

# GREATER CHARLOTTE SWIM LEAGUE BYLAWS

## 2018 Season

Revised April 2018

The purpose of the Greater Charlotte Swim League is to provide an opportunity for all eligible children of club members to participate in competitive swimming in a friendly, nurturing, recreational environment. To this end, it is the responsibility of each Team Representative to set the example and enforce the highest standards of good sportsmanship and hospitality for the clubs. In support of the GCSL guiding principal “let the kids swim”, each Team Representative is expected to know and understand the current GCSL bylaws and rules, and to ensure these bylaws and rules are communicated and understood by the coaches, parents and swimmers on their team. In addition, Team Representatives will exercise a positive flexibility and cooperative spirit in resolving inadvertent administrative mistakes and issues which may arise during the season. The success of these efforts will be the expansion of friendship and goodwill within the entire Greater Charlotte Swim League community, as well as some fun swim time for the kids.

## I. LEAGUE STRUCTURE

### *A. Teams and Divisions*

The league will be limited to a maximum of forty-nine teams, subdivided into seven divisions. Each division will have a minimum of five teams and maximum of eight teams. Teams will be assigned to a division based on their competitiveness and size, with the more competitive teams assigned to the lower divisions (i.e. Division I = most competitive division/teams).

With concern for traveling time to away swim meets, admittance into the league of teams outside of the general geographic area of the current teams will be considered on a case by case basis by the league board.

### *B. Division and Team Adjustments*

Team assignment to divisions will be adjusted after the conclusion of the prior season and prior to the start of the current season. Reassignments for the current season will be based on the previous season’s dual meet results as follows: the first place teams of each division will move to the next higher division (Division I excluded); the last place team in each division will move to the next lower division (Division VII excluded). In the event of a tie in dual meet results from the previous season, the previous season “head-to-head” meet between the two teams will be used as the tie-breaker. Total dual meet points for the previous season may be considered. The GCSL Executive Board reserves the right to move teams as it deems necessary for administrative reasons or to keep the divisions competitive.

## II. LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

### *A. Executive Board (Officers) and Board*

The GCSL Executive Board shall consist of the following Officer Positions: President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past-President, and all shall serve for one-season terms in these positions with the exception of the Treasurer and Secretary, who will serve for two season terms. Terms shall commence at the end of the season after the Fall Meeting and terminate at the end of the next season. All member-teams in the GCSL shall provide representatives to serve on the GCSL Executive Board on a rotating basis. The assignments to the GCSL Executive Board for the upcoming seasons are as follows:

OFFICER	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<i>President</i>	Brookhaven	Prov Down South	Bridgehampton	Brandon Oaks	The Reserve
<i>President-Elect</i>	Prov Down South	Bridgehampton	Brandon Oaks	The Reserve	Prov Downs
<i>Secretary</i>	Somerset	Somerset	Beverly Crest	Beverly Crest	Millbridge
<i>Treasurer</i>	Springfield	Foxcroft East	Foxcroft East	Windyrush	Windyrush
<i>Past-President</i>	Weddington	Brookhaven	Prov Down South	Bridgehampton	Brandon Oaks

The GCSL Executive Board shall meet as frequently as deemed necessary by the officers to conduct league business. The GCSL Executive Board shall be responsible for planning, organizing and executing all GCSL activities each season within the guidelines of the GCSL Bylaws using the officers' collective best judgment. Some of the GCSL Executive Board's duties will include: assignment of teams and divisions, scheduling dual meets, scheduling and organizing the Division All-Star meets, collection of and accounting for annual membership fees, evaluating new teams for membership, procurement and distribution of needed supplies, disbursement of GCSL funds for expenses incurred, evaluating and amending the GCSL Bylaws as needed, and scheduling, organizing and leading the annual Team Representative Meetings.

The GCSL Board shall be made up of the GCSL Executive Board as defined above, plus one Team Representative from each division to be called the Division Representative. The Division Representative will be agreed upon by the teams in the respective division, or appointed by the Executive Board if necessary, and will be responsible for representing their division on the GCSL Board when needed, especially with regard to evaluating decisions which the GCSL Executive Board shall make concerning rules, policies, procedures and activities of the GCSL. The Division Representatives shall also be responsible for assisting with league activities including but not limited to the following: acting as liaison between the Executive Board and the Team Representatives for a designated division, attending GCSL Board Meetings, arranging and maintaining contact with Team Representatives within the division, sending additional reminder notices and gathering RSVP for Spring and Fall GCSL League Meetings, collecting additional team contact information for additional meet administrative duties (names, emails, phone numbers, etc., which will serve to improve meet administration with regard to meet entries, volunteers, special need issues and so on), collecting and offering feedback on problems or concerns to be presented at GCSL Board Meetings, helping to distribute ribbons prior to season's start, collecting remaining ribbons at season's end, and helping with or providing a contact for software questions or problems.

#### *B. Team Representatives*

Each member-team in the GCSL will assign a *Team Representative* as their liaison with the league. The league representative is defined as a parent volunteer - not a coach or paid employee of the swim team. Each Team Representative shall be ultimately responsible for their team's compliance with the GCSL bylaws, rules and procedures in a timely and cooperative fashion throughout the season. The Team Representative is expected to know and understand the current GCSL bylaws and rules, and to ensure these bylaws and rules are communicated and understood and abided by the coaches, swimmers, workers and parents on their team. In addition, Team Representatives will exercise a positive flexibility and cooperative spirit in resolving inadvertent administrative mistakes and issues which may arise during the season. Mutual agreement between Team Representatives in a positive manner will be the primary and preferred method for resolving issues and/or disagreements which may arise during the course of the season. To this end, each Team Representative must be present at all meets. Team Representatives are responsible for making sure the meets run smoothly, and shall be available to resolve disputes. To this end it is recommended that Team Representatives not have specific assignments during meets that might limit their availability.

One of the primary duties of the Team Representative will be to communicate, and to receive communications and disburse them, so assigned Team Representatives must have regular access to e-mail since e-mail will be the primary method of communication for the GCSL.

Some of the Team Representative's duties will include: representation of their club and club members to the GCSL Executive Board (including suggestions for changes and improvements), attendance at the GCSL Team Representative Meetings, communication to the league as required (i.e. team rosters, insurance certificates, dual meet results, etc.), disbursement of league communications to coaches, workers, swimmers and parents, dual meet preparations in a timely fashion including paperwork and volunteer worker assignments, Division All-Star Meet preparations in a timely fashion including paperwork and volunteer worker assignments.

### *C. League Meetings*

Normally there will be three GCSL Team Representative Meetings each season. The Fall GCSL Team Representative Meeting shall be held to summarize the activity from the most previous summer season, update financial information and next summer's all-star meet information, as well as address any rule changes/issues for the upcoming season, and any other items as considered necessary. A Spring GCSL Team Representative Meeting shall be held to finalize team/division assignments and meet schedules and to discuss rule changes or other issues as necessary for the current season. A second Spring GCSL Team Representative Meeting will be held to provide a stroke clinic for Stroke & Turn Judges as well as Team Representatives, and to distribute ribbons and forms. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

### *D. Dues*

Dues for each season are **\$650.00** per club. This is subject to change. The league dues are used for the dual meet ribbons and league meet expenses such as the rent for the All-Star Meet facility, trophies, ribbons, forms and any miscellaneous expenses deemed by the GCSL Executive Board to be necessary. Annual dues are payable by December 15th. They are non-refundable to a club leaving the league. If any club desires to leave or join the Greater Charlotte Swim League, they must do so, in writing to the League President, by December 1st. If the league is dissolved by mutual consent, all clubs will divide treasury monies equally.

### *E. Insurance*

Each club is responsible for providing the GCSL President-Elect a current Certificate of Liability Insurance prior to the first meet. The Certificate must name the All-Star Meet Facility as a Certificate Holder, and must continue in effect through the date of the last Division All-Star Meet. Any club not providing this information will not be able to participate in the Division All-Star Meet. *NOTE: Each rep must check with the insurance agent to make certain that sporting events are included in their liability coverage!*

## **III. GENERAL**

### *A. Alcohol*

No alcoholic beverages shall be present in any of the swimming meet venues during the swimming meets. This should include selling, distributing or consuming of alcohol. It shall be the responsibility of the Home Team Representative to ensure compliance by his/her members and his/her club. It shall be the responsibility of the Away Team Representative to ensure compliance by his/her members. Team Reps shall be responsible for removing any intoxicating individuals from the premises. Any exception to the Alcohol policy must be submitted in writing and receive approval prior to the event by the GCSL Board.

#### IV. 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.

##### What that is:

“Good Standing” defined by full paying annual membership families or in some cases, full paying membership families, if approved by the Board of the neighborhood Homeowners’ Association (HOA). Summer memberships must allow summer members FULL access to all pool amenities of the club or HOA in order to be a valid membership. It is the decision of the Board HOA to allow out-of-town swimmers staying with a family in that club to be a member of the team.

##### What it is *not*:

There will be no guards or coaches swimming on the team who have 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 dues, or individual swim team memberships for swimmers under the age of 18. Memberships under any circumstances other than those described above must be reviewed by the GCSL Executive Board prior to the start of the season (first meet) to confirm swimmer eligibility. Swim Team only memberships are not deemed as valid memberships for GCSL eligibility.

Swimmers may not swim for more than one club in the Greater Charlotte Swim League in a given season. Combining of teams is not allowed unless express approval is granted by the GCSL Board. This will be ruled on a case by case basis.

##### *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 the start of the season (first meet), must be indicated on the roster, and once made, may not be reversed at a later date.

Eligible 6 & Under swimmers may swim in 8 & Under events other than the 8 & Under 25M Freestyle without aging up for the season.

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

<b><i>AGE GROUP</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></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 V-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 GCSL President by June 1<sup>st</sup> or prior to the first meet (whichever event occurs first) in the required format using Hy-tek Software. Any changes to the team roster must be e-mailed to the GCSL President. Additions to the team roster must be e-mailed to the GCSL 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 Division All-Star Meet at the end of the current season (Section VIII), 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 VII-G and VIII-F).

## **V. COMPETITION EVENTS**

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

1) 6 & Under Girls 25M Freestyle						
2) 6 & Under Boys 25M Freestyle						
3) 8 & Under Girls 100M Medley Relay	13) 8 & Under Girls 25M Freestyle	23) 8 & Under Girls 25M Backstroke		41) 8 & Under Girls 25M Breaststroke	51) 8 & Under Girls 25M Butterfly	61) 8 & Under Girls 100M Freestyle Relay
4) 8 & Under Boys 100M Medley Relay	14) 8 & Under Boys 25M Freestyle	24) 8 & Under Boys 25M Backstroke		42) 8 & Under Boys 25M Breaststroke	52) 8 & Under Boys 25M Butterfly	62) 8 & Under Boys 100M Freestyle Relay
5) 9-10 Girls 100M Medley Relay	15) 9-10 Girls 25M Freestyle	25) 9-10 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
6) 9-10 Boys 100M Medley Relay	16) 9-10 Boys 25M Freestyle	26) 9-10 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
7) 11-12 Girls 200M Medley Relay	17) 11-12 Girls 50M Freestyle	27) 11-12 Girls 50M 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
8) 11-12 Boys 200M Medley Relay	18) 11-12 Boys 50M Freestyle	28) 11-12 Boys 50M 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
9) 13-14 Girls 200M Medley Relay	19) 13-14 Girls 50M Freestyle	29) 13-14 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
10) 13-14 Boys 200M Medley Relay	20) 13-14 Boys 50M Freestyle	30) 13-14 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
11) 15-18 Girls 200M Medley Relay	21) 15-18 Girls 50M Freestyle	31) 15-18 Girls 50M Backstroke	39) 15-18 Girls 100M Individual Medley	49) 15-18 Girls 50M Breaststroke	59) 15-18 Girls 50M Butterfly	69) 15-18 Girls 200M Freestyle Relay
12) 15-18 Boys 200M Medley Relay	22) 15-18 Boys 50M Freestyle	32) 15-18 Boys 50M Backstroke	40) 15-18 Boys 100M Individual Medley	50) 15-18 Boys 50M Breaststroke	60) 15-18 Boys 50M Butterfly	70) 15-18 Boys 200M Freestyle Relay

The following pools are measured in yards, and the event distances stated in meters above shall be swum in yards during all meets held at these pools: Providence Plantation, Ballantyne, Rama, Brace Family YMCA, Fairmeadows, Providence Downs South, Thornhill and Beverly Crest. Note: Beverly Crest is a 30 yd pool, and the others are 25 yd pools.

## VI. RULES OF COMPETITION

### A. Governing Rules

The Greater Charlotte Swim League generally uses *USA Swimming Rules* as guidelines to govern starts, strokes, kicks, turns and finishes, unless otherwise defined.

### B. Meet Officials – Compliance with Rules of Competition

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. Periodically throughout the meet, the starter should also announce the events/swimmers that should be reporting to the clerk of course area in advance of their events. See also section VI-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. Each pair of Stroke & Turn Judges are responsible for one half of every lane closest to their end of the pool and

should be positioned with an unobstructed view of take offs and finishes/turns. 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 the All-Star Meets, GSCL will hire USA Swimming officials for judging (budget permitting), and there shall be between 4-6 Stroke & Turn Judges, who may walk the pool and have at least two judges stationed at each end of the pool as they determine is appropriate for them to have swimmers in full view during the event. 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 VI-E for specific and additional definitions of Stroke & Turn Judge Responsibilities.

Stroke & Turn Judges must complete a GCSL 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.

Any questionable swimmer disqualifications should be appealed to, and resolved by the Team Representatives. If agreement cannot be reached, the disqualification will stand as written.

*E. Greater Charlotte Swim League Specific Rules of Competition*

The following are rules which shall apply in GCSL competition, which may override or may be in addition to *USA 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.	<i>Starter</i> (Warn for first - DQ for second)
False Starts (Relay Take-Offs)	Feet/toes remain in contact with starting block until finishing swimmer touches wall.	<i>Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</i> (DQ)
Backstroke Race Starts and Turns	Following <i>USA Swimming Rules</i>	<i>Starter, Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</i> (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 <i>approximate</i> midpoint of the pool.	<i>Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</i> (DQ)
In pool start/Relay Starts	Swimmers starting in the water must have, in full view, the palm of one hand in contact with the wall or starting platform. In relay starts involving water starts, the team of the swimmer who has lost touch with the end of the course (the wall) before his/her preceding teammate touches the wall shall be disqualified, unless the swimmer in default returns to the original starting point on the wall.	<i>Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</i> (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 during the first and second dual meets. Prior to the first meet, each division will determine whether assistance in the 6 & under division may be continued after the second meet. NO CHILD USING ANY ASSISTANCE WILL RECEIVE PLACE RIBBONS.	<i>Starter</i> (Compliance prior to race start)/ <i>Stroke &amp; Turn Judges</i> (DQ violations after race start)

Swim Caps/ Swim Suits	<p>No caps or suits visibly representing year-round or school swimming programs shall be worn while competing in GCSL meets. Caps should be plain or GCSL team.</p> <p>Performance enhancing or High-tech swimsuits are no longer permitted for use at any GCSL competition, i.e. dual meet or All-Star Meet (i.e. LZR, Fastskin, Aquablade, Tracer, Fusion 2 ...). Swimmers shall be limited to one suit, which shall be constructed of a woven/knit textile material, permeable to water and air, constructed so as not to aid in buoyancy, and shall not contain zippers or other fastening systems. Simply put, this would generally refer to suits made only from nylon or Lycra that do not have a rubberized material such as polyurethane or neoprene. Male suits shall not extend above the waist or below the knees. Female suits shall not extend beyond the shoulders or below the knees.</p>	Starter (Compliance prior to race start)
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*F. 8 & Under Exception*

8 & Under swimmers will only be disqualified for stroke infractions during dual meets if those infractions are *BLATANT*. **BLATANT** is defined as an obvious infraction in which a swimmer gains an advantage. However, it is the responsibility of the coaches to observe their swimmers' strokes, and to correct and teach their swimmers to swim the strokes correctly. Normally swimmers will be held to a higher standard in the All-Star Meet.

*G. 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.

*H. Code of Conduct*

All swimmers, coaches, parents and spectators are expected to behave with good sportsmanship-like conduct. Any issues between swimmers, coaches, parents or spectators must be resolved by the visiting and Home Team reps. Team Representatives must take responsibility with parents to control and maintain behavioral issues especially as it relates to the safety of another individual. In the event of any safety issues that result in the physical harm to another individual, one or all participants shall be removed from the swim meet. In any event an individual is involved in a second related offense, they shall be removed for the remainder of the swim season. The GCSL Board must be notified in writing of any individual removed from a meet and/or the season for safety issues.

**VII. DUAL MEETS**

*A. Schedule*

Each team will swim every other team in their division. Every effort will be made to schedule the same number of dual meets for all teams in the GCSL regardless of division. Every effort will be made to schedule the same number of home meets for each team in the GCSL, and to schedule alternate home and away meets between teams from one season to the next. The GCSL Executive Board reserves the right to make



exceptions to the preceding when scheduling as it deems necessary for administrative reasons. The meet schedules will be posted on the GCSL website and distributed at the Spring Team Representative Meetings.

#### *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 8:30 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 get a fifteen (15) minute warm-up with the Home Team warming up first. The GCSL 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. End Times*

Any meets scheduled prior to the end of the school year for either the host or visiting team must be completed by 10 pm, unless otherwise agreed by both teams prior to the start of the meet. If all events have not been completed prior to 10 pm, the meet must be scored and a winner determined. Any meets scheduled after the end of the school year must be completed by 11 pm, unless otherwise agreed by both teams prior to the start of the meet.

#### *D. Facilities*

Club pools for dual meets shall 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 or the fifth lane may alternate home and away swimmers each heat. There may be two heats of the Individual Medley events in five-lane pools (Section VII-G).

All starts shall be at the deep end of the pool and diving blocks should be utilized for starts as long as the pool depth is 4 feet or more. However, any pool that does not have a minimum water depth of 4 feet at each end of the pool should utilize in-pool starts where the water depth is less than 4 feet. Swimmers starting in the water must have, in full view, at least the palm of one hand in contact with the wall or starting platform. The Home Team Rep and the Away Team Rep should agree prior to the start of the meet if in-pool starts are to be utilized. New teams joining the league after 2017 must have one end of their pool at least 4 feet in depth and should have diving blocks for starts. Any teams already in the league in 2017 which do not have a depth of 4 feet on one end (or don't have blocks) are grandfathered into the league.

All Home Team pools must have adequate lighting to complete a meet after dark to include underwater lights and/or overhead deck lighting. The Home Team pool must also provide adequate deck space to accommodate the visiting and home teams.

Pools shall have backstroke flags which must be fifteen (15) feet from each end of the pool.

The Home Teams should have a designated Clerk of Course area for the swimmers to line up prior to their events. Ideally the area would be on deck in close proximity to the diving blocks. Due to facility limitations, some pools may need to have this area outside the pool deck, but this should be in close proximity to the deck and in location that is safe and secure for the swimmers.

Pool equipment such as lifeguard stands, diving areas and separate pools will be off limits to all swimmers during meets for safety purposes.

Home Teams should have lifeguards on duty during the 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.

#### *E. 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. These materials include:

- Preprinted Lane Timer Sheets for each lane, with event/heat and swimmer information (home team) Alternatively, “Time Recorder” sheets if this position is used (home team).
- Meet Programs – minimum of 5 per team per meet (home team)
- Ribbons – Place Ribbons, Heat Winner Ribbons, “I did my best ribbons” (home team)
- Clipboards, pens, paper– (home team)
- Stopwatches – home team – one per lane plus two for Head Timer; away team- one per lane. If a plunger system is used by home team – then 2 plungers per lane, and one backup stopwatch per lane. (home team)
- Air horn/Starter System – 1 per meet for use by the starter (home team)
- Announcing system/speakers/megaphone/etc. – used to communicate event and heat info, other meet info. during the meet (home team)
- DQ slips – enough for each pair of Stroke & Turn Judges (home team)
- Tables & Seating – for computer operators and ribbon workers (home team)
- Computer, Printer, Calculator– (home team)
- Labels – for ribbons, enough to print out labels for all the place ribbons for each event (360 ribbons, min.) with extra supply in case reprinting is necessary
- Water/Drinks – for meet officials and workers (home team)

See separate “GCSL Dual Meet Organization” document for guidelines.

#### *F. 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 GCSL. The Home Team shall provide the Away Team with a Meet Entry file at least 48 hour prior to the meet date. The Away Team should then return their Meet Entries to the Home Team at least 24 hours prior to the meet start date. The Home Team will then add their swimmers to the entries and seed the meet in accordance with the league bylaws and will provide a reasonable number of the heat sheets (minimum of five) to the Away Team. See separate “GCSL 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 provide the Away Team with a Meet Results file and a Meet Score Report at the end of the meet, as well as carbon copies of any DQs for their team.

The Home Team shall retain all meet documents for dual meets for a period of thirty days after the completion of the Division All-Star Meet, and shall make requested documents available to the opposing team or the GCSL in a timely fashion. DUAL MEET RESULT SHEETS (SCORES ONLY) MUST BE EMAILED BY THE HOME TEAM TO THE SPECIFIED GSCL BOARD MEMBER WITHIN 24

## HOURS OF MEET COMPLETION.

### *G. 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.

Teams may enter only one relay team (“A” team) in each relay event. Upon agreement between Team Representatives, exhibition relays (“B” and/or “C” relays) may be entered in relay events. *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. Heat sheets must include relay alternates.

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 during the entirety of the meet.
- The eligible swimmer(s) who age up for a relay event are from the next lower age group.

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 IV.

### *H. 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. Note: There will generally be a Timers meeting approximately 15 minutes prior to the start of the meet. All timers should report to this meeting.

Each dual meet should have the following Officials:

- 1 Starter – home team
- 4 Stroke and Turn Judges - 2 per team
- 1 Head Timer – home team
- 2 (or 3) Lane Timers per lane (minimum of one per team per lane; if 3 timers are used, then ½ total per team – so 9 each team for a six lane pool)
- Timing Equipment Operators (as needed for pools with semi-automated systems) – home team

Other Meet Workers required at a dual meet include the following:

- 1 Head Clerk of Course – home team
- 2 Assistant Clerk of Course (minimum) – one per team at a minimum, recommend at least two per team
- 1 Computer Operator – home team

- 1 Assistant Computer Operator – away team
- 1 Runner – home team (optional alternative: Time Recorder/Runner, generally one from each team (Div 1))
- 2 Ribbons – one from each team

Home and Away Teams may have other optional volunteer positions as they consider necessary, such as concessions personnel, time recorder, additional clerk of course, heat ribbons person, event keepers, volunteer coordinators, etc. See separate “GCSL Dual Meet Organization” document for guidelines.

#### *I. Timing Personnel, Duties and Rules:*

The following timer positions should be at every meet. The Head Timer shall be supplied by the Home Team. The Lane Timers should be at least one per Team per lane. The Timing System Operator (if applicable) shall be supplied by the Home Team.

- Head Timer –

The Head Timer should hold a Timer meeting to explain timing procedures and proper operation of watches or plungers to all Lane Timers before the start of the meet. A Head Timer should start at least one (preferably two) manual stopwatches at the start of each race as a backup for any Lane Timer that has an issue with their semi-automatic or manual stopwatch. They should be ready to respond to any issues that a Lane Timer may have, and supply a backup time (or swap watches) for that lane.

- Lane Timers –

Lane Timers should operate either a manual stopwatch or button (plunger) to record the times of the swimmer in their lane. If applicable, one timer may operate both a stopwatch and plunger. There should be a minimum of one timer per team per lane (one Home Team timer and one Away Team timer).

Lane Timers should start their manual stopwatch as soon as they observe the visual signal (if applicable), or as soon as they hear the starting signal (such as an air horn). Note: They do not need to “start” when a plunger system is used. At the end of the race, Lane Timers should stand directly over their assigned lane in order to accurately view the touch and should stop the watch (or plunger) when any part of the swimmer’s body touches the wall.

If they have an issue with their stopwatch or plunger, or did not start the watch at the appropriate time, they should signal the Head Timer for the Head Timer to either switch watches with them, or finish timing that event.

The times should be recorded to the one hundredth of a second (for example: 34.23 seconds) on the timer sheets. The times may be recorded by one of the Timers, or by a Time Recorder position. Note: The Timer should record the time whether or not they believe there is a stroke infraction, as that is responsibility of the stroke judges to determine, not the timers. Timers should also indicate the appropriate swimmer’s name on the timer sheets if there are deck changes to swimmers. Alternatively, Clerk of Course workers can communicate deck changes to the Timer/Timer Recorder or Computer Operator.

- Timer Equipment Operator (if applicable) –

The Timing Equipment Operator (if applicable) shall be responsible for the semi-automatic timing equipment and shall advise both Team Reps of any system issues that might affect the accuracy of times. The Home Team should have stopwatches on hand for use in order to run a manual meet, if there is a mechanical issue which would make this necessary.

#### *J. Timing Systems*

Every race shall be timed with one or more of the following systems:

Semi- Automatic – A timing system activated by a starting device and stopped by a button (plunger) pushed by the timers at the end of a race. Note: Whenever a semi-automatic system is used, there must also be at

least one manual stopwatch time in case of malfunction of the system. Currently the only semi-automatic system that has been reviewed by the GCSL is Colorado Timing systems with an Infinity Automatic Start System.

Manual – A timing system consisting of Lane Timers operating a manual watch that is both started and stopped by the timer (as noted in Section VII, Section J). Only hand-held, battery-powered, digital read-out type watches designed for timing purposes shall be used.

#### K. *Official Times for Scoring*

The method of determining Official Times should be decided before the start of the meet and agreed upon by both Team Representatives (generally discussed by the Divisions at the Spring GCSL meeting), and includes the following options:

- (1) If three times are taken as the primary times, the intermediate button or watch time shall be the Official Time.
- (2) If two plungers or stopwatch times are taken as primary times, then the Official Time shall be average of the two times. Both times are entered into the meet management system and the average is calculated by the system. If plungers are used, and the Hytek system identifies the two plunger times as being significantly different (more than .3 seconds different), then the manual stopwatch may be used to verify any excessive discrepancies between the two plunger times. If there is a backup time that is within 0.3 seconds of one of two plunger times, then that closest plunger time will be used. If the backup time is more than 0.3 seconds to either plunger time, the stopwatch is used as the third time, as noted in (1) above.
- (3) If there was an error in timing, and only one time is available, then that time shall be used. However, if both Team Representatives agree to use an order of finish determination, then another appropriate time based upon an agreed upon order of finish could be used. This must be agreed to by both Representatives, or the single time is the Official Time.

#### L. *Approval Required Before Implementing New Timing Systems/Methods*

Before any team implements any new timing systems or methods of timing other than those noted in the bylaws, they must submit a request with supporting details and get approval from the GCSL Executive Board.

#### M. *Computer Systems*

The GCSL has implemented the Hytek Meet Manager program for the management of its dual meets. Each Home Team should have this program setup in accordance with our bylaws for scoring, order of events, etc. As noted in *F. Meet Documentation*, the Home Teams should send the Away Team the Event File for the meet as soon as possible, at least 48 hours in advance of the meet. Away Teams should then send the Home Team its Entry File at least 24 hours prior to the meet, or notify the Home Team of any delay.

It is the Home Team's responsibility to seed the meet in accordance with our guidelines (from fastest to slowest) in the lanes noted in *D. Facilities*. The related meet materials from the computer should be ready by the start of the meet, such as Timer Sheets and Meet Programs (see *E. Meet Materials*).

It is acceptable for a Home Team to combine events of a similar nature in order complete the meets in a more timely fashion (i.e. combining girl and boy events, if each event has less than 3 swimmers, for a combined total of 6 or less swimmers). The events being combined should be of the same stroke and distance so therefore, for example, it is not acceptable to combine a freestyle event with a backstroke event, or a 25m event with a 50m event. The Away Team should be notified of any combined events prior to the start of the meet.

Hytek provides a Team Manager program that integrates with Meet Manager and this is used by a majority of teams in the league, however, other programs may be used as long as they are compatible with Hytek (i.e. can accept Hytek Meet Events, and provide Meet Entries that can import into Hytek).

If a team would like to implement any Meet Management system other than Hytek, they should submit a request to the GSCL Executive Board and supply them with related supporting documents. Any change should be approved by the Executive Board prior to implementation.

#### *N. Computer and Other Workers*

Computer Operator - For each dual meet, there shall be a Computer Operator supplied by the Home Team who is familiar with the Hytek Meet Manager program. The Computer Operator is responsible for entering in swimmers' times from the timer sheets, identifying any issues if timers are consistently different from each other (notifying the Head Timer for he/she to research if this is a timer issue, or mechanical issue with stopwatch, etc.), enter in DQ information, adjust swimmer information if timer sheets/clerk of course area indicate "deck changes" in an event, score the meet, print out ribbon labels and other Meet Reports as necessary.

If a semi-automatic plunger system is used, then the computer operator will upload the times from the timing system and review the upload to ensure that there are two times per swimmer, that the uploaded times look reasonable compared to seed times, and investigate any discrepancies in times as noted in VII, K, and perform all other procedure as noted above.

Assistant Computer Operator - The Assistant Computer Operator is supplied by the Away Team and is there to assist with the entry of the times, usually reading off times from the timer sheets to the Computer Operator. He/she should ensure that the Operator enters all information accurately from the timer sheets and DQ slips. Also, he/she should assist the Computer Operator as needed to ensure the efficient running and scoring of the meet.

If a semi-automated system is used, then the Assistant Computer Operator will review the uploaded times, ensuring that two times upload per swimmer and match up with swimmers, that they appear reasonable (fall in line with seed times) and assist in investigating any discrepancies and obtaining back up stopwatch times as necessary, as noted in VII, K. All other duties will remain the same.

Note: The resolution of any timing discrepancy will be solved by joint agreement between the Computer Operator and the Assistant Operator based on the timing procedures noted above (or by agreement of the two team reps). This will determine the official time.

Runners – The Home Team shall supply a Runner who is responsible for collecting the timer sheets from the timers and bringing them to the computer operator. The Runner shall also collect any DQ slips from Stroke & Turn Judges and also provide them to the computer operator. Alternatively, some teams/divisions may elect to have a Time Recorder (at least one from the home team, or one per team) to obtain the time per lane and also to document deck changes, and provide this information to the Computer Operator.

Clerk of Course – There shall be at least one Head Clerk of Course from the Home Team, and at least one Assistant Clerk of Course personnel from each team (ideally, at least two per team is recommended) to assist with lining up their swimmers. The Clerk of Course personnel shall be provided with a list of the names of all swimmers in all events including relay swimmers in the order in which they will swim. The Clerk of Course are used to organize swimmers and escort them to the blocks for their assigned heats. Deck changes should be kept to a minimum during a meet, however, it is acceptable to adjust swimmers to ensure that a swimmer does not have to swim an event alone. Any deck changes to swimmers should be documented on the timer sheets. Alternatively, changes can be communicated to a Time Recorder (if applicable) or the Computer Operator directly from Clerk of Course position.

Ribbons Worker – Each team shall provide a person to assist in placing ribbon labels on the proper place ribbon, and sorting the ribbons by team.

*O. 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. 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.

*P. Awards*

DUAL MEET RIBBONS: Ribbons shall be awarded in all individual events, including 6 & Under Freestyle, to the First Place through Fourth 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:

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

DUAL MEET CHAMPIONS: A Dual Meet Champion trophy for each division shall rotate to the Dual Meet Champion of each division 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 Division All-Star Meet, and shall remain with the Dual Meet Champion until the following season Division 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.

*Q. 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 45 minutes and a maximum of 60 minutes* prior to being called. The team representatives can elect to delay a meet longer than this, if they are both in agreement. 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 Away 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 delay between 45-60 minutes is allowed before the meet is called. If both team representatives agree, they can elect to delay a meet longer. 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 may be considered complete and if so 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. 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. It is the responsibility of the Home Team league representative to update entries and seeding in their Meet Management system based on the adjustments provided by Away Team representative (either through a new meet entry file or written/verbal changes), and to prepare new heat sheets for the remainder of the rescheduled meet.

#### *R. 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 GCSL Executive Board to review "written protests" of any disputed matters. The written protests should be sent to the GCSL President.

### **VIII. ALL-STAR CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS**

#### *A. Schedule*

Each team will swim in a Division All-Star Championship Meet against all other teams in their division. The All-Star Championship Meet will be held after the completion of the dual meets. The Division All-Star Meets shall be scheduled by the GCSL Executive Board. This schedule will be distributed to the Team Representatives at the Spring Team Representative Meeting, at the latest. Each year the schedule shall be determined by each Division moving back one session from the previous season. For example, the Division swimming on Monday in the current year will rotate and swim in the Sunday night session in the following year.

#### *B. Facilities*

The All-Star Championship Meets will be held at a suitable facility as selected by the GCSL Executive Board. Areas shall 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*

Each Division and Team will receive a list of materials and volunteer positions that are assigned to their teams prior to the start of their All-Star Meet date. 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 GCSL. Teams should bring stopwatches for their head/lane timer assignments. The GCSL board will provide general materials such as clipboards, pens, paper, labels, heat sheets, ribbons, medals, DQ slips, etc.

#### *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 GCSL. Meet Entry files will be sent to each team at least 72 hours before their All-Star Meet date, and are required to be returned on the requested date (which will vary by division depending on their meet date). Then an Entry Report will be returned to each team for their review, and a Psych sheet. All teams should review these and any other reports, and any issues should be communicated back in a timely manner in order to make appropriate corrections prior to the All-Star Meet date. The Meet Heat sheets will be available at the All-Star Meet. After the conclusion of the meet, each team will receive a Meet Results report for their All-Star Meet. Also, a DQ report will be sent to each team documenting their teams DQs.

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 IV.

#### *F. Swimmer Entries*

In the Division 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 IV-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 during the entirety of the meet.
- The eligible swimmer(s) who age up for a relay event are from the next lower age group, and have not aged up for any other relay event during the meet.

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 IV.

### *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. Each division and team will receive a list of their assigned volunteer duties at the All-Star Meet. These will include positions such as: Head Timer, Lane Timers, Clerk of Course, Ribbon Worker, Runner, Water Bottles and Distribution, and potentially a Door Monitor. All Meet Officials and Workers should sign-in and will meet one-half hour prior to the starting time of the meet. For All-Stars (budget permitting), the GCSL will hire meet management personnel, including USA swimming officials for Stroke & Turn Judges, as well as a starter, a timing system operator, and computer operator positions.

### *H. Timing Personnel, Duties and Rules*

The timing personnel shall have similar duties to those indicated in Section VII, I, except that various teams within the Division will hold the position of Head Timer and Lane Timer based on a rotating volunteer schedule for the all-star meets. The Timing System Operator will either be supplied by the all-star facility and/or hired by the league.

### *I. Timing Systems*

The type of timing system will vary based on the facility however, it will generally be either a fully automated system, which is activated by the starting device and stopped at the finish by the swimmer touching a pad, or semi-automated system (as described in Section VII, J).

### *J. Official Times for Scoring*

The method for determining Official Times will generally be: If an automated system is used, that the pad time will be the official time. If a malfunction is considered to have occurred (either electronic issue, or swimmer incorrectly touching the pad) then the back-up plunger times and/or watch times will be used in a method that is consistent with the methods in Section VII, J. Procedures may vary from year to year based upon the facility and its related timing system capabilities. The meet officials (hired by the GCSL) and the GCSL executive board will determine the appropriate method to use for any malfunction based on our bylaws and generally accepted practices under *USA Swimming* guidelines.

### *K. Scoring*

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (First Place through Fifteenth Place): 17:15:14:12:11:10:9:8:7:6:5:4:3:2:1

RELAY EVENTS (First Place through Eighth Place): 34:30:28:24:22:20:18:16

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.

### *L. 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: An All-Star Meet Champion trophy for each division shall rotate to the All-Star Meet Champion of each division. The All-Star Meet Champion trophy shall be presented to the current season All-Star Meet Champion at the conclusion the Division All-Star Meet, and shall remain with the All-Star Meet Champion until the following season Division All-Star Meet. To this end, previous season All-Star Meet Champions shall bring the rotating trophy to the Division 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 for each division shall be voted on by the Team Representatives in that division, and shall be awarded at the conclusion of their All-Star Meet.

#### *M. 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 GCSL Executive Board to resolve “written protests” of the disputed matter. The written protest(s) should be sent to the GCSL President within 48 hours of the conclusion of the All-Star Meet.

#### **VIV. COMPLIANCE**

Compliance with the bylaws as stated is expected of all teams in the league. Non-compliance will be addressed by the GCSL board, with consequences which could include warnings, reprimands, loss of a disputed meet, and could be up to and including expulsion from the league if considered appropriate.

Team representatives may request a change in a bylaw in writing and that request will be considered by the board in a timely manner.