

2013-2017 Rule Book

Masters Swimming in Ontario

Note to Readers

The 2013-2017 Rule Book was developed and maintained by the Rules Committee of Masters Swimming Canada (MSC) and contained Canadian variations or interpretations of FINA rules¹. In 2017, MSC abandoned the Rule Book and opted to refer only to the FINA Rules. Ad hoc rule changes are now only posted on the MSC website.

Masters Swimming Ontario (MSO) is an independent swimming organization since September 2017. MSO has had a long history with the 2013-2017 Rule Book and believes that a comprehensive document ensures that officials, coaches and swimmers have a common understanding of the competition rules.

A review of the 2017-2021 FINA Handbook revealed no significant changes related to strokes or other matters. It also contains some additional clarifications that may be useful to incorporate into an updated domestic Rule Book.

The 2013-2017 Rule Book has been updated with the minor changes to the breaststroke and backstroke rules of November 2014 to ensure consistency with the rules applied to all masters swimming competition in Canada. A MSO technical committee will carefully review the other FINA clarifications and publish a new domestic Masters rule book.

¹ FINA General Rules state, "FINA recognizes that these Rules may be adjusted for competitions within a given Federation but recommends that all Members adhere to these Rules as closely as possible."

2013-2017 RULE BOOK

Masters Swimming

These swimming rules were prepared by the Masters Swimming Canada (MSC) Rules Committee and have been approved by the Board of Directors of Masters Swimming Canada, the body responsible for Masters swimming competition rules in Canada.

With the exception of FINA Masters World Championships, these Rules are in force and shall govern all sanctioned Masters swimming competitions in Canada. They adhere as closely as possible to the FINA Masters Swimming Rules & Regulations but have been adjusted for the range of Masters competition in Canada. The Rules have been updated to comply with changes and clarifications made by FINA at their July, 2013 Barcelona Congress. World records set at a sanctioned Masters meet in Canada, under MSC Rules, are recognized by FINA.

The MSC 2013-2017 Rule Book consists of the General Rules (GR), Swimming Rules (SW), Open Water Swimming Rules (OWS) and Appendices. The format is based on a stand-alone version initially developed in 2008 by the FINA Masters Technical Committee. Rules prefaced with an “M” (e.g., MSW) are the original FINA Masters rule; rules prefaced with a “CM” (e.g., CMSW) are Canadian variations or interpretations of the FINA rule. Wherever possible the FINA numbering system is retained. It is similar to the SNC numbering system.

These rules are posted on the MSC website in English and French, in standard and hip-pocket format. If there is a conflict between versions, the English standard-format version shall prevail.

Please contact the MSC Rules Committee Chair if you have questions, comments or suggested corrections at Rules@MastersSwimming.ca

MSC Rules Committee:

Chris Smith (Chair), Ralph Chown, Ed Evely, Bryan Finlay, Greg King, Patricia Niblett, Cynthia Pincott, Mike Stamhuis and Dave Wilkin (Ex officio).

MSC Approved: December 16, 2013

The 2013-2017 Rule Book may be reproduced unaltered, in whole or in part, for Canadian masters swimming purposes.

**Masters Swimming Canada
2013-2017 Rule Book**

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Revision History

2014-07-30	<p>Appendix E – Record Form Replace Canadian age verification requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove <i>Birth Certificate or Passport</i> • Replace with <i>Government-issued photo-ID</i>
2014-12-03	<p>FINA Rule changes instituted at the FINA Extraordinary Congress November 29, 2014. Rules affected CMSW 2.1, CMSW 2.6, CMSW 6 Backstroke, CMSW 7 Breaststroke CMSW 10.21</p>
2017-09-18	<p>MSW 8.1 Clarification on Butterfly text</p>
2017-12-26	<p>Warm Up Rules Updated to reflect the intent of the MSC and SNC Warm Up procedures.</p> <p>Appendix E – Record Form To reflect MSO records only</p>

NOTES