



swimnorthwest

Affiliated to
Competition Rules 2023

1. All Member Clubs may, subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee, enter any number of teams into the Competition. All new entrants to the League will commence in Division C.
2. Each team wishing to take part in the League must register their intent with the Hon Secretary **before** the Annual General Meeting.
 - 2a. *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.
 - 2b. 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 **£40.00 per team** entered.
3. Swimmers may only represent one Club in this League or the Junior Inter-League Competition during the year of competition.
 - 3a. Each Club shall register their teams using the online facility for 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.
 - 3b. All Swimmers in **Division A and B** must be **ASA Club Compete** registered.
 - 3c. **Divisions C** will comprise teams who may, for the purposes of this competition **only**, be permitted to register their swimmer's **Club Train** Membership under ASA laws.
 - 3d. 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 i.e. swimmers are not allowed to move down a team.

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 Junior Inter-League competition in that year, subject to the agreement of the executive committee of the League.
 - 3e. 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

Except in unforeseen circumstances, for all age groups will be the date of the Junior Inter-league final, which is the last Sunday in November each year, making it the 26th November 2023 this year.

THE COMPETITION

4. The programme of events will follow the Arena Junior Inter league competition:

Division A

- 9yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and 25m race for Butterfly.
- 10yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly.
- 11yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly.

- 12yrs 4 x 50m 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)

Divisions B & C

- 9yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 25m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly.
- 10yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke & 25m race for Butterfly.
- 11yrs 4 x 25m Freestyle & Medley team. Individual 50m races for Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly.
- 12yrs 4 x 25m 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)

5. Each competitor is limited to 2 swims in their own age group plus one in an age group above in individual events.
- 9-year olds are limited to 2 individual swims in their own age group.
 - Swimmers aged 10/over may swim in any number of team races.
 - 9-year olds shall be restricted to team races for 9- and 10-year olds only.
 - For the cannon swimmers must swim in their own age group.
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.
- 6a the winning team in a four-team competition will be awarded 4 points, the second placed 3, etc. If one team does not take part in the gala the winning team will be awarded 3 points, the second place 2, etc. If two teams do not compete the winning team will be awarded 2 points, the second placed team 1 point. The points awarded at either 3 or 2 team competitions will then be adjusted **under rule 9**
7. All competing teams shall give notice at the AGM of the 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.
- 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 **TO THE REFEREE. THEY SHOULD ALSO BE REPORTED ASAP TO THE REGISTRATION SECRETARY.**
8. 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
9. If a club fails to turn up for a match completely the points will be adjusted accordingly by the Executive.

INELIGIBLE SWIMMERS

10. Any team swimming an ineligible swimmer according to the above rules whose ineligibility has not been notified to 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. The points deducted for races illegally swum will be reallocated amongst the other competing teams.

GALAS

11. 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 Micro league Competition Rules).
 - Starter (not required if the Referee is prepared to do this).
 - Announcer.
 - Recorder(s).
 - Their own judge min J1 in Training.
- 11a The **Home Team** will charge £3.00 entry fee for spectators. Any concessions will be at the discretion of the **Home Team**.
- 11b The **Home Team** can utilise a spare swim lane during a gala. However, this must be non-competitive i.e. not form part of the Gala and must not cause any disruption to the competitive lanes.
- 11c The Hon Secretary or Micro League Representative of the home team should send the signed results sheets, team sheets validation sheets and Referee slips. 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.
- 11d. 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, and where pool conditions permit, will diving be allowed at both ends of the pool.
- 11e. All galas will be held under A.S.A. Laws AND North West Micro League Rules.

Visiting Teams

12. Each team attending the Gala will supply the following:
- Team Manager
 - Competition Stewards
 - Timekeepers to be delegated lanes by the referee/starter (**only for the Swim Offs/Finals where AOE is in use**)
 - Official/Judge (minimum Judge level 1 in training) (for judging duties as assigned by the Referee)
 - **Teams should record the name and qualification of their official on their team sheet.**
- 12a. Teams which cannot provide their own judge are permitted to "buddy" with other clubs to "borrow" an official. The responsibility for this is between the two teams concerned.
- 12b. Team managers **must** sign all relevant paperwork at the gala before leaving.
- 12c. To ensure parity of judging between galas, only the four officials provided by the competing clubs will be allocated duties by the Referee, other officials in training in attendance at the gala should be assigned to shadow these officials and not assigned to separate duties.

FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

13. The League will be divided into three 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.
- Division A** will comprise 9 teams with the other divisions being split into approximately equal numbers of teams.
- 13b. The maximum number of teams in any division will be 9.
- In the event that all three divisions contain 9 teams and the league therefore being full.

Any team wishing to join will be added to a waiting list and considered for vacancies in the order in which they were added to the list.

- 13c. 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.
- 13d. Notwithstanding Rules 11c the Executive have the discretion to change the composition of the Divisions following any change to the number of Divisions for the following season.
- 13e. 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.
- 13f. All positions within the league tables will be based upon race points achieved during the gala as adjusted under rule 9, where required.

Swim offs and Finals

14. A and B Division Swim offs will be held following the conclusion of the League to determine promotion and relegation between Divisions.
- 14a. The bottom two teams in the higher division will compete against the top two teams in the lower division. The teams finishing first and second in the Swim Off will be promoted/remain in the higher division and the teams finishing third and fourth will be relegated/remain in the lower division.
- 14b. The teams from Division A coming in 1st to 4th places in the league will then compete in a final to determine the Leagues representative to the Regional Final.
- 14c. 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.
- 14d. 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.
- 14e. All trophies must be returned to the Hon Secretary prior to the date of the swim off galas.

FINES

15. Failure to attach the correct postage will be subject to a fine of £10.
- 15a. Failure to download and complete the correct documentation from the League's website for that gala be subject to a fine of £50 and incur a 10-point deduction at the discretion of the Executive.
- 15b. Failure to comply with rule 11c
- 15c. Failure to provide correct officials £50
- 15d. All fines are to be paid within seven days of issue. If the fines are not paid within that period, the executive has the right to reduce their points total in that gala by 50 points.
- 15e. failure to compete £100
- 15f. failure to comply with rule 7