

Disability Chair Report

Proposal for Para-Swimmers in the JO Champ

To allow a separate division of swimmers with disabilities to compete at the Ohio Age Group JO Championship.

This separate division will be designated D-2.

Ohio LSC recognizes the value of the inclusion of swimmers with a disability (henceforth referred to as “para-swimmer”) into both regular season and championship level meets. Providing greater opportunities and recognition to such athletes is of the highest priority and the policy set forth encourages all member teams to recruit, train and include para-swimmers as part of their Age-group and Senior programs.

Entry Procedure

Coaches/club entry contact should:

- A. Enter the para-swimmer electronically, or, on the paper entry form;
- B. Provide advance notice of any necessary accommodations;
- C. List in the email with the electronic entry (or, on paper) the para-swimmer’s name, entry times, strokes/distances and days/sessions.

Preferred seeding is with the para-swimmer’s same age group in either the same distance race or a longer distance race (i.e., 50 free during the 100 free). Exceptions to this should be listed in “necessary accommodations.”

Eligibility

Para-swimmers will participate in finals for points and awards in a fashion that provides proper recognition and consideration of the athlete’s disability.

- A. Qualifying time standards are waived for para-swimmers for their age group/events, however, must provide an approved time that matches or exceeds the minimum **‘Motivational Time Standards for Para-Swimmers’** in their respective age group with their entry for each event entered.
- B. Official sport class recognition of a para-swimmer is NOT required; however, they MUST be identified as such on the team’s meet entry form.
- C. All member teams may enter up to 6 para-swimmers for the LSC Championship meets who otherwise meet all the age and ability standards.

Format for including Para-Swimmers in the JO Championship

Paired events for D-2

	9-10		11-12		13-14	
	Para event	JO Event	Para event	JO event	Para event	JO Event
	50 Free	100 Free	50 Free	100 Free	100 Free	200 Free
	50 Back	100 Back	50 Back	100 Back	100 Back	200 Back
	50 Breast	100 Breast	50 Breast	100 Breast	100 Breast	200
Breast						
	50 Fly	100 Fly	50 Fly	100 Fly	100 Fly	200 Fly
			100 Free	200 Free	100 IM	200 IM

D-2 Swimmers will swim preliminaries during their respective paired event.

D-2 Swimmers will swim a separate final for each of the championship events to include up to 4 female and 4 male athletes, or, a combination not to exceed a total of 8 finalists per event.

D-2 Swimmers will score points and be awarded in the same fashion as the D-1 swimmers.

D-2 Swimmer final events may be combined if the total number of finalist does not exceed 8 competitors.

This format may be modified by the Age Group committee to include not more than 2 para events on any day based on multi-day format. Suggestion is that the D-2 finals heat precede the D-1 heat.