

BCSSA	2023	Age Locator
Artistic		

7.1 Athlete Categories, Skill Levels and Age Divisions

An athlete's age as of December 31st each year, aquatic participation in the non-competitive season and skill level shall be used to determine the athlete's category. All athletes shall declare all artistic swimming participation that occurs from October 1 of the previous year through to April 30 of the current year.

Categories	Skill Level	Age Divisions
Summer Categories (S)	Beginner Athletes can stay as a beginner as long as needed to competently (*7.1.2) compete the beginner elements in a technical routine.	Div 3: 12U (aged 12 & under) Div 4: 13O (aged 13 & over)
	Intermediate Athletes can stay as an intermediate as long as needed to competently (*7.1.2) compete the intermediate elements in a technical routine.	Div 3: 12U (aged 12 & under) Div 4: 13O (aged 13 & over)
	Advanced Athletes can stay as advanced as long as needed to competently (*7.1.2) compete the advanced elements in a technical routine. Athletes compete the same elements as the O-Category 1 athletes.	Div 3: 12U (aged 12 & under) Div 4: 13O (aged 13 & over)
Open Categories (O Cat)	O Category 1: An artistic athlete will be classified as an O-Category 1 if they were registered, trained and/or competed in any provincial stream artistic swimming program age group 11-12 or younger excluding recreational or limited competitive.	PS 12U (Provincial Stream)
	O Category 2: An artistic athlete will be classified as an O-Category 2 if they were registered, trained and/or competed in any provincial or national stream artistic swimming program age 13 and older.	PS 13-15 & NS (National Stream)

Protests of perceived breaches of athlete eligibility in the categories or skill level shall adhere to the process under BCSSA Rules.

7.1.1 Categories

a) An S (summer category) artistic athlete is an individual who trains and competes with BCSSA for an unrestricted number of hours between May 1st and August 30th of each year. From September 1st to April 30th an S artistic athlete may:

- Participate in artistic swimming training programs that are classified as either recreational or limited competitive.
- Train and compete in diving, speed swimming and water polo or any other sport with no restrictions.
- Train any number of hours in a recognized school led artistic program and may compete in the Provincial high school meet with no consequences to their eligibility of their category.

b) An O Cat (open category) artistic athlete is an individual who was registered, trained and/or competed in either a provincial or national stream organized artistic swimming program during the winter season October 1st to April 30th, excluding limited competitive

7.1.2 Skill Level and Age Division

a) The coach will determine the athlete's skill level at the beginning of the season based on which elements of the technical routine they can competently compete.

b) There will be no level changes after multi-regionals.

c) An artistic athlete's age as of December 31st determines their age division.

- All 12 and under are classified as Division 3
- All 13 and over are classified as Division 4 within each level, except O Category 1 and 2 which are already divided by age.