South Jersey Swim League

By-Laws

Article I

 Purpose

1. To maximize **FUN**, participation and create a growing learning experience for each team member.
2. To develop strong, healthy bodies (physical fitness)
3. To develop self-discipline, social poise, good sportsmanship and spiritual well-being.
4. To provide the opportunity to be part of an organized athletic team and experience the thrill of competing with others of comparable ability and interests.
5. To develop swimming skills.

Article II

 Membership

1. All participants must be a full member of their respective YMCA or organization.
2. Membership rates and program fees are set by and payable to each individual YMCA or organization.
3. The rates mentioned in #2 cover practice and pool dual meet pool time.
4. Other expenses (Examples)
5. Team Suits, Nationals, etc. are the responsibility of the individual, not the League.
6. Fundraising projects are permissible at the discretion of the Parents Committee or Aquatics Committee, with the approval of the Physical/Aquatic Committee and governing body of the Local Association.

Article III

 Season

1. A short stroke and turn clinic is permissible before regular practice starts.
2. Registration and tryouts should be completed by the end of October.
3. Formal practice will begin at the team’s discretion.
4. The number of meets and their dates will be scheduled by the League.
5. The regular league meets will be scheduled to not conflict with that season’s National, State Championships and Post Season meets.

Article IV

 Practice

1. Practice begins at the team’s discretion. Try outs and stroke and turn clinics are permissible before this date.
2. A miniumum of seven and one half (7.5) hours per week per team practice time is recommended.
3. The format of practice agenda will be decided upon by the coaching staff and the professional staff person related to the swim team.

Article V

 Meets

1. The Home Team is responsible for providing the following meet officials:

One Starter (1)

One Referee (1)

 The above two jobs can be performed by the same person

Twelve Lane Timers (12)

One certified Stroke and Turn Judge (1)

One runner (1)

One chief timer (1)

One finish judge (1)

One scorer/Meet Manager Operator (1)

One ribbon clerk (1) (If the team is creating ribbons during the meet as opposed to afterwards)

TOTAL = 20

The Away Team or Visiting Team is responsible for providing the following meet officials and volunteers:

 Six lane timers (6)

One certified Stroke and Turn Judge (1)

One finish judge (1)

One scorer (1)

One ribbon clerk (1) (If the team is creating ribbons during the meet as opposed to afterwards)

TOTAL = 10

The above mentioned figures indicate the number of officials needed in a six (6) lane pool. If the meet is held in a four (4) lane facility, then each team is responsible for three (3) lane timers.

If a team does not have the required number of officials and meet volunteers (Home, 20 – Away, 10) the other team may fill those positions with parents, other adults etc. that are interested in helping run the meet.

1. The following age groups will swim in meets:
2. 6 and Under
3. 8 and Under
4. 9 – 10
5. 11 – 12
6. 13 – 14
7. 15- 18 (if still in high school)
8. Eligibility for a swimmer’s participation in a meet will be decided upon according to practice attendance records, YMCA membership status and a clean discipline record.
9. Swimmers may participate in USA meets, High School, etc. if they so desire, as long as it is approved by the Coach.
10. Lane assignments are at the discretion of the home team and the Meet Manager programing, circle seeding is recommended to allow for the most efficiently run swim meet.
11. Swimmers must compete in their current age group. Swimming up is permitted, but not in the same stroke or relay series where the swimmer has already competed in a lower age group.
12. League reference to swimmers age is that age attained by a swimmer on December 1st of the current year.
13. A league roster of each team must be submitted to the League President and sent to all teams by November 1st. A team will automatically forfeit a meet if a participant for their team competes, but his or her name does not appear on the official roster.

The roster must include the following age groupings, listed in age group order separated by gender:

Swimmer’s name

Sex

Age

Birthdate

1. All rosters will be frozen by December 31st. Exceptions, including additions to the roster can be made by written application to the league President.
2. Each team will be responsible for notifying all league teams of any changes, addictions, etc. to the official team roster a minimum of 7 days prior to the meet. Swimming in a meet inside of 7 days needs the approval of the opposing team.

Article VI

 Rescheduling Meets

1. If a meet cannot be completed for any valid reason, a make-up date and time can be arranged between coaches, with approval of both teams and professional staff person related to swim team.

Article VII

 Protests

1. Protest unresolved during a meet must be made in writing to the League President within one week of the date of protested meet.
2. Protests shall be decided by a quorum of 3 or more League Representatives. Protest decision will be mailed to both teams involved within one week after resolution.

Article VIII

Scoring Procedures – Meet Protocol

1. Each swimmer may enter five (5) events but no more than two (2) relays and three (3) individual events. Every team member presents on the day of a meet must swim at least one (1) event during the course of that meet.
2. All lanes are official for every heat. The Meet Manager Program will score the top three from all heats of each event.
3. Team scoring overall will be done in age group categories.
4. Point awards shall be as follows:
a. Individual Events 1st Place – 5 points

2nd Place – 3 points

3rd Place – 1 point

 NO TEAM CAN EARN MORE THAN 8 POINTS PER EVENT

1. Meet entries must be received by the Home team by the Friday before the swim meet. The Home team may choose to seed the meet and send the seeded Meet Program to the opposing team, or they may wait until the start of the meet to seed and distribute the Meet Programs.
2. Changes may be made before the meet through the Meet Manager program. It is best to report scratches and changes before the start of the meet, especially if the meet has not been seeded yet and the Meet Programs have not been printed. The coach must notify the Meet Manager Operator of any changes that occur during the meet. Scratches made after the meet has been seeded should also be reported to the Meet Manager Operator.
3. Scoring will be done by the Meet Manager Program, points will need to be adjusted to reflect the SJSL scoring in Article VIII, 4.
4. Timers will have their sheets already in place on their clip boards before the meet start. Timer’s should be ensuring that the swimmer in their lane is the correct swimmer. Any changes should be marked on the timer sheet.
5. At the end of the event, the lane timer will mark the time on the timer sheet, which will be collected by the runner, the places decided by the place judge and referee, if required. Otherwise, place will be determined by the time entered into the Meet Manager Program.
6. Disqualification and reason for will be marked in the Meet Manager Program based on the Official’s card.
7. The runner will return timer sheets to the Meet Manager Operator who will then enter the times into the program.
8. The referee must sign the score sheet at the conclusion of the meet. \*\*do we still need this?
9. The Home Team must forward a copy of the meet results as a Team Manager file to the visiting team by Tuesday following the meet.
10. Unofficial entries must swim event, stroke and distance as stated in the Meet Manager Entries.
11. Swimmers must swim in 2 dual league meets to be eligible for League Championships.

Article IX

 League Fees

1. Each team participating in the league will be assessed League dues cost which will be set at first meeting.
2. The League will provide the following: ribbons, team sportsmanship award and a champion banner?

Article X

 Awards

1. First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded for their respective place in each event.
2. The League will provide two team sportsmanship awards, one in each division. Each team will cast a ballot for their choice at the conclusion of the swim season. If a tie ensues, the league President will appoint a committee to break the tie and finalize a decision. You must cast a vote for a team other than your own.
3. Local awards at team banquets will be dedicated by that individual team’s parent committee, with approval of the Physical or Aquatic Committee.

Article XI

 Team Size

1. The size of each team will be determined individually by each Physical or Aquatic Committee.

Article XII

1. USA Technical rules apply where not otherwise specified by these by-laws and constitution.
2. Safety rules will be determined by the Home Team.