

# SUFFOLK COUNTY ASA - WINTER LEAGUE RULES 2007-08

- 1 The competition shall be known as the Suffolk County ASA Winter League Competition, this Association being the promoters.
- 2 All events shall be under ASA Laws & ASA Technical Rules.
- 3 The season of competition shall be from 1 November in every year, to be completed before the commencement of the County Age Group Championships for the following year.
- 4 The competition shall be run the same in all divisions, i.e.
  - (A) Girls competition
  - (B) Boys competition
  - (C) Team competition based on combined totals.

The league format to be based on the number of registered teams divided equally into divisions. All divisions will be swum on the same dates.

Three rounds will be held per division, divided into a minimum of two venues per round. The three dates to be fixed as the third or fourth Saturday in November, and last Saturday in January and February of each season.

## ROUND ONE

The first round to be seeded on the previous seasons results with promoted and relegated teams swapping positions for seeding purposes. The teams finishing in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 positions etc. competing in one gala and the teams finishing in 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 etc. in the other gala. Round one to be confirmed at the League AGM.

## ROUND TWO (11 & 12 team divisions)

GALA 1 to be competed by the teams finishing in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> places in gala one and the teams finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> (& 6<sup>th</sup>) places in gala two (combined totals) of the round one galas.

GALA 2 the remaining teams.

## ROUND TWO (9 & 10 team divisions)

GALA 1 to be competed by the teams finishing in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> (& 5<sup>th</sup>) places in gala one and the teams finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> places in gala two (combined totals) of the round one galas.

GALA 2 the remaining teams.

## ROUND THREE (11 & 12 team divisions)

GALA 1 will be the teams lying in the top 6 places in the division (combined totals) after two rounds. GALA 2 will be the remaining teams.

## ROUND THREE (9 & 10 team divisions)

GALA 1 will be the teams lying in the top 5 places in the division (combined totals) after two rounds. GALA 2 will be the remaining teams.

The teams competing in GALA 1 of the ROUND THREE galas to be awarded a bonus of **100 GALA POINTS** to both the boys and the girls totals. Teams receiving these points and then not competing will forfeit the points.

The trophies for each division awarded to the teams scoring the most gala points over ALL THREE ROUNDS. Competition to be:

- A. Girls competition
- B. Boys competition
- C. Combined Team competition

There will also be an award to the team adjudged the most lively and colourful at the 'A' Finals to include the teams and their supporters.

The teams finishing in the last two places (combined totals) of the three rounds will be relegated.

The teams finishing in the first two places (combined totals) of the three rounds will be promoted to the higher division.

Host teams will be chosen on a rotational basis. All events will normally be swum in Suffolk but suitable venues outside Suffolk may be used with the agreement of the Secretary.

Should any team withdraw or any new team be accepted or it be necessary to amend the number of divisions, then the format shall be revised and amended so that the best interests of the swimmers is served.

- 5 No swimmer may swim for more than one club in any season. Swimmers may compete for 'A' and 'B' teams of the same club within the same season but not in the same round.
- 6 By October 31<sup>st</sup> each club shall furnish the league secretary with a register of its participating swimmers per team quoting dates of birth and, in subsequent galas, should an unregistered swimmer be used, the club shall mark its team sheet with an asterisk against the name and quote the date of birth.
- 7 Any club experiencing difficulties en route may ask for the starting time to be delayed 15 minutes by contacting the gala referee. This allowance will under no circumstances be extended. Telephone numbers are shown on the gala schedule.

Any club that fails to participate in a league gala shall be fined £30.00 and shall not compete in the following season until such a fine has been paid. The fine shall only be waived in exceptional circumstances

- 8 An entry fee of £15.00 for **each** club team shall be payable to the Suffolk County ASA by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Each club shall be represented at the league AGM and be entitled to one vote. A fine of £10.00 shall be imposed on any club not attending the league AGM, and that club shall not compete in the following season until such a fine has been paid.
- 9 A Hon. Secretary for the league shall be appointed at the AGM of the Suffolk County ASA. The League AGM will be held in March/April of each year.
- 10 Competitions shall be divided into the following age groups: 12/U, 13/14 & Open for round one and 11/U, 12/13, 14/15 & Open for rounds two & three. The distances for all events for each round are shown on separate charts.

**A swimmer may compete in THREE individual events, not more than two of these in their own age group plus relays. Open age group swimmers may compete in THREE individual events plus relays.**

#### **Medley and Freestyle Relays**

Junior – two swimmers from each of 11/U and 12/13 age groups in any order.

Senior – two swimmers from each of 14/15 and open age group in any order.

Cannon Freestyle Relay – one girl and one boy from each age group in age order, youngest girl to start the event.

Swimmers must be within their respective age groups **on the last day of the competition.**

**Scoring:** Each event shall be scored: 1<sup>st</sup> place 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4 points etc. **irrespective** of the number of teams competing. Where an unequal number of teams compete in a division the points will be adjusted later.

Each team are permitted to play a '**JOKER**' card for one boys and one girls event per gala. These to be declared at the start of the relevant event by holding up a card provide for the purpose. In these events the team or teams playing the '**JOKER**' will score double points.

- 11 The Secretary, with the concurrence of the County Executive, shall have the power to deduct points, fine clubs or suspend clubs from the competition for breach of the rules, swimming ineligible team members or conduct by clubs or club team members bringing the competition into disrepute. A fine, if imposed, should not exceed a maximum of £50.00 per offence. Should a fine be imposed on any club, then that club shall not compete in the following season until such a fine has been paid.
- 12 Each club shall provide a minimum of one timekeeper and one judge at each event at which they participate. The staging club shall arrange for all other officials required. The referee, starter, chief timekeeper and judges shall be on or should have been on a county or a regional list. All other officials shall, whenever possible, hold similar qualifications.
- 13 Clubs will swim throughout a gala in the lane assigned in the gala schedule or lane draw and also for the 'warm up' period before the gala commences and, with the permission of the referee, during the interval. At the discretion of the host club a ten-minute swim down may be provided.
- 14 The league secretary shall provide the clubs with:  
(A) Recorders sheets, (B) Gala officials list, and (C) Team sheets.  
The documents will be provided prior to the commencement of the season and these shall be the only documentation used by the clubs and the officials at all the galas. Clubs shall return to the secretary a receipt indicating they have received a full compliment of documentation for the season. Time slips and place slips shall be provided by the host club. Before each gala commences, all teams shall hand to the recorder, a completed team sheet, which shall be forwarded to the league secretary together with (A) & (B) as above within **two days**.

Team sheets shall be completed in ink, preferably printed, in order to facilitate easy checking. Any discrepancies in the result sheets shall be notified to the league secretary within five days of the gala.

- 15 The referee shall indicate on the time slip, or a disqualification slip the reason for any disqualification and these slips **MUST** be given to the clubs after the gala. Where possible the reason for any disqualification shall be shown on the recorder's sheets.
- 16 The team managers shall remain with the swimmers for whose conduct they shall be responsible.
- 17 The referee shall ensure that the promoter's conditions are observed at all galas.
- 18 The order of events shall be as detailed on a separate chart. The interval, if taken, shall be where the league secretary considers it to be of benefit to the swimmers.
- 19 Should a gala or round be cancelled by the league secretary for any reason, that gala or round will be swum at a date to the approval of all participating clubs or if that is not possible the following will apply:  
Cancellation of the first round: The first round to be swum at the 2<sup>nd</sup> round dates, the 3<sup>rd</sup> round finalists selected from those results. The true 2<sup>nd</sup> round would not be swum.  
Cancellation of the second round: The finalists for the third round to be selected from the results of the first round.  
Cancellation of the third round: The winners would be declared on the total number of points scored over the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds. No teams would be promoted or demoted under normal circumstances.
- 20 For the purposes of complying with all aspects of ASA Laws the host club will act as the promoter for the period of the gala and will be responsible for ensuring that Pool Safety Laws as stated in current ASA Laws and their Pool Hire Agreement are complied with in full.