



New Zealand Artistic Swimming Virtual Competition

2021 Bulletin 1

We are very excited to be launching New Zealand's very first Artistic Swimming Virtual Nationals. In a short timeframe a small team of people have dug deep and learnt so much from Canada, USA and Australia about how to run such an event, using the wonders of ZOOM and a Canadian-based scoring, virtual judging and live streaming system (ISS).

Being our first event, we know it will have teething problems and hiccups on the way, but together we will work through it and learn new things along the way. We thank all our clubs for championing us on and supporting the concept of giving it a go.

In the end our focus is to provide a competition event for our amazing athletes who have worked so hard over the last 12 months. Each athlete has had to work through the struggles of lockdowns, and alert levels as well as persevered through the normal ups and downs life throws at us. We want to acknowledge their dedication and drive and energy that they all give to this amazing sport.



Kia Kaha - Stay Strong, Stay Positive and Know you all are amazing people.

The following Bulletin is a comprehensive breakdown of how the event will run. It has lots of important information for Club Managers, Coaches, Athletes, Judges and Club Videographers. Importantly if you are not sure please touch base with Shirley or Debbie we are here to help and problem solve as we go.

Information includes the roles clubs will play in what is required to run the virtual events at your club pools. Including

- Key Dates and Timeline - Step by step aspects on what clubs will need to work through
- Club Entry information
- Calling for Virtual Judges
- Guidelines for Timekeeping
- Competition Rules
- **Videographer Guidelines and video requirements will come through in Bulletin 2 next week.**

Meet Personnel

We have a small team of people who are working behind the scenes to coordinate the event and we thank them for their time, enthusiasm and energy. This group will be there to support Clubs in the development of this event.

Planning Group

Shirley Hooper - Chair of Artistic NZ and Virtual Competition

Karen Moffat McLeod - Artistic Swimming Administrator - Entries

Sue van Os - Judge Representative

Kirstin Anderson - Coach Representative

Vicki Hustler - Chief Recorder

Debbie Dickson - Meet Manager and Club Support- debbiedickson@gmail.com.

Special thanks to Alpine Chairperson - Natasha Cuisel - who designed our awesome Virtuals logo

Meet Personnel

Bronwyn Stackpole - Referee, Emma Weston - Assistant Referee and Sue van Os - Judge Coordinator

Scorers - Vicki Hustler, Kate Boyt and Mike Hawkins

Announcers - Shirley Hooper, Debbie Dickson and Anne Maree Ward

Programme Schedule

Filming Proposed Dates	<p>Will be done in clubs in front of experienced videographers, within the following windows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Filming of Figures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Out of Auckland clubs – by 7th November ○ Auckland clubs – by 14th November ● Filming of Routines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Out of Auckland clubs – by 14th November ○ Auckland clubs – by 21st November
Judging Weekends	<p>Judging will occur over the following weekends – with all results kept 100% confidential until the livestream. Timetable to be confirmed over those weekends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 20th/21st November - Figures ● 27th/28th November - Routines
Streaming of the Competition	<p>The competition will be Livestreamed on the following weekend (when NCEA is almost over). Clubs are asked to host events in their own town so athletes can watch the competition, see the scores and receive their medals. Timetable to be confirmed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 11th/12th December 2021

Key Dates/ Timeline & Checklist leading up to Virtual Competition Viewing Weekend in December

(Note we have also included Squad Trial deadlines in a light grey - just so it helps clubs with planning)

September 2021	
<p>Coordinating Your Pool</p>	<p>Each club is required to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Work through pool bookings and timetabling of filming. ● We do understand that for some clubs this may be challenging where pools have different Level 2 rules.
<p>Coordinating Your Videographer</p>	<p>Each club is required to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify who will be their videographer ● Videos must be done from digital video cameras - not I pads. ● Your videographer should be either professional or technically savvy individual with proven ability to run a video camera, able to drop music onto the routine video (better quality than recording the atmospheric pool sound) and be accomplished at uploading all files to ASNZ on Dropbox. ● Specific information for Videographers is provided later in this Bulletin.
<p>Coordinating Judges Judge Availability SpreadSheet Please click Here Please complete by 30 September</p>	<p>Clubs please check the availability of your Judges over the Judging Weekends. Please note - they will not be required over the whole weekend, but we cannot confirm the timetable until we know the final entries. Judging times are the same as they are at a Face to Face Nationals - just spread over more time. We do need as many judges as possible to ensure that this competition is a success, and the expectation is still that Clubs provide judges on the 1:6 ratio. Please share the spreadsheet with your judges so they can update their information and availability Please click Here by 30 September</p> <p>This Form is currently populated by the judges who were confirmed for Face to Face Nationals. When completing this please</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cross-out judges that will no longer be participating ● Additions and Changes please add in RED

	<p>Please send back the Judge Availability Form by 30 September to Karen Moffatt McLeod - admin@artisticswimming.org.nz.</p>
<p>Entries will come out by 20 September</p> <p>Please complete by 30 September</p>	<p>Virtual Entry Forms will be emailed out to clubs on Monday 20 September.</p> <p>These need to be completed by 30 September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The entry form clubs receive will have the 2021 Face to Face Nationals entry information previously advised ● When Checking the Virtual Nationals Entry - please <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cross-out entries that will no longer be participating ○ Additions and Changes please add in RED ○ Please complete new sections within the entry form <p>To support announcing aspects with the Virtual competition you will see there are three additional columns on the right</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ one for the name of the Coaches of each routine, ○ one for interesting facts i.e. coaches may like to share the music name and or theme for the routine etc. <p>Please make sure you complete these sections, otherwise the Announcer will not be able to comment on the routine within the wait sections!</p> ● Once the form is checked and completed please email this to Karen Moffat McLeod by 30th September.
<p>School Entries in by 30 September</p>	<p>Schools Section for Athletes: - TEAM MANAGERS</p> <p>As part of School Sport NZ athletes competing for their school are required to complete the following form and have it signed off by their school principal. click here</p> <p>This will need to be completed by End of Term 3 - 1 October</p> <p>Once signed please return to your Team Managers, who will forward this to Debbie Dickson - Meet Manager dbbedickson@gmail.com who in turn will pass this information onto School Sport NZ.</p> <p>The Schools sections will run in conjunction with the main competition events, with routine scores taken out to inform School results. They are not separate events (other than School Combo). Sections include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Intermediate (Year 7&8) Solo and Duet ○ Junior Secondary (Year 9&10) Solo and Duet

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Senior Secondary (Year 11-13) Solo and Duet ○ School Combo
<p>Team Managers/ Coaches check in re NCEA and let ASNZ know by 30 September</p>	<p>We ask that clubs please check in with your athletes by 30 September on how many are involved in NCEA on Monday 13 /Tuesday 14 December) or IB exams, providing details of the name of the athlete and the exam.</p> <p>Please send this information to Karen by 30 September</p> <p>If we do have a number of athletes sitting exams on these two days we would look to amend the timing of livestream to ensure all athletes are able to be present at this event but still allow time for study i.e. we would schedule those athlete events on the Saturday. .</p> <p>We will confirm the final Livestream Schedule with clubs by mid October.</p>
<p>ASNZ Squad Trials</p>	<p><i>Flex and strength photos and videos to be submitted by 30 September</i></p>
<p>October 2021</p>	
<p>Judge Education SAVE THIS DATE</p>	<p>2 October - Judges Education Forum (Time TBC - ZOOM Session) Compulsory for all judges. Note this is the equivalent of the first day education at Nationals.</p>
<p>Meeting Dates for Videographer SAVE THESE DATES</p>	<p>2 October - Videographer Briefing this is vital your videographer attends this Zoom session. Time TBC</p> <p>17 October - Test Video to be submitted - Videographers will be asked to submit a test video of Figures and Routine filmed at the pool venue where filming will take place at the same time, so video can be reviewed by the Meet Referee (or representative). Note - flexibility to be given for Auckland clubs if required</p>
<p>Figures Draw</p>	<p>The Figures Draw for 12 & Under and 13/14/15 Figures will be done on 21st October. Please note, the same Figures will be used for Virtual Nationals and Squad Trials. The deadline for Squad Trials is earlier, because we need to know successful Squad triallists ASAP, so we can</p>

	<p>book flights and make arrangements for December and January camps. Clubs can choose to use the same video for Squad Trials and competition entry if they wish, or to record two separate videos for submission if they prefer.</p> <p>The following two figures have been selected in advance for the non competitive groups - one compulsory and one optional as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dolphins - Sailboat Alternate and Somersault Front Pike ● Aquarinas - Rio and Jupiter ● Aquanuants - Barracuda and Walkover Back
<p>Collecting Nationals Trophies and Organising them to be posted/ couriered to 2021 Meet Manager by 30 October</p>	<p>TEAM MANAGERS</p> <p>Please coordinate or trophy recipients from 2020 Hamilton to return their cups/ trophies to you by the start of Term 4 (18 October) Please ensure that they are all cleaned before posting them to Debbie Dickson Meet Manager 2021/ 2022. Note engraving is the responsibility of the trophy winner/s (or Club if it was a Team).</p> <p>Postal/ Couriered to: Address 4 Inverurie Drive, Invercargill Phone Contact 0212727029</p> <p>All trophies need to be posted to Debbie by 30 October</p>
<p>Get your Music Ready</p>	<p>Ensure it is of a high quality - make sure your videographer can overlay this over the routine before uploading.</p>
<p>Pre Run Through and film as a back up</p>	<p>As soon as you are back at the pool we suggest that clubs record all your athletes' swims and save them as a back up competition video in case we move alert levels.</p> <p><i>You do not need to get a videographer for this. We suggest you use an ipad for this recording.</i></p> <p>This will make sure that if the worst happens you are still able to submit something for the competition.</p>
<p>Confirm Filming Timetable with ASNZ by 25 October</p>	<p>Please send your filming timetable for both figures and routines to Karen by 25 October. If you have any questions please email Karen to work through.</p>

Coordinating 2 Timekeepers per club for Routine Judging Weekend

Timekeepers will be required to timekeep for all routines over the Judging Weekend (27/28 November). Timekeepers will....

- Watch each routine live streamed at the same time as the judges.
- Record the times of walk-ons and routines as they normally do.
- Communicate any penalties to the Panel Referee at the time.
- Clubs will need to provide the names and details of two timekeepers per club who are available over that weekend. Note - they will only need to timekeep at some events (as for a normal Face to Face Nationals).
- **Role of Timekeeper and Guidelines - [Click Here](#)**

November 2021

Virtual Competition Filming

**REMEMBER TO HAVE
VIDEOS OF FIGURES
AND ROUTINES
SUBMITTED BY
MIDNIGHT OF THE
LAST ENTRY DAY.**

FIGURES

- Out of Auckland - by 7th November
- Auckland clubs - by 14th November

ROUTINES

- Out of Auckland - by 14th November
- Auckland clubs - by 21st November
- **Clubs have flexibility to define their own timetable** subject to pool availability. Note deadlines for clubs out of Auckland are a week earlier to reflect the longer time they will have in the pool.
- Clubs can film as early as they want if they wish, and work together to share filming if they wish.
- **We want to ensure fairness and equity for all athletes partaking in this Virtual National, just like we do at a face to face event. Therefore we are...requesting that **clubs film the routines only once as per normal competition environment****
- To verify that the routine has been only filmed once, there should be either a senior judge/independent judge or a ASNZ Board member present at filming to sign this off.
- **Figures to be performed in front of two Club judges** - who identify if an incorrect figure is performed for Dolphins/Aqua athletes who get a second chance to present figure. Both figures videos to be uploaded so the Figures Referee can review this decision.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clubs confirm timetable to ASNZ and by midnight the day of filming files to be uploaded. <p>Entries that have not been uploaded by the date or time frame will not be accepted.</p>
Collation of Videos for Judging	<p>ASNZ will be collating videos for judging as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Figures - 7-18 November ● Routines - 14-24 November
Judging Dates SAVE THESE DATES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 20-21 November Figures Judging - This will be run via Zoom. Process currently being confirmed with advice from Canadian Synchro. ● 22-23 November - Judges Training to be able to access and use the ISS scoring system when judging the routines sections. Times TBC but this is a very simple short process. The training will support judges creating their log in account, login, watch a video for 5 minutes and enter a score. If judges have trouble, they will email ISS and they will work through any technical issues with the judges. ● 27-28 November Routine Judging - using the ISS U-Judge System

End of November / December 2021

Prep for Party Celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clubs coordinate your social viewing event. ● Send out Invites to club members ● Book venues or coordinate a place to watch the live streaming ● Theme for your club event
Virtual Competition Coming to Clubs via Streaming 11th and 12th December	<p>Early December We will courier medals/trophies to clubs in a sealed box in advance, so when announcements are made after each event of who gets 1st, 2nd, 3rd - presentations can be made in clubs at the viewing party.</p> <p>December 11-12th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Streamed through vimeo.com of routine events only. Figures will not be streamed. ● We would love clubs to video or share posts on social media of the presentation of medals and cool highlight photos of the clubs viewing parties. ● ASNZ would then repost and share hype and excitement - like a live competition through the day.

- ASNZ will work with clubs on timetable on when we will stream what events e.g. *Dolphins/Aquanauts/Aquarinas one day and Age Group the next so not all athletes have to be there for two days or the whole length of time.*

Competition Overview and Guidelines

<p>Figures</p>	<p>Figures have been reduced from four to two for the Dolphins, Aquanauts and Aquarinas. Figures have been confirmed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dolphins - Sailboat Alternate and Somersault Front Pike • Aquarinas - Rio and Jupiter • Aquanauts - Barracuda and Walkover Back <p>Age Group Figures will continue as usual but draw to be done in advance to reduce stress and increase effectiveness of pool space usage in preparation.</p> <p>The Figures Draw will be made on 21 October for 12 Under, 13-14-15 competitive groups. The figures drawn will be the same figures to be presented at Squad Trials.</p>
<p>Competition Rules</p>	<p>We will be following the National Championships Rules for this event Click Here</p> <p>In regards to STARS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be lenient for 2021 in regards to athletes not having their right level of stars for the routines they have entered in. • We do suggest in 2022 that clubs make Stars a focus to be completed early on in the year and judged ready for competitions. <p>We suggest coaches should continue to present routines as though judges are on both sides of the pool.</p>
<p>Entry Fees</p>	<p>There will be no competition entry fees for NZ athletes from ASNZ - who will use profits from 2021 to fund the cost of the ISS/U-Judge/Event presentation and medals/ribbons, , leaving clubs to pick up the costs for your Videographer and Pool Hire. Clubs can</p>

	choose how to fund this i.e. spread across your club competitors or paid for out of club funds.
International Entries	Depending on the availability of judges and New Zealand entries, we may be in a position to invite international entries. A decision will be made on this by mid October. There will be an entry fee for international entries.

Any questions re the organisation of the event please touch base with Shirley or Debbie

Any questions regarding Judging please touch base with Sue, Bronwyn or Emma