

The National Arena Swimming League - West Midlands

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION AS AT 2026 A.G.M.

1. ORDER OF EVENTS The programme shall be as follows:

Event	Female/Open	Male	Event	Female/ Open	Male
1/2	16+	200m Individual Medley	27/28	10/11	50m Breaststroke
3/4	9/10/11	4x50m Freestyle Relay	29/30	12/13	100m Butterfly
5/6	12/13	4x50m Medley Relay	31/32	14/15	100m Freestyle
7/8	14/15	4x50m Freestyle Relay	33/34	16+	100m Breaststroke
9/10	16+	4x50m Medley Relay	35/36	10/11	50m Freestyle
11/12	10/11	50m Backstroke	37/38	12/13	100m Freestyle
13/14	12/13	100m Breaststroke	39/40	14/15	100m Breaststroke
15/16	14/15	100m Backstroke	41/42	16+	100m Freestyle
17/18	16+	100m Butterfly			
19/20	10/11	50m Butterfly	43/44	9/10/11	4x50m Medley Relay
21/22	12/13	100m Backstroke	45/46	12/13	4x50m Freestyle Relay
23/24	14/15	100m Butterfly	47/48	14/15	4x50 Medley Relay
25/26	16+	100m Backstroke	49/50	16+	4x50 Freestyle Relay
			51	Mixed Squadron Freestyle Relay 8 x 50 m one from each & Category of each group	

1.1. All events shall be swum under Swim England Laws and Regulations, and Swim England Technical Rules of Swimming

1.2. Conforming to The National Arena Swimming League constitution.

1.3. The team coach or chaperone may escort a swimmer to the start but must withdraw as soon as the swimmers come under the referee's control.

1.4. No club official shall be allowed at the end of the pool without specific authority of the referee.

1.5 The Female category is for birth sex females in accordance with Swim England's Transgender and Non-Binary Competition Policy. By entering the 'Female' category a swimmer confirms that their birth sex is female.

2. POINTS SYSTEM AND SCORING

2.1. Points scoring at galas for 8 teams 8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1 6 teams:- 6,5,4,3,2 1. Points scoring at galas for 5 teams:- 5,4,3,2,1

2.2. Points scoring for League tables for 30, 24, 18, teams:-

2.2.1. Round One. 8,7,6, 5,4,3,2 1 for 8 team gala 6,5,4,3,2,1 for 6 team galas 5,4,3,2,1 for 5 team gala

2.2.2. Round Two. 8,7,6, 5,4,3,2 1 for 8 team gala 6,5,4,3,2,1 for 6 team galas 5,4,3,2,1 for 5 team gala

2.2.3. Round Three: - top gala only. 16,14, 12, 10, 8,6,4,2. other Gala 8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1 (Premier and Division Two)

2.2.4 Round Three - top gala only. 20,18,16,14,12,10,8,6,4,2.

2.2.5 If any gala as team pull out or if gala not full (8 teams in premier and Division 2 or 5 in Division 3) then the gala points gained on the day of the gala will be divided by the number teams in their gala and multiplied by number teams from the other galas. (EG if Premier gala as 7 teams swim the points at gala recorded as 7,6,5,4,3,2,1 so if Team get 200 points we divided 200/7 then multiple by 8 so gala points 229.)

3. NUMBER OF SWIMS PER SWIMMER.

3.1. Swimmers 16 years and over who are eligible to swim in the 16+ event may swim three individual events.

3.2. Swimmers 15 years, 13 years, 11 years and under may swim in three individual events with a maximum of two events in their own age group and a maximum of one event in any age group above.

3.3. There are no restrictions in relay events, but you cannot swim below your age group

3.4. In the event of an infringement of 3.1 or 3.2 the team shall have all points gained by that deemed disqualified swimmer in that event deducted from the team's total gala points, plus 10 gala points deducted for each offence.

3.5 Event 51 – Each swimmer must be from correct age group (there no swimming up on this event)

4. COMPOSITION OF THE LEAGUE.

4.1. Premier Division 24 teams and Division Two 24 teams, the remaining teams shall be Division Three (12 teams Max)

4.2. In 2026 – The bottom 4 teams in the Premiers will be relegated to Division Two, bottom 4 teams in Division Two to Division 3

4.2.1 – In 2026 - Promotion Division 2 top 4 teams will be promoted to Premier division, the top 4 teams from Division 3 will be promoted to Division 2

4.2.2 – The Winners and Runners-up from Premier Division will be invited to National Finals weekend in Birmingham at Sandwell Pool to represent the West Midlands League (6th & 7th March 2027)

4.2.3 – If any team resigns from the league the team finishing 21st Place will be invited to take the place in the to try keep the numbers even in the higher division. (If more than one team resigns then then team in 22nd place will be asked to stay in the higher division)

4.3. Where a club has 2 or more teams in the league no swimmer from a higher rated team shall swim in the promotional finals for a lower rated team unless that swimmer has within the same season competed as a member of the lower rated team.

5. DRAW

5.1. The League shall run as follows for: - 24 Teams in Premier and Division Two 12 teams in Division Three

5.1.1. ROUND ONE the draw to be made at the A.G.M. between the teams to divide them into 3 groups 8 for Premier and Division 2 and 2 groups 5 for Division 3 (all representatives at the AGM to make the draw for the first round for all Divisions.)

5.1.2. ROUND TWO The gala points gained in the all galas of round one is used to decide the galas of round two in the following manner: -

PREMIER & Division Two

5.1.2.1. Gala 1. The team with the highest number of gala points plus the teams with the 4th, 7th, 10th, 13th, 16th 19th, and 22nd

5.1.2.2. Gala 2. The team with the second highest number of gala points plus the teams with the 5th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th, 20th and 23rd

5.1.2.3. Gala 3. The team with the third highest number of gala points plus the teams with the 6th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 18th, 21st and 24th

5.1.3.4. ROUND TWO ALL GALAS WILL BE SPEARHEADED.

DIVISION THREE

5.1.3.1. Gala 1. The team with the highest number of gala points plus the teams with the 3rd, 5th, 7th & 9th

5.1.3.2. Gala 2. The team with the second highest number of gala points plus the teams with the 4th, 6th, 8th & 10th

5.1.3.3. ROUND TWO ALL GALAS WILL BE SPEARHEADED.

5.1.5. ROUND THREE Premier Division & Division 2

5.1.5.1 – After Round 2 the Premier Division and Division Two the following bonus points will be added to the league points – Top 8 teams 10 bonus points, Position 9-16 will get 5 bonus points, the bottom 8 teams no bonus points.

5.1.5.2 With 24 teams are competing, the 8 teams with highest league points from round 1 & 2 if equal then team highest gala points from rounds 1 & 2 will go through to PREMIER LEAGUE FINAL

5.1.5.3. Gala 2. The teams who have league points in position 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th 15th and 16th position will compete against each other.

5.1.5.4. Gala 3. The teams who have league points in position 17th, 18th 19th 20th 21st 22nd 23rd and 24th position will compete against each other.

5.1.5.5. ROUND THREE ALL GALAS WILL BE SPEARHEADED

5.1.6 ROUND THREE (Division 3)

5.1.6.1 – After Round 2 the Division Three all teams will be added 10 bonus points

5.1.6.1 For 2026 all 10 ten teams will be invited to final at the 10 lane Sandwell pool being spearheaded from the league table after round 2

5.1.6.2 No gala 2 in 2026

6. COLLATION OF GALA RESULTS.

6.1. The delegate or appointed deputy of the hosting club shall email the result sheet to the appointed person on by 9.00 on Sunday following the gala.

6.2. The Secretary or appointed person shall notify the teams of their next venue at least 21 days before the next gala date. All teams to be informed by the Secretary of all results of every gala, as well as the League table positions after each round by posting all results and league tables on the National website.

6.2.1. When only two rounds of the competition can be completed: -

6.2.1.1. The results after these two rounds shall be declared the results for that year's competition and presentations, promotions and relegations shall be made accordingly except for the finalists of premier division.

6.2.1.2. The top eight teams of Premier division shall compete to complete the league table and determine the clubs to represent The National Swimming League West Midlands in The National Swimming League Cup Finals.

7. PLACINGS.

7.1. In the case of a dead heat in a race, both teams will receive the same points for the place they achieved. (e.g., if lanes 3 and 5 dead heat for 1st place in a six-team gala, both should receive 6 points, and the third place 4 points as usual. The points should not be averaged i.e., both receiving $5\frac{1}{2}$

7.2. To determine placings if teams tie on either gala points or league points: -

7.2.1. ROUND ONE The number of first places will be taken into account, then, if necessary, the number of second places and so on.

7.2.2. ROUND TWO The number of first places will be taken into account, then, if necessary, the number of second places and so on if two teams swimming in the same gala have equal points in that gala to determine the order of the result for that gala. If teams swimming in different galas have equal league points, then the total number of gala points from galas 1 and 2 will determine placings.

7.2.3. ROUND THREE The total number of gala points from galas 1, 2 and 3 will determine placings. In all cases, if there is a tie on total gala points, the number of first places will be taken into account, then, if necessary, the number of second places and so on