COMPETITION BY-LAWS

SWIMMING VICTORIA INCORPORATED
(Reg No A7221)

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1. COMPETITIONS

1.1 All competitions to be conducted by SV are as defined in Schedule A.

1.2 The words 'CONDUCTED UNDER THE SWIMMING RULES OF SWIMMING AUSTRALIA LIMITED' must appear on every entry form and program. Each Club, District or affiliated body is responsible to ensure that this is carried out for all events under its jurisdiction.

1.3 Permission must be obtained from the Board to have both registered and non-registered competitors in the one program.

1.4 Outside Victoria

Members affiliated to SV Clubs require the permission of the CEO to compete outside Victoria.

The written application for permission shall be submitted at least 7 days prior to the competition.

1.5 Costumes

Costumes shall comply with the FINA rules.
Or unless otherwise directed by SV, in all levels of competition within Victoria, competitors may wear 'traditional' suits provided the suits meet the following criteria:

(i) Suits must be of a textile material and may not contain any material such as polyurethane, neoprene or like materials.

(ii) Male costumes or briefs may not extend above the waist, nor below the knee. Female costumes may be one or two piece and shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulders, nor below the knee and may not utilise zippers or other fastening devices.

(iii) Only one costume may be worn in competition.

1.6 Dates

1.6.1 Clubs and Districts wishing to conduct an open swim meet on the same dates as the Victorian Long Course Championships, or Country Long Course Championships must request approval from the Board.

1.6.2 The Board has the right to withhold approval for a meet if it is in direct conflict with the above meets.

1.7 Swimmers with a Disability

To be eligible to compete in Multi-Class events at meets directly conducted by SV, Swimmers with Disability (SWD) Competitors must hold a current National Classification. A Provisional Classification:

- Is not recognised in Multi-Class events at any meet directly conducted by SV unless otherwise specified;
- Club and District Event Rules may provide for opportunities to compete with a provisional classification in Multi-class events

1.8 Entries

1.8.1 Applications for entry to an event conducted by SV shall be made in the proscribed manner and shall comply with the conditions of entry published for each competition. The entries shall be lodged at the SV Office by the nominated closing date. Country Championships both Long Course and Short Course, and All Junior Competition entries are to be lodged with the host District.

1.8.2 All competitors in SV competitions shall be registered competitive swimmer members of SAL unless competing by invitation or the competition rules allow other persons to compete.

1.8.3 Registered members of a club affiliated with SV (or a border club as defined in Schedule D of SV's General By-Laws) who enter Victorian Championship Meets must swim for the club they are registered with as at the closing date for entries for that meet. Swimmers are only eligible to compete in relays for the club they are registered with as at the closing date for entries.

1.8.4 All swimmers not included in 1.8.3 will be regarded as visiting competitors.

1.8.5 Late or incorrect entries may be rejected.

1.8.6 Entry times for long course events must have been achieved in a 50m pool. Entry times for short course events may be achieved in either a 50m or a 25m pool. Converted entry times may not be used for entry into SV events.

1.8.7 In an age group event, a competitor must calculate his age at the first day of competition. Verification of age by acceptable evidence may be required.

1.8.9 Unless stated by the rules of a particular competition a competitor may enter in the next highest age group, where a stroke/distance is not provided for in their own age group, and the competitor's entry time is better than the qualifying time set.

1.8.10 Entry fee must accompany the entry. Entry fees will only be refunded if the entry is rejected for any reason.

1.8.11 Unless stated by the rules of a particular competition in all relays except mixed age group relays, competitors must be of or under the age group of the event.

1.8.12 In order to compete in the Country Championships, competitors must be registered with an affiliated Country Club as per Schedule E, SV General By-Laws.

1.8.13 Entry times must have been swum at a qualifying meet. Times swum at events outside of Victoria may be acceptable provided full results have been published on the Web by the appropriate controlling authority.

Entries for events for which qualifying times have been set, must have their entry times approved against the National times database.

The requirements for approval as a "Qualifying Meet" within Victoria are set out in Schedule C.

1.8.14 Events for which there are less than four (4) entries shall not be conducted.

1.9 Victorian and Country Championships

1.9.1 Qualifying standards shall be set for entry into these Championships. They shall be published on the SV website, and entrants must have equalled or bettered the qualifying standard in the period from day 1 of the Championship in the prior year to the closing date for entries, in order to be allowed to compete.

1.9.2 No more than two (2) visiting competitors shall be permitted to swim in the final of a Victorian Age Group Championship Event. This does not include members of Border Clubs referred to in Schedule D of the General By-Laws.

1.9.3 Visiting Competitors shall not be permitted to swim in the Victorian Country Long Course or Short Course Championships.

1.10 Open Water Swimming

1.10.1 All SV Open Water Swimming Championships and Open Water Swimming competitions shall be governed by FINA and Swimming Victoria's Rules and By Laws, as determined from time to time and detailed in the information book published for each Open Water swimming event.

1.11 Relay Events

1.11.1 For all team events, a team list on the appropriate form must be submitted, unless relay names have been submitted by Team Manager file beforehand and remain unchanged. Relay team sheets must be submitted to the Chief Recorder at least one hour prior to the commencement of the session in which the relay is to be swum.

1.11.2 Each club is permitted to enter a maximum of two teams in any one relay event in the Victorian Long Course & Short Course Championships.

1.11.3 At the Victorian Country Long Course Championships each country club can enter a maximum of 2 relay teams per event and each competitor is limited to a maximum of 4 relay event swims whether age group or open.

1.12 Withdrawals

1.12.1 Competitors wishing to withdraw from a Final shall do so in writing, signed by the competitor or an authorised representative within thirty (30) minutes of the posting of the finalist list for that event.

1.12.2 A competitor not having withdrawn as specified, and who does not compete in the Final shall be deemed a late withdrawal, and as such, shall be debarred from competing in his next individual event.

1.12.3 If the late withdrawal occurs in the competitor's last individual event of the competition he shall be fined.

1.12.4 The penalties for late withdrawal may be reviewed if there are medical grounds or the competitor can prove hardship for not competing. A competitor who is added to an event final following the withdrawal of another competitor, and who can show that he was unaware of the change may claim hardship.

1.13 Protests

1.13.1 Protests are possible:
(a) if the rules and regulations of the competition are not observed
(b) if other conditions endanger the competition and/or the competitors
(c) against decisions of the referee, however, no protests shall be allowed against decisions of fact.

1.13.2 Protests must be submitted:

(a) to the referee
(b) in writing
(c) by the swimmer(s) or authorised representative of the swimmer(s)
(d) together with the prescribed deposit
(e) within thirty (30) minutes following the conclusion of the respective event.

1.13.3 If the conditions causing the protest are noted prior to the competition, the protest must be lodged before the starters signal is given.

1.13.4 All protests shall be considered by the referee. If he rejects the protest, he must state reasons. The protestor may appeal against the rejection to a Jury of Appeal whose decision is final.

1.13.5 If the protest is rejected, the deposit will be forfeited. If the protest is upheld the deposit will be returned.

1.13.6 A Jury of Appeal, where possible, shall consist of a Director plus two (2) other members.

1.14 Shallow Water Starts

1.14.1 Should the water depth at the start end prevent compliance with the rules relating to dive starts, competitors shall commence in the water. They shall be positioned in the water with one hand on the wall and shall have both feet on the wall. (Refer to Schedule B for the complete table of water depth and platform heights.)

2. RECORDS

2.1 SV recognises Short Course and Long Course Records, in Open and Age Group categories, as well as Event Records in particular competitions.

The following definitions apply:

Victorian Record - Best time swum by a competitor currently registered with SV.

Victorian All Comers Record - Best time swum within Victoria.

Open - Swum by a competitor of any age.

Age Group - Swum by a competitor of a particular age group. A competitor may only be credited with a record in his own age group.

Long Course Records - events swum over a 50 metre course. Records will be recognised for all events, listed in Schedule A4, and A6 plus any individual events not listed which are swum at the Australian Age Championships. This rule does not include MC Events.

Short Course Records - events swum over a 25 metre course. Records will be recognised for all events, listed in Schedule A1. This rule does not include MC Events.

Relay Event Records will be recognised for all events listed in Schedules A1, A4, A5 and A6..

2.2 Country Long Course and Short Course Records

2.2.1 The best time swum by a competitor registered with an affiliated Country Club.

2.2.2 Records will be recognised for events listed in Schedules A5 and A8. This rule does not include MC Events.

2.3 Event Records

2.3.1 Event records are defined as the fastest time swum in the designated competition.

2.3.2 Event records are recognised in:

Country Long Course and Short Course Championships
All Junior Competition

2.4 Conditions

2.4.1 Performances which equal or better the existing time, shall be entered by the Records Registrar in the records of SV.

2.4.2 Individuals or teams creating new records shall be presented with a certificate of SV inscribed with the details of the record.

2.4.3 It is the responsibility of an individual competing outside Victoria to produce to SV, evidence satisfactory to the Records Registrar, before such a performance can be recognised.

SCHEDULE A

In this schedule all indicated events marked 'X' are swum by both male and female competitors, those marked 'F' are swum by female competitors only and those marked 'M' are swum by male competitors only. Events marked 'O' are swum as mixed events. Medals will be awarded for the indicated events unless otherwise stated.

A.1 Victorian Short Course Championships

		Open	MC	18/U	13-18	17/18	16	15	14	13	12/u	12	11/u
Freestyle	50m	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	100m	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	200m	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	400m	X			X						X		
	800m	X			F								
	1500m	X			M								
Backstroke	50m	X	X										
	100m	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	200m	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Breaststroke	50m	X	X										
	100m	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	200m	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Butterfly	50m	X	X										
	100m	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	200m	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Ind. Medley	100m	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	200m	X	O			X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	400m	X			X						X		

The following medals will be awarded in combined age group events:
13-18 400 Free – 13-14 years, 15-18 years
13-18 800 Free - 13-14 years, 15-18 years
13-18 1500 Free - 13-14 years, 15-18 years
13-18 400 IM – 13-14 years, 15-18 years

Relays

Freestyle	4 x 100m	X
Medley	4 x 100m	X

A.2 Long Course Distance Competition

Please Note: The 400m events are swum as 13/U and 14/O .The 200m, 800m and 1500 events are swum as Open with 800m and 1500 Free being mixed events. Results are distributed as per the table below –

		18/o	17	16	15	14	13	12	11/u
Freestyle	400m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	800m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	1500m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Backstroke	200m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breaststroke	200m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Butterfly	200m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ind. Medley	400m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

A.3 Victorian Qualifying Meet

Please Note: All events are swum as 13/U and 14/O. 800m are swum as 13/U and 14/O female and 1500m are swum as 14/O male. Results are distributed as per the table below –

		16/o	15	14/O	14	13/u	13	12	11/u
Freestyle	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	400m			X		X			
	800m			F		X			
	1500m			M					
Backstroke	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
Breaststroke	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
Butterfly	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
Ind. Medley	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	400m			X		X			

A.4 Victorian Long Course Championships

		Open	MC	17/18	16/18	16	15	14/15	14	13/u	13	12	11/u
Freestyle	50m	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
	100m	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
	400m	X		X		X	X		X	X			
	800m	X			F			F		X			
	1500m	X			M			M					
Backstroke	50m	X	X										
	100m	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X		X		X	X		X		X	X	X
Breaststroke	50m	X	X										
	100m	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X		X		X	X		X		X	X	X
Butterfly	50m	X	X										
	100m	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X		X		X	X		X		X	X	X
Ind. Medley	200m	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
	400m	X		X		X	X		X	X			

Relays

		Open	18/u	16/u	14/u	12/u
Freestyle	4 x 50m	O*			X	X
	4 x 100m	X	X	X		
	4 x 200m	X				
Medley	4 x 50m	O*			X	X
	4 x 100m	X	X	X		

*Mixed relays will be swum as two male and two female competitors, competing in any order.

A.5 Country Long Course Championships

		Open	MC	18/o	16/17	14/15	13	13/u	12	11/u
Freestyle	50m		X	X						X
	100m	X			X	X	X		X	
	200m	X								
	400m	X								
Backstroke	50m		X	X						X
	100m	X			X	X	X		X	
	200m	X								
Breaststroke	50m		X	X						X
	100m	X			X	X	X		X	
	200m	X								
Butterfly	50m		X	X						X
	100m	X			X	X	X		X	
	200m	X								
Ind. Medley	200m			X	X	X		X		
	400m	X								

Relays

		Open	17/o	16/u	14/u	12/u
Freestyle	4 x 50m	O*	X	X	X	X
	4 x 100m	X				
Medley	4 x 50m	O*	X	X	X	X
	4 x 100m	X				

*Mixed relays will be swum as two male and two female competitors, competing in any order.

A.6 Victorian Sprint Championships

		19/o	17/18	16	15	14	13	12	11/u
Freestyle	50m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Backstroke	50m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breaststroke	50m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Butterfly	50m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Relay

		16/u
Freestyle	5 x 50m	X

A.7 All Junior Competition

		14/u MC	14	13	12	11	10	9	8/u
Freestyle	50m	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Backstroke	50m	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breaststroke	50m	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Butterfly	50m	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

A.8 Victorian Country Short Course Championships

		Open	MC	18/o	16/17	14/15	12/13	11/u
Freestyle	50m		O					X
	100m		O	X	X	X	X	X
	200m			X	X	X	X	
	400m	X						
Backstroke	50m		O					X
	100m			X	X	X	X	
	200m	X						
Breaststroke	50m		O					X
	100m			X	X	X	X	
	200m	X						
Butterfly	50m		O					X
	100m			X	X	X	X	
	200m	X						
Ind. Medley	100m			X	X	X	X	X
	200m			X	X	X	X	

A.9 Victorian Country Interdistrict

		MC	17/o	15/16	13/14	11/12	10/u
Freestyle	50m	O	X				X
	100m			X	X	X	
Backstroke	50m	O	X				X
	100m			X	X	X	
Breaststroke	50m	O	X				X
	100m			X	X	X	
Butterfly	50m	O	X				X
	100m			X	X	X	

Relay

		Open	17/o	15/16	13/14	11/12	10/u
Freestyle	200m		X	X	X	X	X
	400m	X					
Medley	200m		X	X	X	X	X
	400m	X					

A.10 Victorian Open Water Championships

12 year old athletes that meet the Australian Open Water 13 year old criteria may enter the 5km event.
13 year old athletes that meet the Australian Open Water 14 year old criteria may enter the 10km event.

		Open	17/18	15/16	14/16	13/14
Freestyle	5km	X	X	X		X
Freestyle	10km	X	X		X	

The following medals will be awarded in the 14/16 10km Free – 14/u yrs, 15yrs, 16yrs
The following medals will be awarded in the 13/14 & 15/16 5km Free – 13/u yrs, 14yrs, 15yrs, 16yrs

A.11 Victorian 7-10 Competition

	10 yrs	9 yrs	8 yrs	7/8 yrs	7 yrs
Freestyle	X	X	X		X
Backstroke	X	X	X		X
Breaststroke	X	X	X		X
Butterfly	X	X		X	

Relay

	10/u	9/u	8/u	7/8 yrs	7 yrs
Freestyle	X	X	X		O
Medley	X	X		O	

A.12 Victorian Short Course Competition.

Ribbons ai distributed a per the tab below:		Open	17/O	15/0	15/16	13/14	11/12	10/U
Freestyle	50m			X		X	X	X
	100m		X		X	X	X	X
	200m		X		X	X	X	
	400m	X						
Backstroke	50m			X		X	X	X
	100m		X		X	X	X	X
	200m	X						
Breaststroke	50m			X		X	X	X
	100m		X		X	X	X	X
	200m	X						
Butterfly	50m			X		X	X	X
	100m		X		X	X	X	X
	200m	X						
Ind. Medley	100m		X	X	X	X	X	X
	200m		X		X	X	X	X
	400m	X						

A.13 Victorian Preparation Meet

Please Note: All events are swum as 13/U and 14/O. 800m are swum as 13/U and 14/O female and 1500m are swum as 14/O male. Results are distributed as per the table below –

		16/o	15	14/O	14	13/u	13	12	11/u
Freestyle	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	400m			X		X			
	800m			F		X			
	1500m			M					
Backstroke	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
Breaststroke	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
Butterfly	50m			X		X			
	100m	X	X		X		X	X	X

	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
Ind. Medley	200m	X	X		X		X	X	X
	400m			X		X			

SCHEDULE B

SAFE DIVING WATER DEPTH TABLE

In November 1998, Swimming Australia Limited (SAL) as part of its Risk Management Policy adopted the following table of water depths and block heights as advice to referees of safe practice.

Measurements are taken from one metre to six metres out from the wall.

1) Less than 0.9 metre – no dive starts should be permitted
2) 0.9 metre to 1.0 metre – diving from concourse level only, provided that the concourse level is not more than 0.2 metres above the water surface
3) 1.0 metre to less than 1.2 metre – platform starts are permitted, providing the platform is not more than 0.4 metres above the water surface
4) More than 1.2 metre depth – the platform height may be from 0.5 metre to 0.75metres above the water level.

In relay events where the water depth is less than 0.9 metre the changeover shall be from in the water, with the competitor having one hand and both feet on the wall at the point of changeover.

SCHEDULE C

QUALIFYING MEETS

In order for times swum at a meet, to be acceptable for entry to SV Championships and/or Australian Swimming Championships, the host organisation shall have to attest that minimum standards of competition have been provided.

These standards are as follows:

Referees

A minimum of three (3) qualified officials working as the Referee in Charge and Judges of Stroke are required for the meet to be recognised as a qualifying meet. At least one of the officials must be qualified as a Level 1 Referee or higher. The other officials may be qualified Referees or qualified Judges of Stroke.

Starter

The Starter must be qualified to at least Level 1 status, or working under the direct supervision of another qualified starter (Level 1 or higher) for the meet to be accepted.

Timekeepers

An approved AOE device may be used to record the times of all individual competitors, with an approved SAT device providing backup in the event of a pad failure.

If there is no AOE device in use, there must be three (3) timekeepers on each lane with digital stopwatches, or using an approved SAT device for the meet to be acceptable.

Results

A copy of the Meet Manager database controlling the meet and other required documents shall be lodged with the SV Office within seven (7) days of the date of the meet for the meet to be approved. This must be submitted as an electronic transfer.

Certification

A certificate submitted under the name of the Referee in Charge, detailing;

(a) the date and time of the meet;
(b) the names of the Referee and Judges of Stroke;
(c) the name of the Starter(s);
(d) the method of timing;
(e) whether or not backstroke ledges were used; and
(f) attesting that all of the above requirements have been met must be submitted with the results.

Fee

A fee to be set annually will be charged by SV on each host organisation that charges an entry fee and is applying for a meet to be considered as a qualifying meet, in order to offset the administration costs of processing qualifying meet status. Such fee shall apply to individual events only.