

CANBERRA AMATUER SWIMMING CLUB  
RELAY SELECTION POLICY

## **1. Introduction**

Relays are an exciting and integral part of the Canberra Amateur Swimming Club (Canberra ASC) team experience. Members of the affiliated training program(s) will be provided the opportunity to race as part of the Canberra ASC relay teams at club nights, local meets, ACT, NSW and Australian level meets. In the interests of all Club members, this policy seeks to provide clarity and transparency to the selection process.

### **1.1 Objective**

The objectives of the Relay Selection Process is to:

- a) Ensure the best possible teams are selected to represent the Canberra ASC at ACT, Country, State and National level swimming competitions;
- b) Enable parents to make accommodation plans that take into account participation in relay teams; and
- c) Encourage the participation of all members in Relays where possible.

It is expected that selected relay team members will represent Canberra ASC with respect, integrity and sportsmanship. When selected on a Canberra ASC relay team, the team is representing the Club.

### **1.2 Policy Principles**

This document has been developed using the following principles and guidelines:

- a) The selection process should be as simple and as reasonable possible.
- b) Swimming is a time-based sport, therefore the main principle guiding selection is the combination of the fastest times by available Canberra ASC squad members at meets immediately preceding the ACT, NSW Country, NSW State and National championships for which the relay teams are being selected (or within 12 months of the relay selection date).
- c) Canberra ASC recognises that the professionals coaching our swimmers are in the best position to select relay teams relating to swimmers and their likely performance at a meet, and evaluations of performances within a meet, if necessary.
- d) ACT, SNSW and Swimming Australia swimming rules will require teams to be selected appropriately.

## **2. Canberra ASC Relay Team Selection**

### **2.1 Championship Relay Selection Process**

#### **2.1.1 Eligibility**

All swimmers wishing to be considered for selection in a Club relay must:

- a) Be a financial member of Canberra ASC; and
- b) At the time of selection, be a member of a Canberra ASC squad program, learn to swim or training program (e.g. SAL/SNSW National Training Centre, SAL/SNSW Podium Centre or overseas higher education programs) approved by the Head Coach and Canberra ASC committee; and

- c) Have an official time for an individual event (stroke, distance and course) during the current season.

#### 2.1.2 Selection Process Steps

- a) Draft relay teams will normally be selected according to fastest official times in the results database (which should include all the official times in the SAL National Database).
- b) The times used will be the official short or long course times appropriate to the meet, swum during that season by Canberra ASC squad members, particularly in the period leading up to the meet.
- c) If a swimmer is not training and/or competing regularly swimmers with the fastest times from the current season will be given first preference in the selection of the relay team.
- d) Draft teams will take into account whether a swimmer has qualified as an individual or not, unless they have already indicated they are not available. Preference will be given to those competing in individual events. The relay teams will normally be formed by the 4 fastest swimmers available per age group.

#### 2.1.3 Changes may be made to take into account such matters as:

- (a) Splits recorded in the National Database but not available in Team Manager;
- (b) Limited opportunities to have a relevant time for the current season (usually for the short course season);
- (c) Training Performance, injury or any other reason for poor performance during the season;
- (d) Selection from swimmers in the age group targeted for the relay. For example, 13-14 years swimmers will be considered first before other age groups for a 13-14 years relay team where a 12&U relay is also provided at the meet. There may be exceptions to this position when no age group team can be formed or there is a B team and:
  - i) the inclusion of a swimmer in a younger age group would result in a team meeting the qualifying time; and/or
  - ii) the team having a better overall performance that would result in more points for the club at a major championship, e.g. Country, State Age or National Age.

2.1.4 In line with the above, the best swimmers will normally be selected for the “A” & “B” relay teams at Country, State and National Championships, but may vary for the ACT Relay Championships or other meets.

2.1.5 Every attempt will be made not to overlook any swimmer where possible however swimmers will be selected for team based on the Club requirements at the time.

2.1.6 Consideration for reserves and pre-planned alternate swims may also take place.

2.1.7 Once swimmers have been notified of their selection, if a swimmer is unable to attend the meet, they should inform the Head Coach/s as soon as possible. Once the availability of swimmers is confirmed, the Head Coach/s will amend the teams if required and notify the swimmers concerned.

2.1.8 Depending on the time available before the entries are due, at this stage selection may include other swimmers already attending the meet as an individual swimmer or other Canberra ASC registered swimmers present at the meet (e.g. siblings/relatives).

2.1.9 Changes are not able to occur between A and B relays once nominations are made to the relevant organising body (i.e. Swimming ACT/NSW/Australia) – nominations are generally made during the session prior to that which includes the relays.

2.1.10 The Head Coach/s has the final discretion in the formation of teams.

## **2.2 General Information**

2.2.1 Including, but not limited to ACT Relays, the Head Coach/s may seek assistance from the Committee or other secondees to draft the relay teams.

2.2.2 Relay entry fees are to be met by Canberra ASC at ACT Championships, Country, State and National level meets.

2.2.3 For relays at meets where the club is not entering the teams officially, swimmers are encouraged to form teams themselves and pay the entry fee on the day.

2.2.4 The Canberra ASC relay selection policy will be reviewed as required by the Canberra ASC Committee and Coaches, particularly if there are changes in the Swimming Rules or meet programs for Swimming ACT, Swimming NSW and Swimming Australia meets.