



Swimming NSW
Competition Strategy
April 2010 & Beyond

Endorsed by the Board of Swimming NSW on 22nd July 2009

Swimming NSW Competition Structure

Preamble

Swimming NSW has recognised the need to review its current competition structures and pathways so as to facilitate greater outcomes for all its membership. This has involved simplifying & clarifying the competition structure so all members can see where particular meets fit in the competition pathway. This will allow swimmers, coaches and parents to make informed decisions on which meets to enter and to see a clear progression from club night to National Championships. It will also allow Clubs & Areas to run meets that are better tailored to the needs of their membership.

It has become increasingly apparent that there is a need for a clear delineation between qualifying and non-qualifying carnivals and the outcomes of both carnivals.

Swimming NSW also recognised a need for a more structured approval process from Club Level all the way up to State Level with a view to enhancing the progressive development of athletes and providing more equitable financial returns to Areas and Clubs.

This approval process must include accurate and available results for all participants as well as Swimming NSW. The importance of an accurate results database has become paramount as we move towards fully electronic entries.

The nucleus of the new competition structure revolves around three key types of meets. They are an A Meet, an AA meet & an AAA Meet. Each of the three types of meet are outlined below and it is expected that the implementation of this model of competition will aid Swimming NSW with providing the best possible competitions for its membership so as to facilitate a greater level of performance across all meets.

This document has been supplemented with example event programs to assist Clubs & Areas with their event planning.

This document along with updated example programs will be available on the Swimming NSW website at www.nswswimming.com.au into resources under competition structure.

Championship Meets*

*Swimming NSW Metropolitan & Country Championships, State Age & Open Championships as well as Area Championships.

Organisational Body: SNSW or Areas only.

Time Standards: All meets must have Qualifying Standards.

Rule Considerations: None

Program of Events:

- **Swimming NSW Programs set by SNSW Competition Committee**

- **SNSW recommends that Area Championships program consider the following as a minimum:**
 - (i) Program based on the NSW State Age Events.
 - (ii) Two main age groups; 9 & under -12 Years and 13-18 Years.
 - (iii) Areas can determine whether or not to run these two main age groups together or at separate events. It is recommended that Metropolitan Areas run the two age groups at separate events.
 - (iv) With the 9 & Under -12 Years Age Group program, the same events should be offered as the NSW State Age program with 9/10 Years Relays and 11/12 Years Relays.
 - (v) With the 13-18 Years Age Group Program, the NSW State Age Program must be offered, but Areas can determine the age group split.

Swimming NSW Approval Required: Yes

A Meets

Organisational Body: SNSW or Areas only.

Time Standards: All A meets must have Qualifying Standards.

Rule Considerations: None.

Program of Events:

- **A Meets programs must include all the events listed as per the event structures in Appendix One.**

Swimming NSW Approval Required: Yes

Further notes & Recommendations:

- The A Meet is designed for swimmers to qualify for Area, State and National Championships.
- These meets include all Swimming NSW run meets.
- A Meets run by SNSW in a conjunction with a host Area will be subject to an income allocation to the host Area.

AA Meets

Organisational Body: Areas & Clubs and SNSW where required.

Time Standards: Break Times (Swimmers must swim slower than a particular standard to enter events).

Rule Considerations: None.

Program of Events:

- **Based on the needs of the Swimmers in the Area and/or club.**

Swimming NSW & Area Approval Required: Yes

Further notes & Recommendations:

- The AA Meet is designed as an Open meet for swimmers to qualify for Area & State Championships.
- It is recommended that qualifying AA Meets must not exceed four hours in duration.

AAA Meets

Organisational Body: Areas & Clubs

Time Standards: Not Recommend

Rule Considerations: Yes

Program of Events:

- Programs must include all the events listed as per the event structures in Appendix Two.
- Older age group events can be included in these meets if required.

Swimming NSW Approval Required: No

Area Approval Required: Yes

Further notes & Recommendations:

- The AAA Meet is generally designed as a non-qualifying meet that is generally restricted to the development of Swimmers aged 12 Years and under. It is recommended that Rule Considerations only apply to those swimmers who are aged 9 Years & Under.
- Time Trials may be scheduled and conducted in accordance with SNSW requirements.

Meet Approval

Both A & AA Meets are subject to SNSW approval. The following stipulations will be considered before an event is approved.

Initial Meet Approval will be given if the following criteria are met:-

1. **Was Swimming NSW informed of the meet taking place prior to the start of the season in which the meet takes place, so the meet could be placed in the SNSW Calendar of events?**
2. **Will there be an accredited Referee & Starter present at the meet?**
3. **Will an adequate timing device be present at the meet? ****

Final Meet Approval will be given if the following criteria are met:-

1. **Were the results recorded in Meet Manager and submitted to SNSW with seven days of the meet? *****

**Note: An adequate timing device is defined as stopwatches with at least three timekeepers per lane, SAT or fully electronic timing.

*** Note: If the Meet Manager file contains incorrect or misspelt information, the results will be returned to the organisational body to be corrected before the results will be accepted by SNSW. This includes correct spelling of Athlete names, Dates of Birth and Team abbreviations.

Development of Inter Area Representative Series

- Similar type of relegation Series to Speedo Sprint Series although with different event structures.
- Event Structure and timing set by Competitions committee.
- It is proposed that each Area holds a meet within their area to select a team to go up against other areas. Then competing areas (2-3) select the best team to compete in the finals in Sydney against other area teams.

Meet Timing

Swimming NSW currently has disorganized pathway of meets throughout the summer period where lower level meets are taking place after key events like the State Age Championships.

The working group considered the current calendar and made the following recommendations to amend the pathway of meets:

1. That all Area Championships take place before the NSW State Age Championships where possible.
2. An A Meet for Metropolitan Swimmers & State Open & Country Championships all take place 4-8 weeks out from National Open & National Age Championships.

This will give all swimmers the opportunity to qualify for State Age Championships at a high level meet, not just Metropolitan swimmers. It will also give all swimmers the opportunity to attend a high level meet in the lead up to the two key competitions of the summer season i.e. National Open & National Age Championships.

Appendix Two

Event Structures for AAA Meets

Long Course

	50 fr	100 fr	200 fr	400 fr	100 bk	200 bk	100 br	200 br	100 fly	200 fly	200 IM
8 yrs											
9 yrs											
10 yrs	X	X			X		X		X		X
11 years	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
12 years	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

* Females Only

** Males Only

Short Course

	25 fr	50 fr	100 fr	200 fr	400 fr	25 bk	50 bk	100 bk	200 bk	25 br	50 br	100 br	200 br	25 fly	50 fly	100 fly	200 fly	100 IM	200 IM
6 yrs	X					X	X			X	X			X	X				
7 yrs	X					X				X				X					
8 yrs		X					X				X				X			X	
9 yrs		X					X				X				X				
10 yrs		X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
11 years		X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
12 years		X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X