



Title: Swim BC Gender Equity Policy

Section: Swim BC Safe Sport Policies
Approved by: SBC Board of Directors

Date of Approval: August 2025
Next Review: August 2028

Policy Statement

Swim BC governs itself with the belief and practice that equity is fair and just treatment for all individuals. Gender equity is the principle and practice of ensuring access, opportunity and the fair equitable allocation of resources to all genders. To be equitable means to be fair and to appear to be fair.

The implementation of gender equity eliminates discriminatory practices, which act as barriers to full participation in the sport. Swim BC will work to ensure that gender equity is a key consideration when developing, implementing, updating or delivering programs, policies and projects. Additionally, Swim BC will make efforts towards raising the awareness and understanding of the equity issue in the swimming community. Equity does not necessarily mean that all people must be treated the same. Gender Equality requires the consideration of the unique needs, interests and experiences of the target group. This includes having activities of their choice within a fair and unbiased environment.

Swim BC has the opportunity to take a compelling leadership position within the sport community in British Columbia by making a clear commitment to gender equity.

Objectives:

- To provide access to a complete range of choices and opportunities regardless of gender
- To ensure that members' needs and interests are met in programs, administration and leadership.
- To ensure that all individuals receive fair and just treatment.

Procedure:

Swim BC shall:

- publicly declare that it is an equal opportunity employer and respect the principles of pay equity in relation to paid employees, thereby having equal pay for equal work.
- utilize harassment policies, pay equity and non-discriminatory interview techniques. Swim BC will support discussion on further practices if the need arises.
- work with provincial and national sport organizations to identify and eliminate barriers facing underrepresented groups in swimming.
- use gender neutral language in the organization's by-laws, policies and publications.
- publicly recognize member clubs that make advancements in eliminating barriers to swimming
- provide forums for discussions on gender equity issues.

Swim BC representatives at external meetings shall understand and be committed to the principles of gender equity as set out in this policy and actions at these meetings should reflect these principles.

Swim BC will not solicit nor accept sponsorship from companies that discriminate against women or gender diverse individuals.

Swim BC shall strive to have all genders represented on its Board of Directors on all committees, and staff.