

Swim Alberta Provincial Series

Purpose

To provide appropriate competition preparation for swimmers at the Provincial Championship, Junior National and Senior National levels.

Overview

The Provincial Series competitions are key invitationals run by clubs that offer competitive heats and finals events at a premium facility. The events are great opportunities to experience higher level racing in Alberta, to prepare for provincial competitions and above. These events help support the development of many swimmers across the province and help bring the province's swimming community together. These events often attract teams from outside of Alberta, which allows Alberta swimmers the opportunity to race new competitors. Racing out of province swimmers is a strategic decision to elevate the level of competition for swimmers at this level.

The Provincial Series is also a great opportunity for para swimmers to compete against each other. All swimmers with a level 2 classification and higher, are permitted and encouraged to attend. Provincial Series events are a great way for para swimmers to experience heats and finals while racing against other para swimmers with the goal of preparing for the Provincial Championships, National or International competitions. Swim Alberta is committed to developing and improving para swimming in Alberta by increasing the number of racing opportunities for para swimmers.

Provincial Series Requirements

1. Calendar – Key dates determined by Swim Alberta.
2. Time Standards – A minimum of a provincial time standard to be used for entry.
3. Facilities – Appropriate competition pool, with warm-up / cool-down space available.
4. Age Groups – To be determined by the club, these do not need to match Provincial Age Groups but should target the needs of swimmers the Provincial Championships, Canadian Junior and National Level swimmers. Standards should be set in consultation with Swim Alberta.
5. Para Events – Specific para events must be offered as per Appendix A. Alternate para events and may be offered in consultation with Swim Alberta.
6. Medal Tally – following the competition, the host club will send the competition medal tally to Swim Alberta to calculate the Team Award.

Provincial Series Award

Swim Alberta will award a Provincial Series 'Belt' to the top performing Alberta team. Medal tally will be used to determine the winning team, using the medal tally from each provincial series event.

Appendix A

Provincial Series Para Swimmer Participation

All Provincial Series competitions must include para specific events for para swimmers as outlined in the event list below. Para Swimmers with a level 2, level 3, or World Para Swimming (WPS) sport class or above may attend any provincial series competition, regardless of qualifying time. Para swimmers who have a level 1 sport class are eligible if they qualify based on age group qualifying times. Para specific events align with Swimming Canada and are offered at the Provincial Championships. Para swimmers may enter other non-Paralympic events as outlined in the meet information package.

Para Swimmer Eligibility

All swimmers competing as Para Swimmers must have a Level 2, Level 3 or international classification published on Swimming Canada's Active Roster. Para swimmers must have achieved a minimum of one of the Swimming Canada Provincial para swimming time standards in their class.

Event list

All events listed below must be offered at provincial series competitions.

50 Free	S1-14	Heats & Finals	50 Breast*	SB1-SB3	Heats & Finals
100 Free	S1-14	Heats & Finals	100 Breast	SB4-SB14	
200 Free	S1-S5, S14	Timed Finals	50 Fly*	S1-S7	Heats & Finals
400 Free	S6-S13		100 Fly	S8-S14	
50 Back*	S1-S5	Heats & Finals	150 IM*	SM1-SM4	Heats & Finals
100 Back	S6-S14		200 IM	SM5-SM14	

Preliminaries

All Para swimmers will compete in senior seeded preliminary events with all other swimmers based on their age category and entry times; they will not be guaranteed to be seeded with other para swimmers. Timed final para events (200 free & 400 free) will be based on preliminary results and will follow the same event order in the meet package. Events with preliminary and finals with split distances by classifications are considered the same event and will follow the order of the longer event (e.g. 50 back S1-5 will swim during the 100 back S6-14).

Finals

All paralympic events will run as multi-class finals, meaning all para swimmers race and are ranked against each other, regardless of sport class. Para specific events will be scored as part of the competition.

If an event has less than 4 para swimmers per gender, the final will run as mixed gender. If an event has more than 4 para swimmers per gender, the event will have a male and female final. In non-para specific events, para swimmers participate as part of the Olympic stream as per the meet information package.

Finals will be ranked and scored using Swimming Canada's Para Swimming points calculator and they will be contested as indicated by the event schedule. Awards will be based on the para points ranking for each event.

Awards, Points and Medal Tally

Awards for para swimmers must be provided for all para specific events (Male, Female and/or Mixed). Para events will be scored using [Swimming Canada's para swimming points calculator](#).

- Competition awards (e.g. gold, silver, and bronze medals) will be awarded to swimmers based on their rank.
- Scoring for para events as outlined in the meet information package.

Meet Manager Information and Instructions for Para Events

- Seed Preliminaries based on time
- Para swimmers who qualify for finals in the Olympic program, must have the opportunity to choose which final they participate in.
 - o Confirmation to race the para final may be an option.
- Create para specific time final event(s) during finals and manually seed these based on results from preliminaries.
 - o Events to be seeded by time, regardless of preliminary ranking. This ensures swimmers with lower classification numbers are in the outside lanes.
 - o Events may be female and male, or mixed gender, based on participation numbers.
 - o Event must be scored and contribute towards team points.
- Maintain the event order from the Olympic program.
 - o 50m/100m split distance events should run during the scheduled 100m Olympic stream event.
 - During preliminaries, a 50m event may need to be created and be run with the 100m event, like the process of an official split.
 - During finals, the 50m event and 100m event will be scored and awarded together, this may require manual scoring (JD / Judges Decision)
 - 50m events must be separated prior to posting of official results on Swimming Canada to ensure incorrect records are not flagged.