



**COMPETITIVE
SWIMMING**

2019/2020

**LEAGUE RULES
AND BY-LAWS**

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NORTHEAST OHIO YMCA COMPETITIVE SWIMMING & DIVING

I. NAME

Section 1 of 1

The name of the organization shall be known as the YMCA Of Central Ohio (YCO) Swim League.

II. PURPOSE

Section 1 of 1

The purpose of competitive swimming is to provide fair play (as according to the "YMCA of the USA Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports") boys and girls an opportunity to participate in competitive swimming, under conditions that will foster skillful aquatic ability, good fellowship, team and Branch loyalty, a finer appreciation of swimming for its own sake and not just for winning and sportsmanship of a high caliber on the part of spectators, as well as swimmers and officials.

III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 of 3

YMCA teams that are a part of the YMCA of Central Ohio shall be eligible for membership. All teams must satisfy the dual meet requirements, and participate in the League Championships.

Section 2 of 3

Coaches need to meet all Zone registration requirements and concussion training. In order for a coach to be present on the deck for League Championship meet, they must meet these requirements.

Section 3 of 3

Teams must register with head coaches' certifications on-line at www.ymcacompetitiveswim.org by no later than November 1st.

IV. MANAGEMENT

Section 1 of 2

The management and direction of the affairs of the League will be vested in an Executive/Advisory Committee composed of Executive Directors and the League officers. This committee shall have the power to enforce the Rules/By-Laws during the season and act on cases not covered in the Rules/By-Laws.

Section 2 of 2

The President shall be elected at the May meeting of the YCO Swim League meeting and shall hold office for two (2) years. The League Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by the Nominations Committee and approved by the branch Executive Directors or their designee.

Officer's Duties

President – Call League meetings, preside at same, review League rules each year and notify Branch of forfeiture or other misdemeanors.

Vice-President – Conduct meetings in absence of President and share duties with President. Acts as head of Championship Committee for League Championship Meet.

Secretary – Share duties with the President, keeps minutes of All League actions, collects team rosters and dual meet results.

Treasurer – Share duties with the President, handles the financial aspects of the League. (collects all team fees and pays all bills)

V. AMENDMENTS

Section 1 of 1

These Rules/By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Branch Executive Directors or their designees at the Fall or Spring Meeting. If passed, then the By-Laws will be amended prior to the start of the next season (Summer season for Spring meeting and Winter Season for Fall meeting). Majority needed to make amendments, with each Branch entitled to ONE (1) vote.

VI. MEETINGS

Section 1 of 4

A fall and spring meeting will be held each year. The time and place will be designated by the Swim League Officers. It is recommended the fall meeting be held either the last Saturday in September or the first Saturday in October but not required. The exact date for the fall meeting will be decided upon each year at the spring meeting. It is recommended that the spring meeting be held the first Saturday in May but not required. Additional meetings shall be called by the President of the League whenever necessary.

Section 2 of 4

Professional Directors must accompany coaches at League meetings. Only Professional Directors may vote on policy recommendations as the Executive Director's designee, not coaches. Failure to have a YMCA Professional at the meeting will result in a \$100.00 fine. Teams without YMCA Professional Directors at the meeting will not be eligible to vote.

Section 3 of 4

A coaching clinic to be held in combination with the League Meeting at the beginning of each season with required attendance by all League coaches is mandatory to participate in the League. If a coach is unable to attend, the Professional Director must attend in their place.

Section 4 of 4

Officials Certification Courses will be held periodically throughout the year and will be communicated through the Aquatics Professional at each branch.

VII. SWIMMERS

Section 1 of 2

A swimmer must be a full privilege member in good standing at The YMCA he/she represents. An ineligible swimmer, swimming for a YMCA, will forfeit any event points earned and meet scores will be adjusted accordingly.

Section 2 of 2

Each YMCA Branch must submit an Official League/Team Roster to the League Secretary PRIOR to December 1st for the winter season and May 1st for the summer season. This roster will include the following: (A) Name; (B) Age as of December 1st; (C) Date of birth; and (D) Date of membership expiration. New swimmers may be added at any time during the season, providing all eligibility rules are adhered to and that the swimmers' name, age, date of birth, and date of membership expiration are submitted to the League Secretary postmarked prior to the boy's/girl's first meet.

VIII. ELIGIBILITY

Section 1 of 2

The age limit shall be the same as in Regional competition. All ages are determined as of December 1st of the current year for the winter season and May 1st for the summer season: (A) 8 & under; (B) 10 & under; (C) 11 & 12; (D) 13 & 14; (E) 15 – 20 who have not represented any educational institute after the 12th grade, or participated in any Master's meet, or currently is on any swim team coaching staff, will be eligible to swim. All swimmers must swim in their respective age groups.

Section 2 of 2

Swimmers may be moved up one (1) age group to allow participation in a relay and will count towards their total number of allowed events. They may not be moved up to take the place of an older swimmer. This is to be done to enable the older swimmers a chance to compete even though the numbers do not allow for it.

IX. SCORING

Section 1 of 1

Scoring is optional at dual meets by the mutual consent of the coaches. Any given team may score only three (3) places in an individual event or two (2) places in a relay event irregardless of finish order. Scoring will be Relays: 11, 7, 3, and individuals 9, 4, 3, 2, 1.

X. ENTRIES AT MEETS

Section 1 of 2

All entries must be in the hands of the host team entries admin as soon as possible prior to the beginning of the meet. No changes can be made after the start of the meet, unless agreed upon by the Administrative Official and Meet Referee. Exhibition events may be scheduled at any time during the meet, if both teams agree. **The host Branch is responsible to send the HYTEK Meet Manager Result File, via email, to both the League Secretary and Results Chair and visiting team immediately following the meet.**

Section 2 of 2

In dual meets and tri meets, swimmers may participate in events not listed in their age group as an exhibition event which will not score. This exhibition event will count toward the swimmer's total number for that competition and should be indicated in the entries for that team.

XI. FACILITY

Section 1 of 3

Where starting blocks are provided, water depth must be a minimum of five (5) feet.

Section 2 of 3

It is the host team's responsibility to see that water clarity is of good quality, the day of the scheduled meet. If water clarity is not of good quality, the host must notify the visiting team and postpone the meet and/or ask the meet site be changed. Failure to notify the visiting team of such conditions will result in the host team to forfeit. If conditions should worsen, after the visiting team has arrived, the above rule will not apply and every effort should be made to conduct the meet safely. Good quality shall be defined as: under normal lighting conditions, ability to see the pool lines in lanes 2 or 3 in a four (4) lane pool or lanes 2 and 5 in a six lane pool. The vantage point from which

this is viewed must be from the edge of the pool where the water depth is 9 feet, on the side of the pool which lane you are observing.

Section 3 of 3

Lighting conditions should conform to USA standards of 100ft. candles. Every effort should be made to maintain this level.

XII. DUAL MEET SCHEDULE

Section 1 of 5

Coaches and Professional Staff shall determine each year's Inter-Branch meet schedule, at the designated time during the Spring meeting for the winter season and fall meeting for the summer season, using the Designated form on page 15 with prior approval by the Executive Director and with Executive's Signature on form.

Each team suggested to swim League teams to make three (3) to four (4) meets.

Section 2 of 5

Postponed meets will be re-scheduled on dates mutually agreed upon by the teams involved. Meets may be postponed only because of weather conditions, by permission of the League Executive Committee, or as stated in the facility section of these By-Laws.

Section 3 of 5

Visiting teams shall make the cancellation, in most cases, and must give the host team a reasonable length of time to notify their own team of cancellation. THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT MUST BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY OF THE RESCHEDULED DATE ONCE IT IS CONFIRMED BY BOTH TEAMS. Meets canceled due to weather count as positive meet attendance for qualifications for the League Championship meet.

Section 4 of 5

Each Branch is to visit each other on alternating years, if at all possible, in a systematic manner. When making the schedule, make-up dates should be taken into consideration.

Section 5 of 5

YCO Swim League meets will take preference over USA meets or other meets. Each Branch will handle this situation in their own manner.

XIII. MEETS

Section 1 of 16

All YCO Swim League Meets are governed by the current USA Swimming Technical Rules, except where special League rules are indicated.

Section 2 of 16

The host Branch is responsible to send the HYTEK Meet Manager Result File, via email, to both the League Secretary, Results Chair and visiting team immediately following the meet. It is no longer required to mail the tally sheet. A fine of \$100 will be issued to the host team if the results are not received after (1) week of the swim meet. Any team that has not turned in the results of all dual meets held at their home facility before the League Championship Meet entry due date will not be permitted to participate in the championship meet for that season.

Section 3 of 16

All teams in meets must make every effort possible to start and conduct meets with accuracy to time, and must conduct themselves in a manner fitting to uphold the purpose of the YCO Swim League.

Section 4 of 16

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their teams before, during, and after a swim meet.

Section 5 of 16

If in the opinion of the League Committee, a swimmer(s) is (are) responsible for damage to a facility at either a Dual, Invitational, or Championship Meet, the offending swimmer(s) lose all individual awards, and corresponding points will be removed from the team score.

Section 6 of 16

If a team cannot swim the official League events, either due to lack of swimmers or lack of time, then these events shall be forfeited by the team involved. Any team which fails to show up for a scheduled meet automatically forfeits the meet.

Section 7 of 16

All teams are required to have enough lifeguards on duty in order to maintain proper ratio, during warm-ups and during the meet.

Section 8 of 16

The duties of each official shall be carried out as described in the USA Swimming Technical Rules. Only certified officials are to be allowed to officiate in the following capacity at any YMCA Dual or Championship Meet: (A) Meet referee; (B) Starter; (C) Stroke and turn judge.

Section 9 of 16

Suggested minimum number of officials: Starter, referee, turn judges, four (4) or more timers, (three (3) timers are needed for record time plus should have at least one (1) watch on each lane), scorer, runner. Starter and referee may be the same individual. Host teams are responsible for all necessary personnel to conduct meets. If additional help is needed, they may request help from visiting teams. Clarification – If your team doesn't have an electronic timing system then each lane needs to have 3 timers and stop watches in place of the timing system.

Section 10 of 16

THE HOST TEAM MUST ASSURE THREE (3) FULLY CERTIFIED OFFICIALS SERVING IN THE OFFICIAL CAPACITY OF MEET REFEREE, STARTER AND STROKE AND TURN JUDGE, DURING THE MEET. Visiting teams have the right to furnish one (1) deck official to officiate in any capacity as: stroke and turn judge, starter or referee. Host has the right to assign this official to this duty. Coaches and Aquatics Professionals of the host team should communicate officiating needs as required to ensure smooth execution of the meet.

Section 11 of 16

Protests must be received by the League President postmarked within 48 hours after the meet and state the rule violation according to the League Rules and/or USA Swimming Technical Rules. NOTE: A protest on any judgment or decision on place, turn or strokes will not be considered. Failure to meet minimum standards in conducting a meet, as spelled out in the By-Laws, may be protested and may be grounds for forfeiture. All protests must be in writing on YMCA stationery and signed by a Professional staff member and sent to the League President within 48 hours of the meet, stating rules violated.

Section 12 of 16

The Executive Committee, as outlined in the By-Laws, shall act as the body to deal with protests. Recognizing that:

- A. The Executive Committee shall report its decision to the YCO Swim League Meeting
- B. Decisions of the Executive Committee will be considered final.

Section 13 of 16

Three (3) team (Tri-meets) meets will always be conducted as double Dual meets. Each team will be scored as if they were swimming a Dual meet with each team present. Example: Teams red, blue, and orange are scheduled to swim at team blue's pool on the same date (three (3) teams, one (1) pool). Teams shall be scored as a Dual meet, red vs. blue, red vs. orange, and blue vs. orange. Basically, three (3) meets are happening at the same time.

Section 14 of 16

USA Swimming false start rules will apply for all YCO Swim League meets.

Section 15 of 16

If the personnel are available, Dual confirmation for Relay take-offs will be used according to USA Swimming Technical Rules.

Section 16 of 16

When using in the water starts, for Relay take-offs, including 8 & under, all swimmers, with the exception of the lead-off swimmer, may be in motion when the preceding swimmer finishes. However, any swimmer whose body completely leaves contact with the wall before the previous swimmer on his/her relay finishes their leg of the race, that

relay team shall be disqualified. Example: Swimmers may be completely out-stretched with a toe touching the wall when the previous swimmer finishes the race.

XIV. CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Section 1 of 1

There will be a single Championship meet for all swimmers, on a date assigned by the League President.

XV. FINANCES

Section 1 of 3

Entry fees will be charged for League Championships. These will be determined by the meet committee and established as an aspect of the final meet packet. Additionally, a swimmer surcharge will be established to assist in covering the cost of facility rental.

Section 2 of 3

A League budget will be established from YCO GL lines outlining the cost and revenue for the championship meet. These will include, but are not limited to: awards, site rental, promotional material, heat sheet printing, volunteer gifts, hospitality costs, meet fees, time trials fees, swimmer surcharges, heat sheet sales, t-shirt sales, concessions sales etc.

Section 3 of 3

Fines imposed by the League to the member branches are subject to review by the League President.

XVI. ELIGIBILITY FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Section 1 of 2

To be eligible to swim in the League Championships, swimmers must have represented his/her local Branch in at **least a total of two (2) closed YMCA competitions inclusive of Dual Meets and/or Invitational Meets**. All of which must be contested on separate dates. To be eligible to swim in the Great Lakes Zone YMCA Championship, swimmers must have competed in a minimum of three (3) closed YMCA inter-association meets since September 1 of the current season. To be eligible to swim in the YMCA National Championship Meet, each swimmer must have competed in a minimum of three (3) closed YMCA inter-association meets plus one (1) sanctioned YMCA championship meet since September 1 of the current season. A sanctioned YMCA championship meet

may not be counted as both the sanctioned meet required and one of the inter-association meets required. The YMCA National Virtual Meet may be counted as one of the inter-association meets.

Section 2 of 2

A designated representative from each team (no coaches) must be present at the A.M. Session and P.M. session check-in meetings of the League Championship Meet to make sure the necessary volunteer positions are filled.

XVII. EVENTS

Section 1 of 1

In the Championship Meet the event order must remain the same, as proposed by the meet director, set prior to the date of the meet as a part of the meet packet.

XVIII. SCORING FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Section 1 of 1

Scoring at League Championships shall be for sixteen (16) places as follows:

Place #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Relay	40	34	32	30	28	26	24	22	18	14	12	10	8	6	4	2
Individual Event	20	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	9	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

XIX. AWARDS

Section 1 of 3

In the League Championships each event will be scored to eight (8) places with medals awarded to places one (1) to three (3) and ribbons to four (4) to eight (8).

Section 2 of 3

Banners for League Championships will be awarded to the top three (3) teams in the large team and the top three (3) teams in the small team division.

Section 3 of 3

The Championship committee shall determine large teams from small teams based upon USA Swimming

XX. LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT MEET RECORDS

The League Championship event meet records have been established for every event in the League Championship Meet. The event record **MUST** be achieved during the meet event and **CANNOT** be achieved as the lead off of a relay.

XXI. SPECIAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

Section 1 of 3

The Lead Official of the League Championships should make an attempt to secure officials from all branches, to officiate at the League Championship Meet, with the help of coaches and YMCA professionals.

Section 2 of 3

Dual confirmation of relay take-offs **MUST** be used for all League Championship Meets. This will be done by two (2) officials – one (1) on each side of the starting end. If personnel are available, Dual confirmation for relay take-offs will be used according to USA Technical Rules.

Section 3 of 3

The identity of each teams' status as a large or small team for the League Championship Meet will be determined by the number of swimmers identified on official rosters, that are turned in as a part of team registration and completed according to USA rules.

XXII. MISCELLANEOUS

Reminder: When officiating at swim meets, the YCO League has two (2) basic voices of authority:

- (1) Current USA Swimming Technical Rules
- (2) Current "League Rules & By-Laws" Booklet

General rules:

- (1) When there is a conflict, the League booklet takes precedence over USA Swimming Technical Rules.
- (2) There is **NEVER** a verbal change between seasons. We "live" with the rules until changes are approved for the next season.
- (3) The party challenging a call or rule is responsible for finding the written rule they believe supports their opinion.

General reminders:

YMCA of the USA Program Training Certification Courses for Swim Officials expire after 3 years

YMCA of Central Ohio Swim League Schedule

Winter _____ Season

Team Name _____

	Date	Meet Name	Location
Example: September	19th	HURY @ LTPY	HURY
September			
September			
September			
September			
October			
October			
October			
October			
November			
November			
November			
November			
December			
December			

December			
December			
January			
January			
January			
January			
February			
February			
February			
February			
March			
March			
March			
March			
April			

YMCA of Central Ohio Swim League Schedule

Summer _____ Season

Team Name _____

	Date	Meet Name	Location
Example: September	19th	HURY @ LTPY	HURY
May			
May			
May			
May			
June			
June			
June			
June			
July			
July			

YCO SWIM LEAGUE
PROXY FORM
APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I (We) Hereby appoint _____

(Name of proxy)

To represent and vote on behalf of

(Name of Association or YMCA)

At meetings of the YCO Swim League.

Date: _____

Signed: _____

(Executive Director of Branch / Association)

This proxy supersedes, replaces, and revokes any and all proxies heretofore given to any person or persons for the above purposes. The proxy is for a single purpose only and, therefore, is final, binding and non-revocable.

This form must be presented to the League President prior to the start of the League meeting.