



Synchronized Skating – July 2009 update

This season is very exciting for synchronized skaters as they are the first discipline to incorporate Skate Canada's Long-Term Athlete Develop model into their program and event structure. There are several new developments that were outlined in a recent communication that we would like to explain in greater detail.

As a result of the "Festival" and "Competitive" competition streams being combined into one competition stream, all synchro categories and their respective age requirements have been revised. Along with these changes, test pre-requisites have been removed and as of September 1, 2009 all Synchronized Skating events will be run using the Cumulative Points Calculation (CPC) judging system.

The National Synchronized Skating Championships will now consist of Novice, Intermediate, Open, Junior and Senior Synchronized Skating categories. All teams must qualify to compete at the National Championships through their respective Regional events.

Five Regional qualifying events have replaced the former Sectional and Festival Regional qualifying competitions. Each Region is eligible to enter one team into each category at the National Championships. An additional team may be entered into each category for every 15,000 registered associate members in the Region (for the 2009/2010 season only, each Region may enter a base number of two teams per category at Nationals instead of one). From 2010/2011 onward, teams placing in the top five at Synchro Nationals in the previous year will achieve an additional entry (or entries) from their Region into the qualifying event in the current year.

If Junior and Senior categories are not filled at any regional event the event will still be held and attendance by other teams will not be mandatory. Teams will also be responsible for the regional event entry fee. For all other categories attendance is mandatory regardless of the number of entries.

The dates for this season's Regional events are as follows:

- Atlantic (NB, PE, NS, NF): January 29-31, 2010
- Quebec: (QC): February 5-7, 2010
- Ontario (NO, WO, CO, EO): February 12-14, 2010
- Prairie (MB, SK): February 5-7, 2010
- Mountain (AB, BC): January 29-31, 2010

No other Synchronized Skating event will be permitted to be held on any of the five Regional dates.

The above changes were made to better align the sport of Synchronized Skating with the goals and principles of LTAD. The synchronized skating community was involved

throughout the evaluation and research process that was undertaken over the past few seasons and we would like to thank everyone for their participation and valuable feedback.

Further information on the Synchro restructure is available on Members Only. [Click here](#) to see the most recent synchro presentation materials

We will also be providing an update in the next issue of *Keeping In Touch*, our member's only publication due out in August.

We appreciate the continued enthusiasm of the synchronized skating community and look forward to a great season! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our Member Services department – memberservices@skatecanada.ca.

Your Skate Canada National Office