



LIFESAVING SOCIETY
SOCIÉTÉ DE SAUVETAGE

The Lifeguarding Experts

Les experts en surveillance aquatique

DATE: May 22nd, 2017

TO: All Canadian Athletes

COPY: Martin Leprohon, Sport Commissioner

FROM: Lisa Hanson Ouellette, Technical Services Manager

RE: Canadian Competition Manual – Addendum – Age Eligibility and Right to Participate

In 2013, the ILS Sport Commission changed the age requirements for the Youth Category from 16 to 19 years old, to 15 to 18 years as of 31 December of the year of the competition. Canada did not follow through with this change at that time.

After Rescue 2014 and 2016, it became clear that allowing athletes that are at least 16 years old at our national championships created an awkward situation where 15 years old could compete at World Championships but could not compete at National Championships to properly prepare and gain valuable experience ahead of a major international competition.

In 2016, a Canadian Competition Manual workshop was held and tasked the Technical Services Committee of the Sport Commission led by Lisa Hanson-Ouellette to undertake a full review of the age eligibility criteria.

Based on recommendations from the committee, on January 10th 2017, the National Sport Commission supported revising the age eligibility to participate in Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships and Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships. On April 24th 2017, the Board of Directors of the Lifesaving Society of Canada approved the change to the Eligibility and Right to Participate policy in the Canadian Competition Manual.

The current Canadian Competition Manual is not scheduled for revision until 2019, for implementation January 1, 2020. Therefore, the following addendum to the Canadian Competition Manual will be implemented as of May 21st 2017. The new eligibility rules would be implemented for the 2017 Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships and for the 2018 Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships.

For further information or clarification, please contact Lisa Hanson-Ouellette, Technical Services Manager at lisa.ouellette@rogers.com.

Canadian Competition Manual, 4th edition, January 2016 – Addendum 1

The Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships (or Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships) are open to any Individual Member, Affiliated Club or Affiliate Member of the Lifesaving Society in good standing. An individual or Affiliate is in good standing unless their Registered Athlete or Affiliate status has been revoked by the Lifesaving Society Canada or a Lifesaving Society Branch using the Certification Review Process.

To be eligible to compete in the Canadian Surf (or Pool) Lifesaving Championships, competitors shall:

- hold a current (within 24 months of the date of certification) Lifesaving Society Bronze Medallion or higher certification (defined as Lifesaving Society national mandatory and endorsed awards for which Bronze Medallion is a prerequisite).
- be a minimum of 15 years of age (30 years for Masters) as of the first day of the Canadian Surf (or Pool) Lifesaving Championships.
- be a Registered Athlete.
- A club may consist of any number of competitors, in addition to any non-competitive management and coaching personnel.

Competitors must be members of the same Affiliated Club or employees of the same Affiliate Member of the Lifesaving Society.

Competitors may compete for only one club or Affiliate Member at a time.

Competitors are allowed to enter each event only once.

Divisions

15-18 years old: Competitors must be a minimum of 15 years of age and a maximum of 18 years of age as of the first day of the Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships.

Open: Competitors must be a minimum of 15 years of age as of the first day of the Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships.

More specifically, sections throughout the Fourth (2016) Edition of the *Canadian Competition Manual*, as it pertains to these revisions, includes:

Section 2

2.1 The Canadian Championships

- be a minimum of 15 years of age (30 years for Masters) as of the first day of the championship.

2.5 Awards

- Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships & Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships
 - 15-18 Champion
 - Women's 15-18 Champion
 - Men's 15-18 Champion

2.8 Officials

- Masters events are not awarded points. Therefore Masters competitors shall be eligible to officiate the 15–18 years and open divisions.

Section 3

3.1 Divisions

- be a minimum of 15 years of age (30 years for Masters) as of the first day of the Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships.
- *15–18 years*: Competitors must be a minimum of 15 years of age and a maximum of 18 years of age as of the first day of the Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships.
- *Open*: Competitors must be a minimum of 15 years of age as of the first day of the Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships.

3.2 Program of Events (see table)

- *Team events*: Competitors in the 15–18 years division are eligible to compete as a member of a team in the open division. Competitors in the open division are not eligible to compete as a member of a team in the 15–18 years division. Competitors may only swim a team event once.

3.5 Seeding

- *In heats*: In heats, 15–18 years competitors, open competitors and Masters competitors shall be seeded together for each event based on entry times submitted with registration. Masters events are conducted as time finals.
- *In finals*: In finals, 15–18 years competitors and open competitors are seeded separately based on times recorded in heats.

3.6 Scoring

- Finals shall be conducted in the Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships in both 15–18 years and open divisions.
- Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships (15-18 years and open divisions) shall be allocated points in all individual and team events as follows:
- Clubs are allowed multiple entries in events. The top three placing entries per club in both the 15–18 years and open divisions score club points.

Section 5

5.1 Eligibility and right to Participate

- be a minimum of 15 years of age (30 years for Masters) as of the first day of the Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships.
- *15–18 years*: Competitors must be a minimum of 15 years of age and a maximum of 18 years of age as of the first day of the Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships.
- *Open*: Competitors must be a minimum of 15 years of age as of the first day of the Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships.

5.2 Program of Events (see table)

- Modifications to the table
- *Team events*: Competitors in the 15–18 years division are eligible to compete as a member of a team in the open division. Competitors in the open division are not eligible to compete as a member of a team in the 15–18 years division. Competitors may only swim a team event once.

5.6 Scoring

- Finals shall be conducted in the Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships in both 15–18 years and open divisions.
- Competitors in the Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships (15–18 years and open divisions) shall be allocated points in all individual and team events as follows:
- Clubs are allowed multiple entries in events. The top three placing entries per club in both the 15–18 years and open divisions score club points. Point score blocking is used.