



LIFESAVING SOCIETY

*The Lifeguarding Experts*

DATE: January 20, 2012  
TO: Lifesaving Society Affiliates, Athletes, Coaches, Officials  
FROM: Lorraine Wilson-Saliba, Lifesaving Sport Director  
RE: Sanctioning

Ontario

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The Lifesaving Society sanctions regional and provincial competitions.

When the Lifesaving Society receives a sanctioning application, the following criteria is reviewed before the competition is sanctioned:

1. Lifesaving Society Affiliate – any sanctioned competition must be hosted by a Lifesaving Society affiliate. If a Lifesaving Sport Club is organizing the competition, they must be a Lifesaving Society affiliate.
2. Key Officials – the event must be organized by a certified Lifesaving Society Meet Manager, Level 1 or higher. The competition must identify a certified Lifesaving Society Meet Referee, Level 1 or higher, who will be on-site for the competition. These two key officials will ensure the competition is organized and run safely and follows applicable Lifesaving Sport rules and procedures. At regional competitions, the Meet Manager and the Meet Referee may be the same person.

Regional competitions may or may not be sanctioned depending on the above criteria. The competition may only be advertised as being sanctioned if the above criteria has been met and approved by the Lifesaving Society. If there are changes to the facilities or Meet Referee after the competition has been sanctioned, the competition is no longer sanctioned. The new facility or new Referee needs to be approved by the Lifesaving Society.

Sanctioning provides the following benefits to athletes, officials, and volunteers participating in the competition:

1. Liability Insurance – a sanctioned competition provides Lifesaving Society insurance to athletes, officials, and volunteers supervised by a Lifesaving Society certified Referee.
2. Policies and procedures – a sanctioned competition provides the organizers with access to score sheets and rule books produced by the Lifesaving Society and the International Life Saving Federation.
3. Key Officials – a sanctioned competition ensures that the personnel organizing and running the competition have been trained and certified by the Lifesaving

Society. An NLS candidate expects their course to be taught by a certified NLS Instructor who trains and evaluates to the standards set out by the Lifesaving Society. An athlete expects a sanctioned competition to be supervised by a certified Meet Referee who follows the standards set out by the Lifesaving Society.

Regional competitions can be run without sanctioning by the Lifesaving Society. Affiliates, athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers need to know if the competition has been sanctioned or not so they can evaluate their participation and risk management to themselves and their organization.

Please direct any questions or comments to Lorraine Wilson-Saliba at 416-490-8844 or [lorrainew@lifeguarding.com](mailto:lorrainew@lifeguarding.com).