

NOVICE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. A novice swimmer will be defined as:
 - a. Someone who has never competed or trained in the National Stream in any country
 - b. Someone who did not compete or train past the age of 12 in Provincial Stream or the equivalent in any country
 - c. A novice swimmer may have competed / swam in learn 2 sync or other equivalent novice programs past the age of 12.
 - i. Swimmers who have competed / swam in learn 2 sync or novice streams in Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia past the age of 12 for more than 4 years may not be considered a novice swimmer.
2. A swimmer who meets the criteria above may no longer be considered a novice swimmer.
3. Should a novice swimmer obtain a technical solo and/or technical duet/trio mark of 6 or greater in Execution at a Divisional and/or National Meet, they will also no longer be eligible to be considered a novice swimmer.
 - a. This swimmer will no longer be able to register as a novice level swimmer in subsequent years
4. A swimmer who competes in the novice category for a cumulative 5 seasons in the league may no longer be considered a novice swimmer and must register as an experienced swimmer in subsequent years.
 - a. These seasons include every year the swimmer has entered competition within the league, even if they are at multiple universities throughout their time.
5. A swimmer who is not defined as a novice swimmer but wishes to compete in the novice category and does not fall under Novice Routines Rule 1 may submit an appeal to the league to request special permission to compete in the novice category as an experienced swimmer.
6. Experienced swimmers must remain in the category they are registered in for the entire season, and may not be moved down to novice after the first competition.
 - a. A swimmer who is registered as an experienced swimmer may not move down to the novice category in the same season
 - b. A novice swimmer may move up to the experienced category in the same season but may not move back down to a novice swimmer in the same season
 - c. A swimmer who is competing in the experienced category may not compete in both the experienced and novice categories at the same competition