

## **SOUTH PARK SWIM LEAGUE RULES OF COMPETITION**

The following **Rules of Competition** shall govern all regular season and all-star swim meets held between member teams in the South Park Swim League. Of paramount importance is always consideration of the safety and emotional well-being of the children swimming.

### **I. SWIMMER ELIGIBILITY AND AGE GROUPS**

#### **A. Age**

To be eligible for the current season, swimmers must be 18 years or younger on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season.

An exception shall be permitted for a swimmer who is 19 years old on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of the current season, if the swimmer is a high school student.

#### **B. Club Membership**

Swimmers must be in good standing with their member clubs. This includes full paying annual membership families or in some cases, full paying summer membership families. There will be no guards or coaches swimming on the team who received a free membership as part of his/her employment. No bonus shall be given to any swimmer or family to offset the cost of club membership dues. Swimmers may swim for only one South Park Swim League member club. Member clubs are permitted to waive or offer reduced dues to Team Representatives. Memberships under any circumstances other than those described above must be reviewed by the SPSL Executive Board prior to the start of the season (first meet) to confirm swimmer eligibility.

Team Representatives are required to check their Team Roster against the membership records of their club to guarantee swimmer eligibility. Submission of the Team Roster to the SPSL by the Team Representative is a representation that all swimmers on their roster are eligible.

#### **C. Age Groups**

The age level of each swimmer for the current season shall be determined by the swimmer's age on or before the May 31 that falls either during, or immediately

prior to the start of, the current season. Each swimmer shall swim in his/her age level for the entire season. However, a swimmer may elect to swim in the next higher age group for the entire season. This choice must be made before June 1, must be indicated on the roster, and once made, may not be reversed at a later date unless special permission from the Board of Directors is received. Generally, special permission will not be considered unless other roster changes cause an undue hardship to a team.

Eligible 6 & Under swimmers may swim in 8 & Under events other than the 8 & Under 25M Freestyle without aging up for the season. It is in the discretion of the Team Representative whether to allow 6 & Under swimmers from their team to swim in 8 & Under non-freestyle events.

For SPSL competition events, age groups are defined as follows:

<b>AGE GROUP</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
6 & Under	Eligible swimmers who are six years old, or any age less than six years old, on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season.
8 & Under	Eligible swimmers who are eight years old, or any age less than eight years old, on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season.
10 & Under	Eligible swimmers who are ten years old, or any age less than ten years old, on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season.
9-10	Eligible swimmers who are nine years old or ten years old on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season.
11-12	Eligible swimmers who are eleven years old or twelve years old on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season.
13-14	Eligible swimmers who are thirteen years old or fourteen years old on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season.
15-18	Eligible swimmers who are fifteen years old, sixteen years old, seventeen years old, or eighteen years old on the May 31 that falls during, or immediately prior to the start of, the current season, or eligible swimmers who are more than eighteen years old and are either high school students, or high school graduates who have graduated from high school either during, or immediately prior to the start of the current season.

It is the responsibility of each team to understand the Event List and Event Names (Section II-A), and these Age Group Definitions to ensure swimmers are entered in events appropriately.

#### **D. Team Rosters**

Each team must submit a complete team roster listing all swimmers, with birth dates and age group for each swimmer, to the SPSL President prior to the first meet in the required format using Hy-tek Software. Any changes to the team roster must be e-mailed to the SPSL President. Additions to the team roster must be e-mailed to the SPSL President prior to the participation of the added swimmer in any meets.

#### **E. All-Star Meet Eligibility**

For a swimmer to be eligible to swim in the All-Star Meet at the end of the current season (Section V), that swimmer must have competed in at least **two (2)** dual meets during the current season. There are no events for 6 & Under swimmers in the All-Star meet, however, 6 & Under swimmers shall be eligible to swim 8 & Under events in the All-Star Meet, including the 8 & Under 25M Freestyle event without aging up for the entire season.

#### **F. Event Eligibility**

For a given swim meet (including a dual meet or an All-Star meet), each eligible swimmer may enter a maximum of three individual events in his/her age group and a maximum of two relays in his/her age group. Listing a swimmer as an alternate in an event shall count as an entry in the event for the swimmer.

Entries of swimmers in meets must also comply with the rules for "Swimmer Entries" (Section IV-F and V-F).

## II. COMPETITION EVENTS

### A. Events (Event Names) and Order of Events

1) 6 & Under Girls 25M Freestyle	11) 15-18 Womens 200M Medley Relay	21) 15-18 Womens 50M Freestyle	31) 15-18 Womens 50M Backstroke	41) 8 & Under Girls 25M Breaststroke	51) 8 & Under Girls 25M Butterfly	61) 8 & Under Girls 100M Freestyle Relay
2) 6 & Under Boys 25M Freestyle	12) 15-18 Mens 200M Medley Relay	22) 15-18 Mens 50M Freestyle	32) 15-18 mens 50M Backstroke	42) 8 & Under Boys 25M Breaststroke	52) 8 & Under Boys 25M Butterfly	62) 8 & Under Boys 100M Freestyle Relay
3) 8 & Under Girls 100M Medley Relay	13) 8 & Under Girls 25M Freestyle	23) 8 & Under Girls 25M Backstroke	33) 10 & U Girls 100M Individual Medley	43) 9-10 Girls 25M Breaststroke	53) 9-10 Girls 25M Butterfly	63) 9-10 Girls 100M Freestyle Relay
4) 8 & Under Boys 100M Medley Relay	14) 8 & Under Boys 25M Freestyle	24) 8 & Under Boys 25M Backstroke	34) 10 & U Boys 100M Individual Medley	44) 9-10 Boys 25M Breaststroke	54) 9-10 Boys 25M Butterfly	64) 9-10 Boys 100M Freestyle Relay
5) 9-10 Girls 100M Medley Relay	15) 9-10 Girls 25M Freestyle	25) 9-10 Girls 25M Backstroke	35) 11-12 Girls 100M Individual Medley	45) 11-12 Girls 50M Breaststroke	55) 11-12 Girls 50M Butterfly	65) 11-12 Girls 200M Freestyle Relay
6) 9-10 Boys 100M Medley Relay	16) 9-10 Boys 25M Freestyle	26) 9-10 Boys 25M Backstroke	36) 11-12 Boys 100M Individual Medley	46) 11-12 Boys 50M Breaststroke	56) 11-12 Boys 50M Butterfly	66) 11-12 Boys 200M Freestyle Relay
7) 11-12 Girls 200M Medley Relay	17) 11-12 Girls 50M Freestyle	27) 11-12 Girls 50M Backstroke	37) 13-14 Girls 100M Individual Medley	47) 13-14 Girls 50M Breaststroke	57) 13-14 Girls 50M Butterfly	67) 13-14 Girls 200M Freestyle Relay
8) 11-12 Boys 200M Medley Relay	18) 11-12 Boys 50M Freestyle	28) 11-12 Boys 50M Backstroke	38) 13-14 Boys 100M Individual Medley	48) 13-14 Boys 50M Breaststroke	58) 13-14 Boys 50M Butterfly	68) 13-14 Boys 200M Freestyle Relay
9) 13-14 Girls 200M Medley Relay	19) 13-14 Girls 50M Freestyle	29) 13-14 Girls 50M Backstroke	39) 15-18 Womens 100M Individual Medley	49) 15-18 Womens 50M Breaststroke	59) 15-18 Womens 50M Butterfly	69) 15-18 Womens 200M Freestyle Relay
10) 13-14 Boys 200M Medley Relay	20) 13-14 Boys 50M Freestyle	30) 13-14 Boys 50M Backstroke	40) 15-18 Mens 100M Individual Medley	50) 15-18 Mens 50M Breaststroke	60) 15-18 Mens 50M Butterfly	70) 15-18 Mens 200M Freestyle Relay

For all pools measured in yards, and the event distances stated in meters above shall be swum in yards during all meets held at those pools.

## III. RULES

### A. Governing Rules

The South Park Swim League generally uses ***U.S. Swimming Rules*** as guidelines to govern starts, strokes, kicks, turns and finishes, unless otherwise defined.

## **B. Meet Officials**

Directives to, judgments of and disqualifications of swimmers relating to starts, strokes, kicks, turns and finishes are the responsibility of the Meet Starter and the Meet Stroke & Turn Judges.

## **C. Starter**

The Starter shall be responsible for governing the start of all races in the meet. See also section III-E for specific and additional definitions of Starter responsibilities.

## **D. Stroke & Turn Judge(s)**

Stroke & Turn Judges shall work in pairs (one Stroke & Turn Judge from each team, per pair) and shall disqualify swimmers when they see infractions to the rules relating to relay take-offs, strokes, kicks, turns and finishes. During dual meets one pair of Stroke & Turn Judges shall be stationed at each end of the pool, in a location with visibility of the pool and swimmers mutually agreed to by the pair, and they shall be responsible for relay take-offs, strokes, kicks, turns and finishes across the pool as far down the pool as they can see. Both Stroke & Turn Judges in the pair must see an infraction and must agree on the infraction. If both Stroke & Turn Judges in the pair do not see the infraction, or do not agree on the infraction, then there is no disqualification. During All-Star Meets there shall be four pairs of Stroke & Turn Judges, with one pair stationed at each corner, and they shall be responsible for relay take-offs, strokes, kicks, turns and finishes as far across and down the pool as they can see. See also section III-E for specific and additional definitions of Stroke & Turn Judge Responsibilities.

Stroke & Turn Judges must complete a SPSL DQ Slip for any swimmer disqualification relating to relay take-off starts, strokes, kicks, turns and finishes. The DQ Slip must be signed by the Stroke & Turn Judges and must be legible in order to be valid. Stroke & Turn Judges may not inform swimmers directly of DQ.

No coach may talk to any Stroke and Turn Judge concerning a swim during a meet. Any questionable swimmer disqualifications should be appealed to, and resolved by the Team Representatives only. If agreement cannot be reached, the disqualification will stand as written.

## E. South Park Swim League Specific Rules of Competition

The following are rules which shall apply in SPSL competition, which may override or may be in addition to **U.S. Swimming Rules**:

<b>RULE</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>	<b>OFFICIAL (ACTION)</b>
False Starts (Race Start)	No movement. Each Individual swimmer will be allowed one false start, but will be disqualified for a second false start in the same event.	<b>Starter</b> (Warn for first - DQ for second)
False Starts (Relay Take-Offs)	Feet/toes remain in contact with starting block until finishing swimmer touches wall.	<b>Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</b> (DQ)
Backstroke Race Starts and Turns	Following U. S. Swimming Rules	<b>Starter, Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</b> (DQ)
Butterfly Race Starts and Turns	After the race start or a turn, swimmer may kick under water before surfacing, so long as the swimmer surfaces prior to reaching the <b>approximate</b> midpoint of the pool.	<b>Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</b> (DQ)
"Shrimp" Assistance	No one other than the swimmers in a heat shall be in the water with the swimmers during the race. An exception will be made for the 6 & Under Freestyle event. Shrimpers requiring assistance will be placed in the final heat(s). Teams with large numbers of 6 & under swimmers should carefully consider whether to allow entries for swimmers who cannot complete their race without assistance after the second meet. The use of flotation devices or kickboards is prohibited. <b>NO CHILD USING ANY ASSISTANCE WILL RECEIVE PLACE RIBBONS.</b>	<b>Starter</b> (Compliance prior to race start)/ <b>Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</b> (DQ violations after race start)

Unsportsmanlike Conduct	Swimmers should be respectful at all times and use their best efforts. Taunting other swimmers will not be tolerated. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include, but are not limited to: - Use of profanity - Throwing goggles - Inappropriate swimming style designed to taunt or demoralize other swimmers (wearing clothes other than swimsuits during a swim, purposefully swimming the wrong stroke, “cannonball” rather than front dives off the blocks, etc.	<b>Starter</b> or at least one <b>Stroke &amp; Turn Judge</b> (DQ)
Swim Caps/ Swim Suits	No caps or suits visibly representing year-round or school swimming programs shall be worn while competing in SPSL meets. In addition, championship-level suits, such as “Fastskins”, “AquaBlades” and “FS2”, should not be worn while competing in SPSL meets. Caps should be plain or SPSL team.	<b>Starter</b> (Compliance prior to race start)

## F. Special Exceptions

It is the coach’s responsibility to notify the opposing Team Representative prior to the meet of any swimmer who may be swimming with a disability that would otherwise cause that swimmer to be disqualified in an event.

## IV. DUAL MEETS

### A. Schedule

Each team will be scheduled for at least three (3) home meets and three (3) away meets, with one home meet and one away meet being a Saturday morning meet. When the SPSL is comprised of more than seven (7) teams, every effort will be made to match teams with similar levels of competition for dual meets. In addition, every effort will be made to schedule alternate home and away meets between teams from one season to the next. The SPSL Executive Board reserves the right to make exceptions to the preceding when scheduling as it deems necessary for administrative reasons. See attached “SPSL Meet Schedule” for current season schedule.

## **B. Start Times**

Evening meets shall start promptly at 6:00 p.m. with every reasonable effort being made to complete all meets within three (3) hours. Morning meets shall start promptly at 8:00 a.m. with every reasonable effort being made to complete all meets within three (3) hours. Warm-ups will begin one-half hour prior to the scheduled meet time. Each team will be assigned one-half the number of lanes of the host pool for this one-half hour to warm-up as desired. In the case of a pool with an odd number of lanes, the home team shall use one fewer than one-half of the lanes, but will be permitted to begin warm-ups up to 15 minutes prior to the one-half hour allotted to warm-ups. The SPSL Executive Board may approve a different start time for an individual meet if the facility requests such a change, and it is acceptable to both team's representatives.

## **C. Facilities**

Club pools for dual meets should have six lanes for competition. The Home Team entries shall be in the odd number lanes, the Away Team entries shall be in the even number lanes. In certain cases an exception will be made in five-lane pools. When swimming in a five-lane pool, heat sheets are to be prepared with only five swimmers in each heat. In this situation, Home Team entries shall be in the three odd number lanes and Away Team entries shall be in the two even number lanes. There may be two heats of the Individual Medley events in five-lane pools (Section IV-F).

All starts shall be at the deep end of the pool. Any pool that does not have a minimum water depth of 3.5 feet at each end of the pool should utilize in-pool starts and/or open turns at the end(s) of the pool where the water depth is less than 3.5 feet. It will be the decision of each individual host team whether or not to use starting blocks or the pool deck for diving. The pool rules of the host team that provide for the safety and well-being of the swimmers shall be followed. A visiting team may impose more stringent safety rules upon their swimmers, such as utilizing in pool starts where pool depth is an issue.

Pools shall have backstroke flags which must be fifteen (15) feet from each end of the pool. Pool equipment such as lifeguard stands, diving areas and separate pools will be off limits to all swimmers during meets for safety purposes. Other areas, such as playgrounds, may be closed during meets.

The home team shall designate areas for each team and for spectators. Coaches, swimmers and spectators shall not interfere with the meet officials and meet workers, nor the running of the meet.

#### **D. Meet Materials**

It is the ultimate responsibility of each Team Representative to ensure that all materials required for the meet are provided in a timely fashion. See separate "SPSL Dual Meet Organization" document for guidelines. Each team is responsible for providing their own stopwatches at each meet.

#### **E. Meet Documentation**

It is the ultimate responsibility of each Team Representative to ensure that all meet documents are completed correctly in a timely fashion as communicated here and requested by the SPSL. Original entries shall be prepared and delivered electronically to the home team's designated computer operator by the visiting team no later than 24 hours prior to the start of the meet. The home team will then add their swimmers to the entries and will provide four copies of the heat sheets to the visiting team. See separate "SPSL Dual Meet Organization" document for guidelines.

Any changes to the entries should be made prior to the start of the meet. Changes made after the starting time of the meet should be limited and approved by both team representatives. The Clerk of Course may make changes to the heat sheets so swimmers do not have to swim alone, or may combine heats so the meet runs faster.

The home team shall retain all meet documents for dual meets for a period of thirty days after the completion of the All-Star Meet, and shall make requested documents available to the opposing team or the SPSL in a timely fashion. The home team shall make computer backups and downloads available to the visiting team as soon as all meet data is finalized. **DUAL MEET RESULT SHEETS FOR THE ENTIRE SEASON SHOULD BE SUBMITTED, IN TOTAL, TO SPECIFIED SPSL BOARD MEMBER PRIOR TO THE FIRST ALL-STAR MEET.**

#### **F. Swimmer Entries**

Teams are not limited in the number of eligible swimmers they may enter in each individual event, except the Individual Medley events, which are limited to one heat per event (five-lane pools may swim two heats of the Individual Medley events). No exhibition swimmers shall be allowed to swim in individual events. There will be no aging up of swimmers in individual events, unless the swimmer has been "permanently" aged up for the entire season.

The home team may enter up to three relay teams, “A,” “B,” and “C” relay teams. The visiting team may enter “A” and “B” relay teams as well as a “C” relay team if there are enough lanes available to complete that relay in one. Only “A” relays may score points, other relay teams (“B” and “C”) are exhibition only. Ribbons will be awarded to first through fourth place finishes. ***Swimming exhibition relays is encouraged even though they do not score points.***

Two eligible Alternate Swimmers are allowed for each relay event, however, the eligible Alternate Swimmers must be listed as such on the heat sheets to be eligible to swim in the relay event. Listing a swimmer as an alternate for a relay counts as an entry (as defined in Section IV-F) for that swimmer. Listing a swimmer as an alternate for a relay does not exclude that swimmer from being listed as a swimmer or alternate on an exhibition relay.

If a team does not have four eligible swimmers in the designated age group to make a relay, that team may age up one or two younger, eligible swimmer(s) to make a relay under the following conditions:

- ! At least two of the relay swimmers are eligible swimmers in the designated age group.
- ! There are no other eligible swimmers in the designated age group (other than those entered in the relay) available to swim at the start of the relay. It will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct for a team to request or suggest that a swimmer delay arriving at a meet or leave a meet early in order to age up swimmers from the next lower age group.
- ! The eligible swimmer(s) who age up for a relay event are from one of the next two lower age groups. Swimmers must first be aged up from the next lower age group. In other words, a swimmer may not “jump” an age group if there is an eligible swimmer in the intervening age group.
- ! In the event a team has only one eligible swimmer in an age group on their roster for the entire season, that team may age up three eligible swimmers. In no event may a swimmer be entered in more than four relays.

Aging up a swimmer in these conditions to swim a relay shall not count as an entry (as defined in Section IV-F) for the aged up swimmer.

Swimmer entries must also comply with the rules for swimmer eligibility in Section I.

Team representatives should be flexible in permitting teams to “age up” swimmers into older age groups where it has been historically difficult to recruit older swimmers. The goal should be to field a relay team in every event.

## **G. Meet Officials and Workers**

It is the ultimate responsibility of each Team Representative to ensure that all volunteers for Meet Officials and Meet Workers required from his or her team are scheduled, assigned and present for the meet. All Meet Officials and Workers should meet ten minutes prior to the starting time of the meet. See separate "SPSL Dual Meet Organization" document for guidelines.

The Team Representative from the home team is expected to organize the dual meets, including conducting meetings with Stroke and Turn Judges and Timers.

## **H. Scoring**

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS: First Place – 5 points, Second Place – 3 points, Third Place – 2 points, Fourth Place – 1 point.

RELAY EVENTS: First Place – 10 points, Second Place – 6 points

No points will be scored for the 6 & Under Freestyle Events.

If there is a tie for first place in an individual event, both swimmers receive four (4) points and there will be no 2<sup>nd</sup> place. If there is a tie for second place, both swimmers receive two and one-half (2.5) points and there will be no third place. If there is a tie for third place, both swimmers receive one and one-half (1.5) points and there will be no fourth place. If there is a tie for fourth place, both swimmers will receive one-half (.5) point. (Total points for each individual event cannot exceed eleven (11) points). If there is a tie for first place in a relay event, both teams receive eight (8) points and there will be no 2<sup>nd</sup> place. (Total points for each relay event cannot exceed sixteen (16) points). In individual events, a swimmer may place from any heat. In timing all events, record times to the 100<sup>th</sup>'s - do not round off (i.e. 18.68).

Prior to the conclusion of a dual meet, the score may be announced to the spectators only when sufficiently close to encourage all swimmers. Unless agreed to by the team representatives, the score will not be announced if one team is leading by more than 15 points.

## **I. Awards**

DUAL MEET RIBBONS: Ribbons shall be awarded in all individual events, including 6 & Under Freestyle, to the First Place through Fourth Place finishers. If the SPSL has sufficient funding for the purchase of additional ribbons, ribbons shall be awarded to the First Place through Eighth Place finishers. Ribbons shall

be awarded in all relay events to the First Place finishers and the Second Place finishers. Additional ribbons shall be awarded as follows:

- o Heat ribbons shall be awarded to all heat winners in 6 & Under individual events, 8 & Under individual events, and 9-10 individual events.
- o Participation ribbons shall be awarded to all 6 & Under Freestyle swimmers upon completion of their race.

**DUAL MEET CHAMPIONS:** A Dual Meet Champion trophy shall rotate to the Dual Meet Champion at the end of each season based on each team's dual meet record. In the event of a tie in dual meet results, the season "head-to-head" meet between the two teams will be used as the tie-breaker. As a last resort, total dual meet points for the previous season may be considered. The Dual Meet Champion trophy shall be presented to the current season Dual Meet Champion at the conclusion the All-Star Meet, and shall remain with the Dual Meet Champion until the following season All-Star Meet. To this end, previous season Dual Meet Champions shall bring the rotating trophy to the Division All-Star Meet so it may be presented to the current season Dual Meet Champion.

A plaque will be awarded to the First Place Dual Meet finisher in each division. This plaque is a permanent award specific to the current season and will stay with the awarded team.

## **J. Postponed Meets**

All teams shall report for scheduled meets regardless of the weather. Normally, only thunder will cause the delay or postponement of a meet (rain alone is not sufficient cause to delay or postpone a meet), unless conditions are deemed unsafe. A meet delayed prior to the start due to weather shall be delayed for a **minimum of 30 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes** prior to being called. In the event that the home team's insurance policy requires a longer period of delay time, the home team's policy will prevail. The team representatives, with the assistance of the coaches, shall determine when the meet is to be rescheduled. Dual meets must be completed prior to the All-Star Meet. If a mutual date to make up the meet cannot be agreed to, the League President shall be called to make the decision. When a meet is postponed prior to the start, new heat sheets may be prepared for the rescheduled meet. It is the responsibility of the home team league representative to give all original heat sheets to the visiting team representative in the preparation of new heat sheets for the postponed meet.

If a meet has already begun and is interrupted by weather conditions, a maximum 30 minute delay is allowed before the meet is called. The team representatives, with the assistance of the coaches, shall determine if the meet is to be postponed to a later date, or called complete at the point of delay. If all events/heats through

the IM have been completed prior to the delay, the meet shall be considered complete and it will not be scheduled for later completion. In this situation, the team with the most points at the time of delay shall be the winning team. Also, if either team elects to concede a meet in the case of a weather delay at any point in the meet, it may be considered completed and will not be rescheduled. However, one team must concede the meet (there must be a winning team and a losing team), and points must be submitted.

Any meets, which are started and then subsequently postponed due to weather, must be completed by the All-Star Meet on a date mutually agreed to by both Team Representatives. Team Representatives will make every effort to announce the date and time of the rescheduled meet prior to leaving the pool area in order to announce the date and time to all swimmers. If a mutual date to complete the meet cannot be agreed to, the League President shall be called to make the decision. If a meet is postponed to a later date, it will be resumed at the later time at the point in the meet where the postponement took place. Events already completed will stand. New heat sheets may be prepared for the remaining events with resubmitted entries for swimmers participating in the postponed meet. Individual entry limits shall apply to the combined meet and not separately to the originally scheduled meet and the postponed meet. It is the responsibility of the home team league representative to give all original heat sheets to the visiting team representative in the preparation of new heat sheets for the remainder of the rescheduled meet.

#### **K. Disputed Meets**

The Team Representatives should work out any disputes at the time of the dispute. If they are unable to resolve the issue(s), either or both Team Representative(s) may request a special meeting of the SPSL Executive Board to review "written protests" of any disputed matters. The written protests should be sent to the SPSL President.

### **V. ALL-STAR CHAMPIONSHIP MEET**

#### **A. Schedule**

Each team will swim in an All-Star Championship Meet against all other teams. The All-Star Championship Meet will be held after the completion of the dual meets.

## **B. Facilities**

The All-Star Championship Meet will be held at a suitable facility as selected by the SPSL Executive Board. Every effort will be made by the SPSL to obtain a sponsor for the All-Star Championship Meet in order to reduce membership dues.

Areas will be designated for each team, as well as for spectators. Coaches, swimmers and spectators shall not interfere with the meet officials and meet workers, nor the running of the meet.

## **C. Meet Materials**

It is the ultimate responsibility of each Team Representative to ensure that all All-Star Meet materials are provided in a timely fashion as communicated here and requested by the SPSL. See separate "SPSL All-Star Meet Organization" document for additional details.

## **D. Meet Documentation**

It is the ultimate responsibility of each Team Representative to ensure that all All-Star Meet documents are completed correctly in a timely fashion as communicated here and requested by the SPSL. See separate "SPSL All-Star Meet Organization" document for additional details.

Changes to All-Star Meet entries should be kept to a minimum, and made at least one-half hour prior to the start of the All-Star Meet.

The Clerk of Course may make changes to the heat sheets during the meet.

## **E. Swimmer Eligibility**

See Section I.

## **F. Swimmer Entries**

In the All-Star Meets, each team is limited to two eligible swimmers in each individual event and one eligible relay team in each relay event.

Two eligible Alternate Swimmers are allowed for each event, however, the eligible Alternate Swimmers must be listed as such on the ***general entry sheets*** to be eligible

to swim in **any** event. Listing a swimmer as an alternate for an event counts as an entry (as defined in Section I-F) in that event for that swimmer.

There will be no aging up of swimmers in individual events, unless the swimmer has been “permanently” aged up for the entire season. If a team does not have four eligible swimmers in the designated age group to make a relay, that team may age up one or two younger, eligible swimmer(s) to make a relay under the following conditions:

- ! At least two of the relay swimmers are eligible swimmers in the designated age group.
- ! There are no other eligible swimmers in the designated age group (other than those entered in the relay) available to swim at the start of the relay. It will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct for a team to request or suggest that a swimmer delay arriving at a meet or leave a meet early in order to age up swimmers from the next lower age group.
- ! The eligible swimmer(s) who age up for a relay event are from one of the next two lower age groups. Swimmers must first be aged up from the next lower age group. In other words, a swimmer may not “jump” an age group if there is an eligible swimmer in the intervening age group.
- ! In the event a team has only one eligible swimmer in an age group on their roster for the entire season, that team may age up three eligible swimmers. In no event may a swimmer be entered in more than four relays.

Aging up a swimmer in these conditions to swim a relay shall not count as an entry (as defined in Section IV-F) in that event for the aged up swimmer.

Swimmer entries must also comply with the rules for swimmer eligibility in Section I.

### **G. Meet Officials and Workers**

It is the ultimate responsibility of each Team Representative to ensure that all volunteers for Meet Officials and Meet Workers required from his or her team are scheduled, assigned and present for the meet. All Meet Officials and Workers should meet one-half hour prior to the starting time of the meet. See separate “SPSL All-Star Meet Organization” document for additional details.

For the All-Star Meet only, the meet referee and all stroke and turn judges will be required to hold current US Swimming certifications.

## **H. Scoring**

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (First Place through Fourteenth Place):  
17:15:14:12:11:10:9:8:7:6:5:4:3:2

RELAY EVENTS (First Place through Seventh Place): 34:30:28:24:22:20:18

If there is a tie, the tying teams will share the total points for the tied place, plus the points for the next place, equally, and no team will finish in the next place (i.e. a tie for first place in an individual event will result in both tying swimmers finishing first, and each swimmer shall receive  $(17 + 15)/2$  points = 16 points for each swimmer, and there will be no second place finisher in the event.

Prior to the conclusion of the all-star meet, the score may be announced to the spectators only when sufficiently close to encourage all swimmers. Unless agreed to by the team representatives, the score will not be announced if one team is leading by more than 50 points.

## **I. Awards**

**ALL-STAR MEET MEDALS AND RIBBONS:** Medals shall be awarded in all individual events to the First Place through Third Place finishers. Ribbons shall be awarded in all individual events to the Fourth Place through Eighth Place finishers. Medals shall be awarded in all relay events to the First Place through Third Place finishers. Ribbons shall be awarded in all relay events to the Fourth Place through Eighth Place finishers.

**ALL-STAR MEET CHAMPIONS:** The All-Star Meet Champion trophy shall be presented to the current season All-Star Meet Champion at the conclusion the All-Star Meet, and shall remain with the All-Star Meet Champion until the following season All-Star Meet. To this end, previous season All-Star Meet Champions shall bring the rotating trophy to the All-Star Meet so it may be presented to the current season All-Star Meet Champion.

A plaque will be awarded to the First Place All-Star Meet finisher in each division. This plaque is a permanent award specific to the current season All-Star Meet results and will stay with the awarded team.

A Sportsmanship Award shall be given in each division. Sportsmanship shall be defined as treating opponents with fairness, generosity, courtesy, dignity, and so on. Those who can take loss or defeat without complaint, or victory without gloating are demonstrating sportsmanlike qualities. This award shall be voted on

by the Coaches and team representatives (2 votes per team) prior to the start of the All-Star Meet, and shall be awarded at the conclusion of their All-Star Meet.

## **J. Disputes**

The Team Representatives should work out any disputes during the All-Star Meet at the time of the dispute. If they are unable to resolve the issue(s), any Team Representative(s) of an affected team(s) may request a special meeting between the President and the affected Team Representative(s) to resolve the dispute during the All-Star Meet. Should any disputes pertaining to the All-Star Meet arise after the completion of the All-Star Meet, any affected Team Representative(s) may request a special meeting of the SPSL Executive Board to resolve “written protests” of the disputed matter. The written protest(s) should be sent to the SPSL President, Vice-President and Past President within 48 hours of the conclusion of the All-Star Meet.