

SUSSEX SWIMMING LEAGUE

RULES

1. OBJECTIVES.

- a) To provide a series of galas between Sussex clubs arranged in the manner described herein.
- b) To provide a competition that clubs with varying objectives can compete in to satisfy their individual needs and to produce a Division One and a Division Two champion.
- c) To provide a competition for young swimmers that they will both enjoy and find beneficial to their swimming development.

2. ORGANISATION.

- a) A committee consisting of one delegate from each competing club plus one independent member drawn from the Sussex County A.S.A. committee shall govern the League.
- b) A sub-committee of four delegates (to include the Sussex County A.S.A member) to form an executive with responsibility to ensure that the Leagues, and all matters relating thereto, shall be administered efficiently and in a manner that will enhance the League's reputation.

The executive shall hold the following positions: -

Chairman

Vice Chairman

League Secretary

Independent Advisor (A.S.A. County Committee Member)

3. A.G.M.

- a) The Annual General Meeting of the League shall be held in September in the year of the competition for the purposes of I) electing officers. Ii) Review and carrying out business, iii) deal with proposals for any rule changes (applications for a rule change from a delegate and seconded by a delegate from another club must be received by the League secretary by September 1st).

Note 1. Any alteration of the rules require twice as many votes in favour of the proposal as against, if they are to be carried.

Note 2. Matters of exclusive concern of only one of the Divisions shall be voted upon by the delegates from clubs in that Division.

4. The executive shall only meet as and when required.
5. Clubs are invited to pay an affiliation fee to cover administration costs (postage/telephone etc.) of £10 per year.
6. In the event of the dissolution of the Leagues, any remaining funds shall be devoted to objects determined by the League executive sub-committee.

7. Clubs are expected to organise one gala of the League programme. Any profit or loss incurred to be borne or retained by that club.
8. The swimming year shall be from 1 January to the 1st weekend in July with the League competition taking place between these dates.
9. Galas shall be swum in 25m, 33½ m or 36⅔ yards six or eight lane pools.
10. The programme shall contain individual races on all four strokes plus medley and freestyle relays for girls and boys whose ages as at the 1st Saturday in July of each year are under 12, 14 and 16 as well as open. There will also be a freestyle squadron relay as the last race of the programme and which will be swum in ascending age order of girl/boy.

Starting with the 2006 competition there will be 4 x 1 Individual Medley races for Open, U/16 and U/14 age groups only. (Changed at 2005 A.G.M.) (Further changed at 2007 A.G.M.)

11. a) In Division One the distance of each race shall be determined by the length of the pool but will be two length for under 12, two length for under 14 and 100m/110 yds for under 16 and open individual races (i.e. 3 or 4 lengths of the pool) Each leg of all the relay races shall be one length.

b) In Division Two the programme will be the same as for Division 1. (Changed for 2006 competition at 2005 A.G.M.) (Age groups changed at 2007 A.G.M.) (Length of Div 2 under 12 individual races changed at 2008 A.G.M.)
12. In the first year of the League competition (1988) there will be two leagues of seven clubs. Each league will be seeded according to the final position of the 1987 Sussex County A.S.A. Age Group Championship (Aggregate of boys/girls competition). In future years seeding will be from the previous year's competition final placing. All clubs must compete against all other clubs in the League. (i.e. three galas for each club).
13. The clubs finishing in 1st and 2nd place in Division 2 will be promoted to Division 1 for the next year's competition. Accordingly the clubs finishing in 6th and 7th place in Division 1 will be demoted to Division 2.
14. The programme of galas will be decided by the League Secretary in consultation with the club delegates but shall always have as the last gala of the year's competition the top three seeded clubs.
15. The galas will be organised so that each club will swim the individual races in two lanes which shall be grouped as follows. Lanes 1 and 4, lanes 2 and 5 and lanes 3 and 6 – (i.e. two swimmers from each club for individual races). The draw for these lane pairings will take place on the day of the gala.
The relay races will be swum in lanes 2, 3 + 4 (one relay team for each club).
Lanes for 8 lane pools will be dependant on the individual pool set up which should be 2, 3 + 4 if only 6 lanes are numbered but will be 3, 4 + 5 if all 8 lanes are numbered.
16. Gala points will be awarded for individual races as follows: - 1st place 6 points, 2nd place – 5 points, 3rd place – 4 points, 4th place – 3 points, 5th place – 2 points, 6th place – 1 point. Disqualification or No swimmer – 0 points. Relay events, except the Squadron Relay, will have 6 points for 1st place, 4 points for 2nd place

and 2 points for 3rd place. 0 points for disqualification or No Swimmer. (Relay points changed at 1998 A.G.M.) Squadron relay points to be 12 for 1st place, 8 points for 2nd place and 4 points for third place. 0 for disqualification. (1999 A.G.M.)

17. The club, counting both lanes together, achieving the highest number of Gala points, to be awarded 3 League points. The second club to be awarded 2 League points and the third club to be awarded 1 League point. In the event of clubs being tied on gala points then League points will be shared accordingly.
18. The club, achieving the greatest number of League points will be declared League champions for the year. In the event of an equal number of League points then the total number of Gala points earned will decide League positions.
19. Swimmers who have competed for a club of either division in any one year's competition may not swim for another club in that year's competition.

A swimmer may swim in only one division in any one year's competition except that a swimmer may swim in a higher division only if the club they represent has a team in both divisions. Having so moved up that swimmer may not move down to Division Two in that year's competition. However where a club has two teams in the same division then swimmers may not compete for more than one of the club's two teams in that year's competition. Only swimmers who are bone-fide members of a club may represent that club. (Changed at 2007 A.G.M. when B.Hill and H Heath amalgamated and took two places in Div 2)

20. When a club wishes to select a swimmer whose first registration is with another club which is a member of the Sussex Swimming League, it is the responsibility of the club to check with the other club of the availability of that swimmer before the selection. The penalty for contravention of this rule will be the loss of League points for the gala when the contravention took place.

Rule 19 and 20 were introduced in September 1995. Rules 10 & 11 were altered in 2005. Rules 10, 11 and 19 were further amended in 2007. Rule 11(b) was amended in 2008. Rule 10 was amended in respect of 'age date from' - in 2010. Rule 15 was clarified in respect of 6/8 lane pools in 2011. Rule 8 was changed in 2010 and further clarified in 2011.

These rules were re-printed and distributed in September 2011. Please destroy all previous copies.