

NATIONAL AGE GROUPS 2022



SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022 ARTISTIC SWIMMING

SANCTIONED BY: SWIMMING SOUTH AFRICA
HOSTED BY: KZN AS Clubs affiliated to KZN AQUATICS
In honour of the Late Barbara Dowell

1. GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

1.1. **Location:** The 2022 SSA Artistic Swimming National Age Group Championships will be held at the Barbara Dowell Pool, Durban Girls College, Essenwood, Durban, KZN, South Africa.

1.2. **Dates:** 08-12 December 2022. Training day takes place on 08 December 2022.

1.2. **LOC Contact Details** are as follows:

1.2.1. **Tournament Director: Kelly Sloley**

Email: kellysloley@gmail.com

Cell: +27 795218164

1.2.2. **Finance & Operations Coordinator: Wendy Sloley**

Email: wendysloley13@gmail.com

Cell: +27834992170

1.2.3. **Venue Liaison: Nontuthuko Chiluvane**

Email: nontu.chiluvane@icloud.com

Cell: +27 767609923

1.2.4. **Event Administration Coordinators:**

Louella Jarvis

Email: wendysloley13@gmail.com

Cell: +27 823233260

Tracey Beuster

Email: wendysloley13@gmail.com

Cell: +27 825514748

1.2.5. **Communication & Media Manager: Jessica Huang**

Email: jesethan1509@hotmail.com

Cell: +27 827261316

1.2.6. **Awards Dinner Coordinator: Sarah McGregor**

Email: sarah.mcgregor@sohgroup.com

Cell: +27 726716409

1.2.7. **Judges & Program Coordinator:**

Moira Norden

Email: nords@mweb.co.za

Cell: +27 836026767

2. ENTRY PROCEDURES

2.1. Entry Criteria

2.1.1. The competition is run according to FINA (refer to FINA Draft Rules and handbook) and SSA rules stated below.

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2.1.2. Entries are open to all SSA registered clubs in South Africa as well clubs outside of South Africa. (Open invite- However please note no Virtual entries will be accepted).

2.1.3. All SA swimmers must be registered with SSA and registration numbers must be included on the entry form.

2.2. Technical Officials

2.2.1. Each SA club must provide at least 1 judge PER SESSION and at least 1 table assistant per day. Please ensure to complete the officials document when submitting entries.

Virtual judges will be used throughout the competition. Please expect delays in communication of results.

2.2.2. Technical Officials must be correctly attired - White shirts and Navy-Blue Trousers/shorts/skirts. Logos to be limited to 1 per clothing item.

2.3.3. Only Technical officials registered with SSA, or with clearance from their federation will be eligible to officiate on pool deck. (Please submit SSA Registration numbers on entry form).

2.2.3 SSA Level 1 Judges may officiate for Novice and 12&U events **ONLY**, unless otherwise agreed by the TASC and tournament referee.

2.3. Entry Details

2.3.1 Age Groups

The competition runs in different age groups. Age groups are aligned with the **2023** competitive season therefore age will be determined as at 31 December **2023** as follows:

	Age Groups Females	Age Groups Male
Novice 12& U	born 2011 and later	born 2011 and later
Novice 13-Open	born 2010 or earlier	born 2010 or earlier
12&U	born 2011 and later	born 2011 and later
Youth	born 2008-2010 (aged 13-15)	born 2007-2010 (aged 13-16)
Junior	born 2004-2008 (aged 15-19)	born 2003-2008 (aged 15-20)
Senior	born 2008 & earlier	born 2008 & earlier
Masters	born 1998 & earlier (aged 25y+) subdivided into age group categories per event	born 1998 & earlier (aged 25y+) subdivided into age group categories per event

2.3.2 Championship Events

Male and female athletes may enter any event.

- **12 & Under:** Figures, Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, Team, Free Routine Combination (Combo)
- **Youth:** Figures, Solo, Male Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, Team, Free Routine Combination (Combo)
- **Junior:** Technical and Free Solo, Male Technical and Free Solo, Technical and Free Duet, Technical and Free Mixed Duet, Technical and Free Team, Acrobatic Routine
- **Senior:** Technical and Free Solo, Male Technical and Free Solo, Technical and Free Duet, Technical and Free Mixed Duet, Technical and Free Team, Acrobatic Routine
- **Masters:** Technical and Free Solo, Male Technical and Free Solo, Technical and Free Duet, Technical and Free Mixed Duet, Technical and Free Team, Free Routine Combination (Combo/FRC). Master Swimmers may also swim in the senior category.

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Events	Figures	Free Solo	Tech Solo	Free Duet	Tech Duet	Mixed Duet Free	Mixed Duet Tech	Free Team	Tech Team	Combo	Acrobatic
Novice 12& U	✓			✓		✓		✓		✓	
Novice 13-18	✓			✓		✓					
12&U	✓	✓		✓		✓					
Youth	✓	✓		✓		✓					
Junior		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Senior		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Masters		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

2.3.2.1. For solo, duet or team events for the 12 & Under and Youth age categories, all competitors must compete in their own Age Group and must swim the figure groups assigned by the draw. These competitors may swim in a different Age Group **for the purpose of trials only**, but then those figures/routines will not receive a placement or points.

2.3.2.2. Youth and 12&U competitors in Solo, Duet, Mixed Duet, and Team must perform figures, Appendix I of the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules. Novice swimmers competing in Duet, Mixed Duet and Team must perform figures (refer below to point 2.3.4.7.)

2.3.2.3 A club may only enter a maximum of 4 solo swimmers per age group. Where the figure event precedes the solos, these swimmers can be finalized after the figure event for 12&U and 13-15 age groups.

2.3.2.4. Judging: All routine events will be judged using the 2017-2022 Judging system, but choreography of routines is required to meet the rules as per the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules. Coaches Card will not be submitted for routines. With the exception of master's routines, which will run according to the 2017-2021 rules.

2.3.2.5. Age Group Free Routines (excluding masters): All free routines will consist of a predetermined number of Free Elements (Hybrids and Acrobatics) as per the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules (Appendix III) and a free choice of transitions choreographed to music. Judges will assess adherence to element requirements as part of athlete's final routine score.

2.3.2.6. Age Group Technical Routines (excluding masters): All technical routines, must perform the technical required elements described in Appendix II of the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules a predetermined number of Free Elements (Hybrids and Acrobatics), and a free choice of Transitions (Appendix III). Athletes can decide which element subcategory to perform, which will be submitted (via email to kznnag2022@gmail.com) 1 week prior (1st December 2022) to the start of the competition. E.g. Solo Required Elements 1A, 2B. Judges will assess adherence to element requirements as part of athlete's final routine score.

2.3.2.7. Team Routines

- A maximum of 2 male swimmers can be included in a Team event entry.
- The 12&U team (4 to 8 swimmers) comprises competitors from the 12&U age group
- The Youth team (4 to 8 swimmers) comprises competitors from the Youth age group.
- Novice team (4 to 8 swimmers) comprises competitor from the Novice 12&U and 13-18 age groups.

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- The Open Free and Technical teams (4 to 8 swimmers) may comprise of swimmers aged 15 and older (Junior and Senior participants)
- Clubs may only enter a second team if they have 8 swimmers in the initial entry. This is to prevent clubs abusing the double points allocated for team events. The second team may have 4-8 swimmers.
- The FINA penalty for less than 8 athletes is applicable.

2.3.2.8. Free Combination (Combo/FRC)

- A maximum of 2 male swimmers can be included in a FRC entry.
- The Combo event is only open to 12&U and Youth competitors. Masters may enter a separate FRC.
- 1 Event will be swum therefore a Combo routine may consist of athletes from both these age categories, as well as Novice competitors.
- A Combo may consist of 4 to 10 competitors and no penalties will be incurred for fewer than 10 participants.
- Clubs may only enter a second Combo if they have 10 swimmers in the initial entry. This is to prevent clubs abusing the double points allocated for Combo events. The second Combo may consist of 4 to 10 competitors.
- FINA required elements for the combo as per the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules (Appendix V) will apply. The following exceptions must be noted.
 - General requirements point 5 will not apply.
 - Required elements point 2: 3 acrobatic movements are required
- FRC for Master's will follow the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules. (Appendix V).

2.3.2.9. Acrobatic Routine

- A maximum of 2 male swimmers can be included in an acrobatic entry.
- The Acrobatic routine event is only open to Junior, Senior and Master competitors and a routine may include competitors from both age groups (15 and older).
- An Acrobatic routine must consist of 8 to 10 competitors, with no penalties being incurred for fewer than 10 participants.
- Clubs may only enter a second Acrobatic routine if they have 10 swimmers in the initial entry. This is to prevent clubs abusing the double points allocated for Acrobatic events. The second Acrobatic routine may consist of 8 to 10 competitors.
- FINA Required Elements for Acrobatic Routine as per the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules (Appendix IV) will apply.

2.3.2.10. Duet, Team, Combo and Acrobatic routines may consist of competitors from different clubs, with the points split accordingly.

2.3.2.11. A swimmer may only enter each event once, e.g. solo, duet etc. and only in their age group unless otherwise stipulated. Masters swimmers can compete in an event in both the senior and master age groups.

2.3.2.12. All starts will be by random draw and there will be no preliminaries swum for events with less than 14 entrants.

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2.3.3. Novice Events

2.3.3.1. Novices are swimmers in their first 2 years of competition 18 years and younger who have not placed top 3 at any SSA Artistic swimming sanctioned event. SSA Level 1 and 2 medal winners are excluded from this rule.

2.3.3.2. Events are Figures, Duet, Mixed Duet, and Free team. Clubs may also use novice swimmers in the 12&U/Youth Combo event

2.3.3.3. No medals will be awarded for Novice events.

2.3.3.4. Novices compete for a separate club point's trophy.

2.3.3.5. Novices age groups are 12&u and 13-18.

2.3.3.6. Novice Routine elements table:

Novice Routines : Set number of elements for routines

Novice (all ages)	Time (+/- 5 sec)	Total Elements	Summary
Duet Free	2.30	5	Total of 4 free hybrids + 1 Pair acrobatic.
Mixed Duet Free	2.30	5	Total of 4 free hybrids (one must be connected hybrid) + 1 pair acrobatic. Additional required movements: 1 connected surface movement
Team Free	2.30	7	Total of 5 free hybrids and 2 team acrobatics.

2.3.4. Figures

2.3.4.1. Age Group figures are the FINA figures for 12&U and Youth as per the Draft 2022-2025 FINA Artistic Swimming Rules (Appendix 1). Novice Figures are listed below. The draw will take place 72 hours prior to the competition. (5th December 2022)

2.3.4.2. Youth Figures- 4 figures will be chosen. Section and category will be drawn at the same time and 1 draw will apply for all athletes.

2.3.4.3. 12&U will have 4 figures to swim. 2 Compulsory and 2 optional figures (12&U Group 1, 2, or 3).

2.3.4.4. Novice figures will have 4 figures to swim. 2 Compulsory and 2 optional figures selected from the list below.

2.3.4.5. Points and medals (championship events only) are allocated for figures in own age groups.

2.3.4.6. Order of appearance will be decided by random draw at the managers meeting and start lists will be sent to team leaders

2.3.4.7 Novice Figures: (12&U & 13-Open)

Compulsory:

1. Straight ballet leg
2. Barracuda

Optional figures (2 will be drawn):

1. Water drop (Excludes extra ½ Twist)
2. Front walkover
3. Kipnus
4. Back walkover
5. Tower

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2.3.5 Masters Events

2.3.5.1 Masters events will run according to the FINA Masters 2017-2021 Artistic Swimming rules

2.3.5.2 Masters swimmers are subdivided into the following age categories:

Solo: 25 – 29, 30 – 39, 40 – 49, 50 – 59, 60 – 69, 70 – 79, 80 and over

Duet: 25 – 29, 30 – 39, 40 – 49, 50 – 59, 60 – 69, 70 – 79, 80 and over
with age determined by the average age of the competitors.

Mixed Duet: 25 – 29, 30 – 39, 40 – 49, 50 – 59, 60 – 69, 70 – 79, 80 and over with age determined by the average age of the competitors.

Team: 25 – 34, 35 – 49, 50 – 64, 65 and over with age determined by the average age of the competitors.

Free Combination: 25 – 39, 40 – 64, 65 and over with age determined by the average age of the competitors

2.3.5.3 The average age of the competitors in a routine shall be determined by adding the ages of the actual swimmers, dividing by the number of swimmers (not including the reserves) and dropping any resulting fraction or decimal. (For example, if the average age of a Team is 49.833, they would swim in the 35-49 age group).

2.3.5.4 Teams shall consist of a minimum of four (4) members and a maximum of eight (8) members. Combination shall consist of a minimum of four (4) members and a maximum of ten (10) members.

2.3.5.4.A maximum of 2 male swimmers can be included in a Team and/or FRC entry.

2.3.3 Fees

2.3.3.1. Entry Fee Table

1st Closing Date 25th October 2022		
SA Athletes	Individual Age Group Athlete Fee (including Masters)	R500
	Team Events (Team free & tech, Combo, Acrobatic)	R300
	Individual Novice Athlete Fee	R250
International	Club Entry Fee (all events)	R1750
2nd Closing Date 21st November 2022		
SA Athletes	Individual Age Group Athlete Fee (including Masters)	R550
	Team Events (Team free & tech, Combo, Acrobatic)	R350
	Individual Novice Athlete Fee	R300
International	Club Entry Fee (all events)	R2000
Late Submission (22nd November and later)		
SA Athletes	Individual Age Group Athlete Fee (including Masters)	R1000
	Team Events (Team free & tech, Combo, Acrobatic)	R600
	Individual Novice Athlete Fee	R500
International	Club Entry Fee (all events)	R3500
When depositing cash please include a R50 cash deposit fee		

2.3.3.2. Account Details:

CYGNUS ASC
STANDARD BANK
UNIVERSAL CODE

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ACC NUMBER: 2034757

SWIFT CODE: AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Reference: Club name, NAG 2022

POP: Finance & Operations Co-ordinator: Wendy Sloley Email: wendysloley13@gmail.com

2.3.4. Entry Submission

2.3.4.1. Entries must be submitted by the club on behalf of the athletes.

2.3.4.2. Entry submission via the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdnITggG1XsfoXD9dN5yd88V5754x4-mbKda5rI-HN7oRdwIA/viewform?usp=sf_link

2.3.4.3. Preliminary information document: Please complete the preliminary sheet provided in the link below. Providing the organising committee with some early information which shall assist the preplanning of the competition. This information is noted as not final.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfoePiCOWh_uqyZrjUxiVv-B-4Iw4morSqFxpGyuHBCR2qw/viewform?usp=sf_link

3. SOUND EQUIPMENT & MUSIC

3.1. The Local Organizing Committee will provide sound equipment. Teams must send music via WeTransfer (wetransfer.com) to (kznag2022@gmail.com) AND provide a flash drive with all the music in **.wav format** at the first managers meeting. Deadline for submission 25th November 2022.

3.2. Music must be marked clearly with the age group, event, competitor surname/duet surnames, and name of club separated by #. (e.g: Junior#Tech.Solo#Guss#Cygnus)

3.3. All music must have a three to five second lead at start.

3.4. Music check is held during club official practice time.

3.5. **Music Time Limits** (refer to draft FINA 2022-2025 Rules). 10 secs deck work, +/- **5 seconds** deviation allowed on total time including deck work. For Masters events, 10 secs deck work, +/-15 seconds deviation in total time including deckwork. (refer to FINA Masters 2017-2021)

3.6. Music time will be allocated once entries are final. Please note music time takes preference and tapping may not disrupt music practice.

3.7. Routine Music Time Limits:

Events	Free Solo	Tech Solo	Free Duet	Tech Duet	Mixed Duet Free	Mixed Duet Tech	Free Team	Tech Team	Combo	Acrobatic
Novice 12& U			02:30		02:30		02:30		03:00	
Novice 13-open			02:30		02:30					
12&U	02:00		02:30		02:30		03:00			
Youth	02:00		02:30		02:30		03:00			
Junior	02:15	02:00	02:45	02:20	02:45	02:20	03:30	02:50		03:00
Senior	02:15	02:00	02:45	02:20	02:45	02:20				
Masters	02:30	01:30	03:00	01:40	03:00	01:40	04:00	01:50	04:00	

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4. POINTS & AWARDS

4.1 Points

- 4.1.1. Points are allocated in accordance with SSA guidelines (14,11,9,7,6,5,4,3,2,1).
- 4.1.2. All competitors at SA Age Groups receive 1 point if they do not qualify for points on the above scale.
- 4.1.3. Double points are allocated for Teams, Free Routine Combination and Acrobatic events.
- 4.1.4. Clubs may combine for Duet, Team, FRC and Acrobatic events but points will be split accordingly
- 4.1.5. Senior competitors score club points.
- 4.1.6. Novices compete for a separate Novice Points trophy and do not accrue points for the Championship Points trophy.
- 4.1.7. Points will not be allocated for international clubs and athletes.

4.2 Awards

- 4.2.1. Medals are awarded to all Age Group and Master Athletes (South African or International). Medals are not given to Novice athletes.
- 4.2.2. Trophies are awarded to SA entries only as follows:
 - 4.2.2.1. NAG Points Trophy to winning club
 - 4.2.2.2. Karen Schoombee Trophy for the top 10&u competing at NAG (based on solo score)
 - 4.2.2.3. Caroline Vorster Trophy for 11-12 solo Champion
 - 4.2.2.4. Van Zyl family trophies for 13-15 and 15-18 Solo Champions.
 - 4.2.2.5. Willie Vorster Trophy for solo with highest score overall (not Open swimmers)
 - 4.2.2.6. Barbara Dowell Trophy for Free Combination Champion
 - 4.2.2.7. Novice Points Trophy to winning novice club
 - 4.2.2.8. Masters: Points will be allocated to determine winning Masters club.

5. PROGRAM

The final program will be circulated once entries are received.

6. AWARDS DINNER

- 6.1. Awards dinner for all athletes will be held after all competition events is completed at the competition venue.
- 6.2. Separate document regarding all details (themes, times, dates and costings) to follow.

7. ACCOMMODATION

- 7.1. Durban Girls College Boarding House, known as College House, will be available for athletes, team leaders/coaches & judges only.
- 7.2. Occupancy is limited to 65people which will be booked on a first come first serve basis.
- 7.3. Costing: R600pp/pn full board (3 meals, Kosher Halal, Vegan and Vegetarian are catered but the venue is not Halal certified.)
- 7.4. Bedding is not supplied but bath towels are.
- 7.5. Arrival dates start from the 7th December and latest departure is the 17th December.
- 7.5. A separate document for application and details to follow.

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8. FOOD & CATERING

- 8.1. A Tuck shop will be open during competition days (not practice day). Snacks and cooldrinks available for purchase.
- 8.2. Lunch Catering from College House at R70.00 for those not boarding at the school. (Kosher Halal, Vegan and Vegetarian are catered but the venue is not Halal certified.) Application process to follow.
- 8.3. Lunches will be supplied for Judges during competition days at College House.

9. TRIALS

- 9.1. Trials for South African competitive teams 2023 will be held during NAG dates.
- 9.2. A separate trials document to follow.

10. VENUE DETAILS

- 10.1. No platform will be set up for the deck-work
- 10.2. Figure pool depth is 3m.
- 10.3. Spectator area is undercover.
- 10.4. Pool dimensions, facilities, and operational flow document to follow

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in Durban.