



2024 INDIVIDUAL COMPETITOR STATUS RULES

ISR1 - Tiny tots

- a) A member who will be aged 3 or 4 on 31 August in the relevant competition year may only register as a Tiny Tot.
- b) A registered Tiny Tot member may compete in a 5 years section at inter-clubs if they wish.
- c) A Tiny Tot may be used in a 5-6 years team (at their club's discretion and subject to the Team Status and Entries Rules), but a Tiny Tot cannot enter the APDA Individual Champion (Zone or National) competition. The Tiny Tot must be upgraded to full individual registration if included in a 5-6 years team.

ISR2 – Junior competitors

- a) A member who will be aged 5 on 31 August in the relevant competition year will compete in the 5 years section for any individual competition (Inter-clubs, Zone and/or National competitions) and so on for ages through to 12 years. That is, a member who is aged 12 on 31 August will compete in the 12 years section for individual competitions.
- b) Junior competitors are not graded for individual APDA competitions (Zone or National competitions). Clubs hosting inter-clubs may offer junior novice sections if numbers allow and at the host club's discretion (generally, novice sections should be limited to those competitors who are new to physie, and competitors who have never qualified for Nationals). The Inter-club host may also join age groups if an age group has 3 or under entries. Joining of the age group must have the same Syllabus requirements and within one age year difference. For Example: 3 x 7 Years may join 3 x 8 Years to combine and run a 7-8 Year section.

ISR3 – Senior competitors

- a) A member who will be aged 13 on 31 August in the relevant competition year will compete in the 13 years section for an individual competition (inter-clubs and/or National competitions), and so on for ages through to 16 years.
- b) A member may compete in the Intermediate Senior section if;
 - i) they are at least 17 years old on 31 August in the relevant competition year; and
 - ii) they have last competed as a 16 year old (in which case, they may have 2 years in Intermediate Seniors); or
 - iii) they last competed as a 15 year old or younger, and has had a break from physie (in which case, they may have 3 years in Intermediate Seniors); or
 - iv) they have not competed in any form of physie before, (in which case, they may have 3 years in Intermediate Seniors);
 - v) they have not previously competed as an open elite (or equivalent) in any other form of physie.
- a) A member will compete in the Open Elite section if:
 - i) they are aged 19 or over on 31 August in the relevant competition year;
 - ii) they wish to compete in an Open Elite (rather than Ladies) section; and
 - iii) they do not qualify for a lower status senior section or does qualify for a lower status but wishes to compete in an Open Elite section regardless.

ISR 4 – Novice senior sections

- a) Novice 13-15 years: A member who is aged 13, 14 or 15 years on 31 August in the relevant competition year, and:
 - i) has never done any form of physie;
 - ii) has entered only inter-clubs or team competitions in any form of physie;
 - iii) has entered an individual championship competition as a junior in any form of physie (up to 12 years) but has not made a zone final, state final or equivalent or qualified for Nationals in the past 7 Years;
 - iv) has only previously competed in a novice section in a senior age group (13 years and over);
 - v) is eligible to enter individual competitions in a novice section, where that section is offered at the relevant competition.
- b) Nominations for a novice section at Nationals must be made when members submit their competition entries to APDA. APDA reserves the right to cancel a novice section or combine age groups if there are insufficient numbers for a viable competition.
- c) A member who qualifies for a novice section may elect to enter an 'open' individual championship section for their age group instead of competing in a novice section, but once they have made that election and competed in an open section, they cannot then revert to a novice section.
- d) A member who competes in a novice section and places 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the National Novice Final must move into the 'open' individual championship section for their relevant age group in the following year.

ISR5 – Ladies competitors

- a) A member may compete in a ladies section, in accordance with these status rules, if they are aged 18 or over on 31 August in the relevant competition year, and they wish to compete in a ladies rather than senior section.
- b) A lady's status for individual competitions remains in accordance with this rule ISR5, even if they 'work up' to a higher status team. For example, a Novice Lady who is used in an Open Ladies team remains as a Novice Lady for Individual Championship Lady competitions.
- c) A member can compete as a Beginner Lady if:
 - i) they have never competed in any form of physie. A member who has only attended classes, but has not entered any individual or team competitions may compete as a Beginner Lady; and
 - ii) they have not yet completed 3 years as a Beginner Lady. However, a Beginner Lady who wins the Beginner Ladies National Final must move to the Novice Ladies section in the following year, even if they have not yet completed 3 years as a Beginner Lady.
- d) A member can compete as a Novice Lady if:
 - i) they have completed 3 years as a Beginner Lady (or fewer years, if they have won the Beginner Ladies National Final, or wishes to move from Beginner Ladies to Novice Ladies section earlier than 3 years); or
 - ii) they are joining APDA from any form of physie, having had a break of 15 years or more, and where they did not compete in a section higher than the 15 years (either in individual or team competitions), and has never placed at national level in any age group; or
 - iii) they are joining APDA from any form of physie, where they started physie as a Beginner Lady or equivalent (not a junior or a senior), and where they have not yet progressed beyond the equivalent of a Novice Lady status; and
 - iv) they have not yet completed 3 years as a Novice Lady. However, a Novice Lady who wins the Novice Ladies National Final must move to the Intermediate Ladies section in the following year, even if they have not yet completed 3 years as a Novice Lady.

- e) A member can compete as an Intermediate Lady if:
- i) they have completed 3 years as a Novice Lady (or fewer years, if they have won the Novice Ladies National Final, or wishes to move from Novice Ladies to Intermediate Ladies section earlier than 3 years); or
 - ii) they are joining APDA from any form of physie, having had a break of less than 15 years, and where they did not compete in a section higher than the 15 years /1st year seniors (either in individual or team competitions); or
 - iii) they are joining APDA from any form of physie, having had a break of more than 15 years but where they have placed at national level in any age group previously; or
 - iv) they are joining APDA from any form of physie, where they started physie as a Beginner Lady or equivalent (not a junior or senior), and where they have not yet progressed beyond the equivalent of an Intermediate Lady status; and
 - v) they have not yet completed 3 years as an Intermediate Lady. However, an Intermediate Lady who wins the Intermediate Ladies National Final must move to the Open or Masters Ladies section (in accordance with her age) in the following year, even if they have not yet completed 3 years as an Intermediate Lady.
- f) A member must compete as an Open/Masters Lady if they want to compete as a lady (not a senior) and:
- i) they have completed 3 years as an Intermediate Lady (or fewer years, if they have won the Intermediate Ladies National Final, or wishes to move from Intermediate Ladies to Open/Masters Ladies section earlier than 3 years); or
 - ii) they could register as a Beginner, Novice or Intermediate Lady, but wish to compete in an Open or Masters Ladies section (depending on age); or
 - iii) they are a registered teacher and teaches any section from 9 years upwards, regardless of whether they would otherwise be eligible to register as a Beginner, Novice or Intermediate Lady; or
 - iv) they are returning to physie after a break and last competed as an Intermediate Senior, Open Elite, or Open Lady (for either team or individual competitions), regardless of how long the break was; or
 - v) they are transferring directly from a senior section with no break, and last competed as an Intermediate Senior, Open Elite, or Open Lady (for either team or individual competitions).
- g) Open/Masters Ladies compete according to their age on 31 August in the relevant competition year. Competitors must be aged 18 years and older to compete as an Open Lady, and 50 years or over to compete as a Masters Lady. Allocation of age groupings for competitions will be determined by APDA (for National Level competitions) or the host club (for inter-club competitions) according to competition entries.

Note: for these rules, 'completing a year' means a member has competed at least once during the year, whether in inter-clubs, teams (in their own team section, or a higher status section), or individual championship competitions. Club competitions (that is, a competition where the only competitors are from the member's own club) do not count towards completing a year, if this is the only time the member takes the competition floor during the competition year.

ISR6 – General individual competition rules – competition entries and status

- a) Club Principals are responsible for ensuring that members compete in the correct age group or status. Clarification may be sought from APDA if a member's status is unclear.
- b) A member joining APDA who last competed in any ladies' section within the past 9

years, from any physie code, must apply in writing through their club principal to APDA for clarification of their status. The member must disclose all information requested by APDA to ensure their status is correctly identified, and the member and their club are responsible for providing the member's competition history and should not rely on APDA checking historical registration records. Where a member's status, based on their competition history is unclear, APDA may exercise discretion to place the member in an appropriate section.

- c) If a member competes in the incorrect section, results may be cancelled and the individual member and their club may have sanctions imposed under the Code of Conduct and Individual Member Rules.
- d) A member may only represent one club in individual competitions (that is, the Club where the Member is registered).
- e) A member may only enter competitions in one age group or status section per year.

For example, a member who competes in an interclub as an open elite cannot then enter National competitions as an open lady in the same year;

a member who elects to compete as a novice 13-15 years at Nationals cannot then contest the open 13 years section in the same year.

- f) If a member has the option of registering as an Open Elite or Open Lady, they may switch their registration during the year by applying to APDA and providing reasons for changing registration. However, a member can only change their registration before they have competed for that year. Once a member has competed in a section in a calendar year, they will **NOT** be permitted to change sections for the remainder of the year for any reason.

For example, if you compete in an interclub as an Open Elite, and are then injured, you will not be permitted to change your registration to compete as an Open Lady for the remainder of the year.

- g) A member's age or status applies for both individual and team competitions.
- h) A member can only enter an individual competition in the section determined by their age or senior/ladies status, unless the member has approval APDA to compete in a different section due to physical or mental disability. Generally, an exception will only be granted to compete in one age group or status section below the section they would otherwise be required to enter.
- i) For sections that have zone qualification competitions for nationals (usually juniors), a club may only enter members to compete in the zone allocated to them by APDA Ltd. A member cannot enter a zone competition other than the competition that their club is allocated (for example, a member cannot elect to compete at a different zone competition because they are away when their own zone competition is scheduled).
- j) All registered members are eligible to enter competitions, and clubs may not select individuals for individual competitions.