



SWIM BC PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP TIME STANDARDS REVIEW (2025-2026)

Following a comprehensive review of the Provincial Championship time standards over the course of the season, Swim BC has implemented a series of adjustments to address identified inconsistencies, imbalances, and entry thresholds from the most recent competition cycle.

These standards were reviewed by our Competitions Committee.

Methodology

Order of Adjustments: Standards were revised first in Short Course Metres (SCM), with Long Course Metres (LCM) derived subsequently.

Data Sources: Psych sheets from the past three Provincial Championships were analyzed. Placement benchmarks of 20th position was applied to races 50-400m, and 12th position to 800m and 1500m freestyle events.

Rolling Averages: A three-year rolling average was calculated on the placement benchmarks.

Entry Analysis: The number of event entries per age group from last year's championships was evaluated.

Key Findings

Athlete participation remains disproportionately concentrated in the 13–14 and 15–16 age categories, with fewer athletes than our registration numbers would predict in the 11-12 age category.

The volume of swimmers and entries has resulted in competition sessions regularly exceeding 5-6 hours.

The number of entries for females has matched or, in some events, surpassed the entry numbers for males.

Objectives

Establish more equitable representation across all age groups, and genders.

Target approximately 20–30 athletes per age group, per event for races of 50-400m. This target was reduced to 10-20 athletes per age group, per event in the 800m and 1500m freestyle events.

Rounding

For simplicity and ease of reference, all SCM standards have been rounded to the nearest tenth of a second.

Long Course Standards

LCM standards were calculated directly from the SCM benchmarks using a 2% conversion factor ($SCM \times 1.02$). This aligns with the default conversion applied in Hytek Meet Manager, enabling automated recognition of BC Championship qualifications at Divisional meets.

Implementation Notes

For the 2025-2026 season the standards were adjusted to a maximum of 1%, unless there was a need to address high entry numbers in the event. In that case, a change was made to a maximum of 1.5%.

If the calculated average from the last 3 season was slower than the 2024-2025 standard, the previous standard remained.

Last season, the women's standards were made slower to account for fewer female participants at the provincial championships in 2023-2024. Due to comparable, or higher numbers of female entries to male entries at provincials during the 2024-2025 season, the same calculations were used for both women's and men's standards for this season with no additional adjustments made.

Due to low numbers of athletes in the 11-12 category, the standards for that age category were not changed.

Average Percent Change from 2024-2025

Age Group	Male	Female
11 – 12	0.0%	0.0%
13 – 14	0.6%	0.7%
15 – 16	0.7%	1.1%
17 & Over	0.1%	0.7%