



Swimwear at Club/Regional/Provincial Competitions

Guiding Principle of Inclusion

Swimming Canada is committed to developing, maintaining and supporting a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion in its workforce and in the delivery of its programs. For further information, please refer to the Swimming Canada policy for [Equity, Diversity & Inclusion](#).

Acceptable Swimwear

Swimming Canada Rules

The updated Canadian swimwear rules found in **II. Swimming Rules 15. SWIMWEAR AND WEARABLES C15.2.2** exempts swimwear from compliance with World Aquatics Swimwear rules if the fabric of the swimwear is a permeable open mesh textile and would not reasonably be seen to create a technical advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance. This exemption can apply to a swimsuit that covers more of the body or for the use of a separate garment worn over or under a regular swimsuit.

Rule interpretation to promote inclusion

To promote inclusion in Club/Regional/Provincial competitions, all swimmers are permitted to race with the swimwear of their choosing if the fabric of the swimwear is a permeable open mesh textile and would not reasonably be seen to create a technical advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance. It is not required to declare the use of such swimwear to the Referee.

Competition Expectations

In order to ensure that the competition environment is an inclusive environment, the following is expected from all participants including swimmers, officials, coaches and volunteers at all competitions:

- All swimmers are permitted to race with the swimwear of their choosing at all levels of competition except Swimming Canada national competitions.
- Swimmers are not required to provide a reason for their choice of swimwear if the fabric of the swimwear is a permeable open mesh textile and would not reasonably be seen to create a technical advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance.



- Coaches, swimmers, and parents are not required to notify the referee, meet manager or any other official regarding a swimmer's choice of swimwear.

Officials and volunteers (timers, turn judges, marshals, etc.) are expected to ask swimmers for their name to confirm they are in the correct event/heat/lane. It is not the role of the officials and volunteers to question a swimmer about their swimwear.

Meet Information Packages

The following statement is required to be included in all meet information packages sanctioned by a provincial section:

All swimmers are permitted to race with the swimwear of their choosing at all competitions sanctioned by **Swim XXX**. It is not required to declare the choice of swimwear to the Referee if the fabric of the swimwear is a permeable open mesh textile and would not reasonably be seen to create a technical advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance.

Referee Briefing

The following statement is to be included in the Referee's briefing for all levels of competition except Swimming Canada national competitions:

All swimmers are permitted to race with the swimwear of their choosing if the swimwear would not reasonably be seen to create a technical advantage in terms of speed, buoyancy, or endurance.

Officials and volunteers (timers, turn judges, marshals, etc.) will ask swimmers for their name to confirm they are in the correct event/heat/lane. It is not the role of the officials and volunteers to question a swimmer about their swimwear.