

**North Lancashire Swimming and Water Polo Association
(Affiliated to ASA North West Region)
Conditions for Association Swimming League**

1. The Competition

- 1.1 The Competition year for the North Lancs Swimming League shall commence on 1st February in each year and end on 30th June
- 1.2. Age groups shall be as at 30th June in the year of competition.
- 1.3 The Competition shall be open to Clubs correctly affiliated to the Association.
- 1.4 Awards shall be made to the winners of each division.
- 1.5 The entry fee will be determined each year by the Executive taking note of any recommendation given by the Swimming Committee.
- 1.6 The Current Entry Fee to this Competition is £20 per team.
- 1.7 Team members shall be members of Clubs affiliated to the Association.

2. Entering the Competition

- 2.1 Any Club wishing to take part in the Association Swimming League Competition must indicate their intention to the Hon Swimming League Secretary by the 1st November in the year preceding the competition. Applications received after this date may not be accepted.
- 2.2 Clubs may enter any number of teams into the Competition.
- 2.3 New teams will join the League at the bottom of the lowest division.
- 2.4** In the event of a club wanting to enter a team in the league when the league already consists of 16 teams they will be put on a waiting list until such time as a vacancy occurs.
- 2.5 Swimmers can only represent one club in the competition in any year but may represent their new club if they haven't already swum for their previous Club in that year.

3. Exclusion, Withdrawal and Suspension

- 3.1 In the event of any Club withdrawing or being suspended from the Swimming League during the season, their record of points thus far shall be expunged from the League Tables.

4. Gala and Fixture Organisation

- 4.1 The Hon. Swimming League Secretary shall be responsible for booking the competition pools.
- 4.2 All income accruing from the galas will be the property of the league. All justifiable expenditure associated with presenting the galas will be met by the league.
- 4.3 The Hon Swimming League Secretary shall appoint the referees and starters for each gala.
- 4.4 Each competing team shall supply a Timekeeper and Judge whose duties will be assigned by the referee.
- 4.5 Each Club must provide a signed, fully completed team sheet in the format prescribed by the league to the referee prior to the commencement of the gala.

- 4.6 A club failing to provide a signed, fully completed team sheet in the format prescribed by the league shall incur a fine of £50.
- 4.7 The many and varied contributory duties essential to the running will be indicated by the appropriate designations on the gala notice.
- 4.8 Fines levied under rule 4.6 should be paid to the Hon Treasurer of the Association within 7 days of being notified by the Hon Swimming League Secretary.
- 4.9 A club failing to comply with the rule 4.8 may be subject to sanctions to be determined by the Swimming Committee.

5. Competition Structure and Rules

- 5.1 The league shall operate two Divisions of up to eight teams. Each Division shall have three rounds. The League Secretary shall ascertain in advance of the AGM which teams plan to compete in the following year. Dates and venues of the galas will be confirmed by the preceding years' AGM.
- 5.2 Random draws for lane allocation for the first two rounds will take place at the AGM. Lane allocation for the final round will be based on gala points with those teams having the highest number of points being allocated the middle lanes etc.
- 5.3 The top two teams in Division 2 will be promoted and the bottom two teams in Division 1 will be relegated respectively at the end of the season.
- 5.4 Should any team withdraw from the league resulting in less than 16 teams competing, Division 1 will always have 8 teams.
- 5.5 All Clubs having more than one team in the Competition shall list twelve swimmers who shall be starred as "A" team only competitors, comprising of two girls and two boys from each age group. Such Lists shall be submitted to the Swimming League Secretary on or before the 1st February in the year of competition.
- 5.6 No swimmers once competing for the "A" team may then swim for any lower ranked team in the same league year.
- 5.7 Teams shall compete in three sections, each section being divided into Male and Female sub-sections.
- 5.8 The three sections are defined as follows:
 - 12/under
 - 14/under
 - Open Age
- 5.9 Events
 - The individual events, in each sub-section for Male/Female shall be Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle. The distances shall be 50 metres. In each section there shall be a 4x50m freestyle and Medley relay
 - Event 1 shall be a 4x50 metre Mixed medley relay comprising 2 male and 2 female swimmers. The team will be comprised of a male or female from the 12/under age group, a male and female from the 14/under group and a male or female from the open age group. The open swimmer must be aged 15 or over for this event. The event can be swum in any order.

Event 38 shall be a 6x50 metre Mixed Freestyle Relay comprising of 1 male and 1 female from each of the three sections being swum in any order. The open swimmer must be aged 15 or over for this event.

- 5.10 A swimmer may take part in not more than two individual events and in any number of relay events, provided they do not swim in any age group for which they do not qualify. Any Club swimming a swimmer in breach of this condition shall be deemed to have swum an ineligible swimmer.
- 5.11 Gala points are to be awarded matching the number of teams in the league e.g. for 8 teams:
All Events
1st place 8 points, 2nd place 7 points, 3rd place 6 point, 4th place 5 points, 5th place 4 points, 6th place 3 points, 7th place 2 points, 8th place 1 point, with 0 points being awarded for any disqualification or non-competing.
- 5.12 In the event of a dead heat points will be shared.
- 5.13 Division Champions, promotion and relegation shall be determined by cumulative gala points over the three rounds. In the event of a tie precedence will be given to the team with the most race wins.

6. Ineligibility and Failure to Compete

- 6.1 Any Club swimming an ineligible person in any race shall forfeit the gala points for the race plus a 10 point penalty.

7. Disputes and Protests

- 7.1 The Promoter of the Competition is the Association.
- 7.2 Any dispute regarding the eligibility of a swimmer to participate in the Competition shall be settled by the Referee according to the Promoters Conditions. If there can be no agreement or if there is insufficient information to settle the dispute, then the Gala must be swum under protest and the matter reported to the Hon Swimming League Secretary within 7 days, who shall either:
- a) Report the matter to the next Executive Meeting,
 - b) Call an Emergency Committee Meeting to resolve the dispute, or
 - c) Deal with the matter in accordance with ASA Judicial Laws