



Hertfordshire Swimming League

FOUNDED BY ROY ROGERS IN 1979

RULES

As amended in October 2018

(Total 5 pages)

1. Name "The Hertfordshire Swimming League" comprises three sections, "The Senior League", "The Major League" and "The Peanuts League".

2. Objectives The League shall be affiliated to Swim England EAST region. To promote and encourage competition between Swimming Clubs affiliated to Swim England Hertfordshire.

3. Membership

- a) Membership of the league is confined to Clubs affiliated to Swim England Hertfordshire
- b) A Club may have more than one team in membership but preference in joining the League is given to one team from each Club.
- c) A club must indicate its wish to compete in league competitions by paying the appropriate league entry fee by 30th September in the preceding year of competition. Any club failing to pay the entry fee by this date will incur a late payment fee. If the entry fee remains unpaid by the Annual General Meeting, the club will not be eligible to swim in the following years league competitions.

4. Finance

- a) Each team in each section shall pay a league entry fee
- b) The Financial year of the League shall end on the 30th of September
- c) All funds or other property of the League shall be used for the furtherance of the objects of the League.
- d) In the event of dissolution the funds remaining shall be shared equally between the current participating Clubs.

5. Management

- a) The overall control of the League is vested in an Executive Council consisting of the Officers and delegates from member Clubs which have paid the appropriate subscription.
- b) The Executive Council shall meet annually in October to receive reports and statements for the preceding year, elect the Management Committee Officers, decide the annual subscription, the failure to attend fee, spectators fees, consider any proposed Rule Changes and deal with other relevant business. As agreed at 2018 AGM:
- c) Major League Annual Subscription Fee £100 and Late Subscription Fee £110
- d) Peanut League Annual Subscription Fee £100 and Late Subscription Fee £110
- e) Failure to Attend Fee £100
- f) Spectator Fee Adult £4
- g) Children Free
- h) Each participating Club may nominate one delegate with one vote. Officers have no vote in their own right. The Chair has a casting vote. A Club with no team in a League may not vote on proposals applying only to that League.
- i) Proposals to change the rules must be made and seconded by member Clubs and be received in writing by the Secretary at least one month before the meeting. The Management Committee is allowed to propose rule changes. To be carried such proposals must have a two-thirds majority of the voting delegates in attendance.
- j) The Management Committee Officers are:
- k) CHAIR- the previous year's Vice Chair or nominated by their Club

- l) VICE CHAIR - nominated by participating Clubs in alphabetical order.
- m) SECRETARY, TREASURER, COMPLIANCE OFFICER and up to four COMMITTEE MEMBERS - elected at the meeting.
- n) This Committee has the authority to make decisions within the framework of these rules and of A.S.A. Laws.
 - f) An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Executive Council may be called by the Officers or upon written request to the Secretary from two thirds of member Clubs. In both cases the reasons for the meeting must be declared, by the Secretary, in writing, to the contacts in member Clubs, no more than 14 days after receipt of the receipt of the request. The E.G.M must be held within 56 days of the request.
 - g) The Secretary shall give at least 7 days' notice for meetings of the Officers and at least 21 days' notice of General Meetings.
 - h) Delegates from at least 8-member Clubs form a quorum for a General Meeting.
 - i) The Management Committee may co-opt additional members to fill vacancies or to assist with specific exercises relating to the running of the league.

6. Gala Organisation

- a) The League Committee is responsible for hiring the pools and lifeguards, assigning the Host Clubs, Referees and Starters, and providing the programmes (online only, for spectators), record sheets and time slips.
- b) Each team are to provide:
 - c) • one ASA qualified Timekeeper, and
 - d) • one Judge, ASA qualified as a minimum to Judge Level 1
- e) These two Official's names must be included on the Team Sheet/Running Order which is to be handed in before leaving the gala (see 12 d.).
- f) The Host Clubs should appoint 2 Chief Timekeepers an Announcer, persons to collect spectator's entrance fees, male and female Competitors Stewards, Runners, Recorders and the Gala Secretary. Host clubs are permitted to run a raffle, the proceeds of which they may keep for their own club.
- g) The start of each Gala should be prompt and no more than fifteen minutes later than the published start time.
 - e) Any team failing to attend any gala shall pay a fee to cover lost spectator income. Participating Clubs shall agree the fee each year at the AGM
- h) The host club's gala secretary shall advise the Results Secretary of the results by email, and post a top copy of the record sheets, the time slips, team lists and Trophy Receipts Certificates, where applicable within 24 hours
- i) The lane draw for the gala shall be made prior to the warm up, except for the Round III gala in each division where the teams will swim in spearhead order based on their league position
- j) The Committee shall inform all teams of the full results and venues for the next round within fourteen days.
- k) The Results Secretary shall inform the website operator of the results of each round and confirm the gala draw ASAP. Gala venues for each round / division will be decided before the AGM draw is made.
- l) The Management Committee will produce and maintain a policy for dealing with cancelled or abandoned galas; any changes to this policy will be notified to participating clubs

7. Competition

- a) All competitions are held under A.S.A. Laws and ASA Technical Rules.
- b) Wherever practical, pools will be 25m in length
- c) Each League consists of a number of Divisions decided by the management committee within the following. The number of Galas per round is two except in the lowest Division where the maximum number of Galas per round is three. The minimum number of teams in a Division is five.
- d) The competition consists of three rounds for each Division of each League except for the Senior League, which is one round.
- e) Age groups will be age as at the date of the final round of **Major** league and for **Peanuts** league as at 30th June with the final round being no earlier than 1st July

- f) Swimmers may compete in any number of events, with the exception, of a maximum of two individual events in their own age group.

The age groups, strokes and lengths for each League are:

Age Groups	Peanuts League Age as at 30th June		Major League Age as at the date of round III	
	Individual	Relay	Individual	Relay
9 Years	Div 1: 25m all 4 Div 2 & 3: Back, Breast and Free	All Divs: 4 x 25m Free & Div 1: 4 x 25m Medley Div 2 & 3: Special: 25m Bk, Br, Free, Free		
Under 11	25m all 4	All Divs: 4 x 25m Free & Medley		
Under 12	Div 1: 50m all 4 Div 2: 50m Free, Back, Breast & 25m Fly Div 3: 25m all 4	Div 1: 4 x 50m Free & Medley Div 2 & 3: 4 x 25m Free & Medley	Div 1: 50m all 4 Div 2: 50m Free, Back, Breast & 25m Fly Div 3: 25m all 4	Div 1: 4 x 50m Free & Medley Div 2 & 3: 4 x 25m Free & Medley
Under 13	Div 1: 50m all 4 Div 2: 50m all 4 Div 3: 50m Free, Back, Breast & 25m Fly	Div 1: 4 x 50m Free & Medley Div 2 & 3: 4 x 25m Free & Medley		
Under 14			Div 1: 100m all 4 Div 2: 100m Free, Back, Breast, 50m Fly Div 3: 50m all 4	Div 1: 4 x 50m Free & Medley Div 2 & 3: 4 x 25m Free & Medley
Under 16			Div 1 & 2: 100m all 4 Div 3: 50m all 4	Div 1: 4 x 50m Free & Medley Div 2 & 3: 4 x 25m Free & Medley
Open			Div 1 & 2: 100m all 4 Div 3: 100m Free, Back, Breast, 50m Fly	Div 1: 4 x 50m Free & Medley Div 2 & 3: 4 x 25m Free & Medley
Squadron		Div 1: 8 x 25m Div 2 & 3: 8 x 25m Free Boy/ Girl each age group		Div 1: 8 x 50m Div 2 & 3: 8 x 25m Free Boy/ Girl each age group

8. Gala Draws

- a) ROUND I – The draw will be random and will take place at the AGM. Any changes necessary due to the subsequent withdrawals or additional teams will be decided by the Management Committee ROUND II Teams with odd placing in one Gala meet teams with even placing in the other Gala ROUND III Winners and Consolation Galas are held in each Division. In Divisions other than the lowest the Winners Gala is of six teams.

- b) If the number of competing teams in Division 3 falls to 8, but no less than 5, prior to the issue of gala invitations for round one, that division will run as single galas in each round, points will be aggregated with appropriate point scoring changes applied and the two teams with the highest points will be promoted.

9. Points System

- a) In each event the gala points equal the place, for example 3 points for third place, with one point more than the number of teams competing in current year of league competition given for disqualification or no swimmer. In a tie the points are shared.
- b) For a gala with less than six teams multiply the total gala points by seven and divide by the points for disqualification.
- c) Gala position is based on the lowest number of gala points, if teams are tied on gala points then the highest number of first places, the highest number of second places etc will be taken into account.
- d) League points for a team will be 6 points for first place, 5 points for second place etc in rounds I and II.
- e) A bonus of 11 league points will be given to each team competing in the third round winners gala
- f) League points for a team will be 12 points for first place, 10 points for second place etc in round III.
 - I. League position is based on: -
 - II. Highest number of league points
 - III. Lowest number of gala points
 - IV. Number of first places, number of second places etc.
- g) A team, which fails to compete in any gala for which they have entered, will be awarded maximum points, and placed last at that gala and score zero league points at that gala.
- h) For divisions of more than 12 teams the above rules regarding gala and league points would be adjusted by the Management Committee and notified to those teams concerned before round I.”

a) 10. Promotion and Relegation

- a) The bottom two teams in Division 1 and 2 shall be relegated by one division.
- b) The top two teams in Divisions 2 and 3 shall be promoted by one division.
- c) In the event that rule 10e is invoked, the Executive Council shall have the power to set aside rules 10a and 10b in order to maintain the optimum numbers of teams competing in higher divisions.
- d) In the event of joint placings the team with highest number of first places in all rounds enters the higher division.
- e) A team in any division which fails to swim in all three galas, having entered at the beginning of the league season, will be deemed to have withdrawn from the league and must re-apply for membership. If the application is accepted that team will be placed in the lowest division.

b) 11. Awards

- a) Trophies, which remain the property of the League, are held by the division winners and runners up until the next year.
- b) Pennants are awarded to the top six teams in each division.
- c) A log will be maintained of all trophies allocated to whatever league and division winners and runners-up. A representative of the club holding the trophy will sign the log (TROPHY RECEIPT CERTIFICATE) and, by so doing commits that club to the safe return of the trophy to the Committee 28 days before the final round. The trophy holders will be responsible for the loss of or damage to the trophy whilst in their care and, if necessary, a replacement must be purchased at the trophy holder's expense.

12. Teams

- a) One calendar month before the start of competition each Club shall send the Compliance Officer a Club Eligibility List including full name, sex and date of birth of each eligible swimmer, separated into both sex and relevant age groups.
- b) Major League & Peanut League: Additions to previously notified squads are allowed during the period of the competition providing:
 - c) Swimmers are registered as members of that Club
 - d) ii) The League is notified of any such additions 7 days prior to the Gala in question b) Within a league no swimmer may compete for more than one club in the current league competition.
- e) All teams are required to swim their “best” team in the highest division and so on down. If a swimmer has to be “promoted” because of illness/holiday this swimmer is allowed to swim down for subsequent gala(s) and will not be stopped from competing in future rounds.
- f) In all rounds, each team shall provide a running order, which names the actual swimmers from each event, to the host club’s gala secretary before leaving the gala
- g) If a swimmer’s name is on more than one club Team list they may only swim for one club in the current league competition
- h) All team members must be eligible as defined in ASA law. Any infringement may result in the team being disqualified from the gala in which the infringement took place.
- i) Teams found swimming one or more ineligible swimmers not declared to the referee within the following timescales;
 - I. Preferably prior to the start of the gala
 - II. But no later than the start of the event following the event in which the infringement took place.
- j) Will be deducted one league point in rounds 1/2 and 2 points in round 3 in which the offence took place. Where possible the results of affected galas will be restated.
- k) Ineligible swimmers that need to be declared include: -
- l) Swimmers not included on the Club Team List
 - ii) Over age swimmer
 - iii) Swimmers competing in too many individual events
- m) Any infringement(s) which may result in the deduction of a league point should be notified by the Compliance office (or other committee member) to the offending club prior to the publication of the league results for the round in which the infringement took place. If the club believes the deduction has been unfairly applied they have the right of appeal within 3 days of being notified of the deduction. The appeal should be made to the Chair of the league (or other nominated officer) whose decision shall be final.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR 2019 SEASON WHILST USE OF HY-TEK IS BEING TRIALLED:

- Random lane draw for Round1. Rounds 2 & 3 teams will swim in spearhead order according to their league position at the start of the round.
- Rules as outlined in Section 9, will be adjusted to allow for the fact that in using Hy-Tek, the winning team scores highest, equivalent to the number of teams competing. Disqualifications and no swimmers will score 0.