



Constitution

With effect from June 2018

The word 'Club' in the following Rules shall be held to include all bodies and leagues affiliated to the Association. Words imparting the masculine gender shall include the feminine. Words of the plural number shall include the singular, and words of the singular number shall include the plural. Where any reference is made to Region(s) it shall be deemed to include a reference to both London Swimming and Swim England South East regions. The term 'swimmer' shall include diver, synchronised swimmer and water polo player unless the context indicates to the contrary

1. Name

The Association shall be called the **Kent County Amateur Swimming Association** ('the Association').

2. Composition

- 2.1 The Association shall consist of two Sub-Associations, Kent London Swimming Association (KLSA) and Kent Rural Swimming Association (KRSA).
- 2.2 KLSA shall be comprised of all affiliated clubs promoting swimming, diving, open water, synchronised swimming and water polo with their headquarters in the London Boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Lewisham and the Royal Borough of Greenwich.
- 2.3 KRSA shall be comprised of all affiliated clubs promoting swimming, diving, open water, synchronised swimming and water polo with their headquarters in the area covered by Kent County Council and the Unitary Authority of Medway.
- 2.4 The Association may have Honorary Life Members, who shall be members of an affiliated club.

3. Aims, Objects and Responsibilities

- 3.1 The aims of the Association shall be to:
 - 3.1.1 Promote and manage the development of swimming, diving, open water, synchronised swimming and water polo
 - 3.1.2 Carry out the aims and objects of the Regions as required, within its jurisdiction
 - 3.1.3 Obey and enforce the laws, rules, resolutions and rulings of the Amateur Swimming Association (Swim England) Ltd ('Swim England') and the Regions
 - 3.1.4 Produce, develop and implement policies to carry out other activities relevant to the Association
 - 3.1.5 Raise public awareness of the sport and stimulate public opinion in favour of providing suitable facilities and accommodation
- 3.2 In furtherance of the aims of the Association the following points shall be observed:
 - 3.2.1 The Association is committed to treat everyone equally within the context of its activity. This shall be, for example, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, religion, disability or political persuasion, or on any grounds as set out in the Swim England Equal Opportunities Policy
 - 3.2.2 All competing members shall be eligible competitors as defined in Swim England Law and Technical Rules, shall be members of the Association and shall have paid the relevant Swim England membership fee.
 - 3.2.3 All persons, clubs, associations, organisations and leagues allocated to the Association shall consent to be bound by the Swim England Laws relating to child safeguarding procedures and those parts of the Swim England Judicial Regulations and procedures necessary for their implementation and shall, when engaged in activities under the jurisdiction of the Association, be subject to the constraints and privileges of the Swim England Judicial Regulations

- 3.3 Kent London SA shall be affiliated to London Swimming Region and Kent Rural SA shall be affiliated to Swim England South East Region, and shall adopt and conform to the Rules of the Regions and to such other bodies as the Association may determine from time to time.
- 3.4 The business and affairs of the County Association shall at all times be conducted in accordance with the Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Rules of Swim England and in particular to promote the aquatic disciplines of swimming, diving, open water, synchronised swimming and water polo through the implementation of a County Development Plan
- 3.5 By virtue of the affiliation of the Association to the Regions, all members of the Association acknowledge that its clubs are subject to the laws, rules and constitutions of:
 - 3.5.1 The relevant Swim England Region
 - 3.5.2 Swim England (to include the Swim England Code of Ethics)
 - 3.5.3 British Swimming (to include in particular its doping control rules and protocols, and disciplinary code)
 - 3.5.4 Fédération Internationale de Natation (FINA), the world governing body for the sport of swimming in all its disciplines (together 'the Governing Body Rules')
- 3.6 In the event that there shall be any conflict between any rule or bye-law of the Association and any of the Governing Body Rules then the relevant Governing Body Rule shall prevail
- 3.7 The Association shall:
 - 3.7.1 Be responsible for managing the aquatic disciplines within its boundaries subject to the strategic direction of the Region
 - 3.7.2 Observe, obey and enforce the Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Rules of Swim England and the Regions within its jurisdiction; follow and implement the resolutions and rulings of Swim England Boards, Swim England Council, the Regional Councils and the Regional Management Boards
 - 3.7.3 Be accountable to the Swim England London and Swim England South East regions for the proper discharge of its duties and functions
 - 3.7.4 Produce, maintain and implement such plans based on strategic criteria set by Swim England and the Swim England Regions and in such form as Swim England and the Swim England Regions may from time to time require
 - 3.7.5 Make available to the Regions such information and reports as they may require and in a format specified by the Regions
 - 3.7.6 Elect the required number of delegates to the Swim England Regional Council Meetings and any Special Council Meetings
 - 3.7.7 Produce Constitutional Rules for the Association and operate on the basis of a standard constitution appropriate for a County Association which may be issued and reviewed from time to time by Swim England and the Swim England Regions

4. Affiliations

Clubs shall affiliate/re-affiliate to the Region in which their headquarters (main training venue) are located. No club shall be entitled to membership of more than one County Association.

5. Council of Kent County ASA

- 5.1 The composition of the Council shall be: the President, Vice President, Past Presidents, Honorary Life Members, the Officers listed in Rule 8, the Managers etc listed in Rule 8 and delegates from affiliated clubs on the following basis:
 - 1 delegate from clubs with up to 50 members
 - 2 delegates from clubs with between 51 and 200 members
 - 3 delegates from clubs with over 200 members
 - 1 delegate from other affiliated bodies

A delegate is entitled to one vote only, no matter how many clubs he may represent. Honorary Secretaries of affiliated clubs are responsible for distributing Agendas and Attendance/Voting Papers to the duly elected delegates representing their clubs.

- 5.2 The AGM of the Council shall be held between 15th May and 20th June each year at such time and place as the Management Committee shall decide. The President, the Vice President, the Past Presidents, the Honorary Life Members, the Officers, Managers and Clubs shall be given, in writing, 14 days clear notice of the date, time and venue of meeting, together with an Agenda, copies of the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts and a list of nominees for Officers and the Management Committee for the following year.
- 5.3 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:
 - 5.3.1 To consider and, if approved, adopt the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts
 - 5.3.2 To consider and, if approved, adopt proposals for the alteration, addition to or deletion from the Rules of the Association
 - 5.3.3 To appoint the President, the Vice President, any additional Honorary Life Members, the Officers and Management Committee for the ensuing year
 - 5.3.4 To appoint an independent examiner, who shall not be a member of the Management Committee
 - 5.3.5 To consider any motions of which due notice has been given
- 5.4 The President and Vice President for the subsequent year shall be nominated by the Management Committee on the advice of Past Presidents, which shall be obtained before the Annual Council Meeting each year. The Vice President shall, wherever possible substitute for the President at functions, etc if the President is not available.
- 5.5 Additional Honorary Life members may be nominated by the Management Committee on the advice of the Past Presidents.
- 5.6 Nominations for Officers and elected members of the Management Committee shall be made in writing on the form provided for the purpose, which shall be signed by the proposer and seconder, and counter-signed by the nominee, all of whom shall be members of clubs affiliated to the Association. Nominations shall reach the General Secretary not later than midnight on 15th May immediately prior to the meeting.
- 5.7 Notices of motions for changes to, additions to or deletions from the Rules of the Association and of any other motions to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be made, in writing, to reach the General Secretary by midnight on 15th May immediately prior to the meeting.

A notice of motion may be made by and in the names of members of the Council, who shall propose and second it, or in the name of the Management Committee or any of the standing committees by the secretary of the proposing committee, in which case it shall be proposed and seconded by members of the committee.
- 5.8 The election of the Officers and members of the Management Committee shall be by ballot. In the event of equality of votes between two or more candidates, the President shall have one or more casting votes. A ballot paper bearing votes for more than the number of candidates to be voted for shall be invalid and excluded from the ballot. Any member of the Council who is unable to attend the meeting shall have the right to vote by post. His ballot paper, together with the Attendance/Voting paper shall reach the General Secretary in an inner sealed envelope at least two days before the date of the meeting.
- 5.9 Voting on Notices of Motions shall be by show of order papers. A proposal to change, add to or delete from the Rules of the Association shall require approval by at least two-thirds of those voting.
- 5.10 A special meeting of the Council shall be called:
 - 5.10.1 By resolution of the Management Committee
 - 5.10.2 Upon receipt by the General Secretary of a written request signed by not less than six delegates representing six different clubs. The resolution or requisition shall state the business for which the meeting is to be called and no other business shall be transacted. The meeting shall be called within six weeks of the date of the resolution or receipt of the requisition. The President, the Vice President, the Past Presidents,

the Honorary Life members, the Officers and Clubs shall be given, in writing, 14 days' clear notice of the date, time and venue of meeting, together with an agenda.

5.11 Procedure at Council Meetings shall be in accordance with Rule 5 and thereafter in accordance with Swim England Law governing procedure at Swim England Council Meetings.

5.12 The quorum at an Annual Council Meeting or Special Council Meeting called under Rule 5.10 shall be twenty (20) members of the Association as identified in Rule 5.1.

6. Rules

6.1 The Rules of the Association may only be changed, added to or deleted at an Annual Council Meeting (ACM) or at a Special Council Meeting called for the purpose except that where these Rules are affected by changes in the Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Rules of the ASA. It shall be the duty of the Management Committee to make them conform to these changes at the earliest possible opportunity.

6.2 The conditions for the County Championships and the procedure for claiming records may only be altered by a majority of those present and voting following receipt by the Management Committee of a properly minuted and detailed proposal from the relevant technical Committee. The General Secretary shall maintain an up-to-date copy of the General Championship Conditions. Technical Managers shall maintain an up-to-date copy of the Championship Conditions relevant to their discipline. The Conditions shall be made available upon request by a club or by a member of a club affiliated through the Regions to the Association. The conditions for Championships and Records as at 1st January each year shall be those published in the Handbook for that year.

7. Management Committee

7.1 The management of the Association shall be vested in a Management Committee ('the Committee') consisting of the President, Vice President, Chairman, General Secretary, the two Sub-Association Secretaries, Treasurer and Trustee, and eight (8) members. Three (3) of these members shall be from KLSA clubs and five (5) of these members shall be from KRSA clubs. The Development Co-ordinator shall be an appointed member of the Committee with the power to speak and vote.

The Chairman, or whoever else is selected by the Committee in his absence, shall take the chair.

7.2 Eight (8) members shall form a quorum.

7.3 Notice of meetings with an agenda stating the venue and time for the meeting shall be sent to all members to be received at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

7.4 The Committee shall keep minutes of its proceedings and shall furnish to Swim England London Region or Swim England South East Region (as appropriate) such information as it may from time to time require.

7.5 The Committee shall exercise control over the funds of the Association. It shall prepare a Report and Statement of Accounts of each year's activities and submit them to the ACM.

7.6 The Committee shall enforce the observance of Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Rules of the Swim England and the rules of Swim England London Region or Swim England South East Region (as appropriate) and of the Association.

7.7 The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur.

7.8 The Committee shall appoint from its number a Liaison to each of the technical committees, who shall support that committee in its aims and objectives with the power to speak and to vote

7.9 The Committee shall oversee the proceedings of the standing committees, issuing such directions as it thinks fit and shall approve or refer their minutes.

7.10 The Committee may appoint, and subsequently discharge, any sub-committee or working party.

7.11 At the ACM, the Committee shall nominate to the Council the President and Vice President for the ensuing year and any additional Honorary Life members. This shall be on the advice of Past Presidents as provided for in Rules 5.4 and 5.5.

7.12 The Committee shall decide any matter not provided for in Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Rules of Swim England,

the Rules of Swim England London Region or Swim England South East Region (as appropriate) or the Rules of the Association, subject to confirmation at the next Council meeting.

7.13 The Committee shall ensure that full and accurate minutes of its meetings are produced. These and copies of the examined accounts shall be retained for a minimum of seven (7) years plus the current year's.

8. Officers

8.1 The following Honorary Officers shall be elected annually at the ACM:

- President (who may not hold office in consecutive years)
- Vice President
- Treasurer and Trustee
- General Secretary
- Secretary KLSA who shall be the point of contact for Swim England London Region
- Secretary KRSA who shall be the point of contact for Swim England South East Region
- 3 representatives from KLSA Clubs
- 5 representatives from KRSA Clubs

8.2 The following shall be appointed by the Committee into these honorary posts:

- County Kit Co-ordinator
- Development Co-ordinator
- Disability/Para Swimming Manager
- Diving Manager
- Masters Swimming Manager
- Medals Co-ordinator
- Medical Adviser
- Open Water Swimming Manager
- Social Secretary
- Swimming Manager
- Swimming Officials Appointments Co-ordinator
- Swimming Officials Examinations Co-ordinator
- Swimming Officials Manager
- Swimming Records Administrator
- Synchronised Swimming Manager
- Trophies Co-ordinator
- Water Polo Manager
- Website Administrator
- Welfare and Equal Opportunities Officer
- Workforce and Volunteer Co-ordinator

8.3 Members willing to be considered for appointment by the Committee for the following year shall submit their names on the form for the purpose, to be received by the General Secretary not later than 15th May.

8.4 The Chairman shall be selected by the Committee on an open recruitment basis for a term of three (3) years and shall not be appointed for more than two consecutive terms.

8.5 The Chairman may be subject to a secret vote of confidence at any time from the members of the Committee. If a majority of the Committee vote 'no confidence', then the Chairman will be required to resign with immediate effect.

9. Elected/Appointed Committees

A Liaison shall be appointed by the Management Committee to each committee (9.1-9.9), with the power to speak and vote but who shall not be counted as one of the minimum member numbers.

9.1 **Diving Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Diving Manager and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.

9.2 **Disability/Para Swimming Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Disability/Para

Swimming Manager and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.

- 9.3 **Masters Swimming Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Masters Swimming Manager and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.
- 9.4 **Open Water Swimming Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Open Water Manager and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.
- 9.5 **Swimming Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Swimming Manager and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.
- 9.6 **Synchronised Swimming Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Synchronised Swimming Manager and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.
- 9.7 **Water Polo Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Water Polo Manager and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.
- 9.8 **Swimming Officials Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Swimming Officials Manager, the Swimming Officials Examinations Co-ordinator, the Swimming Officials Appointments Co-ordinator and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.
- 9.9 **Development Committee** (minimum three members) which shall consist of the Development Co-ordinator, the Workforce and Volunteer Co-ordinator and additional members as necessary to fulfil its duties.

Powers and duties:

- 9.11 **Technical Committees** (Diving, Disability/Para Swimming, Masters Swimming, Open Water Swimming, Swimming, Synchronised Swimming, Water Polo) to:
 - 9.11.1 Advise the General Secretary the names of those appointed to each committee no later than fourteen (14) days after the ACM
 - 9.11.2 Advise the respective Management Committee Liaison on all matters relating to their discipline
 - 9.11.3 Submit an annual budget and development plan including recommendations concerning the development of athletes, coaches, volunteers, facilities and equipment
 - 9.11.4 Make arrangements for the holding of Kent County Championships for their discipline as appropriate (Water Polo: Kent County Leagues), to include the appointment of officials and to advise the Management Committee of the date(s), venue(s) and timing(s) as soon as practicable.
 - 9.11.5 Conduct training courses and examinations for officials and compile the Kent County List of officials for their discipline
 - 9.11.6 Advise the Management Committee on the selection of athletes to represent the County at Regional/National level
 - 9.11.7 Appoint a discipline specific trophies/medals co-ordinator
 - 9.11.8 Deal with any other matters concerning their discipline, which may be referred to them by the Management Committee
- 9.12 **Swimming Officials Committee** to:
 - 9.12.1 Advise the General Secretary the names of those appointed to the committee no later than fourteen (14) days after the ACM
 - 9.12.2 Be responsible for the arrangements and conduct of all examinations for persons wishing to be appointed to the Kent County List of Swimming Officials
 - 9.12.3 Appoint officials for Swimming Championships and competitions
 - 9.12.4 Be responsible for the maintenance of the Kent County List of Swimming Officials, including non-technical officials

9.13 Development Committee to:

- 9.13.1 Advise the General Secretary the names of those appointed to the committee no later than fourteen (14) days after the ACM
- 9.13.2 Be responsible for identifying and facilitating the Association's annual Development Plan and advise the Management Committee accordingly
- 9.13.3 To meet with Technical Committee Managers to ensure their development plans are both realistic and relevant, and support the overall Development Plan of the Association
- 9.13.4 To arrange development opportunities both within the Association and in co-operation with local, regional and national bodies

10. Rules for appointed Committees

- 10.1 Each committee shall fix its own day and hours of meeting, and hold at least three meetings each year. Meeting dates shall be advised to the General Secretary no later than fourteen (14) days after the ACM.
- 10.2 Each committee shall each year elect its own chairman from among its members.
- 10.3 A chairman shall be entitled to vote in the first instance and in the case of equality of votes may give a second or casting vote.
- 10.4 The Development Co-ordinator, Disability/Para Swimming Manager, Masters Swimming Manager, Open Water Swimming Manager, Swimming Manager, Synchronised Swimming Manager, Diving Manager, Water Polo Manager and Swimming Officials Manager will be the secretary of their respective committee.
- 10.5 At least ten (10) days' notice of meetings shall be given, except in matters of urgency, of which the chairman of the committee shall be the judge.
- 10.6 A majority of the members of a committee shall constitute a quorum.
- 10.7 Committee secretaries shall list the members present at their meetings and make minutes of the proceedings which shall be sent promptly to the General Secretary for submission to the Management Committee for approval at its next meeting.
- 10.8 Meetings of the committees shall be private, and no report of the proceedings shall be open to the press. Members of the Management Committee other than the appointed Liaison may attend with the power to speak but not to vote.
- 10.9 Every item of expenditure by a committee shall be submitted to the Management Committee for approval via their budget.
- 10.10 Except in cases where special directions are given to the contrary, no decision of a committee shall be binding upon the Management Committee until it has been submitted to and approved by the Management Committee.
- 10.11 The Management Committee may, at its discretion, discharge a committee and appoint a new committee in its place.

11. Attendance at Committee Meetings

- 11.1 The Management Committee, which shall meet not less than 6 times per year, may declare that an Officer or an elected member of the Management Committee who has been absent from three consecutive Management Committee meetings has vacated his office or seat provided that the person concerned has been notified that such a proposal is to be put before the Management Committee. The Management Committee may then exercise its authority under Rule 7.7 to fill the vacancy.

12. Finance

- 12.1 The financial year of the Association shall end on 31st March, up to which date all accounts should be completed.
- 12.2 The Management Committee shall each year nominate two of its members who may sign cheques (a single signatory up to £500 and two signatories over £500), in the absence of the Treasurer.

- 12.3 The funds of the Association shall not be paid to nor distributed among the members of the Association, except in reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with the Association's business. In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the funds remaining shall be devoted to objects similar to those of the Association, or to any charitable purpose.
- 12.4 The Association shall have the right to charge affiliation fees at a level to be agreed by the Management Committee and to collect fees on behalf of Swim England London Region and Swim England South East Region if required to do so.
- 12.5 All monies in the Association bank accounts shall only be used for purposes as agreed by the Management Committee.

13. Handbook

A handbook shall be published annually by the Management Committee and each affiliated club will receive a 'virtual' copy . A virtual copy of the handbook will also be available to view and/or download on the Association's website.

14. County Colours

County colours shall be awarded to swimmers of all disciplines on the first occasion they represent the County of Kent in any Inter-County contest or other contest of similar standard as approved by the Management Committee.

15. Special Awards for Exceptional Performance by Members of Affiliated Clubs

- 15.1 The Management Committee may grant special awards to members of affiliated clubs for performances of exceptional merit.
- 15.2 The awards shall be made sparingly for performances which are not part of the competitive programme of the County.
- 15.3 The performances shall be exceptional in the sense that they require one or more of the following qualities:
 - extreme dedication to the sport
 - the overcoming of marked disadvantage, such as physical disability, or unusual practical difficulties in training, extraordinary endurance, speed, skill or courage
- 15.4 Nominations for special awards may be made at any time by the Officers and members of the Management and Elected/Appointed Committees, and by affiliated clubs. They shall be considered by the Management Committee.
- 15.5 The Management Committee shall determine from time to time the form the award shall take.

16. Any person voting at any meeting of the Association, Committee or sub-committee shall be a member of a club affiliated to Swim England London Region or Swim England South East Region and thereby a member of Swim England. Clubs shall have a responsibility, in accordance with their constitution, to ensure that all persons helping in any way with the club's activities are members of the ASA.

17. Interpretation of Rules

In the event of any question arising as to the correct interpretation of these Rules, or any question not herein provided for, such questions shall be referred to the Management Committee for decision.