NOVICE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. A novice swimmer will be defined as:
   a. Someone who has never competed in the National Stream in any country
   b. Someone who did not compete 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.
2. A swimmer who meets the criteria above may no longer be considered a novice swimmer should the swimmer obtain a technical solo and/or duet/trio mark of 6 or greater in execution at a Divisional and/or National Meet.
   a. This swimmer will no longer be able to register as a novice level swimmer in subsequent years
3. 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.
4. Male swimmers may compete in any novice category
5. A swimmer who is not defined as a novice swimmer but wishes to compete in the novice category and does not fall under the 2/3 rule below may submit an appeal to the league in order to request special permission to compete in the novice category as an experienced swimmer.
   a. Novice Eligibility Appeals will be considered by the Jury of Appeal set out to evaluate Bye & Appeal Requests
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 swimmer who is competing in the experienced category may not compete in both the experienced and novice categories at the same competition
   c. A novice swimmer may move up to the experienced category but may not move back down to the novice category in the same season