

Secondary Schools' Team Relay Championships

Regulations (Effective from September 2017)

The Secondary Schools' Team Relay Championships shall take place annually under ASA Law and Technical Rules and the following conditions:

1 Eligibility

- (a) Only schools which are in affiliation with the English Schools' Swimming Association are eligible to compete.
- (b) Competitors must be on the roll of the School entering the Championship and in full-time attendance there on the closing date for Divisional entries.

2 Transfers

Pupils transferred from one school to another, will only be eligible to swim for the school for which they were first entered.

3 Age

Competitors may only swim in the appropriate age group. Age limits for these events shall be as at midnight August 31st/September 1st at the commencement of the academic year of Championships.

Events shall be organized in six groups:

- (a) Boys aged 11 years and under 13 years (Normally Y7 & 8) – Junior
- (b) Boys aged 13 years and under 15 years (Normally Y9 & 10) – Intermediate
- (c) Boys aged 15 years and under 18 years (Normally Y11,12 & 13) – Senior
- (d) Girls aged 11 years and under 13 years (Normally Y7 & 8) – Junior
- (e) Girls aged 13 years and under 15 years (Normally Y9 & 10) – Intermediate
- (f) Girls aged 15 years and under 18 years (Normally Y11, 12 & 13) – Senior
- (g) Boys aged 11 years and under 18 years (Normally Y7- 13) – Para Open
- (h) Girls aged 11 years and under 18 years (Normally Y7- 13) – Para Open

The upper and lower age limits are applicable at every round of the Championships.

4 Control

- (a) The sole control and management of the Championships will be in the hands of the Council.
- (b) Arrangements for all stages of the Championships up to, and including Divisional Rounds will be in the hands of the Divisions. They will fix the closing dates and approve the officials.
- (c) In the Divisional Rounds and the Divisional Finals, schools will have at least two weeks' notice of the date, time and venue.

5 Entries

- (a) Entries for the school events shall be limited to one Freestyle team of four swimmers and/or one Medley team of four swimmers per age group and per gender from each school.
- (b) Entries for the para events are based on two categories:
 - Category 1** – The total of the four swimmers' classifications for the stroke they are swimming must not exceed 37.
 - Category 2** – The total of the four swimmers' classifications for the stroke they are swimming must be between 38-56.
- (c) Each Division may put forward up to two Para Freestyle teams of four swimmers and/or two Para Medley team of four swimmers per gender covering both categories.
 - a. Each para athlete must have a classification for the stroke that they are swimming.
 - b. Para teams can only enter through the ESSA Divisional Representative.
- (d) Multiple entries in the same event may be made by a school. In the Divisional rounds the school must nominate an 'A Team', this team is the only team in this event that will be considered for selection to the National Finals. No other team that has been entered by the school in that event will be considered if the nominated 'A Team' does not qualify for the finals.

- (e) If multiple entries are made the teacher in charge of the school must submit the nominated 'A Team' list prior to the start of the competition.
- (d) Entries shall close on a date set by the Division and shall be made on the official entry form, which will be obtained from, and returned to the representative of the Division in which the school is situated. It is the responsibility of the school organiser to ensure that the Headteacher is aware of the swimmer's participation.
- (e) The names, contact addresses and, if possible, telephone numbers and email addresses of teachers responsible for the teams must accompany divisional entries.
- (f) Competitors may swim in both the freestyle and medley relays.

6 Team Lists

- (a) Before the commencement of each round a signed statement, showing names with dates of birth of swimmers, and certifying conformity with the conditions, will be handed to the Organiser by a representative of each school taking part in that round.
- (b) Substitution of reserves is permitted between each round of the Championships but the names and dates of birth must be included in the signed statement in 6(a) above.

7 Notification

Divisional representatives shall within 7 days of the Divisional Rounds, or by the date set by the Hon. Secondary Team Organiser, (whichever is the earlier), submit full details of the Divisional results to the Hon. Secondary Team Organiser (nil returns if appropriate). The times submitted will be recorded to one hundredth of a second on the official forms for each school. Divisional Representatives are also requested to send a full copy of the gala results.

8 Conduct of the Championships

- (a). The length of the pool for Preliminary/Divisional qualifying rounds will be 25 metres, and with each swimmer completing 2 lengths.
- (b) In the National Finals, as the length of the course will vary according to the venue, the following distances will be swum:
 - i) 50metres – each swimmer will swim 1 length;
 - ii) 25 metres – each swimmer will swim 2 lengths;

9 National Finalists

- (a) The Hon. Secondary Team Organiser will select only on times recorded in a Divisional round, not less than the 12 fastest teams to swim in the National Finals. Where Divisions organise heats and finals for their rounds, only the heat times are to be submitted.
- (b) The Hon. Secondary Team Organiser will notify all finalists direct. All other schools may obtain results from their Divisional Representative or the ESSA website.
- (c) A requirement of qualifying to compete in the National Finals is the return of the acceptance form not later than the date specified on the form. After this date reserve teams may be invited.

10 Awards

- (a) The school teams placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Championships will be awarded a commemorative plaque to be held permanently, and each member of these teams will be awarded a Championship medal.
- (b) Challenge trophies will be awarded to the winning school in each event.
- (c) Each member of the teams placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Para event Championships, will be awarded a Championship medal.
- (d) At the conclusion of the National Finals the Lis Hartley Memorial Trophy will be presented at the discretion of the Hon. Secondary Team Organiser.

11 Expenses

Each competing school/division will be responsible for its own expenses.

12 Responsibility

A qualified school teacher, or suitable adult as approved by the Head of the School or Divisional Representative, must accompany each team at all stages of the competition.