
	Policy:	Competition Sanctioning Policy 
	Adopted:	December 15, 2008 (Hosting Policy)
Current Board Approved Version:		July 20, 2021

Governing Bodies



1. The following organizations govern the sport of artistic swimming in Canada:
 - a. Fédération Internationale De Natation (FINA) - The international governing body for competitive artistic swimming. Only Canada Artistic Swimming can seek a FINA sanction for an international event/competition.
 - b. Canada Artistic Swimming (CAS) is the national governing body for competitive artistic swimming in Canada. It has the sole authority to sanction National and International competitions in Canada.
 - c. Alberta Artistic Swimming (AAS) - The Alberta governing body for competitive artistic swimming that has the authority to sanction artistic swimming competition and events in the province of Alberta. AAS does not have the authority to give its sanctioning ability to another organization or body.

Purpose

2. The Competition Hosting Policy will ensure that artistic swimming competitions or related competitive events are run fairly and safely and comply with the Sanctioning Policy of Alberta Artistic Swimming (AAS), the Rules of CAS and the Technical Regulations of AAS, all related CAS and AAS policies and the elements outlined within this policy.
3. All sanctioned competitions must follow current rules as established by FINA, CAS, and AAS, as applicable.
4. Under this policy, AAS must grant (approve) sanctioning for any artistic swimming competition or related event for the following to apply in the province of Alberta:
 - a. Any other policy or rule of CAS and AAS to be in force;
 - b. Competition results to be considered official and valid for use domestically for team selection, talent identification and eligibility for competition entry qualification;
 - c. Participation by AAS members;
 - d. Insurance policies to be applicable.

Application of this Policy

5. Competitions Requiring a Sanction from AAS
 - a. All competitions require a sanction. Invitational competitions held by member clubs of AAS must request to be sanctioned by AAS. This includes Canadian University Artistic Swimming League (CUASL) members wishing to host an event in the Province of Alberta.
 - b. Clubs and programs can only apply for sanctions in which they are eligible to apply. The types of eligible competition sanctions will be published by AAS, and may be specific to the type or programming of an affiliated club (i.e. competitive, masters, CUASL).
 - c. Other events and activities that are not competitions must adhere to the requirements outlined in the Sanctioning Policy as approved by AAS.
6. Competitions that are not sanctioned by AAS
 - a. CAS Designated Meets - CAS has the authority to sanction their designated competitions, National and International.

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Minimum Facility Requirements for Artistic Swimming Meets

7. Artistic Swimming Meets must secure a swimming pool that meets the minimum following dimensions:
 - a. Figures – 12M x 3M with a minimum depth of 2.5M
 - b. Routines – 25M x 12M with a minimum depth of 1M
 - c. An area of 5.5M x 5.5M with a depth of 1.7M

8. A member club wishing to host an Invitational Artistic Swimming Meet who cannot secure a swimming pool with the requirements listed in section 4 can request special approval in writing. The request must include a pool diagram, its dimensions and the events to be offered.

Restricted Dates

9. The weekend of, directly before or after an AAS partner hosted competition will be considered a restricted date ineligible for sanctioning of an Invitational or CUASL competition.

10. The weekend of a CAS competition or a partner artistic swimming PTSO open to AAS participation will be considered a restricted date ineligible for sanctioning.

Requirements to obtaining a sanction:


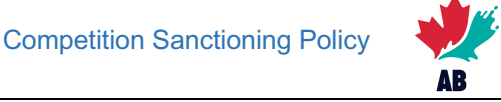
11. AAS Club Members in good standing may apply for a sanction.

12. All competitors shall be registered with AAS and CAS to be eligible to enter and compete, International entries may be considered dependent on circumstances.

13. Only competitions that follow current rules as established by FINA, CAS, and AAS will be considered for a sanction.

14. All sanction applications must adhere to and demonstrate adherence to AAS' this policy, the AAS Meet Manager Handbook and any special requirements communicated due to public health concerns. Failure to implement or follow requirements will result in a \$2,500 fine and withdrawal of the sanction.

15. A Restricted Date exception request must comply with the following:
 - a. Must be submitted a minimum of 16 weeks prior to the competition date.
 - b. Must be a closed invitational. Invited clubs must guarantee that qualified swimmers will not attend the closed invitational instead of the AAS partner hosted competition.
 - c. Host clubs who break the conditions of the exception request will be subject to a \$500 fine.
 - d. Clubs who enter swimmers that break the conditions of the exception request will be subject to a \$100 fine per swimmer.
 - e. The availability of officials, the location of the competition and facility availability will be considered by AAS.
 - f. Exception requests will be reviewed by AAS Technical Director and Officials Chair.

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g. The final decision to grant a sanction is at the sole discretion of AAS and may not be appealed.

16. Sanction applications will only be approved in pools that are approved to hold competitions meeting the minimum facility requirements outlined in this policy.
17. AAS will publish and communicate the required steps to apply for a competition sanction on the AAS website. Changes to the published steps to apply for a competition sanction will be communicated to all members and updates posted on the website upon effective date.
18. Sanction applications will be reviewed to ensure the following components of a competition are in place as outlined in the Meet Package, AAS may, at its sole discretion, request additional information to ensure the health and safety of all athletes and members prior to granting a sanction.
 - a. Name of the club
 - b. Date, time, and sanction type of Competition
 - c. Facility
 - d. Competition safety plan including relevant facility diagrams
 - e. Events
 - f. Entry fees
 - g. Eligibility
19. Deadlines to request a competition sanction and the applicable fee will be published by AAS. Competition sanctions that are received late are subject to a late sanction fee.

Late Sanction Fee

20. Sanction applications that are received late will be assessed a \$100 late sanction fee for the first occurrence by a club in a competitive season. Subsequent late sanction applications in the competitive season will be assessed a \$500.00 late sanction fee, which is payable upon receipt of invoice.

21. Requests for a late sanction may be denied by AAS at its discretion.


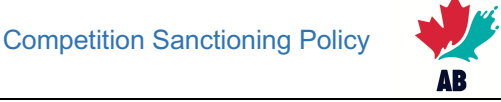
Transfer of a Sanction

22. Once obtained, sanctions may not be transferred to a third party or another Club Member.

Changes to a Sanctioned Competition and Fees

23. All additions or changes to a sanctioned competition must be approved by AAS. Any Club Member or CUASL League affiliate that makes a change to a sanctioned competition without approval by AAS will be fined \$500.00 which is payable upon receipt of invoice.

24. Any requests for changes to a sanctioned competition will be assessed a \$50 change to sanction fee per submission.

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25. Notification of a cancellation of a sanctioned competition must be submitted in writing to AAS. Repeated cancellations without notification to AAS may result in future sanctions being denied.

Withdrawal of a Sanction

26. AAS may order the withdrawal of a sanction if:
- a. Artistic Swimming Rules of CAS or FINA are violated.
 - b. Technical Regulations and policies of AAS have been violated.
 - c. Competitors are not registered swimmers.
 - d. The Club member is no longer a member in good standing with AAS at the time of the sanctioned competition.
 - e. The health and safety of athletes and other members are at risk; or as a result of any provincial and/or municipal restrictions that are put in place by a governmental body.
27. In the event that a sanction is withdrawn by AAS due to 33 e, initial sanction fee will be refunded, in all other instances there will be no refund. Any late fees, change fees, fines or penalties assessed will still be required to be paid, even if a Sanction is withdrawn.

General Event Requirements

As a condition of sanctioning, sanctioned events must comply with the following unless written permission by AAS has been granted otherwise.

On Deck Privileges

28. In order to ensure the safety of Alberta Artistic Swimming members, parents and spectators must be in designated viewing areas at all times during artistic swimming meets and are not permitted on the competition pool deck.
29. Deck access granted by AAS or the host club is strictly limited to athletes, scheduled volunteers, officials and coaches who meet the Coach Certification and Registration policy.
30. Infants and toddlers of a coach, official or volunteer are not permitted on the pool deck.

Music System

31. All electrical sound system equipment will be a minimum of one (1) metre from the gutter of the swimming pool and wheels, if applicable, must be in a locked position or be secured to prevent movement at all times.

Elevated Platforms for Judging Routines

32. Chairs on conventional tables are prohibited from being used for the creation of elevated platforms for judging. The use of tot docks with chairs and water-polo tables with chairs is acceptable as a platform system where elevated platforms are not provided by the facility.

AAS Meet Manager Handbook

33. All sanctioned events will further comply with the requirements and guidelines for hosting an event in Alberta.