

### **SNZ By-Law 3. The Right to Compete**

Thank you to everyone that provided feedback on the proposed changes to SNZ By-Law 3: Right to Compete. Below is the new law that has been passed by the SNZ Board and also the SNZ TAC.

In addition to the new By-Law wording please find below notes to assist in the interpretation of how to follow these in practice.

*3.1 A swimmer will not be eligible to compete in an approved competition unless he/she:*

- (a) Is a current member of SNZ, and*
- (b) Has first paid his/her membership fees due to his/her Club, Regional Association and SNZ, and*
- (c) Has first paid any other fees or costs prescribed by his/her regional association and/or SNZ, including the fee or cost to travel to, be accommodated, and compete in, a past or future representative competition; and*
- (d) Has supplied their contact details to SNZ as required in Rule 6.*

*3.2 At Club and Inter-Club competitions, financial and registered (at the time of competition) Club Swimmers and Competitive Swimmers may compete in all events.*

*3.3 At Regional and National competitions, all participants must be financial and registered (at the time of competition) Competitive Swimmers.*

*3.4 At all School Meets, financial and registered (at the time of the competition) Club Swimmers and Competitive Swimmers may compete in all events.*

*3.5 Any overseas swimmer from another federation competing at any competition in New Zealand must supply to SNZ an approval letter from their home federation confirming their eligibility to train and compete whilst in New Zealand.*

*3.6 By definition a "School Meet" is one where swimmers compete for their school rather than their club. The New Zealand Secondary School Championship is by definition a "School Meet" where Competitive and Club Swimmers may compete in all events.*

#### **Interpretation Notes:**

3.1: Small change to this point removing the differentiation between the Club and Competitive Swimmers removing any possible conflict with other rules.

3.2: This is a change from the previous By-Laws. This change allows all registered swimmers either Competitive or Club to swim in all events at Club and Interclub events together. There is no longer provision for a non-member to be able to swim with members in a meet and have it approved. Clubs have the ability to create a second club swimmer membership type (this would link into

the Regional and National club swimmers types) for give it a go situations. It would be up to the club if there were to be any fees associated with this new membership type. There are currently no national fees associated with Club Swimmers, this may be reviewed in the future with Club Swimmers now able to fully utilise the database and its event entry capabilities.

3.3: As has always been the case, at National and Regional Championships all swimmers must be Competitive Swimmers.

3.4: As with Club and Interclub Meets Club Swimmers are able to compete with Competitive Swimmers in School Meets.

3.5: Clarifies the need for all international swimmers training and competing in New Zealand to have approval from their home federation prior to commencing swimming activities in New Zealand.

3.6: Clarification that the New Zealand Secondary School Championship is classed as a School Meet so that Club and Competitive Swimmers can compete against each other.

#### **Meet Approval:**

In addition to the new By-Laws being followed the existing meet approval process still needs to be followed for meets to be approved.

#### **School Meets:**

School meets that adhere to all aspects in the meet approval process and also have only registered swimmers competing (Club or Competitive) are now able to be approved meets.

Swimmers that were previously just swimming for their school with no alignment to a club will now need to be aligned. This can be done as mentioned above by creating a club swimmer type for school swimmers in a club's membership in the database. SNZ believe this will act as a great pathway to encourage more school swimmers to enter into competitive swimming. As part of the meet information for NZ Secondary School Championships, Swimming New Zealand will encourage all schools that have swimmers that are not currently members of a SNZ Club to align themselves with such a club. This will also be necessary for any other regional or local school meets wanting their results to be official.

#### **Database:**

There will be a development completed shortly allowing members to also identify their school. If a meet is set up as a School Meet then the entries file exported out of the database will have them attached to their school rather than club. They will however retain their club MMID to allow the importing of results into Team Manager without issues.

Given the requirement for all swimmers to now be registered either as a Club or Competitive Swimmer for meet results to be approved, all swimmers will need to be loaded into the database at the time of any given meet. Any results files submitted to Swimming New Zealand having swimmers that don't exist in the database will lead to the meet being tagged as unapproved. The easiest means of checking this is to have the meet entries come through the database. Only



registered and financial members are able to enter into meets, meaning that all swimmers will be fine when results are loaded into the database.