the following to the BCSSA Office:	In order for the appeal to be considered, it must be submitted to the Provincial Office within 2 days of the decision in question and shall include the following:
3.11.3	a) A written description of the matter being appealed, including the reasons why the decision should be changed.	no change
3.11.4	b) A \$100 filing fee.	no change
<b>Speed Swimming</b>		
<b>4.1 Athlete Categories</b>		
4.1.1 Requirements	b) An Athlete's age as of April 30th shall be used to determine the Athlete's category of competition each year. The Athlete categories for swimming are:	b) An Athlete's age as of April 30th shall be used to determine the Athlete's category of competition each year. The Athlete categories for swimming are:
	'S' Swimmers	'S' Athletes
	Div. I - 8 & Under	Div. I - 8 & Under
	Div. II - 9-10½	Div. II - 9-10½
	Div. III -10½-12 O1- Div. III & Under	Div. III -10½-12 O1 - Under 12

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	Div. IV - 12-13½ O2 - Div. IV-VI	Div. IV - 12-13½
	Div. V - 13½ -15 O8 - 17 & Over	Div. V - 13½ -15
	Div. VI -15-16	Div. VI -15-16 O2 - 12-16
	Div. VII - 17-19	Div. VII - 17-19 O8 - 17 & Over
	O8 - 20 & Over	
<b>4.2 Athlete Eligibility</b>		
4.2.1 Requirements	c) Athletes who misrepresent their aquatic participation may be disqualified from all BCSSA competition within the current season. A disqualification shall take effect immediately and be in effect for twelve months from the date of the disqualification.	c) Athletes who misrepresent their aquatic participation may be disqualified from all BCSSA competition. Such a disqualification may take effect immediately and be in effect for twelve months from the date of the disqualification.
4.2.1 Requirements	d) All Athletes must compete in their designated Athlete categories.	d) All Athletes shall compete in their designated Athlete categories.
4.2.1 Requirements	e) An 'S' swimmer is an individual who trained and competed for an unrestricted number of hours from May 1st to August 31st (inclusive) of any year. From September 1st to April 30th (inclusive) immediately preceding registration, an 'S' swimmer may have:	No change
4.2.1 Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in speed swimming training and/or swim meets, provided the activity(ies) did not exceed a total of two (2) hours within a calendar week. A calendar week is Sunday through Saturday. A swim meet counts as one hour of activity per day of meet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in speed swimming training not exceeding a total of two (2) hours within a calendar week. A calendar week is Sunday through Saturday.</li> </ul>
4.2.1 Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trained and competed in diving, water polo and artistic swimming with no restrictions.</li> </ul>	no change
4.2.1 Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From September 1st to November 30th (inclusive), engaged in swimming activities for the specific purpose of competing in any swim meet recognized in the official program schedule of the annual swimming championships organized by a middle/secondary school athletic association. Training for the meet must have been carried out under the direction of the 'S' swimmer's school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From September 1st to November 30th (inclusive), participated as a Grade 8-12 athlete engaged in swimming activities for the specific purpose of competing in any swim meet organized by a BC based school sports association. Training for the meet must have been carried out under the direction of the 'S' athlete's school.</li> </ul>

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4.2.1 Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From December 1st to February 28th (inclusive), participated as a non-high school swimmer in swimming activities to a maximum of two hours per week with their school-sanctioned swim team, plus any school swim meets. These activities may have been in addition to other permitted swimming activities and must have been under the direction of the 'S' swimmer's school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From December 1st to February 28th (inclusive), participated as a Grade K-7 athlete in school swim meets organized by a BC based school sports association. These activities must have been under the direction of the 'S' athlete's school. Total swim training per week must not exceed 2 hours.</li> </ul>
4.2.1 Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should a club, region or individual wish to request the exemption of any additional activities from the provisions of this Section, such a request shall be submitted for the consideration of the BCSSA Board of Directors at its Fall Board Meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should a club, region or individual wish to request the exemption of any additional activities from the provisions of this Section, such a request shall be submitted no later than October 1st for the consideration of the BCSSA Board of Directors at its Fall Board Meeting.</li> </ul>
4.2.1 Requirements	f) A swimmer may be registered as an 'S' swimmer following registration in a previous year as an 'O' swimmer on one occasion only.	Move to g)
4.2.1 Requirements	g) An 'O' Swimmer is an individual who participated in organized aquatic activity in excess of what is provided for in Section 1.2 (Athlete Eligibility) from September 1st to April 30th (inclusive) period immediately preceding registration.	f) An 'O' Athlete is an individual who participated in excess of what is provided for in Section 4.2 (Athlete Eligibility) from September 1st to April 30th (inclusive) period immediately preceding registration.
4.2.1 Requirements		(i) Any athlete who has competed in any non-BCSSA sanctioned swim meet between September 1st and April 30th (inclusive). This rule shall come into effect as of <b>September 1, 2024.</b>
4.2.1 Requirements	h) Any swimmer who has achieved a SNC Senior National Qualifying Time during the preceding three years shall compete in Division O8, regardless of the swimmers age at Regional Championship Meets and Provincial Championship Meet.	(ii) Any athlete who has achieved an SC Senior National Qualifying Time during the preceding three years shall compete in Division O8, regardless of the swimmers age at Regional Championship Meets and Provincial Championship Meet.
4.2.1 Requirements	Formerly f)	g) An athlete may be registered as an 'S' athlete following registration in a previous year as an 'O' athlete on one occasion only.

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
<b>4.4 PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEET</b>		
4.4.1 Requirements	d) There shall be a Provincial Trophy awarded to the top Region in each of the four aquatic disciplines.	Remove
<b>4.5 SWIMMING RULES AND REGULATIONS</b>		
		Add: Meet Referee/ Back-Up Referee to list of positions
4.5.1 Officials	Place Judges	Remove
	Stroke Judges	Stroke and Turn Judges
	Turn Judges	Remove
	c) The <b>Meet Manager</b> shall be responsible for:	
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruiting, selecting and assigning duties to all officials. The Chief Timer, Chief Meet Recorder and Clerk of the Course will ratify the appointments for their areas of responsibility. All appointments shall be subject to the Meet Referee's ratification</li> </ul>	Recruiting and selecting the senior officials, namely the Meet Referee, Chief Meet Recorder and Clerk of the Course, who will then recruit and select the volunteers for their areas of responsibility. All appointments shall be subject to the Meet Referee's ratification.
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The dissemination of all meet information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The dissemination of all meet information through various means, including the Meet Package.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seeding all pre-seeded meets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring all pre-seeded meets have been pre-seeded according to Section 4.5.4.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issuing official results. Disqualified swimmers shall be listed, giving their times, at the end of each event.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring official results are issued and posted. Disqualified athletes shall be listed, along with no-swims, at the end of each event.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expelling from the pool building or area any persons, including spectators, responsible for creating a disturbance that interferes with the meet.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	d) The <b>Meet Referee</b> shall be responsible for:	
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having full control and authority over all officials for the entire meet, including the approval of their assignments and providing instruction regarding any special features or regulations related to the meet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having full control and authority over all officials, including approval of their assignments, and instructing them regarding any special features or regulations related to the meet.</li> </ul>

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4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring uniformity of officiating throughout the meet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcing all BCSSA rules and deciding all questions related to the conduct of the meet, including any that are not covered by BCSSA rules.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having the authority to intervene in the competition at any point to ensure that the rules are observed.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determining whether to disqualify a swimmer for any violation reported to him/her by other authorized officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disqualifying any athlete for any violation of the rules personally observed and having the discretion to disqualify for violations reported by others.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rendering a decision on any point where the opinions of other officials differ.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determining, prior to the start of competition, the respective zones of stroke and turn responsibility and informing all officials of this information.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring all athletes are subject to fair and equitable judging.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having the authority to overrule the findings of any BCSSA-approved timing and/or judging system or equipment if they appear to be in error.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expelling from the pool building or area any persons, including spectators, responsible for creating a disturbance that interferes with the meet.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interpreting BCSSA rules and applying good judgement in situations not adequately covered by the rules.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	e) The <b>Session Referee</b> shall be responsible for:	
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having full control and authority over all officials if there is no Meet Referee. If there is no Meet Referee, including approval of their assignments and instructing them regarding any special features or regulations related to the meet.</li> </ul>	Having full control and authority over all officials if there is no Meet Referee, including approval of their assignments and instructing them regarding any special features or regulations related to the meet.
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having the authority to intervene in the competition at any point to ensure that the rules are observed.</li> </ul>	Remove

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4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determining, prior to the start of competition, the respective zones of stroke and turn responsibility and informing all officials of this information.</li> </ul>	Remove
4.5.1 Officials	*Ensure all swimmers are subject to fair and equitable judging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring all athletes are subject to fair and equitable judging.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having final authority in all matters concerning apparent ties and time discrepancies, including ensuring that rules covering all such instances are adhered to.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exercising authority in all matters concerning apparent ties and time discrepancies, including ensuring that rules covering all such instances are adhered to.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using any BCSSA-approved timing and/or judging system or equipment, including the authority to overrule the findings of such devices if they appear to be in error.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having the authority to overrule the findings of any BCSSA-approved timing and/or judging system or equipment if they appear to be in error.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the Session Referee is preoccupied with carrying other duties, the Session Referee may delegate their authority, in full or in part, to the Backup Referee under Section 4.5.1.e.</li> </ul>	The Session Referee may delegate their authority, in full or in part, to the Backup Referee.
4.5.1 Officials		f) The <b>Back-Up Referee</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>any authority as delegated by the Session or Meet Referee</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	f) The <b>Designated Disqualification Official</b> shall be responsible for:	g) The <b>Designated Disqualification Official</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that all best attempts are made to notify the appropriate person within 15 minutes of the infraction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that all best attempts are made to notify the appropriate person within 15 minutes of the Session Referee's approval of the disqualification.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	h) The <b>Chief Timer</b> and any Assistant Chief Timers shall be responsible for:	i) The <b>Chief Timer</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that all Timers are competent and that all watches are performing satisfactorily.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that all Timers and Lane Recorders can perform their job and that all watches are performing satisfactorily.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measuring and recording the time of the winner of each race. The Assistant Chief Timer[s] shall take times as directed by the Chief Timer. When taken, these times shall be recorded on the time-card for that lane.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measuring and recording the time of the winner of each race. The Lane Recorder for the winning lane shall record the time on the corresponding heat on the lane recorders sheet, as directed by the Chief Timer.</li> </ul>

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
4.5.1 Officials	i) <b>Lane Timers</b> shall be responsible for:	j) <b>Lane Timers</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking up a position over the finish end of the assigned lane in order to observe the finish.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking up a position over the finish end of the assigned lane to observe the finish.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If authorized and assigned the task by the Referee, acting as the Relay Take-Over Judge and/or Turn Judge in the assigned lane.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If authorized and assigned the task by the Session Referee, acting as the Relay Take-Over Judge and/or Turn Judge in the assigned lane.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	j) The <b>Lane Recorder</b> shall be responsible for:	k) <b>The Lane Recorder</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that the correct swimmer is in the assigned lane.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that the correct athletes are in the assigned lane.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		Add: • Stand up and alert the Chief Timer if incorrect athletes are in the lane.
4.5.1 Officials		Add: • Recognizing that the order of relay athletes can differ from the relay card, program or heatsheet.
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If cards are being used, ensuring that the correct time card is being used.</li> </ul>	Remove
4.5.1 Officials	l) The <b>Chief Judge Electronics</b> shall be responsible for:	m) The <b>Chief Judge Electronics</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positioning with the automatic timing equipment near the finish end with an unobstructed view of the finish of each lane.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being positioned with the automatic timing equipment near the finish end with an unobstructed view of the finish of each lane.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the event that the system is not activated by the starting signal, ensuring that the system is activated manually.</li> </ul>	Leave as is
4.5.1 Officials	n) The <b>Stroke Judges</b> shall be responsible for:	o) The <b>Stroke and Turn Judges</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking position on one side of the pool, walking and observing athletes in the nearest half of the pool OR</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking position at the end of the pool, observing the athlete(s) in the designated lane(s), and not more than four lanes each (Lane Timers may serve at their end, if qualified).</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unless the Referee instructs otherwise, turn judges will judge in the following areas:</li> </ul>

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Rule	Current Wording	New Wording
4.5.1 Officials		Freestyle and Butterfly: from the beginning of the last arm stroke of the approach to the wall, the 'touch' and 'push off' to the completion of the first arm stroke following the departure from the wall.
4.5.1 Officials		Breaststroke: from the beginning of the last arm stroke of the approach to the wall, the 'touch' and 'push off' to the completion of the second arm stroke following the departure from the wall.
4.5.1 Officials		Backstroke: from the backstroke flags on the approach to the wall, the 'touch' and 'push off,' to the backstroke flags following the departure from the wall.
4.5.1 Officials	r) The <b>Clerk of the Course</b> shall be responsible for:	s) The <b>Clerk of the Course</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials		Take the quotes off from around the word 'in' in all locations.
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling swimmers from the time they are checked 'in,' until they are turned over to the Referee.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling athletes from the time they are checked in until they are turned over to the Lane Recorders.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having full charge of the working deck insofar as the control of swimmers is concerned.</li> </ul>	Remove
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting any inappropriate conduct to the Referee.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting any inappropriate conduct to the Meet Referee or Meet Manager as appropriate.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If so instructed by the Referee, scratching swimmers who fail to report to the marshalling area when the event or heat is called for marshalling.</li> </ul>	leave as is
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seeding swimmers in deck-seeded meets, informing swimmers of their heats and lane assignments and distributing time cards, if used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seeding athletes in deck-seeded meets, informing athletes of their heats and lane assignments and distributing relay cards.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If given the authority by the Referee, to combine heats and move swimmers from one heat to another in the interest of saving time or fair seeding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If given the authority by the Session Referee, to combine heats and move athletes from one heat to another in the interest of saving time or fair seeding.</li> </ul>

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
4.5.1 Officials	s) At the discretion of the Meet Manager, the <b>Marshall</b> may be assigned responsibility for:	t) At the discretion of the Meet Manager, the <b>Marshall</b> may be assigned responsibility for:
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having full charge of the working deck and the marshalling area in order to control swimmers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having full charge of the athlete from the time they check in to the time they are handed over to the Lane Recorder.</li> </ul>
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When authorized by the Clerk of the Course, scratching swimmers who fail to report to the marshalling area when called.</li> </ul>	leave as is
4.5.1 Officials		Add new point: Alerting the Clerk of the Course should any athletes who have been checked in for the event no longer be accounted for.
4.5.1 Officials	t) The <b>Chief Meet Recorder</b> shall be responsible for:	u) The <b>Chief Meet Recorder</b> shall be responsible for:
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that an accounting of all points achieved during the meet is kept</li> </ul>	Leave as is
4.5.1 Officials		Add new point: Assisting the Meet Manager and Registrar in producing an official listing of relay team composition for all preliminary and final sessions.
4.5.1 Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During sessions of finals and timed finals:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During sessions of finals and/or timed finals:</li> </ul>
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	d) Calling of Athletes and Alternates	
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the Clerk has completed the required calls and a swimmer has not checked in, the Clerk shall conclude that swimmer does not intend to compete in that event and shall replace the swimmer with the designated alternate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the Clerk has completed the required calls and an athlete has not checked in, the Clerk shall call the alternate allowing a minimum of one minute for them to report.</li> </ul>
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should this occur, the Clerk shall call the alternate, allowing a minimum of one minute for him/her to report.</li> </ul>	
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simplified Marshalling Procedure (SMP)</li> </ul>	Should be Separate heading under d)
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The alternate shall identify himself/herself to the referee, and shall report immediately to the correct lane as directed by the referee.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The alternate shall identify themselves to the referee, and shall report immediately to the correct lane as directed by the referee.</li> </ul>
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	e) Swim-Off	

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A swimmer may scratch from a Swim-Off for a position in the Final and be assigned to a position in the Consolation Final in the same event.</li> </ul>	
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct		Add: Should neither athlete wish to participate in the swim off, the results shall be left to chance, which shall be overseen by the Meet Referee or Session Referee.
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	f) Working Deck	
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unless otherwise defined by the Meet Manager or Referee, the Working Deck shall consist of those areas within 1.8 m of the sides and turning end of the pool and within 4.5 m of the finished end. The limitations of the design of the pool may dictate differing dimensions.</li> </ul>	The Working Deck shall be defined in the Meet Package. The Meet Manager and/or Meet Referee has the authority to make changes to the Working Deck as required.
4.5.2 Rules of Meet Conduct	g) Swimwear	
4.5.2g) Swimwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The referee shall exclude any Athlete whose swimwear does not comply with this rule.</li> </ul>	same
4.5.2g) Swimwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be worn in competition, a swimsuit shall have the following characteristics:</li> </ul>	* To promote inclusion in Club/Regional/Provincial competitions, all athletes are permitted to race with the swimwear of their choosing if the fabric of the swimwear is a permeable open mesh textile, non-transparent, and would not reasonably be seen to create a technical advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance.
4.5.2g) Swimwear	- It shall either be included on the currently approved FINA swimwear list or otherwise meet all parameters of this Section.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coaches, athletes, and parents are not required to notify the referee or give reason for their choice of swimwear.</li> </ul>
4.5.2g) Swimwear	- It shall be non-transparent.	included above. Remove
4.5.2g) Swimwear	- It shall be made only of textile fabric(s).	included above. Remove
4.5.2g) Swimwear	- It shall not include a zipper or other fastening system.	remove
4.5.2g) Swimwear	- A man's swimsuit shall not extend above the navel or below the knee.	remove
4.5.2g) Swimwear	- A woman's swimsuit shall not extend above the shoulder or below the knee.	remove

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
4.5.2g) Swimwear	- In cases of religious and gender identification, Section 1.5.2.g may be exempted.	remove
4.5.2g) Swimwear	• An otherwise illegal suit may not be modified to make it legal.	remove
4.5.2g) Swimwear	• A swimmer may wear only one swimsuit in competition. Decorative arm bands or leg bands may be worn during a race if they do not pose a safety risk to the swimmer or other swimmers and that they meet the rules and regulations of the facility. (For clarity, a wrist watch is considered a decorative arm band)	• Decorative arm bands or leg bands may be worn during a race if they do not pose a safety risk to the athlete or other athletes and that they meet the rules and regulations of the facility. (For clarity, a wrist watch is considered a decorative arm band)
4.5.2g) Swimwear	• A swimmer shall not wear or use any electronic visual or hearing device that may impart coaching, or any device that may aid speed or buoyancy during a race. Nose clips, caps and goggles are permitted.	same
4.5.2g) Swimwear	• A swimmer shall not wear any kind of tape on the body unless approved in advance by the Referee, such approval to be granted only if the tape is needed for a valid medical reason, such as wound closure, and if it in no way provides a competitive advantage compared to the same swimmer competing without the tape.	same
4.5.2g) Swimwear	• Kinesiology tape is not permitted at any time.	same
4.5.2g) Swimwear	• A swimmer may wear two caps.	same
4.5.2g) Swimwear	• Swimwear, including swimsuit, caps, nose plugs and goggles shall not contain any symbols, text, graphics or other visual elements violating the BCSSA Harassment Policy.	• Swimwear, including swimsuit, caps, nose plugs and goggles shall not contain any symbols, text, graphics or other visual elements violating the BCSSA Harassment Policy or BCSSA Code of Conduct.

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
4.5.7 False Starts	d) Toes or feet in the gutter: If a Backstroker takes a 'ready' position with toes curled over the gutter or one or both feet partially or fully in the gutter, the Referee or Starter shall direct the swimmer to remove them from the gutter and this shall not be a False Start. if a Backstroker puts one or both feet in the gutter or curls toes over the gutter after the command, "Take Your Marks,' the Starter shall relax the swimmers and declare a False Start.	Toes or feet in the gutter: If a Backstroker takes a "ready" position with toes curled over the gutter or one or both feet partially or fully in the gutter, the Referee or Starter shall either relax the athletes and declare a false start or, shall allow the race to proceed and the offending athlete shall be disqualified upon completion of the race.
4.5.7 False Starts	h) if a False Start is declared before the starting signal, the signal shall not be given, the remaining swimmer(s) shall be directed to relax, the offending swimmer(s) disqualified and the race started.	If a False Start is declared before the starting signal, the Starter shall either relax the athletes and declare a false start or, shall allow the race to proceed and the offending athlete shall be disqualified upon completion of the race.
4.5.9 Strokes	g) Butterfly	
4.5.9 Strokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The swimmer shall bring both arms forward together over the water and backward simultaneously throughout the race, subject to 4.5.9.g.</li> </ul>	The athlete shall bring both arms (defined as shoulder to the wrist) forward together over the water and backward simultaneously throughout the race.
4.5.11 Disqualifications	c) The Referee shall ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to inform a disqualified swimmer, or the swimmer's coach, of the full particulars of the disqualification within 15 minutes of the infraction.	c) The Referee shall ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to inform the disqualified athletes' coach, or designate, of the disqualification within 15 minutes of the Session Referee's signed approval. This 15 minute time guideline does not apply to any disqualifications issued for registration, eligibility or conduct violations.
All numbering will be revised to make bullet points small Roman numerals. Eg (i), (ii), (iii), etc.		
Example:		
<b>2.1.2 New Clubs</b>		
a) To affiliate a new club,.....		
(i) the club must		

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<b>Rule</b>	<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>New Wording</b>
(ii) The club must		
(iii) there must be		
(iv) The club must		
(1) submit paperwork		
All references to Discipline as it relates to swimming/ diving/ artistic/ water polo sports will be changed to BCSSA Sport.		
All references to him/ her or himself/herself will be changed to them or themselves.		
All references to swimmer shall be changed to athlete.		
All references to FINA have been changed to World Aquatics.		