

RULES GOVERNING NORTHWEST DISTRICT SWIMMING COMPETITION

(Revised January 2014)

1. JURISDICTION

Northwest District ("District") YMCA Swimming Championships and other District matters are conducted under the jurisdiction of the Illinois State YMCA Swim Committee ("State Committee") and the Northwest District Swim Committee ("District Committee"). District Championships and other District matters are governed by the current National YMCA "Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports" (November 1996), the current Rules Governing Illinois State YMCA Swimming Competition ("State Rules") and, to the extent not inconsistent with the foregoing, the current USS Technical Rules. These Rules Governing Northwest District Swimming Competition ("Northwest Rules") are intended to supplement the State Rules. To the extent that the Northwest Rules are inconsistent or in conflict with the State Rules, the State Rules shall prevail.

2. DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

Each YMCA which:

- a. has been designated a member of the District by the State Committee,
- b. is recognized by the YMCA National Council as a member in good standing

is eligible to be presented on the District Committee. The Executive Director of each member YMCA shall from time to time designate in writing the person authorized to vote for such YMCA on District matters. Each eligible YMCA shall have one vote on the District Committee.

3. DISTRICT GOVERNANCE

The District Committee shall be responsible for the management of all District affairs, including:

- a. swimmer eligibility,
- b. enforcement of the rules referred to in Rule 1 above in all YMCA swimming competition involving District teams in dual YMCA, invitational YMCA and District meets,

- c. conducting the annual District Championships and Junior District Championships,
- d. election of up to four voting representatives (and any non-voting representatives) to the State Committee who shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected, and there must be at least two level two officials of the four.
- e. support of the State Committee.

4. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The District Committee shall meet at least two times a year. Unless otherwise determined by the Committee, such meetings shall be held on the second Sundays of September and January. The Committee may hold such other meetings as it determines from time to time.

5. COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDAS

The September meeting agenda shall include:

- a. approval of prior meeting's minutes,
- b. a District financial report,
- c. a report on the spring meeting of the State Committee,
- d. a review of the District's Championship meets held the preceding spring,
- e. distribution of the revised State Rules,
- f. setting of event formats for the next District and District Junior Championship meets,
- g. setting of qualifying times for the next District Championship meet,
- h. election of District Chair and District representatives to the State Committee (see Area State Rule 2),
- i. discussion of proposed changes to State and District Rules.
- j. new business

The January meeting agenda shall include:

- a. approval of prior meeting's minutes,
- b. a District financial report,
- c. a report on the fall meeting of the State Committee,
- d. reviews of team rosters and coaches' credentialing
- e. approval of meet information, awards and officials for the upcoming District and Junior District Championship meets,
- f. selection of dates and hosts for the District and District Junior Championships in the following year, and
- g. discussion of proposed changes to the State and District Rules.
- h. new business

6. COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEDURES

Committee meetings shall be chaired by the person elected by the District representatives as the Chairperson of the District. If such person is not present, he/she shall designate an Acting Chairperson.

A majority of the District YMCAs shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting any and all District business.

Once a quorum is present, a majority vote of the District YMCAs present shall be necessary to take action on behalf of the Committee with respect to all matters except Rules changes. In the case of Rules changes, an affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present shall be required. Each YMCA present shall have one vote, to be cast by the person designated pursuant to Northwest Rule 2 by the YMCA's Executive Director. Voting shall be by secret ballot if requested by any District YMCA.

7. TEAM ROSTERS

On or before February 1, each District YMCA shall submit a roster of its swimmers to the District Chairperson. The roster shall, at a minimum, list each swimmer's full name and birth date. Such roster shall be certified by the YMCA's Executive Director (or voting representatives to the District) to the effect that each listed swimmer was a member in good

standing of such YMCA as of at least 90 days prior to the date of the District Championships. Any subsequent roster changes should be timely filed with the District Chairperson.

8. DISTRICT AND JUNIOR DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS

The annual District and Junior District Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the State Rules. (See State Rules 6). The meet shall not be held on legal or major religious holiday. To the extent not inconsistent with such State Rules,

- a. The District events shall be identical to those included in the State Championships.
- b. The Junior District events shall offer only individual events for 8 and under, 9 and 10, and 11 and 12 swimmers. Swimmers are eligible to enter any event in their age group in which, during the current season, they have not achieved a District Championship qualifying time. (See also State Rule 6.)
- c. Special 6 and under events shall be offered in all four basic strokes. A swimmer entering a 6 and under event shall not be eligible to enter the same 8 and under event.
- d. District qualifying times for 8 and under, 10 and under, and 12 and under individual events shall be established by the Committee. There shall be no time standards for the 14 and under and 21 and under individual events or for any relay events.
- e. Individuals entering the District Championships must have met or surpassed the qualifying time for each event entered. Acceptable qualifying times are those achieved in YMCA, high school, sanctioned USS meets or time trials during the current season. "No time" entries will not be accepted.
- f. There shall be no limit on the number of swimmers per individual event from a single team. A swimmer's individual events may consist of a combination of Junior District and District events, as long as, the swimmer's total number of enter events does not exceed the event limit. The event limits are as follows:
 - o A swimmer ages 8 & younger can swim no more than 5 events during the meet with no more than 4 of these being individual events.

- A swimmer ages 9 – 10 can swim no more than 6 events during the meet with no more than 5 of these being individual events.
 - A swimmer ages 11 – 14 can swim no more 7 events during the meet with no more than 3 individual events per day (6 total for the meet). A swimmer in this age group can get an 8th event, if one of these events is a relay in the 21 & younger age group.
 - A swimmer ages 15 – 21 can swim no more than 8 events during the meet with no more than 3 individual events per day (6 total for the meet).
- g. The meet format shall be the combination of events, ages and sexes determined by the District Committee.
- h. All District and Junior District events shall be pre-seeded and conducted as timed finals-
- k. The entry fees shall be:
- (a) Four dollars (\$4.00) for each individual entry.
 - (b) Sixteen dollars (\$16.00) for each relay entry.
- l. The host YMCA shall cover the cost of the medals that are purchased for that event.
- m. Pre-meet announcement shall be distributing by the meet host at the Committee's January meeting (and immediately thereafter mailed by the meet host to all teams absent from such meeting). The information shall contain:
1. Name, address and phone number of the meet director.
 2. Location of and directions to the meet site.
 3. A list of hotels and motels in the vicinity of the meet complete with locations, phone numbers, contacts and any special rates.
 4. Warm-up times and first events times.
 5. Entry information and official entry forms.

- n. Once distributed, there shall be no changes in the rules and procedures for the conduct of the District Championships without approval of the District Committee.
- o. It is the responsibility of each YMCA to have their coach or a team representative thoroughly reviews all entry information to avoid any contestants losing his/her eligibility to compete.
- p. Coaches must bring verification of seed times to the meet. Seed times need not be pre-proven; however, verification of seed times must be available if any protests arise regarding a swimmer's previous performance.
- q. Awards shall be as "suggested" in the State Rules, except that:
 - relay awards shall be to only eight places
- r. All timing and placement procedures shall comply with current USA Swimming Technical Rules and all automatic, semi-automatic and back-up equipment are subject to the approval of the District Committee.
- s. District individual and relay events shall be scored to sixteen places as provided in current NCAA Rules.
- t. Junior District events will not be scored.
- u. Officials
 - The meet referee shall be a Level II, nationally-certified YMCA swimming official, and
 - all other deck officials shall be appointed by the referee. They shall be nationally certified YMCA swimming officials, with the exception of timers.
- v. Coaches and Officials' Meeting
 - A coaches' meeting shall be held prior to the competition to review rules and procedures for the conduct of the meet. Participating teams shall have a coach and/or team representative in attendance.
 - A meeting for deck officials and timers shall be held prior to the competition to review rules and procedures for conduct of the meet.

w. Final Results

- Final results shall be available for coaches and members of the District Committee at the conclusion of each day's competition. After the event is over, an electronic copy shall be e-mailed to all coaches of the District.
- Results shall contain a complete listing of all contestants, including swimmers disqualified. Final times are to be listed with any record setting performance so noted. Swimmers qualifying for the Illinois State Championships by time or by place shall be indicated. A summary of age division and championship team points shall be included.
- Final results shall be e-mailed to the host YMCA for the Illinois State YMCA Championships on Monday following the District Championships.

x. Sanctions

The host YMCA for the Northwest District Championships shall obtain a meet sanction from the YMCA National Committee. Meet results shall be promptly e-mailed to Illinois SWYMS and YMCA National SWYMS database coordinators. The host team will obtain a valid ISI sanction.

9. CHAMPIONSHIP MEET REPORTS/FEES

- a. The District Championship meet host shall remit a \$100 fee to the State Chairperson.
- b. The District and Junior District Championship hosts shall remit a meet financial report to the District Chairperson by the next meeting following conclusion of each such meet.
- c. Copies of meet information, entry forms, programs, heat sheets, along with other information that may be of use to future hosts of the District Championships shall be retained. All such information shall be made available to the next District Championship host.

10. **LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY**

The following violations shall automatically disqualify an individual from District competition and may lead to a swimmer's previous performance being declared null and void.

- a. Failure to meet District eligibility conditions.
- b. Failure to maintain an amateur status in the sport of swimming during the current season.
- c. Exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct.
- d. Competing under an assumed name.
- e. Substance abuse.
- f. Misrepresenting facts regarding previous performance or time.

11. **PROTESTS**

- a. Meet protest committees shall be the District Committee for the District and District Junior Championships.
- b. Any protest of eligibility or officiating shall be timely made in writing by the team coach to the meet protest committee.
- c. Circumstances may warrant a contestant being permitted to compete while under protest. In the event this situation should occur, all awards and points for the event in question shall be held until the protest is resolved.

12. **COACHES CREDENTIALS**

All coaches of District teams shall at all times be in full compliance with all State Committee requirements for coaching credentials.

13. **RULE CHANGES**

Any proposal to amend or otherwise change these Northwest Rules must be made in writing by a District YMCA representative and presented to the District Chairperson at a District Committee meeting. The proposal shall be discussed at such meeting and then tabled until the following

District Committee meeting for further discussion and a vote on such proposal.