

# Triad Swim League Rules for Swimming Competition

(It is recommended that all officials prior to every meet review the league rules)

## 1. General

- a. These rules are specifically designed for closed meets in privately-owned pools and shall govern the conduct of all swimming meets scheduled, sponsored, or sanctioned by the League. USS rules pertaining to strokes, disqualifications, duties of officials, judging, timing and similar technical matters shall be observed at all League meets unless modified by these rules. Short course rules shall apply to all League competition.
- b. The starting time for any meet shall be specified by the host pool and notification given prior to the visiting team at least one week in advance of the meet. The starting time shall be in the evening not later than 6:30 P.M. unless otherwise agreed to by the League representatives of both teams. In the event a meet must be rescheduled, the date and time selected by the host pool for the rescheduled meet must be acceptable to the visiting team.
- c. All competitors shall report at the host pool not later than *one hour* before the meet is scheduled and shall immediately proceed to their assigned area. The coaches or team representatives shall, not later than twenty minutes before the meet is scheduled to begin, report to the scoring table with their scratches or authorized substitutions. (See paragraph 5.) *Warm-ups for the home team will begin at 5:00 P.M. for thirty minutes. Visiting team warm-ups will be at 5.30 P.M for thirty minutes. The pool will be clear of swimmers thirty minutes before the meet is to begin. Swimmers will report to their assigned area and hold themselves ready to report immediately to the clerk of course when their events are called.*
- d. Spectators shall be strictly controlled, and reasonable measures shall be taken to ensure that spectators do not interfere with officials in the performance of their duties. The official team representatives may consult the stroke judge if necessary but shall refrain from doing so while an event is in progress.
- e. No event will be delayed pending the late arrival of a competitor.
- f. In converting yard to meter times a prescribed conversion factor of I. II shall be used. In converting meter to yard times the conversion factor of 884 shall be used.
- g. The order of events for meets will be Free Relays at the beginning of the meet with Medley Relays occurring at the end. (Amended May 18, 1996)
- h. It is not the purpose of the Triad Swim League rules contained herein to set standards of care for the safety of the competitor. Safety considerations should be addressed by the competitor and community pool organization where the meet is held.

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## 2. Competitor Eligibility

- a. Only the families with full swimming privileges and are members in good standing who receive no form of financial aid, and are not on any trial membership package are allowed to participate. Under unusual circumstances the League rules committee upon written application to the Executive Board of the League may grant exceptions to this provision
- b. Recruiting swimmers outside the jurisdiction (i.e. the neighborhood) is not permitted. **Any intentional breach of this rule will result in forfeiture of the meet(s) in question.**
- c. The eligibility of the competitor to compete in particular age group shall be determined by his or her age on June 1. The uppermost age group will consist of persons 15-18 years of age. No person over the age of 18 will be permitted to compete under any circumstances.
- d. In relays, competitors 8-and-under may be moved up one age group to compete in a relay. Competitors 9-and-older can be moved up to any age group above their own in relays but each relay must have at least one swimmer that is the correct age. Competitors **cannot compete** in any age group below their own. In individual events, competitors **must compete in their own age group with one exception**: Six-and-under swimmers may move up one age group for individual events at the coach's careful discretion.
- e. Each team must maintain an up-to-date list of its swimmers with applicable birth dates for ready reference in case of eligibility disputes.

## 3. Limitations on Entries

- a. Dual Meets
  - i. Each competitor is eligible to enter up to three individual events and two relays.
  - ii. There is no limit on the number of competitors or relays on each team.
- b. Championship Meet
  - i. Each competitor is eligible to enter up to three individual events and two relays.
  - ii. There is no limit on the number of competitors, however there is a limit of two relays per event per team.

## 4. Entry Lists

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- a. Firm entry disks containing the names and events of each swimmer with a roster of the swimmers competing in the meet shall be in the hands of the host team twenty-four hours prior to the meet.
- b. It shall be the responsibility of each team representative to examine the entry list of the opposing team prior to the meet. If the entry lists contains an obvious irregularity that irregularity may be corrected by agreement of the competing team representative. *Should the irregularity be due to a malfunction of the meter-to-yards conversion, this should be corrected prior to the meet.*
- c. It is not required that swimmers on relay teams swim in the order in which they are listed on the entry list. Relays may be changed but the scoring table will not make the changes on the printed labels after the meet has begun.

### 5. Substitutions and Scratches

- a. All Meets
  - i. A swimmer may not be moved from one event to another under any Conditions. Exception: the swimmer is entered in the wrong age group.
  - ii. Coaches or team representatives shall advise the head scorer, clerk of course, and the opposing team representative in writing any entries to be scratched and any late entries prior to the start of the meet or as far in advance as possible. All changes should be in no later than 5:50 to the scorers table. Inadvertent failure to report a late entry shall not disqualify that swimmer. No event will be delayed to permit late entries after the meet has commenced.
  - iii. Substitutions may be made in relay events when necessary because of sickness, injury, or absence of a competitor.

### 6. Timing

- a. Official times to two decimal places (hundredths) shall be used for determining orders of finish and records.
- b. A minimum of two watches per lane is required. Determine the official time as follows: the lowest time of the two watches will determine finish time.
- c. Timers must be at the “finish” end of the pool and be in a position where they can see any part of the swimmer’s body touch the wall (i.e. leaning over the edge to watch the finish, not standing or sitting in a chair back from the edge of the pool.)
- d. At least one head timer per two lanes will be stationed with the lane timers in the event a watch would need replacing due to a malfunction.

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- e. At Championships, the following will determine finish: touchpads, plunger, watches.

## 7. Place Judges

- a. All place judges shall be at the “finish” end of the pool and are required to record the order of finish. *Place Judges will be used during regular season meets but not at championship meets when touch pads are use.*
- b. Discrepancies (Regular Meets)
  - i. In the event that there is disagreement between an official time and the place judges’ order of finish, both place judges must agree in order to override an official time.
  - ii. In the event that there is a disagreement between the two place judges, the times on the watches will determine the order of finish.
  - iii. In the event that a race is too close to determine an order of finish by the place judges. then the times will be used to determine the order of finish. Finish judges should circle places that they are unsure of the order of finish.

## 8. Disqualifications

- a. Disqualifications shall be governed by USS rules at all meets. When a disqualification occurs, a disqualification slip shall be prepared and given to the runner so that it can be delivered to the scorer’s table.
- b. One false start will be allowed for the field. The second false start will result in a disqualification of that swimmer. However, all false starts will be at the discretion of the starter. (False starts caused by outside interference or equipment failure may not result in a disqualification).

## 9. Protests

- a. Protests involving turns, strokes and other technicalities
  - i. Any protest or complaint of this type will be communicated to the opposing team’s representatives and the meet director within 30 minutes after the event has been recorded. If an agreement cannot be reached then the protest must be submitted in writing within 48 hours to the league arbitrator.
  - ii. If the protest is made during the competition, no awards may be given to the swimmers in that event until the league arbitrator rules on the protest.

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- b. Protest affecting the eligibility of any swimmer to compete in any race shall be made in writing to the league arbitrator before the race is held. If the protest is made during the competition then the swimmer can compete under protest and no awards may be given to swimmers in that event until the league arbitrator rules on the protest.
- c. Any other protest arising from the competition itself shall be communicated to the opposing team's representatives and the meet director before leaving the meet. The protest must be submitted in writing within 48 hours to the league arbitrator.

### 10. Scoring

- a. Individual events in dual meets shall be scored as follows

6-lane pool (6 places): 7-5-4-3-2-1

8-lane pool (8 places): 9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1

Ribbons will be given through eighth place

- b. Relay events in dual meets shall be scored as follows:

First place: 7 points

All others: 0 points

Ribbons will be given for the first three places

- c. Championship meet-individual events

6-lane pool (6 places): 7-5-4-3-2-1

8-lane pool (8 places): 9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1

- d. Championship meet-relay events

6-lane pool (6 places): 18-14-12

8-lane pool (8 places): 18-14-12

### 11. Meet Rainouts and Cancellations

- a. In cases of rain, thunder, lightning, etc. the meet director and coaches from both teams will make the decision to call the meet after the first 30-minute delay. There will be a 15-minute thunder delay and 20-minute lightning delay. The above representatives will decide after the first 30-minute delay to stop or continue the wait for another 15 minutes. The cut-off event number to score a meet is the completion of event #35 in dual meets and event #35 in the championship meet.

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## 12. Resignations

- a. No team shall have claim to any assets after resignation, either forced or not under any circumstances.
- b. The league dissolve for any reason, all assets will be divided equally among the teams after all debts are paid.

## 13. Alcohol

No team personnel, official or parent shall use alcohol from the time of arrival at the site of the competition until they leave following the completion of the meet. The use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all areas of the venue, including but not limited to, the pool deck, locker rooms or bathrooms, spectator seating areas, and all areas used by swimmers.