



Affiliated to
swimnorthwest
Competition Rules 2016

1. All Member Clubs may, subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee, enter any number of teams into the Competition.
2. Each team wishing to take part in the League must register their intent with the Hon Secretary at or before the Annual General Meeting. On acceptance into membership of the league each club shall provide a bond, currently £150.00, to the treasurer to be held until such times as they leave the league. This is to be kept in a separate account and is to be used at the discretion of the committee if a club fails to pay any other fees or fines not paid by the club. The club would then be expected to top up their bond to £150, or any other such sum as is agreed to be the value of the bond. Each club must have paid their *annual* entry fee to the Hon Treasurer before 31st January in the year of competition. The current entry fee is **£35.00 per team** entered. For 2016, all member clubs are to have paid their bond by 31st January 2016
3. Swimmers may only represent one Club in this League or the Arena Junior Inter League Competition during the year of competition and each Club shall register their teams using the online facility for the method of registration, which is provided for that purpose. This shall be completed at least 7 days prior to the 1st gala in the year of competition. All swimmers must be ASA Category 2 registered.
- 3a. A swimmer registered for a Club's B or C team at the commencement of the season can be re registered during the season if required to swim for the Club's A or B team. Swimmers are not allowed to register for the B or C team during that year's competition after being registered as an A or B team swimmer ie swimmers are not allowed to move down a team.
4. A swimmer changing Clubs during the year may swim for their new Club providing that they have not represented their previous Club, or any other Club, in the Arena Junior Inter League competition in that year, subject to the agreement of the executive committee of the League.
5. The programme of events for Division A only will be the same as that for the Arena Junior Inter league competition, which is currently:
 - 9 yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team, individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and 25m race for Butterfly.
 - 10 yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly.
 - 11 yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly.
 - 12 yrs 4 x 50m Freestyle & Medley team, except for Division B & C where all fixtures will be swum as 4 x 25 Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly for all divisions.
 - Mixed 8 x 25m Freestyle canon (1 Girls & 1 Boy from each age group, swum in order – Girl/Boy from youngest to oldest)
- 5a. Age of competition will be determined by the series of events forming part of one competition and shall be in line with the Arena inter-junior league competition or its equivalent.
- 5b. For 2016 the age for 9 year olds shall be the last day of competition for the Arena Junior Inter League which is 27th November 2016. For 10, 11 & 12 year olds the age will be as at 31st December 2016. This rule may be changed each year to reflect the correct dates and year of competition.
6. Points shall be awarded on a reverse winning order basis according to the number of teams allocated to compete in the gala. In the event of a dead heat, the teams will share points. The winning team will be the one with the most points. No points will be awarded for the non-submission of a swimmer, a disqualification or ineligible swimmer already registered with the Referee.

7. Each competitor is limited to 2 swims in their own age group plus one in an age group above in individual events, except 9 year olds who are limited to 2 individual swims in their own age group. Swimmers aged 10/over may swim in any number of team races except 9 year olds who shall be restricted to team races for 9 and 10 year olds only. For the purpose of the cannon swimmers must swim in their own age group.
8. Any team swimming an ineligible swimmer according to the above rules whose eligibility has not been registered with the Referee shall have 12 points deducted from the final points for that gala, in addition to any points achieved in any races illegally swum. It will be necessary to re-allocate points to other competing teams.
- 8a. Diving will be from one end only (start end) and swimmers two and four in a relay team **must** start in the water from a push-off. **Only** in the Main Final and Swim off finals, where pool conditions permit, will diving be allowed at both ends of the pool.
9. All galas will be held under A.S.A. Laws.
10. The Home Team will be responsible for the organisation of the gala and should provide the following officials:

Referee (A minimum of J2, who has kept up to date with these Microleague Competition Rules)
 Starter (not required if the Referee is prepared to do this)
 Announcer
 Recorder(s)

The Home Team will be responsible for the organisation of a Raffle including all Prizes. The Home Team will charge £3.00 entry fee for spectators to include a raffle ticket. Any concessions will be at the discretion of the Home Team.

The Home Team can utilise a spare swim lane during a gala. However, this must be non-competitive ie not form part of the Gala and must not cause any disruption to the competitive lanes.

Each team attending the Gala will supply the following:

Team Manager
 Competition Stewards
 Timekeepers to be delegated lanes by the referee/starter
 Competent Official/Judge (for judging duties as required by the Referee)

11. The format of the Competition will be as follows:
 - 11a The League will be divided into divisions of approximately equal numbers of teams. The number of teams entering the League will determine the actual number of teams in each division. If the division team numbers are not equal then the lower division will contain the lesser number of teams.
 - 11b Division 1 will consist of the previous year's Division 1 teams with the exception of the bottom 2 teams, who will be those 2 teams who finished 1st and 2nd in the Division 1 and 2 swim off, from the previous year. The swim off will be between the bottom 2 teams from Division 1 and the top 2 teams from Division 2.
 - 11c Division 2 will consist of the previous year's Division 2 teams with the exception of
 - i) The top 2 teams who will be those teams who finished 3rd and 4th in the Division 1 and 2 swim off
 - ii) the bottom 2 teams who will be those who finished 1st and 2nd in the Division 2 and 3 swim off, between the bottom 2 teams in Division 2 and the top 2 teams from Division 3
 - 11d Division 3 will consist of the 2 teams who came 3rd and 4th in the Division 2 & 3 swim off together with all the other remaining teams in the previous year's Division 3 (subject to rule 11i)
 - 11e within a given year:

Each team within a division must swim at least once against every other team in that division
 Division fixtures must be based upon all the teams having an equal chance of securing points over all their matches
 - 11f All positions within the league tables will be based upon race points achieved during the gala.
 - 11g The teams from Division 1 coming in 1st to 4th places in the league will then compete in a final to determine the Leagues representative to the Regional Final.
 - 11h The finalists and swim off teams will be placed into lanes according to ASA law using the number of points awarded in the league tables to determine the final positions. Lane Allocation will be as follows. Lane 2. Is the team with the highest

number of points obtained in the A. Division League table. Lane 3, second highest team. Lane1, third highest team. Lane 4, fourth highest team. Swim off finals. The team that finishes second to bottom of the higher division will be allocated. Lane 2. Bottom team of the higher division will be allocated. Lane 3. Top team of the lower division will be allocated. Lane 1. The runner up of the lower division will be allocated. Lane 4. The Executive committee of the Micro League will arrange the venue and organise this gala.

- 11i All new entrants to the League will commence in Division 3, with the proviso that multiple new entries may require the seeding into divisions to be reviewed by the Executive Committee.
- 11j There will be trophies for the winners of each Division to be returned plus a trophy to retain along with trophies for the winners of the final.
- 12. All competing teams shall give notice at the Fixtures Meeting of the date, time and venue for the fixtures being organised by them. All galas shall start within 15 minutes of the notified time. Any team causing the gala to start late shall be reported to the League Executive by the Referee. If the offending team arrive after the start of the gala they shall be allowed to take part from that point, gaining points for the remaining races only. The offending team may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be subject to a fine not exceeding £10.00. Team sheets should be signed and handed in at the start of the gala. Only in exceptional circumstances can changes be made during the gala. Such changes must be recorded and notified during the gala. Any offending team may at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be subject to a fine not exceeding £10.00.
- 13. A team failing to compete at an appointed gala shall forfeit all points for that gala and may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be subject to a fine not exceeding £100.00
- 14. Team managers must sign all relevant paperwork at the gala before leaving. The Hon Secretary or Micro League Representative of the home team should send the signed results sheets, team sheets and any other relevant paperwork via either a) e-mail, bringing all hard copy documents to the Interim AGM for retention by the Hon Registration Secretary or b) by registered post to the Hon Registration Secretary and update the website within 5 working days. 10 points may be deducted from the home team's points total or be subject to a £50 fine if paperwork is overdue or the website not updated, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 14a. Failure to attach the correct postage will be subject to a fine of £10
- 14b. Failure to download and complete the correct documentation from the League's website for that gala may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee will be subject to a fine of £50 and also to incur a 10 point deduction.
- 14c. Failure to comply with Rule 10 will be subject to a fine of £50.
- 15. All trophies must be returned to the Hon Secretary prior to the date of the swim off galas.
- 16. In the event of a team leaving the Micro League altogether, then numbers of teams and potential movement of teams within divisions will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 17. For 2016 season, if a club fails to turn up for a match completely it will be at the discretion of the committee to make a decision on points adjustment, subject only to a complaint being received from one of the other clubs within that division.