

Relay Selection Guidelines

Statement of Principle

The Oak Bay Orcas is a competitive swim club. As such, the goal of this policy is first, to ensure as many swimmers as possible reach the podium at the BCSSA Provincial Championships and second, to qualify as many swimmers as possible for the Provincial Championships.

As a club involved with the development of youth, it is acknowledged that factors such as attitude, personal responsibility, discipline and attendance are also important and, in appropriate cases, may displace event times as the sole criteria of selection to a relay time.

General Selection Principles

1. Relay selection shall be performed by the Head Coach in accordance with this policy.
2. Barring extenuating circumstances, a swimmer who has committed to swimming in a relay shall swim in that relay event. Because the success of the relay team depends on each member, failure of a swimmer to swim in a relay which that swimmer has committed to may result in disciplinary action and will necessitate the reimbursement to the Club by the swimmer of any costs incurred by the Club.

Relay Selection Procedure

- A. **Seasonal Meets** (being all meets, less the Provincial Meet and the Regional Meet)
 1. Teams may be made up of swimmers of different divisions and abilities in an attempt to give as many swimmers as possible the opportunity to participate and succeed.
 2. Relays will be chosen at the Coaches' discretion taking into consideration:
 - Giving swimmers relay experience in both a fun and/or competitive setting
 - Practice attendance
 - Attitude
 - Commitment
 - Likely or possible team composition for each division at Regionals
 - Best times
 3. The Head Coach can override these guidelines for swimmers under code of conduct disciplinary action but must report their decisions to the Chair of the Coaching Committee ("CCC") for consultation.

B. Regional Meet and Provincial Meet ("Final Meets")

1. Swimmers shall be selected for relays based on his or her best individual event time for the related relay stroke for the current season as recorded in Hytek Meet Manager, with a goal of having each relay team medal at the Provincial Championships. (Where a 50m time is not available, as in the case of older Divisions, relay splits as recorded by

- the Head Coach throughout the season may be used.)
2. Only swimmers participating in Regionals, and who can commit to attending Provincials, are eligible for selection to a Provincial relay.
 3. The Head Coach shall provide a list of the Regional relay teams, as selected, to the CCC for review no later than 48 hours after the completion of the final season meet. The CCC shall review the lists, consult with the Head Coach as necessary, and, except in the case of a disagreement between the Head Coach and CCC, cause the lists to be published on the Orca website no later than 24 hours after receipt by the CCC. Any disagreement as to team composition between the Head Coach and the CCC shall be referred to the Executive who shall decide the issue and cause the lists to be published as soon as possible.
 4. A swimmer may appeal his or her non-selection to a Final meet relay team. All appeals must be made in writing to the President of the Club within 48 hours of the posting of the relay team on the Orca website. The President of the Club, along with a minimum of two Executive Members, shall, by majority vote, decide whether to grant the appeal and shall inform all affected swimmers of the final decision.
 5. A relay team that qualifies for the Provincials will swim the same team members as swam at Regionals unless there is a change due to extenuating circumstances. These circumstances include: injury, illness, disciplinary action or inability to attend. Any changes to the team composition will be posted as soon as possible and the Head Coach will notify the directly affected relay team swimmers.
 6. The Head Coach can recommend overriding these guidelines for any reasons but any decision to replace a faster swimmer with a slower swimmer must be approved by a quorum of the Coaching Committee who in turn may refer final decision to the Club Executive.
 7. Relay selection shall be performed in ascending order by division using the following procedure:

Pass 1: *Potential Provincial Medalists*

- A. The four fastest swimmers in the relay stroke, by division, shall be identified. Where that team is not equal to or faster than the prior year's Provincial 3rd place time, the team shall be re-selected from swimmers within the relay's division and from swimmer's in lower divisions that have not already been selected for relay.
- B. Where the selected relay team does not have a reasonable chance to qualify for Provincials, the team shall not be formed and the swimmers shall remain available for selection in pass 2.

Pass 2: *Potential Provincial Qualifier*

- A. Where the selected relay's estimated time does not have a reasonable chance to qualify for Provincials by being equal to or faster than the prior year's Regional 2nd place time, the team shall be reselected from swimmers within the relay's division and from swimmers of lower divisions that have not already be selected for a relay.
- B. Where the selected relay team does not have a reasonable chance to qualify for

Provincials, the team shall not be formed and the swimmers shall remain available for selection in pass 3.

Pass 3: ***All Other Relays***

- A. Where there are insufficient swimmers to form a relay team, swimmers from lower divisions that have not already been selected for a relay are eligible for selection.