

# TAYSIDE AGE GROUP LEAGUES RULES AND CONDITIONS

## 1. NAME.

The leagues shall be called TAYSIDE AGE GROUP LEAGUES hereinafter referred to as "the leagues" and shall be run under the auspices of the Midland District of the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association (SASA)

## 2. OBJECTIVES.

To promote competition between all swimmers belonging to member clubs within the Midland District of SASA by arranging galas on a regular basis.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP.

Membership of the leagues is open to all clubs affiliated to the Midland District of SASA.

## 4. GOVERNANCE.

- (a) The leagues shall be governed by these rules.
- (b) Amendments to these rules shall only be made at the Annual General Meeting of the leagues which meeting will be held in November each year
- (c) Notice of any proposed amendments must be intimated in writing to the Leagues Convenor no later than two calendar months prior to the date of the annual meeting and will be distributed to the member clubs by the Leagues Convenor no later than six weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. At least a two thirds majority of those present and voting at the Annual General Meeting must be secured before any alteration of these rules can be adopted.
- (d) In the event that any of these rules conflict with the Constitution or Rules of the SASA or the Constitution of the Midland District then the Constitution and Rules of the SASA or the Constitution of the Midland district shall apply in that order.
- (e) The Midland District (and therefore the Leagues) is treated as being the same as an affiliated club in terms of the application of the Scottish Swimming Governance procedures for Protests, Complaints, Suspension & Fines and Appeals therefore these will all be dealt with as described below.
  - a. Protests – Section R11 of the company rules shall apply.
  - b. Complaints – Section R12 of the company rules shall apply.
  - c. Suspension and Fines – Section R13 of the company rules shall apply.
  - d. Appeals – Section R14 of the company rules shall apply.
- (f) As a local accepted condition, if, during the verification of gala results, a breach of these rules and conditions which falls within the areas of fixed penalties is identified, the Leagues Convenor shall intimate the alleged breach to the club concerned along with the penalty to be imposed. The club concerned, thereafter, have the right to appeal such decisions to the Jury of Appeal.

## 5. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

The Management Committee of the leagues shall consist of a Leagues Convenor appointed by the Midland District, the Convenors of each division and two representatives of each member club ("The Committee"). The duties of the committee shall be:

- (a) To determine the dates, venues and conduct of all galas.
- (b) To determine the level of membership fees on an annual basis and to collect same.
- (c) To ensure that all galas are conducted in compliance with current SASA rules and regulations.
- (d) To appoint a Jury of Appeal. The Jury of Appeal will comprise a minimum of three and a maximum of five members drawn from members of the District. The chairperson of the Jury must hold (or have held) a qualification equal to that of the premier official for the event. The chairperson and members of the Jury must not have any foreseeable conflict of interest. The decision of the Jury of Appeal is final.
- (e) To determine the winners of the age/sex group competitions in each of the division of the leagues. The clubs winning the division trophy in each of the leagues will not be eligible to receive any group award.
- (f) In reaching any decision each member of the committee shall have one vote. In the event of a tied vote the Leagues Convenor shall have a casting vote.

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## 6. COMPOSITION OF THE LEAGUES.

- (a) The leagues shall be run on an age group basis. Eligibility for each age group will be determined by the age of each swimmer as at the 31st of December in the year of the event. The competition age groups will be confirmed each year at the Annual General Meeting of the leagues.
- (b) The number of divisions and their composition will be confirmed each year at the Annual General Meeting of the leagues.
- (c) Every team in each division shall host one gala between 1st February and 30th November in each year on dates to be determined by the leagues committee.
- (d) Normally at the end of the season the bottom team in each division, except the lowest division, shall be relegated to the next lowest division, and the top team in each division, except the highest division, shall be promoted to the next highest division. This may be changed under 6(b).
- (e) Each member club shall be entitled to enter more than one team. Where clubs enter more than one team the fastest swimmers as at 31st January must swim in the highest placed team.
- (f) The programme of events to be swum in each division will be confirmed each year at the Annual General Meeting of the leagues.
- (g) The league points awarded to each team in all galas will be dependant on the number of teams competing in that division. If 5 teams are competing the points for first place will be 5, and if four teams are competing the points for first place will be 4. The points allocated for subsequent places will be reduced by 1 point per place. If the points are equal then the points for the appropriate places will be shared equally between the tied teams.
- (h) If teams are level on league points at the end of the season then the team with the most gala points will be deemed to be the higher placed team.

## 7. DUTIES OF MEMBER CLUBS.

- (a) To ensure that all swimmers are registered as detailed in rule 8.
- (b) To submit a 'Yearly Team Line', as detailed in appendix one attached, to the Leagues Convener no later than the 31st of January each year.
- (c) To submit a cheque for the appropriate membership fee to the Leagues Convener no later than the 31st of January each year.
- (d) Failure to submit the 'Yearly Team Line' and/or the membership fee, or to make an incomplete return of the information within the control of the club, will result in the exclusion of that team from the first gala of their division. Failure to make a complete return by the date of the first Premier Gala will result in the exclusion of that team from the leagues competition for that season and being automatically relegated to the lowest division for the next season's competition.
- (e) That when attending any gala to submit a 'Gala Team Line', as detailed in appendix two attached, before the start of the first event in the gala. Failure to lodge the return on time will result in the deduction of ten points from that teams score at the end of the gala. Failure to submit a team line before the final event of the gala will result in the exclusion of that team from the gala with the loss of all points for that gala.
- (f) That when hosting a gala:
  - 1. To pay the cost of the pool hire and any other costs agreed with the Leagues Committee.
  - 2. To arrange, with the assistance of other member clubs, attendance of the appropriate number of technical officials as required by SASA regulations. All technical officials require to be registered with SASA. All officials must adhere to the SASA dress code.
  - 3. To contact the Gala Referee no later than seven days prior to the gala.
  - 4. To ensure that the appropriate licence is at the pool for the gala and made available to the Referee.
  - 5. To ensure that a completed results sheet is delivered to the Division Convener immediately on completion of the gala. If the Division Convener is not in attendance at the gala then the completed results sheet should be delivered to the Division Convener within seven days of the gala.

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- (g) To assist other clubs in the running of their galas by providing as technical officials a minimum of one judge and two timekeepers.

## 8. SWIMMER REGISTRATION.

The Tayside Age Group Leagues are classed as a closed meet under FINA, (Fina) Technical Rules, SASA Swimming Regulations, and Tayside Age Group League conditions; therefore before a swimmer can compete in the leagues they must be a member of the club they are competing for and they must be registered with the SASA and have been issued a membership number. The swimmer must be registered on the yearly team line submitted by their club as swimming in a particular team as detailed here.

- (a) A swimmer may only compete for a team if their details have been entered into the 'Yearly Team Line' submitted at the start of the year. The Leagues Convener holds the master copy of the 'Yearly Team Lines' and all changes made to these lines must be intimated to the Leagues Convener as well as to the Division Convener.
- (b) A swimmer, not included in 'Yearly Team Line' as at 31st January, may be added to the team on completion of the appropriate gala promotion form. The completed form must be submitted to the Division Convener, with a copy to the Leagues Convener. The swimmer shall not be able to compete in any gala until such times as the Division Convener has acknowledged receipt of the application to the club. To allow the appropriate checks to be made, no new swimmers can be included on the day of a gala.
- (c) A swimmer who has been entered on the 'Yearly Team Line' for a team in a lower division may be promoted to swim in a higher league on a temporary gala promotion. The appropriate gala promotion form must be completed and submitted before the start of the gala. A swimmer can be temporarily promoted on only one occasion during a season. Any such promotion should be notified by the club to the Leagues Convenor in advance of the gala or within 7 days of the gala.
- (d) Any swimmer who has been entered on the team return for a team in a lower division may be promoted on a permanent basis. The appropriate gala promotion form must be completed and submitted before the start of the gala. Any swimmer thus promoted can no longer swim in any lower ranked team. Any such promotion should be notified by the club to the Leagues Convenor in advance of the gala or within 7 days of the gala.
- (e) Where more than one team from a single club are competing in one division the club involved shall nominate the order of the teams and promotion shall only be allowed from lower to higher teams.
- (f) If a swimmer registered on the 'Yearly Team Line' leaves the club then this should be intimated by the club to the Leagues Convener as they are no longer eligible to swim for the club.
- (g) Any swimmer changing clubs during a season may only swim for their new club on completion of all SASA requirements and upon intimation being made in terms of clause (b).
- (h) Where a swimmer is a member of two clubs, in order for that swimmer to be eligible to compete in any league gala, that swimmer must have previously declared to SASA, on the appropriate form, which is that swimmer's First and Second claim club all in terms of SASA rule R5.2.1.
- (i) Membership of more than one club should be reflected in the swimmers entry to the 'Yearly Team Lines'.
- (j) A swimmer can not compete in the Leagues for a second claim club unless they have written permission from their first claim club. This may be on an annual or per gala basis. If this permission is submitted at the gala then a copy of the permission letter should be passed to the Leagues Convenor in advance of the gala or within 7 days of the gala. Failure to exhibit such permission prior to the commencement of the gala will mean that the swimmer will not be eligible to take part in the gala.
- (k) If the swimmer is a member of two clubs in Midland District the swimmer shall only compete for one of these clubs in the Leagues.
- (l) If a swimmer competes in a league gala without being duly registered then the team will be penalised by the loss of all points gained in the individual swim and the

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corresponding age group relays. Points will be re-allocated to any swimmers finishing after the affected swimmers.

## 9. COMPETITION RULES.

The following competition rules shall be observed at each gala.

- (a) The swimmers are only allowed to swim in their own age group.
- (b) A swimmer is only allowed to swim in one individual event, except where no relays are swum in which case one individual swimmer in each age grouping may swim in two events.
- (c) A swimmer may compete in any relay event although that swimmer may not have competed in an individual event.
- (d) If a swimmer competes in an event for which they are not eligible then the team will be penalised by the loss of all points gained in the individual swim and the corresponding age group relays. Points will be re-allocated to any swimmers finishing after the affected swimmers
- (e) A swimmer wishing to compete for a "Time Only" should approach the Referee and the Division Convener for permission. All "Time Only" swims may only be swum where a spare lane is available.
- (f) The gala points awarded in each event will be dependant on the number of teams competing in that division. If 5 teams are competing the points for first place will be 5, and if four teams are competing the points for first place will be 4. The points allocated for subsequent places will be reduced by 1 point per place. In the event of a 'dead heat' the points for the appropriate places will be shared equally between the swimmers involved.
- (g) If a club withdraws from a gala during a season then that club will lose one point. If that club withdraws from a subsequent gala during the season then that club will be suspended for the rest of the season and will be demoted to the lowest division of the leagues for the next season. All swimmers currently registered as league swimmers for the suspended club cannot swim for any other team or club during the period of the original clubs suspension.
- (h) If a club, having two teams competing in the leagues, wishes to withdraw one team at the end of the season then they must withdraw their lowest positioned team. The club will not be allowed to enter another team for a further season and then the second team will be reinstated in the lowest division of the leagues. Intimation of the intention to withdraw a team should be made in writing to the Leagues Convener no later than two calendar months prior to the date of the annual meeting and will be distributed to the member clubs by the Leagues Convenor no later than six weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Breaches of these rules and conditions shall be dealt with as per Section 4 Governance.