

**GENERAL CONDITIONS: 2005 Championship Year onwards
COVERING SWIMMING, DIVING, SYNCHRO, DISABILITY, AGE GROUP
WATER POLO AND MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The following conditions shall apply to County Championships, subject to any special conditions applying to the particular event.

1. All Championships shall be held annually (unless the Executive Management Committee find it is not expedient to do so) under ASA Laws on dates ratified by the Executive Management Committee. Swimming Championships may be licensed.

2. To be eligible, competitors must:

Be an A.S.A. registered member of an Essex affiliated swimming club at the closing date for the entries of the relevant Championships.

Competitors competing in any Championships of another County in the same competition year shall not be eligible to compete in the Essex Championships

The Executive Management Committee may grant exemption to a competitor who requests dispensation in writing.

3. Entries on the official forms or in approved electronic format duly authorized by an eligible club official must be received no later than the date fixed for the closing date for entries. Submission of entries on disk will constitute acceptance of the conditions set out on the individual and team paper entry forms.

The Manager reserves the right to request evidence of date of birth of entrants for Junior Championships. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED**

4. An incorrect or incomplete entry in respect of an individual swimmer or relay team will be rejected

5. Entry fees shall be ratified by the Executive Management Committee. The entry fee shall accompany the entry or the entry shall be void.

6. Medals may be awarded to the winner, second and third places in each championship.

7. The winners of the various championships shall be entitled to hold the trophies allocated to those championships from the date of giving satisfactory security until the date the event is next held or earlier if the Executive Management Committee should require.

8. The Executive Management Committee shall ratify qualifying standards for entry into any County Championship, such times to be published not later than the Annual General Meeting preceding the year for which they are effective.

9. Any issue not provided for by these conditions shall be referred to the Discipline Manager for the Executive Management Committee to decide.

10. A competitor will only gain points, where applicable, in any County Championship for the club under which the entry was accepted unless condition 13 applies.

11. The Age Group series of Championships is classified under ASA Rules as one Championship and the age at the last day of the Championship shall determine the relevant age.

12. In the interests of safety and to ensure the smooth running of a Championship, the Swimming Committee reserves the right to restrict the number of entries in any event

13. A competitor may only represent one club at a time. A competitor may swim for different clubs during the course of a Championship but any points earned by a competitor who swims for a different club will be accumulated against the original club for the purposes of determining awards and allocation of trophies. For the purposes of this condition each Championship will be considered a separate event (as defined in condition 11, the Age Group series is defined as one Championship).

14. The County Association expects all those attending or competing in its Championships to observe the highest standards of safety and social behaviour. The County Association reserves the right to exclude with immediate effect any swimmer, coach, official, spectator or any other person attending the venue in connection with an event from the remainder of the Block for those Competitions which operate over more than one weekend or, in all other cases, for the remainder of the Competition, where their behaviour is considered unacceptable.

Examples of unacceptable behaviour shall include but not be limited to

- Abusive, threatening or intimidating behaviour towards other swimmers, coaches, officials (technical or non-technical) or spectators
- Persistent questioning of the authority/decision making of the officials
- Vandalism
- Theft

The decision to exclude shall be delegated by the County Association to the Promoter (which term shall include any appointed deputy). The Promoter will take the decision upon receipt of at least one written statement supporting the accusation (in exceptional circumstances the Promoter may suspend this requirement). However, in the period until such statement is received, which shall be no more than 60 minutes after the event or identification of those involved in the event, the Promoter has the right to require the individual involved to withdraw to an area nominated by the Promoter until a decision is taken in respect of the unacceptable behaviour.

Should the individual concerned refuse to obey the Promoter's requirements, then the Promoter shall suspend the gala with immediate effect until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Promoter.

On receipt of the written statement or, if this requirement is suspended, based on the information available, the Promoter will make his decision. Such decision will be binding for the remainder of the Block/Competition. In the event that an individual is excluded, then the decision of the Promoter must be formally ratified by the Emergency Committee of the Association within 14 days of the exclusion. Such ratification shall be formally advised in writing to the excluded person. Any person who is excluded shall have the right of appeal against the exclusion to the Management Committee of the Association. Notice of such appeal is to be made in writing to the Secretary of the Association, to be received by him no later than 14 days after the date of the formal ratification notice. In the event of an appeal, then the Emergency Committee of the Association shall appoint an appeals panel to consist of 3 persons including at least one member of the Management Committee who has not been previously involved in the case. The outcome of the appeal will be binding on both parties. Persons against whom action has been taken and whose case is not finalised shall remain excluded from attending any venue at which a County event is taking place until the conclusion of the matter.

Where those involved in the exclusion are members of the ASA, a copy of the written statements or a report by the Promoter where no written statements have been supplied, shall be sent to the Secretary of the Club of which the party is a member within 14 days of the end of the weekend Block or competition.

In the event of an exclusion, the Management Committee must ratify the findings of the Emergency or Appeal Committee. The Management Committee has the discretion to exclude those involved from competing or attending subsequent events organised by the Essex County ASA. Such exclusions will not normally extend beyond the remainder of the current and following competition seasons. A competition season will equate to the calendar year. Such decisions will not be taken until the outcome of any appeal against the original exclusion is known.

Any action taken under this section shall not prejudice an individual's right under ASA law. Nor does it preclude the Association or individual members of the ASA from taking action in respect of the incident under the ASA Disciplinary rules and/or civil/criminal proceedings.

In this clause words importing the one gender include all other genders and words importing singular include the plural and vice versa.

SPECIAL CHAMPIONSHIP CONDITIONS AND COMPETITION NOTES
(See also General Conditions)

The following special conditions shall apply to the Championships indicated:

LONG DISTANCE (Open Water)

- 1 Shall be run in accordance with the relevant Region's Conditions and Rule 2 of the Essex County eligibility requirements.
- 2 The County Championship Trophies shall be awarded to the top County performances in either London or East Region Competitions.

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1 Each member of a competing team must comply with the eligibility rules of the General Conditions.
- 2 Clubs may enter a maximum of two teams in any Team Event but members shall swim for one team only and the members of each team must be notified to the Swimming Manager or his representative on the day of the competition not later than the stated time for re-entry.

COMPETITION NOTES

1. Competitors in Junior Championships must be 16 years or under on the 31st December in the year of the competition (17 years in respect of Diving Championships).
2. Competitors who fail to achieve the qualifying time may have to submit proof that they have achieved this standard or be excluded from further events.
3. Time trials will not be permitted during the Championships.

CLUB TROPHIES AND AWARDS (SWIMMING)

The following is a list of Trophies and Awards (together with conditions and points scoring system) that all Clubs making entries into the Championship swimming events will be automatically entered for.

The Hugh Joiner Trophy and Award

1. The Trophy together with a monetary award will be awarded annually to the Club scoring the highest number of points in all the Senior and Junior County Championship swimming events (including championship relays and long distance events).

The Griffin Trophy

2. The Trophy will be awarded annually to the Club scoring the most points in the Ladies and Men's (Senior/Junior) Championship relay swimming events.

The 'Masters' Shield

3. The shield will awarded annually to the Club scoring the most points in the Ladies and Men's (Senior/Junior) 800/1500m Championship events.

The Albert Turner Trophy

4. The Trophy will be awarded annually to the Club scoring the most points in the Age Group Championships.

The 'Bob' Fitzgerald Shield

5. The Shield will be presented to the Club scoring the most points during the Special Age Group Relays.

In Championships the first six placed swimmers in the individual events and the first six placed teams in team events will score points with respect to their placing as follows:

1st - 12 points; 2nd - 8 points; 3rd - 6 points; 4th - 4 points; 5th - 2 points and 6th - 1 point.

In the event of Clubs scoring an equal number of points, the Trophy, Shield or Award will be presented to the Club with the most first places. If this does not resolve the tie, the Club with the most second places and so on.

The Captains Trophy

6. The Trophy will be awarded to the top BAGCATS swimmer who gains the most points in the qualifying events.

The points will be automatically calculated from the swim program

Plaistow United Trophy Awards - Male and Female

8. To be awarded annually for the best competitive performances in all disciplines. Nominations are to be submitted to the Swimming Manager by September 30th each year.

