



# **By-laws: Gloucester Thunderbolts Swimming Club Inc.**

September 2022

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**BY-LAWS**  
**of**  
**GLOUCESTER THUNDERBOLTS SWIMMING CLUB INCORPORATED**

**1. FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIPS**

- a) No member shall be entitled to the privileges of the club, or eligible to enter for any Club race or competition until his or her membership and all liabilities to the club are paid, in accordance with Clause 11 of the constitution.
- b) All past monies owed to the club must be paid before registration will be accepted.
- c) At the start of a season \$1 is to be paid by each committee representative for general voting rights. This is to be paid at the AGM.
- d) A parent or guardian of a minor club member (under 18 years) is to be registered as at least a dry member

**2. SECOND CLAIM MEMBERSHIPS**

- a) club membership can be held as a second claim membership as per the following club rules:
  - i. Second claim members must hold a primary membership with another club and show proof upon registration.
  - ii. Second claim members are eligible to participate in club nights only.
  - iii. Second claim members are not eligible to break club records at club nights.
  - iv. Second claim members are eligible to participate in the top ten (10) point score rounds and resulting presentation awards if they meet the criteria as set out at in section 7 of the club by-laws.
  - v. Second claim members are eligible to participate in the long-distance championship events, however they are not eligible for resulting presentation awards as set out in section 7 of the club by-laws.
  - vi. Second claim members are eligible to swim in championship events but are not eligible to accumulate championship points for age and middle-distance champion.
  - vii. Second claim members are not eligible for the following presentation awards:
    - Boys and Girls Age Champ Runner Up
    - Boys and Girls Age Champs
    - Boys and Girls Distance champ Runner Up
    - Boys and Girls Distance champ
    - Graeme Breeze Memorial Trophy
    - Lorraine Watt Memorial Trophy
    - Kim Hebblewhite Trophy
    - Squad Coaches Training Award
    - Les Watt Trophy
    - Leanne Wilkinson Trophy
    - Club person of the year

- Club Representative Recognition
- State Level Representative Recognition

### 3. **CLUB SWIMMING MEETS**

- a) Club competitive swimming meetings shall be held on such occasions as shall be determined by the General Meeting at or prior to the beginning of each Club Year. (Thursday 6pm unless changed).
- b) The point score system will be as set out prior to commencement of the season & available on the club's website. <https://www.gloucesterthunderboltsswimmingclub.com.au/>
- c) All point scores shall finish on the last swimming meeting prior to championships. The Executive Committee shall have the power to curtail or extend the Club's swimming season for reasons of weather or other justifiable reason.
- d) Point Score Awards will commence on round one, week one of competition.
- e) Swimmers best times from last season, will be used for their best time at the start of the new season.
- f) All entries for club races are to be submitted via swim central weekly. Entries are to be submitted no later than six (6) pm Wednesday prior to club night.
- g) The one start rule will be used for all swimming club events. Any swimmer starting before the starting signal has been given, shall be disqualified. If the starting signal sounds before the disqualification is declared, the race shall continue and the swimmer shall be disqualified upon completion of the race. If the disqualification is declared before the starting signal, the signal shall not be given, but the remaining swimmers shall be called back, be reminded by the starter of the penalties and start again. If disqualified, the swimmer is encouraged to swim the event although no time or points will be awarded. To qualify for championships, the event must be swum.
- h) All protests must be made verbally to the referee before, (if known), or immediately after the race OR verbally or in writing to the Member Information Protection Officer (MIPO) no later than forty eight (48) hours after the event with a \$20.00 appeals fee. The \$20.00 fee is refundable on the appeal being upheld. The appeal will be handled by the following:
  - i. The Member Information Protection Officer (MIPO) will inform the Executive Committee of the protest.
  - ii. The Executive Committee will deal with all complaints, disputes and protests and their decision will be final.
- i) There will be at least one (1) referee each swimming night, where possible.
- j) Once a 25m swimmer has broken the 25m time for a stroke as outlined below the swimmer will be encouraged to go up to the 50m event for that stroke.
  - i. Freestyle 25 sec
  - ii. Butterfly 25 sec
  - iii. Breaststroke 30 sec
  - iv. Backstroke 30 sec
- k) Once a swimmer has swum a stroke 3 times at a 50m at club night they cannot go back to a 25m event

for that stroke.

#### 4. **CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- a) To be eligible to swim in the for championship points and to be considered as age champion a swimmer must:
- Swimmers must have swum at, at least six (6) club nights.
  - Swimmers must have swum the event at least once (1) before at a points round club night.
  - Swimmers must swim at least half of their eligible events.
  - The only exceptions to these rules being:
    - Prolonged illness during the season supported by a medical certificate.
    - Committee approval e.g.: school excursion as approved by committee.
    - Natural Disaster.
  - Any swimmer who falls under the exceptions to the rules will have their last recorded swim time from a points round club night used for their championship points.
- b) Championship age groups are as follows (Swimmers may only swim events designated for their age):
- 7 & Under Boys and 7 & Under Girls.
  - 8 Years Boys and 8 Years Girls.
  - 9 Years Boys and 9 Years Girls.
  - 10 Years Boys and 10 Years Girls.
  - 11 Years Boys and 11 Years Girls.
  - 12 Years Boys and 12 Years Girls.
  - 13 Years Boys and 13 Years Girls.
  - 14 Years Boys and 14 Years Girls.
  - 15 Years Boys and 15 Years Girls.
  - 16 & Over Boys and 16 & Over Girls.
- c) Championship age is the age the swimmer is on the first (1st) championship event held for the season. Championship events for this purpose combine distance and age championships.
- d) Points for championships are as follows:

25m Events		50m Events	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	3 Points	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	5 Points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	2 Points	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 Points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	1 Point	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	2 Points
		Participation	1 Point

- e) Swimmers, who have swum an event at a club night but were disqualified, will be deemed to have qualified in that event for championship points.
- f) Entries must be submitted for championship events online via swim central as per by-law 3(f).

- g) The club adopts Swimming NSW Ltd. Rules regarding disabled multiclass swimmers. Disabled Multiclass swimmers may swim with the use of an aid as required as per their multiclass classification.
- h) Swimmers who do not qualify for the championship points can swim in the championship events, but will not be awarded points.

## 5. **RECORDS**

- a) Club records can be set or broken at club nights where there are at least two (2) timing devices used to time that lane. In the event of health pandemics where by social distancing regulations are required alternate time keeping requirements will be put in place as determined by the club committee.
- b) Setting a record when one does not exist is not deemed as breaking a record. It is known as setting a record.
- c) Club records can be set at a Swimming NSW Ltd approved qualifying carnivals
- d) Records broken at Swimming NSW Ltd approved qualifying carnivals must be presented with an official unaltered result sheet (obtained from <https://results.swimming.org.au/portal/>).
- e) Club records cannot be set or broken at school carnivals.
- f) Swimmers can nominate to set or break a record for a shorter distance when swimming a long distance event at club night prior to the event starting. The record will stand only if the swimmer completes the full event distance. (e.g. a 400m or 800m record can be set or broken when swimming a 1500m event as long as the 1500m event is completed).
- g) Club records cannot be set or broken in a 25m pool.
- h) Records cannot be set in 25m event, including 100 IM.
- i) Records cannot be set if the swimmer is disqualified.
- j) Long distance records will be recognised if, swum on the allocated programmed club night and limited to the following age groups:

<b>800M Freestyle</b>	<b>1500M Freestyle</b>	<b>400m Individual Medley</b>
9 Years and Under	10 Years and Under	10 Years and Under
10 Years	11 Years	11 Years
11 Years	12 Years	12 Years
12 Years	13 Years	13 Years
13 Years	14 Years	14 Years
14 Years	15 Years	15 Years
15 Years	16 Years and Over	16 Years and Over
16 Years and Over		

- k) Long distance records can be broken or set at club nights where there are at least two (2) timing devices used to time that lane. In the event of health pandemics where by social distancing regulations

are required alternate time keeping requirements will be put in place as determined by the club committee.

## **6. GENERAL**

- a) No member shall adversely criticize or enter into any adverse discussion with other club members around the pool or pool limits.
- b) The Executive Committee may deal with at their discretion, anything that is beyond the scope of the foregoing Rules and By-Laws.
- c) The Club's AGM will be held in accordance with the Constitution. It will be held on a date and at a venue determined by the Committee.
- d) Monthly Meetings will be held as often as is deemed necessary throughout the calendar year and shall be at least as often as is required as per the constitution
- e) Fourteen (14) days notification of a motion must be given to the club meeting for any alteration or addition to these rules. Such alteration shall only be made with the consent of 3 Executive Committee Members plus 1 General Committee Member present, at a properly constituted meeting of the club and be entitled to vote.
- f) The club shall go onto recess for all of the Christmas school holiday period or such other period as determined by the general committee.
- g) Timekeeping:
  - i. Two (2) timing devices are required per lane. In the event of health pandemics where by social distancing regulations are required alternate time keeping requirements will be put in place as determined by the club committee.
  - ii. Timekeepers are to be age 14 years & over.
- h) All swimmers under the age of 14 years must be accompanied by a parent or appointed adult who is prepared to undertake required duties.
- i) The age a swimmer may participate without a guardian is 14 years and over as per royal lifesaving keep watch program.
- j) Club nights will be cancelled if weather conditions warrant cancellation at the discretion of the club committee. (e.g.) electrical storm.
- k) If a club night is cancelled, the program is to continue as printed in the program. If a club night is cancelled after starting, only the completed stroke events will qualify towards championships. Partially completed strokes will be cancelled.
- l) Copies of the club's Constitution, Rules and By-Laws shall be made available on the club's website. [www.gloucesterthunderboltsswimmingclub.com.au](http://www.gloucesterthunderboltsswimmingclub.com.au)
- m) Referee = Person know to club who can identify the correct stroke technique.

## 7. PRESENTATION AND AWARDS

- a) The club presentation will be held on a date and at a venue determined by the Committee.
- b) The club will distribute the following awards at presentation night subject to the committees discretion:

Award	Description
Boys and Girls Age Champ Runner Up (Medal)	Awarded to each swimmer from each age group who has placed second in the age champs point score
Boys and Girls Age Champs (Trophy)	Awarded to each swimmer from each age group who has placed first in the age champs point score
Boys and Girls Top Ten Point Score (Medal)	Awarded to the swimmer who have placed in the top ten overall point scorers. Points are calculated from the start of the season to the end.
Boys and Girls Distance champ Runner Up (medal)	Awarded to the swimmer who has placed second overall in the distance champs point score
Boys and Girls Distance champ (Trophy)	Awarded to the swimmer who has placed first overall in the distance champs point score
Long Distance Swimmers (Trophy)	Awarded to the swimmers who have achieved the most overall time improvement over the two (2) rounds of each long-distance swim (800m Free, 1500m Free and 400m IM). Swimmers must have swum both rounds to be eligible. MEDAL – participation medal will be given to all swimmers who complete a long-distance swim
Champion Boy (Perpetual Trophy)	Fastest male swimmer calculated over the average time of all four strokes in the 50m championship events. The swimmer has to of swam all four 50m championship events to be eligible.
Champion Girl (Perpetual Trophy)	Fastest female swimmer calculated over the average time of all four strokes in the 50m championship events. The swimmer has to of swam all four 50m championship events to be eligible.
Graeme Breeze Memorial Trophy (Perpetual Trophy)	Awarded to a male swimmer 8 years or over for their commitment to swimming. This is nominated by the committee.
Lorraine Watt Memorial Trophy (Perpetual Trophy)	Awarded to a female swimmer 8 years or over for their commitment to swimming. This is nominated by the committee.
Kim Hebblewhite Trophy (Perpetual Trophy)	Awarded to a male or female swimmer 7 years or under for their commitment to swimming. This is nominated by Kim Hebblewhite and endorsed by the committee
Squad Coaches Training Award (Perpetual Trophy)	Awarded to a male or female swimmer who has shown consistent effort and improvement at squads and who is a club member. Nominated by Sue Kingston and endorsed by the committee

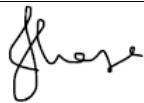

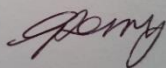
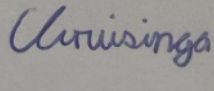


Les Watt Trophy (Perpetual Trophy)	Awarded to a male swimmer for club encouragement (a swimmer who may not win all the time or get many PB's but still tried their very best each week). This is nominated by the committee.
Leanne Wilkinson Trophy (Perpetual Trophy)	Awarded to a female swimmer for club encouragement (a swimmer who may not win all the time or get many PB's but still tried their very best each week). This is nominated by the committee.
Club person of the year	Awarded to any financial member of the club who has gone above and beyond for the club. Nominated by all financial members
Club Representative Recognition	Awarded to any GTSC swimmers who swim at club night and external carnivals throughout the year. Nominated by the committee
State Level Representative Recognition (Certificate and Embroidered shirt or jacket)	Awarded to any swimmer who has represented the club at a state level meet. Nominated by the committee
Most Records Broken	Awarded to the swimmer who has broken the most club records throughout the season. Nominated by the committee

- c) Perpetual trophy are to be requested back from members in February.
- d) All perpetual trophies are to be returned to the club in good order.
- e) Any damaged trophies are to be repaired and paid for by the person involved before February

## 8. ENDORSEMENT

The above by-laws have been amended by the club committee and approved and endorsed by the following Executive Committee Members:

Position	Name	Signature	Date
President	Jodie House		28/04/2023
Vice President	Adam Wade		28/04/2023
Secretary	Tamara Perry		28/04/2023
Treasurer	Cara Gruisinga		28/04/2023