



Criteria for advancement to Club and State Games Competition

Fundamental Principle

Athletes of all ability levels have an equal opportunity to advance to the next higher-level competition provided the sport and event are offered at the next higher level of competition.

Training and competition must be in the same sport the athlete will participate in at the next level of competition. If additional events within that sport are available at the next level of competition, athletes must receive proper training.

1. Procedure

Eligibility for advancement

An athlete is eligible to be considered for advancement to the next level of competition provided the registered athlete has participated in the previous level of competition.

2. Club or Regional Competition

To be eligible for club or regional events an athlete must be registered with SOA, or a Sports club affiliated with SOA and must be 8 years of age on the first day of Competition. Also:

- Has been appropriately trained by a qualified coach in their respective sport and meets the required Minimum Training standards**

** Minimum training standards: Athletes must reach a level where they have the necessary sports skills and physical fitness to be adequately prepared to compete meaningfully and safely before entering any club or regional competition. This is typically a minimum of 8 sessions under a qualified coach to enable an athlete to reach this standard.

Coaches Will:

- Develop the athlete's sports skills and physical fitness.
- Prepare athletes adequately for competition.
- Regularly monitor and record athlete's performance.
- Ensure the scores/times/distance submitted on an athlete's entry form are true, accurate and current.

3. State Competition, annually or every 2 years

To be eligible for State Competition an athlete must be registered with SOA, or a Sports club affiliated with SOA and must be 8 years of age on the first day of competition. Also:

- Have competed in a minimum of 2 club or regional events prior to the state competition to obtain accurate entry information.
- Regularly trained with a qualified coach in the lead up to the event.
- Current and accurate Scores/Times/Distances are recorded and are submitted by the coach prior to competition.

Coaches Will:

- Develop the athlete's sports skills and physical fitness.
- Prepare athletes adequately for competition.
- Regularly monitor and record athlete's performance.
- Ensure the scores/times/distance submitted on an athlete's entry form are true, accurate and current.

Note: To advance to National level competition all affiliate members must be full members of SOA at the time of the qualifying event that is nominated as a selection event for the National Games. E.g., State games