

Proposal #4 – Verified Seed Time Required for Distance Freestyle Entries at Champs

G. Championship Meets

1. League preliminaries will be open to all League members. Division Championship participation is subject to “B” disqualifying times established by the League each year.
2. In order to swim in the Championships, a swimmer must participate in at least two dual meets. Exceptions may be granted upon written appeal to the Board.
 - a. Entries in a freestyle event NOT part of the DUAL meet event list must be verified when submitting League Championship Entries. Clubs have three options to provide verification of entry times:
 - i. By having swimmers compete in the event at a league sanctioned dual meet schedule.
 - ii. By having swimmers compete in the event at a league sanctioned distance meet.
 - iii. By using a time from the previous season’s League Championship preliminary or finals session.
3. Number of Events allowed
 - a. **Number of Events for Champs:** Individuals are limited to a maximum of three events between the League and Division Championships combined, with one exception.
 - i. Swimmers who swim three events in the Division Champs may participate, either as a swimmer or an alternate, in one League Champs relay event.
 1. No other combination of four events qualifies as an exception. In other words, swimming in two Div. and two League or one Div. and three League Champs is not allowed. If a swimmer’s entries exceed the allowable number of events, the events will be counted as follows: First, relays and second, individual events, starting with the lowest numbered event.
 2. Listing as an alternate will not be included in this total until the event is actually swum.
 - b. **Type of Events for Champs:** Individuals who swim in three Division Champs events may swim in any combination of relay and individual events and also may swim in one relay event at League Champs, as outlined in Section (a) above.
 - i. However, individuals who swim in three League Champs events, or who swim in some combination of three events split between Div. and League Champs, may swim no more than two individual events.
 - ii. The only swimmers who may be entered in three individual events during the Div. and League Champs are participants who swim in three Division Champs events.
4. Entries and a master list for League Preliminaries and Div. Championships shall be submitted according to the schedule voted upon at the Fall meeting. All entries must be submitted with a League approved hard copy printout from HyTek software along with the associated entry file exported from TM. All entries must be submitted in yard times.
 - a. For verification purposes entries must be accompanied by a Team Manager Entry Report that includes PROOF OF TIME.

Proposal # 5 – Clarification of Deadline for Submitting Champs Entries

- b. Complaints will be resolved by the Board of Governors prior to the start of the meet. Complaints must be in writing and submitted by the coach or official team representative only.
 - c. Changes will not be permitted after the psych sheet is sent to the Midlakes Communication Director for posting (defined by the time stamp at the top of the psych sheet) ~~the heat sheets are published~~ except for clerical errors (defined as a discrepancy between a team's hard copy of their TM entries and the team's electronic file from TM) ~~between the master entry forms and the heat sheets~~. Empty lanes resulting from insufficient entries will not be filled.
 - d. Any club showing up later than 1/2 hour beyond the specified time to enter the League Championships will be assessed a fine of \$250.00 in order to submit entries into the League Championships. Any club missing the entry deadline MUST submit entries prior to the posting of the psych sheet or NO athletes from that club will be able to compete in the League Championships. Late clubs and "no shows" must pay the fine prior to the beginning of the Championship meet. If the fine is not paid, athletes will be withheld from the meet.
5. Substitutions may be made in relays for injury or illness. When a substitution is made, the swimmer who is deleted may not swim in any events. The substitute swimmer must be listed as an alternate on the entry sheet. Regulation #3 under Championship Meets still applies to the new swimmer regarding number of events entered.

Proposal #6 – Clarification & Penalty for Violating BDQ Rule

8. In dual meets, once a swimmer has achieved a "B" disqualifying time in a given stroke, they may not swim that same event (individual or as part of a relay) in a "B" dual meet, either in a scoring heat or in an exhibition heat. This shall not disallow swimming up an age group or penalize the swimmer first achieving their "B" disqualifying time at a "B" Dual Meet. If a club violates this rule by allowing athletes who have achieved a 'B' Disqualification times in an age group (their own OR by competing up an age group) to compete, the league will assess a \$250 fine to the club for EACH violation of the rule – (defined as per athlete, per event). **Note:** the intent of this rule is to ensure athletes do not lose the ability to participate in relays if an age group is small (i.e. A team only has three 11-12 year olds in an age group that cannot make up a relay - they have the opportunity to swim up in a 13-14 relay or have a 9-10 year old athlete fill their relay, provided the movement meets eligibility criteria.)

- a. In 'A' or 'B' dual meets, swimmers may swim up only one age group.
 - i. Athletes are not able to swim up an age group if they have bettered a B DQ Time throughout the remaining time they have in the age group. the B DQ times for that age group.
- b. If a coach or club representative believes this provision has been misused during a dual meet, they should report the situation to their Division Rep through the following procedure:
 - i. The coach or club representative should fill out a Protest Form - found on the Midlakes website.
 - ii. The form needs to be sent electronically to the appropriate Division Rep within 4 days (96 hours) of the meet. The Division Rep will contact the opposing team to inform them of the protest

iii. The Division Rep will contact the Board of Governors- which will then begin the hearing procedure:

1. The protest will be heard by the Board of Governors within one week. The hearing will be conducted by a minimum of three Board members or appointed representatives.
2. The presiding officers will be guided by the league operating plan and U.S. Swimming rules in their decisions.
3. If a member of the Board is associated with a team involved in the protest, he will be disqualified as a member of the hearing board.
4. All protests and rationale will be made public at the Fall meeting.
5. All decisions are final.

Situations - #8

i. Situation 1: Athlete 'A', a 9 year old met the B Disqualification Standards for ALL 9-10 events. The times were also faster than the 11-12 B Disqualification Standards. At the beginning of the NEXT season, coach enters Athlete 'A' in the 11-12 50 free in the first 'B' meet.

a. INCORRECT Procedure. The athlete bettered the 'B' Disqualification standards for the 9-10 and 11-12 age group prior, so is no longer eligible to swim in a 'B' meet in either age group.

ii. Situation 2: Athlete 'A', a 9 year old met the B Disqualification Standards for ALL 9-10 events. The times were also faster than the 11-12 B Disqualification Standards. At the beginning of the NEXT season, coach enters Athlete 'A' in the 13-14 50 free in the first 'B' meet.

a. INCORRECT Procedure. The athlete may only swim up ONE age group, only if they have not bettered the B Disqualification standard previously.

ii. Situation 3: Athlete 'A', an 11 year old, wants to set a club/Midlakes Record in the final dual meet of the season – which is a B Meet. Swimmer 'A' has previously bettered the 'B' DQ times for the 11-12 age group and the 13-14 age group. The coach enters Swimmer 'A' in any event and Swimmer 'A' competes in 3 individual events during the meet.

a. INCORRECT Procedure. As Swimmer 'A' had bettered B DQ Times in the age groups in which he/she was eligible previously, the entries were illegal. The club would face a \$250 fine for the entries (a total of \$750) and if league records were set by Swimmer 'A' they would be disallowed.