

GREENWICH ROYALS SWIMMING CLUB

BY-LAWS

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1 The Committee

- 1.1 Committee members will be deemed to have resigned from the Committee if they fail to attend three consecutive meetings without explanation or the submission of 'Apologies' to the Secretary in advance of the meetings. Any person so deemed to have resigned will not be eligible for election at the next Annual General Meeting.
- 1.2 The Club's Head Coach and other Coaches may be required to attend Committee meetings as appropriate, but without the power to vote.

2 Club and Team Captains

- 2.1 The Committee may elect a Club Captain from among its Ordinary members for a period it sees fit and to be reviewed annually, if the period is longer. In doing so, the Committee shall have regard to the views of relevant Club officials, including but not limited to, the Club's Head Coach, other coaching staff and Gala managers. The Club Captain may be required to attend Committee meetings as appropriate, but without the power to vote. The Committee may elect a Vice Club Captain(s) from among its ordinary members for a period it sees fit.
- 2.2 The Committee shall nominate candidates from among Ordinary members for election as Team Captain(s). In doing so, the Committee shall have regard to the views of relevant Club officials, including but not limited to, the Club's Head Coach, other coaching staff, existing Team Captains and Gala managers. All such nominated members shall stand for election if they agree. Only ordinary members can vote for a Team Captain(s) and unless otherwise determined by the Committee, such election shall take place annually prior to the commencement of the new swimming season. The Committee shall determine the number of Team Captains and may elect a Vice Team Captain(s) from those nominated to stand as election as a Team Captain.

3 Membership

- 3.1 Membership is open to any person regardless of, for example, their gender, age, ethnic origin, religion, disability, political persuasion or sexual orientation.
- 3.2 There are five categories of membership:
 - (a) **Ordinary** - swimmers capable of passing a prescribed test.

- (b) **Honorary** - a President or Vice President(s) of the Club or any other person elected by the Committee. Honorary membership may be for life or for a shorter period, as the Committee deems appropriate. The Committee shall review from time to time, those elected as Honorary members and may remove or vary the period of membership as it thinks fit. A permanent register of Honorary members will be maintained by the Membership Secretary.
- (c) **Reward** - generally those who have reached their 17th birthday; have been Ordinary members continuously for at least five years* and who have given outstanding service to the Club may be considered eligible for free membership whilst at college or university.

Election for 'Reward' membership shall be at the sole discretion of the Committee and the Committee shall review from time to time those elected as Reward members and may remove or vary the period of membership as it thinks fit.

- (d) **Official** - all persons who assist in any way with the Club's activities. This is a non-swimming category of membership.
- (e) **Parents, Guardians and Carers** - all parents, guardians or carers of ordinary members of the Club who do not hold ordinary membership themselves. This is a non-swimming category of membership.

- 3.3 For the avoidance of doubt, any person entitled to vote may only do so once, regardless of how many other memberships may be held by that individual.
- 3.4 Members should be aware that the Club does not accept responsibility for any personal article or property which may be lost in, or taken from, training sessions or any place where the Club is holding a competition, exhibition, entertainment or other activity. Club equipment must be used only in the presence of a Club officer or authorised Club member. In the event of any damage caused by misuse of Club equipment the offender shall be responsible for the cost of repair.

4 Joining fees and subscriptions

Joining fees

- 4.1 Each person wishing to become an Ordinary member, who has not been an Ordinary member of the Club during the 90 days prior to the date of the application, shall pay a joining fee, as determined by the committee from time to time.
- 4.2 Each parent, guardian or carer of an Ordinary member wishing to become a Parent, Guardian and carer member shall pay an annual membership fee, as determined by the committee from time to time and unless otherwise determined by the

Committee membership shall remain valid in concurrence with the relevant Ordinary member.

Subscriptions

- 4.3 The subscriptions for Ordinary members shall be determined by the Committee and communicated to members and Parents/Guardians from time to time, including via the Club’s website or upon request from Committee.
- (a) In the event that three family members are Ordinary members, a reduction in the subscriptions applicable to the third Ordinary member may apply. The applicable reduction and other qualifying conditions shall be at the Committee’s discretion. There shall be no further discounts for additional family members.
- (b) Ordinary members are ordinarily required to pay their subscriptions monthly by Direct Debit as determined by the Committee.
- 4.4 There shall be no subscriptions for other categories of members.

5 Discipline

- 5.1 In handling internal disputes the Club shall have regard to Swim England’s “Guidelines for handling internal club disputes” as set out in Annex 3 of the “Annexes to the Model Club Constitution” (or in the event this document has been superseded, the most recent revision or reissue published by Swim England). In particular the Committee shall ensure:
- (a) all parties are treated fairly;
- (b) the complainant has the opportunity to present their case; and
- (c) the accused has the opportunity to respond.
- 5.2 If a disciplinary tribunal is deemed necessary the Committee shall have the power to decide its composition. In so deciding the Committee shall ensure that the panel does not contain any member or parent of any member involved in the dispute and shall consider whether any individuals from outside the club should sit on the panel.

6 Club Championships

- 6.1 Only those members who are fully paid up and have been a member for at least 31 days are eligible to compete in the Club’s Championships. In the event that the Club’s Championships are held over a series of dates, eligibility shall be determined using the earliest date of the Championships.

- 6.2 The Championships to be decided for boys and girls shall be from the events listed in Table 1.

Table 1

	Backstroke	Breaststroke	Butterfly	Freestyle	Individual Medley
All	50m	50m	50m	50m	
All	100m	100m	100m	100m	100m
All				200m	200m

- 6.3 Entrance fees for events for the Club Championships are not refundable if the swimmer is not able to swim or chooses not to swim.
- 6.4 A swimmer's age to determine their eligibility for the Club Championships shall be their age at the 31st of December in the year during which the Club Championships are held.
- 6.5 The Club Championships will be swum in the following age bands: 9/10yrs, 11yrs, 12/13yrs, 14/15yrs, and 16yrs+.
- 6.6 Swimmers are not allowed to compete in events outside their age group.

7 Club Gala for Learn-to-Swim members

- 7.1 Only fully paid-up members of Greenwich Royals Swimming Club who are in the Learn-to-Swim section of the club (Stage 4 and above), who have been a member for at least 31 days and are able to swim competently at least one length in the stroke(s) they wish to compete in are eligible to compete in the Club's Learn-to-Swim Gala.
- 7.2 The Gala to be decided for boys and girls shall be from the events listed in Table 2.
- 7.3 Entrance fees for events for the Learn-to-Swim Gala are not refundable if the swimmer is not able to swim or chooses not to swim.

Table 2

Backstroke	Breaststroke	Butterfly	Freestyle	Individual Medley
25m	25m	25m	25m	75m
			100m	<i>(Back, Breast & Free)</i>

8 Club records

- 8.1 Club records may be set in any recognised competition or trial held under Swim England laws and technical rules and approved by current Swim England officials.
- 8.2 Junior records may be obtained only by those under the age of 15 on the day of the swim.