

Licensing Newsletter

Issue No: 4 Date: November 2006

Meet Licensing – Levels (Update)

The current form of Meet Licensing has now been in use for a while and earlier this year we introduced level four and a steady stream of applications are being received.

Level One: Intended for National Qualification. (Times also accepted for Regional Qualification) **A minimum standard of entry must be published.** The National Licensing Panel are very concerned at the standards being set for entry into some Level One meets, particularly those held in 50m pools. The primary purpose of these meets is for swimmers to qualify, Long Course, for the National Championships. This will not happen if entry times are set low and entries are taken on a “first come, first served” basis. **In order that Level One meets serve their primary purpose, from October 2007 a minimum standard will be introduced for entry times for Level One meets.** This minimum standard will initially be at the ‘A’ grade level as set by the Graded Swimming Tables. These tables can be downloaded from the British Swimming Website. Meets will not be licensed at Level One if their minimum qualifying standards are not set at or above this level. This level will be reviewed annually. These meets are expected to provide ‘Swim Down’ Facilities and results sheets should show splits.

Level Two: Intended for Regional Qualification) (Times swum can be used for entry into National Competitions). **These meets must have an advertised upper and lower qualifying time for each event. The Upper Limit time should be set no lower than the National Time.**

Clubs must realise that once they have set an entry standard they cannot expect to allow swimmers from their own club to swim if they are outside the required standard to the exclusion of swimmers from other clubs.

Full guidance notes for all levels can be found on the website:- www.britishswimming.org

Age at Day & Minimum Ages of competition

Open Meet Organisers, particularly Counties, are reminded that meets licensed at levels 1-3 are Open competitions and in accordance with ASA Law 411.5, shall be swum as ‘age at day’ (i.e. age of the swimmer at midnight on the day of the event or the final day of a series of events forming part of one competition whichever is the later), and that swimmers must have attained the minimum age specified in that law.

Distance Events

It was agreed that in the Programme of events for National, Regional and County Championships the opportunity would be provided for Males to swim the 800m Freestyle and Females to swim the 1500m Freestyle. Meet Organisers who normally promote meets that include the Longer Distance Events may wish to make provision for these additional events.

At National Level qualification for the 800m & 1500m Freestyle must now be achieved in a Long Course pool. Clubs who promote Level One and Two meets, in Long Course Pools, should consider making provision for these longer distance events.

Level Three: ‘B’ & ‘C’ Grade Meets. **These meets must also have an advertised upper qualifying time** and are intended for those swimmers wishing to achieve a county qualifying time, and not catered for at Levels One & Two. Times achieved at these meets will be accepted for Regional Qualification.

All meets at Levels One to Three must have electronic timing.

Level Four: Intended for club swimmers and those beginning to enter individual open competition.

These meets need not have an advertised upper qualifying time if they are licensed for Club Championships.

Electronic timing is not compulsory, although preferred. Times achieved at these meets may be used for entry into meets at level’s two and three and into County Championships.

All Licensed meets must be processed by means of computer software capable of producing a file, which can be imported into the British Swimming National Rankings System.

A levy is payable to the ASA Region to which the promoting club is affiliated.

With effect from October 2007 at least one person acting as the referee for meets at level Three must be qualified to the standard specified for a Referee.

Clubs promoting a Level Four meet who also promote meets at a higher level may have their Level Four fee waived. The Level Four levy has been set at £25 per year.

Consideration Times

It is noticed that a number of meet organisers, including certain Regions, are using the term 'Consideration Times' instead of 'Qualifying Times' for their meets. This term does not appear to have a universal definition and is being interpreted differently. In the interests of uniformity the National Panel agreed the following definition. **'Where a consideration time is set, this will be the minimum standard which a swimmer must have achieved in order to be accepted.'** Thus swimmers may be rejected who have achieved the consideration time, if a meet is oversubscribed, but it is not acceptable to include swimmers who are outside the consideration time if a meet is undersubscribed.

Membership Data

In order to swim in meets at Levels One to Three swimmers must be Category Two members of the ASA. Where data supplied to the Rankings Department reveals that a swimmer is not registered, or registered at Category One a reminder will be sent to the club concerned, in due course.

Calendar 2007

February	3/4;10/11;17/18;24/25	County Protected Weeks	
March	3/4;10/11;17/18;24/25;31	County Protected Weeks	
March April	26-31 1	British Long Course Championships	Manchester
March/April	31/1	County Protected Weeks	
May	5-7	Regional Youth Championships	
June	2/3; 9/10	Regional Age Group Championships	
June	16/17	Regional Age Group Champs (For regions given dispensation only)	
July	26-29	ASA National Age Group Champs.	Sheffield
July August	31 1-5	ASA National Youth Championships & ASA Long Course Championships.	Sheffield
October	13/14	Speedo League Protected Dates	
October	21	ASA Inter County Competition	Sheffield
November	3/4	Regional Championships	
November	10/11	Speedo League Protected Dates	
December	8/9	Speedo League Protected Dates	

A FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS IS AVAILABLE ON THE ASA WEBSITE www.britishswimming.org

Regional Licensing Officers

The Regional Licensing Co-ordinator must receive license applications at least 3 months in advance of the proposed competition.

- East: Roger Howkins, Corner House, Godmans Lane, Marks Tey, Colchester CO6 1XA
Tel; 01206 211086 email; rogerhowkins@hotmail.com
- East Midland: John Hidle, 70 Sandringham Road, Sandiacre, Nottingham NG10 5LD Tel; 01159 192514
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- London: Len Badcock, 10 The Mead, Nazeing New Road, Broxbourne, Herts EN10 6SS
Tel; 01992 447308 email; len.badcock@swimming.org
- North West: Toby Tunstall, 23 Cherry Tree Lane, Aughton, West Lancashire L39 5EH Tel; 01695 421990
email; tobyunstall@aol.com
- North East: Barry Saunders, 42 Greenfields Road, Harrogate HG2 7BH Tel; 01423 885326
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- South East: Liz Hartley, 192 Gossops Drive, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 8LD Tel; 07737860394
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- West Midland: Eddie Blight, 72 Jerrard Drive, Sutton Coldfield, B75 7TJ Tel; 0121 3783445
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