

North Brandywine Swim League Inc

League Information

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NBSL Philosophy

The NBSL is dedicated to providing a wholesome and fun environment for the swimmers and families in the North Wilmington/Brandywine area. We need the support of all swimmers, coaches, volunteers, family and friends to make each year a great one for our league and for our community. The NBSL philosophy supports sportsmanship, an inclusive environment, and friendly competition amongst all participants and our focus, in whatever role we play, should be to support and follow these principles to the best of our abilities. The NBSL thanks you for your support and we wish you luck in the swim season.

www.nbslswim.com

2022 NBSL Officers

The Executive Board

PRESIDENT **Kristin Pidgeon**
Graylyn Crest

VICE PRESIDENT **Chris Ciecko**
Timber Lane

TREASURER **Lynn Hanna**
JCC

SECRETARY **Open**
–

AT LARGE - Red Div Stefani Enos
Elks

AT LARGE – White Div **Brian Maher**
Shellcrest

AT LARGE – Blue Div **Open**
–

Committees

End of Season Championship Committee

Chairperson: Stacy Weaver

Members: Stefani Enos, Lynne Fowler, Julia Cole, Nicole Irani, Megan Burns, Shannon Hanson

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- A Championship Committee shall be appointed each season. The Chair of the committee shall be a NBSL Board Representative. Members of the Committee do not need to be members of the NBSL Board, but may include individuals experienced in the running of such Championships.

Handbook Committee

Co-Chairs: Chris Ciecko/Lynn Hanna

Members: Lori Sanders, Christine Blumel

- A handbook committee shall be appointed each season. The Chair of the committee shall be a NBSL Board Representative. Members of the Committee do not need to be members of the NBSL Board, but may include individuals within the NBSL member pools.

Electronic Paperwork Committee (Automated Meet Platform)

Chairperson: Tim O'Donnell

- An Electronic Paperwork Committee shall be appointed each season. The Chair of the committee shall be a NBSL Board Representative. Members of the Committee do not need to be members of the NBSL Board, but may include individuals within the NBSL member pools.

Additional Resources

LIBRARIAN

George Dramis
Ashbourne

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Dannette Conley
Graylyn Crest

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Rich Morgan
Tatnall

NBSL SwimTeams By Division

Red Division	White Division	Blue Division
Crestview	DelVets	Arden
Elks	Fairblue	Ashbourne
Graylyn Crest	River Road	Darley/Green Acres
JCC	Shellcrest	High Point
Lane	Tatnall	Timber Lane
Silverside	Windybush	

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1e. NBSL Representative Roles and Responsibilities

The North Brandywine Swim League (NBSL) is a summer swim league dedicated to providing a wholesome, fun and inclusive environment for our swimmers and families who belong to member pools in the Brandywine Hundred area. As NBSL representatives, our role is to support and follow the NBSL Philosophy.

Additional responsibilities include:

1. Attending NBSL meetings regularly on behalf of your home pool and communicating information, as relevant, back to your respective pool officers.
2. A representative from each pool is required to attend all NBSL meetings.
3. Fulfillment of your NBSL yearly assigned job responsibility (i.e. Publicity, Trophies, etc.).
4. Dual meet organization. The NBSL representative has a responsibility to ensure all pieces are in place for a smoothly run meet. Additionally, be able to interpret the rules and regulations of the NBSL. If a dispute arises during a dual meet, resolve the issue with the meet Referee and the other team representative, and keep the meet moving. Also, the home team's NBSL representative has the responsibility to submit the results to the newspaper. Instructions may be found in section 2g Results Reporting.
5. The Meet Referee with the NBSL representatives, not the coaches, have the responsibility of deciding if a dual meet should be canceled due to inclement weather.
6. NBSL Championship meets organization. To the extent assistance is needed for one of the Championship meets, the expectation is that you contribute in whatever capacity you can assist and that you make every effort to attend both the 6&U meet as well as Championships.
7. Communication and support to your team parent and helpers to ensure smooth functioning of your swim team within the NBSL.
8. Communication and support to your team swim coaches throughout the season to ensure a successful season (rule interpretations, meet manager support, etc.).
9. Follow the NBSL Code of Conduct.

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1f. Pool Depth / Number of Lanes / Unofficial Lanes / Diving Rules

Pool	Depth 1	Start method	Depth 2	8 and 10 Relay Start	Lanes	Yds or Meters	Unofficial Lanes
Arden	5ft	Blocks	3ft	Start in Water	5	25 Yard	Lane 5
Ashbourne	L1-2 < 4ft, L3-6 > 4ft	Blocks, L 3 - 6 In water, Lns 1 - 2	39"	Start in Water	6	25 Meter	Lanes 1 & 2
Crestview	7ft	Blocks	3ft	Start in Water	5	25 Yard	Lane 5
Darley	10ft	Blocks	3ft	Start in Water	5	25 Yard	Lane 5
Del Vets	9ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	5	25 Yard	Lane 5
Elks	5ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	6	25 Meter	Lanes 1 & 6
Fair Blue	5ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	6	25 Yard	Lanes 1 & 6
Graylyn Crest	5ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	5	25 Meter	Lane 1
Green Acres	9ft	Blocks	4ft	Start in Water	6	25 Meter	Lanes 1 & 6
High Point	5ft	Blocks	3ft	Start in Water	5	25 Yard	Lane 5
JCC	6ft	Blocks	4ft	Start in Water	6	25 Meter	Lanes 1 & 6
Lane	L1 < 4ft, L2-6 4ft 4in	Blocks, Lanes 2 - 6	L1 < 4ft, L2-6 4ft 4in	Start in Water	6	25 Meter	Lanes 1 & 6
River Road	5ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	6	25 Meter	Lanes 1 & 6
Shellcrest	5ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	5	25 Yard	Lane 5
Silverside	5ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	6	25 Meter	Lanes 1 & 6
Tatnall	10ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	4	25 Yard	none
Timber Lane	6ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	4	20 Yard	none
Windybush	5ft	Blocks	3.5ft	Start in Water	5	25 Yard	Lane 5

Diving Rules

NBSL follows USA Swimming rules and regulations, unless specifically noted in the NBSL rules. Current USA rules allow diving only into water that is 4 feet or deeper. Water depth is measured from 1-5 meters from the edge of the pool.

If the pool depth is less than 4 feet - swimmers must start in the water, no diving

If the pool depth is 4 feet or deeper - swimmers may start from blocks no higher than 29.5 inches above the surface of the water

EXCEPTION: Warm-ups – The depth of designated diving or sprint lanes must be **5 feet or deeper**.

Each swim club is ultimately responsible for setting the water depth requirements for their particular pool.

Visiting clubs are to abide by the requirements set by the home pool.

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1g. Code of Conduct

The purpose of the North Brandywine Swim League Code of Conduct is to establish standards of conduct that our swimmers, officials and parents are expected to uphold while participating in sanctioned swim meets of the NBSL. It is the goal of the NBSL that these standards of conduct be incorporated into the daily management of the teams. Any individual with a complaint should be directed to the NBSL representative or designee who will take the complaint to the meet referee, if warranted.

1. All participating teams shall abide by this code of conduct.
2. Team members, parents, coaches, NBSL representatives, and officials should be respectful of one another.
3. No team personnel, competitor or spectator shall act in an unsportsmanlike manner. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - Making insulting or derogatory remarks, gestures or acts, including taunting and threatening remarks or aggressive behavior.
 - Trying to influence or showing disgust with the officials' decisions.
 - Using obscene language.
 - Vandalizing property.
 - **Physical Abuse, defined as any unwanted physical contact including but not limited to, shoving or striking a person before, during, or after a meet.**
4. The consumption or possession of tobacco/vape products, alcoholic beverages, or drugs other than those prescribed by a physician, is not permitted within the pool deck area within the fence prior to, during, or after the meets.
5. No individual shall direct the modification of disqualification by a Stroke & Turn Official, following the final approval by the Meet Referee.
6. No individual shall modify the ribbons or medals awarded to swimmers at NBSL Championship Meets.
7. Each team shall maintain orderly conduct at all times, including after-meet celebrations.
8. No team personnel/competitor shall enter the water without the referee's approval.
9. The reporting of a violation to these codes of conduct will be through the team's NBSL representative or designee, to the meet referee, **and written documentation will be presented to the NBSL Executive Committee within 24 hours.**

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10. Issues and questions regarding individual swim club personnel, unrelated to swim meets, shall be directed to the individual swim club manager and/or board of directors. The NBSL does not have any authority regarding swim club personnel matters.

Enforcement of The Code of Conduct Rules

At dual meets, any allegation of a code of conduct violation reported to an NBSL Representative or designee, shall be communicated to and discussed by NBSL reps of all attending teams and if agreed upon by all reps may result in any one or all of the following penalties:

1. A warning **will** be issued to the offending party. After receiving one warning, if the behavior continues, the individual(s) involved **will** be **required** to leave the premises.
2. The swimmer **will** be scratched from the meet and **required** to leave the pool deck.
3. The parent or spectator will be **required** to leave the meet.
4. The coach will be **required** to leave the meet.
5. The meet will be suspended and not resumed until there is compliance with the instructions of the lead official **or NBSL Representative**.

Penalties for Infractions

1. Physical abuse: Immediate ejection and suspension from all NBSL sanctioned events. Reinstatement application is subject to NBSL Board officers approval.
2. All other violations which result in an ejection from an NBSL sanctioned event will also incur a minimum suspension from the next NBSL meet. This suspension can carry over to the following calendar year. A second violation which results in an ejection from an NBSL sanctioned event will result in suspension from all NBSL sanctioned events. Reinstatement is subject to NBSL Board Officers approval.
3. Code of Ethics violations will be enforced. Multiple infractions by an individual or team could lead to serious penalties including dismissal from all League sanctioned events.
4. Cheating: If a team is caught cheating, then they will forfeit all points accumulated for that meet. If the incident occurs during the Championship meets, then that team will receive zero points for the meets and the team leadership will then be cited for Code of Ethics violations.
5. Anyone acting disrespectfully will be asked to change or stop that behavior. If an individual fails to comply, they will be asked to leave the pool area for the remainder of the practice or the meet.
6. If an individual swimmer, coach, NBSL representative or designee, or team has repeated

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offenses, the NBSL officers will be consulted for further actions, including but not limited to barring the offender from further participation in the league activities.

7. Anyone who acts in a manner that would interfere with the operation of the North Brandywine Swim League will be subject to a penalty which may include barring participation from future dual meets and /or championship competition, suspension from practice, or dismissal from the team.
8. In addition, any team member found or suspected to be in the presence of others (regardless of team affiliation) partaking in any of the above activities will be subject to the same punishments and probable expulsion.
9. Persons violating these rules may be banned from all NBSL events at the discretion of the NBSL board. Infractions must be reported to the NBSL Rep. and the Rep will communicate it to the board president within 24 hours after the completion of the meet via email NBSLswim@gmail.com.
10. Eligibility challenge documentation must be provided within 7 days. If the documentation is not provided, or is not satisfactory to the board, the swimmer in question will be disqualified from all events in which they participated, including relays, and the meet will be rescored. In addition, 25 points will be deducted from the offending team's final score.
11. If a team has not turned in a majority of their eligibility forms prior to a meet, that team will have 25 points deducted from their final score in that meet. Any swimmers that start after the season starts must complete the Electronic eligibility form within 3 days.

NBSL Swimmer Eligibility

Recognizing that each club has different requirements for membership and may have different categories of membership within its club, the NBSL will rely on teams to fairly determine eligibility of their swimmers.

1. Swimmers on NBSL Teams must be members of their swim club on the same basis as non-swim team members. All swimmers must be active dues paying members of an NBSL League Pool. "Swim team only" memberships are not permitted, nor are memberships limited to the swim team season. An exception will be given to only those NBSL League Pools with summer camps existing before January 1, 2010 and are grandfathered by the NBSL.
2. For NBSL competitions, an employee of a pool is eligible to swim for that pool as long as he/she is a bona fide member like all other swimmers. An employee of one pool may swim for another pool provided they meet all eligibility requirements.
(Example 1: Emily is a lifeguard at pool B and her family holds membership at pool A; Emily may swim for pool A or her family can leave Pool A and join Pool B. In either case she may not swim for both at the same time. Example 2: Emily is an employee of Pool B. In order to swim for Pool B, she must be a bona fide member like all other swimmers.)
3. Babysitters, houseguests and nannies are not eligible to swim for the NBSL.
4. The age group of a swimmer for the entire season is determined by his or her age as of June 1. Swimmers with birthdays on June 1 will be assumed to have reached the higher

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- age.
5. A swimmer is eligible to compete as long as their age is less than 19 as of June 1 of the current year – i.e., a swimmer's age must be 18 or under on June 1.
 6. A swimmer must swim for ***only one*** Summer Recreational Swim League from May 1 – August 31 of the current season – e.g., may not swim for both Suburban and NBSL. Participation on a USA Swimming or YMCA short or long course competitive swim team shall not be considered a violation of this rule.
 7. A swimmer is required to swim in ***at least two*** NBSL dual meets during the current season in order to participate in the NBSL Championship meets. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by the NBSL Officers.
 8. A swimmer must swim for only one NBSL League Pool during the current swim season. A family may be represented on only one swim team during the season. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by the NBSL.
 9. If an individual swimmer's eligibility or age group is questioned/challenged, the NBSL representative from the challenging pool will notify both the NBSL representative from the pool with the swimmer in question, and the NBSL board asking for documentation supporting that swimmer's eligibility and/or age. A swimmer who participates in any NBSL sanctioned event must have a parent's or guardian's electronic signature on the current Swimmer Eligibility Agreement prior to participating in an NBSL event.
 10. Following USA Swimming guidelines, as the NBSL is not an elite swim league, a swimmer may compete as the swimmer identified gender upon registration for the entirety of the season.

Electronic Eligibility Forms:

All new families must complete electronic swimmer eligibility forms for the 2023 season at the time of registration. A swimmer without a form will be considered ineligible.

Issue Resolution

Any issues that arise before the meet season begins or before the beginning of any swim meet that need to be resolved will be brought to the attention of the NBSL Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Divisional At Large Members). It is their responsibility to interpret the rulebook as it applies to each situation and to use their best judgment in areas where the rules are not 100% clear.

To contact the NBSL Officers, please email the NBSL President and he/she will pass the information on to the officers. After the officers have reached its decision they will report back to you.

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Issues that arise at or during a meet:

- Any issues that arise during an NBSL meet shall be brought first to the attention of the Meet Referee. If there is not agreement with actions that the Meet Referee takes, the issue shall be discussed between the NBSL Pool Representatives.
- If the Meet Referee and NBSL Representatives from both pools are unable to resolve an issue before or during a swim meet in a reasonable amount of time (around 10 minutes), the meet director is to complete the Electronic Issue Resolution Form in its entirety. The Meet Referee is responsible for submitting the form to the NBSL within 24 hours. (See Resolution Form) After reviewing the form and talking to both parties the NBSL Board will review the issue and pass judgment with impact to the score if necessary.

The purpose of this document is to say “ok, we disagree, let’s document the impasse, sign it, and keep the meet moving.”

- Please try to resolve issues at the meet and do not to call officers during the meet. They are very active in their own meets.

Issues that remain at the end of the season:

- Issues that are still a problem at the end of the year should be discussed at the final NBSL meeting of the season. Committees are formed at this time of the year to look into changes and ways to make things better for the following NBSL season.

1k. NBSL League Rules

1. USA Swimming rules apply to all situations not specifically addressed by the NBSL.
2. No altering order of events.
3. Ages are as of June 1. If swimmer’s birthday is June 1, you move up.
4. Swimmer may enter in 2 official individual events and 1 official freestyle relay and 1 official medley relay. In the Blue division 3 individual events are permitted. Opposing coach may elect the event to disqualify violator(s). Swimmers are allowed as many unofficial events as the meet allows. “Extra” swims are to use the unofficial lane, and should never cause an additional heat of swimmers. Ultimately, the decision to allow swimmers to swim additional races for the purposes of getting qualifying times, which in turn cause “extra” heats, will be made by the Meet Referee.
5. Two official entries per event are permitted including relays.
6. Unofficial heats may be conducted at the discretion of the referee.
7. A swimmer may not swim the same event in two different age groups.
8. The first heat is always the official heat.
9. Teams will alternate lanes. The home team gets odd numbered lanes, visiting team even lanes. Before the start of the meet the referee determines the unofficial lane(s).
10. Every NBSL swim meet must be held unless approved by the President.
11. In the event of a cancellation or postponement only swimmers listed on the ORIGINAL Lineup are allowed to swim. This includes alternates.
12. Supplemental rules governing 6 and under: **(In Dual Meets Only)**

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- a. In **breaststroke** and **butterfly**, swimmers who do not touch with simultaneous two hand touches should not be disqualified. However, the finish of the race should not be determined for that swimmer until the second hand touches the wall.
 - b. In the **butterfly**, an effort to recover both arms over the water should be in evidence.
 - c. Judges should still inform coaches of the "infraction".
 - d. In backstroke, catching of heads is permitted.
13. The home team shall provide adequate ribbons for all individual swimmers in every heat, every individual event (except 15 and overs). Ribbons designating first, second, third, fourth place are given to the winners of those places and participant or placement ribbons may be given to all other places. First and second place ribbons are required for relays (except 15 and overs). The ribbons may be completed at the meet. If ribbons are not completed at the meet, it is the home pools responsibility to complete and deliver ribbons to the visiting pool in an reasonable and agreed upon amount of time.
14. The referee shall attempt to settle all disputes. Otherwise follow the issue resolution procedures within 24 hours of the conclusion of the meet in question.
15. When determining divisional ranking, if there is a 2 way tie, head to head competition will be the tie breaking mechanism to determine which team moves up/down. When ties involve more than 2 teams, scored points will be the mechanism to break the tie. To break the tie, add up the points the team scored at all 5 official meets. The team with the most points is the winner.
16. At the conclusion of the season, the top ranking white and blue division teams move up to the next division and the bottom ranking red and white divisions teams move down to the next division.
17. The throwing of any person into the pool is prohibited and will result in disqualification of individuals or teams that violate this safety rule.
18. As a courtesy, members of a club hosting an NBSL event are permitted to use the visiting pool during the event. It is the responsibility of the NBSL representative to make their club, board and all employees aware of this accommodation.
19. The NBSL looks to the rules and regulations as provided by USA Swimming, which requires a minimum diving depth of 4 feet, otherwise in-pool starts are required. Please refer to section the NBSL pool depth policy for each club.
20. The home team will have the first warm-up. The away team will have the 2nd warm-up (before a dual meet).
21. If there is a chance of severe catastrophic weather event (Tornado), then the board will make the decision whether or not to postpone any meets that evening. If the meets are to be postponed, the board will disseminate this decision to all pool reps via text message. The meet will then have to be rescheduled as soon as reasonably possible. All official lineups must be exchanged the evening of the postponed meet and no changes will be allowed after this time. If the meet never starts do we have to keep the lineup the way it is?
22. An individual cannot get in the pool and assist a swimmer down the lane during an

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- NBSL sanctioned swim meet, with the exception of a swimmer with special needs (exempting non-swimmers) as communicated to the Meet Referee at the beginning of the meet.
23. A representative from each pool is required to attend all NBSL meetings. An e-mail letter of warning will be sent to the President of the Board of the offending pool after the second meeting at which a pool fails to have representation. The league fee will double for the offending pool after the third meeting in any one season (September-August) at which a pool fails to have representation.
 24. NBSL participating club repeatedly violates NBSL rules, the league may vote to suspend that club from the league.
 25. If a swimmer requires medical attention from a qualified health provider (Doctor, Paramedic, EMT or Nurse) and the recommendation is for that swimmer to seek further medical attention and to not continue the swim meet, then that athlete will be barred from participating in any further events until she/he is released by note from the medical personnel. Parents or coaches' permission to continue without seeking medical attention will not be accepted.
 26. Blatant disregard of any of the above rules could result in additional penalties imposed against the offending club at the discretion of the NBSL board officers. Penalties could include, but are not limited to: deduction of points from the final score, monetary fines, or forfeiture of the meet depending on the type of infraction.
 27. In the event of inclement weather, teams should wait at least one hour before postponing a dual meet. The pool manager/operator, the Meet Referee with the NBSL reps from each team; and not the coach, will make the final decision if and when the meet will be rescheduled. Teams should wait at least one hour before postponing a dual meet. If the meet needs to be rescheduled it should be swum the next evening or as soon as possible if there is a scheduled event already for the pool. If the meet needs to be rescheduled and the NBSL reps cannot agree then the meet will be swum the next available night. Postponed meets will be resumed at the point where the meet was stopped.