

Rule Changes Approved by the Provincial Board January 2025

Rule #	Copied Rule or proposed Section for New Rule	Rationale for change	New Rule
NEW Rule to	Club Affiliation	The current rules don't support the continuance of the rule to become a club which is: 2.1.2a)vi. "The club must have purposes and activities consistent with the purposes of the BCSSA and a commitment to furthering the success of the Region and the BCSSA in advancing the BCSSA's purposes"	Under 2.1 CLUB AFFILIATION 2.1.1 Existing Clubs E. Each club must affirm that the purposes and activities of the club will be consistent with the purposes of the BCSSA, and the club commits to furthering the success of the Region and the BCSSA in advancing the BCSSA's purposes. F. Clubs with activities not aligning with BCSSA will not be permitted to affiliate.
2.2.1(d)	All new registrants shall provide proof of age such as a birth certificate or an equivalent identification (sic).	Provide could be misinterpreted. And typo: should be identification. Consider adding a rule that clearly states nobody is to take a picture of the ID?	All new registrants shall show proof of age such as a birth certificate or an equivalent identification to the club registrar (or delegate). No copies or images shall be taken of any identification.
2.2.1(e)	e) Each registration shall be validated by the club before an athlete's first competition.	Who is the "club" should be the registrar	e) The club registrar shall validate each registration before an athlete's first competition.
4.2.1(e)	From September 1st to November 30th (inclusive), participated as a Grade 8-12 athlete engaged in	Confusing. The grades are different for different meets, and it all boils down to we	iv) From September 1st to November 30th (inclusive), participated as a K-12 student-athlete engaged in swimming activities for the specific purpose of competing in any swim

	<p>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.</p> <p>(v) 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.</p>	<p>support school meets (to a degree). So whether the swimmer is at a private, public, or other school, the rules should be the same and fair.</p>	<p>meet organized by either a BC or WA Public School or a BC or WA based Independent school with a valid certificate of group classification. Training for the meet must have been carried out under the direction of the 'S' athlete's school.</p> <p>v) From December 1st to April 30th (inclusive), participated as a Grade K-12 athlete competing in any swim meet organized by either a BC/ WA Public School or a BC/ WA-based Independent school with a valid certificate of group classification. These activities must have been under the direction of the 'S' athlete's school. Total swim training from December 1st to April 30th (inclusive), must not exceed 2 hours per week. This includes Club maintenance, school training or any other swim training.</p> <p>This rule shall come into effect September 1, 2025</p>
4.2.1(f)	<p>An 'O' Athlete is an individual who participated in excess of what is provided for in Section 1.2 (Athlete Eligibility) from September 1st to April 30th (inclusive) period immediately preceding registration.</p>		<p>An 'O' Athlete is an individual who</p> <p>(i) 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; and/or</p> <p>(ii) competed in any non-BCSSA sanctioned swim meet between September 1st and April 30th (inclusive).</p> <p>(g) Any athlete who has achieved an SC Senior National Qualifying Time during the preceding three years shall compete in Division O8, regardless of the athlete's age.</p> <p>Current g will now become h</p> <p>(h) An athlete may be registered as an "S"...</p>

4.3.2(a)	Eligibility to compete at the Regional Championship Meet shall be limited to Athletes who have competed in at least one individual event at a BCSSA club-hosted meet during the current competitive season.	Completion of one event at one meet and then competing at Regionals and/or Provincials is not in the spirit of BCSSA.	<p>a) Eligibility to compete at the Regional Championship Meet shall be limited to Athletes who have competed in a BCSSA club-hosted meet during the current competitive season.</p> <p>i) Athletes must have competed in each individual event they wish to compete in at the Regional Championship Meet.</p> <p>ii) Athletes competing on a club relay at Regional or Provincial Championship Meet must have competed in at least one individual event during the current season.</p>
4.5.2(g)	<p>(v) An athlete shall not wear any kind of tape on the body unless approved in advance by the Meet 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 athlete competing without the tape.</p> <p>(vi) Kinesiology tape is not permitted at any time.</p>	This is SwimCanada’s rule: C15.3.1 In all sanctioned age group swimming events, taping is permitted. Approval may be required for taping at championship events, and the process for this approval shall be stated in the Meet Information Package.	<p>(v) An athlete shall not wear any kind of tape that appears to provide a competitive advantage as determined by the Meet Referee. It is recommended that the Meet Referee is informed in advance of the race.</p> <p>(vi) Kinesiology tape shall not be permitted at Regional and Provincial Championships.</p> <p>(vi) shall be removed completely. Jan 2025.</p>
4.5.9(c)	If the athlete surfaces in the wrong lane after the start or a turn, in all strokes, the athlete may pass below a lane rope to return to the correct lane. The athlete shall maintain the legal stroke position	We need a definition of “lap” or we change the wording to what we think is best. The word “length” may be best.	If the athlete surfaces in the wrong lane after the start or a turn, they shall return to their lane before touching the wall at the end of the length. When returning to their lane, the athlete shall maintain the legal stroke and position for the stroke the athlete is swimming.

	and legal stroke for the stroke the athlete is swimming. This must be accomplished before the end of the lap.		
4.5.11(c)	The Referee shall ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to inform the disqualified athlete's 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.	The 15 minute guideline is for expediency in providing the results to the participants, it should not be used, by itself, as a reason to overturn a disqualification. That's what protests and juries are for.	The Referee shall ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to inform the disqualified athlete's 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. This 15 minute guideline is not grounds for a protest.
4.5.12(a)	<p>Protests and Jury of Appeal a) Protests:</p> <p>(i) Protests affecting the right of an athlete to compete in any race shall be made in writing to the Referee before the race is held.</p> <p>(ii) Any protest arising from the competition itself shall first be made to the Referee verbally, by a club representative (the protester), within 30 minutes of the issue arising.</p>		<p>Protests and Jury of Appeal a) Protests:</p> <p>(i) Protests affecting the right of an athlete to compete in any race shall be made in writing to the Referee before the race is held.</p> <p>(ii) Any protest arising from the competition itself shall first be made to the Referee verbally, by a club representative (the protester), within 30 minutes of a club representative receiving notification of the disqualification.</p>

Rule Changes Approved by the Provincial Board March 2025

Rule #	Copied Rule or proposed Section for New Rule	Rationale for change	New Rule
2.1.1(d)	Each club must complete and submit an annual affiliation form and apply for BCSSA Directors and Officers liability insurance coverage by March 15th of each year.	With the CGL Insurance renewal date now set to April 1 more time is required between receipt of Affiliation form and Insurance Renewal	Each club must complete and submit an annual affiliation form and apply for BCSSA Directors and Officers liability insurance coverage by March 1st of each year.