

# GKAISA Championship Meet Rules 2021

## 1. Athlete Eligibility

- 1.1. The GKAISA Championship Swim Meet is open to all swimmers being a member of one of the GKAISA member swim teams.
- 1.2. Swimmers must have participated in at least 2 GKAISA Dual or Triangular meets during the current season to be eligible for the Championship meet. For purposes of this rule, the Smoky Mountain Invitational swim meet shall be considered a GKAISA meet. A Dual or Triangular meet is defined as a meet involving at least two GKAISA member teams.

For a Dual or Triangular swim meet to be considered valid for establishing eligibility, at least 50% of the members of each team must participate as evidenced by scoresheet entries and one or more team coaches must be present, or the meet must be one that counts toward league standing.

## 2. Entry Requirements

- 2.1. The following are requirements for entering the Championship Meet:
  - 2.1.1. Meet Entry Procedure - All entries for GKAISA Championship Meet must be submitted electronically per the current entry procedure.
  - 2.1.2. Entry Times - Times submitted for swimmers and relays must have been achieved in a yard pool or converted from times achieved in a meter pool. Current USA swimming rules will be used in seeding the meet.
  - 2.1.3. Entry Limits - A swimmer may only be entered in and swim 4 events, with a maximum of 2 relays or a maximum of 3 individual events. There will be no exhibition swims allowed.

The Coed Relay shall consist of 2 Male and 2 Female members.
  - 2.1.4. Team Roster - Coaches must submit a team roster per the current entry procedure, including the swimmers' names, ages, birth dates, and dates of the two GKAISA Dual or Tri meets in which each swimmer has or will participate. Each roster must be signed by the GKAISA Club Representative or Head Coach. A swimmer not listed on the team roster or without a current GKAISA/Member Club Release Form or COVID Release Form on file cannot swim in the meet. All rosters and GKAISA member Club Release and COVID Release Forms must be turned in no later than the day the Championship Meet entries are due.
  - 2.1.5. Dual/Tri Meet Scoring Sheets - Prior to the start of the Championship Meet, the coaches will turn in all Dual/Tri meet score sheets from the season, whether on paper or by electronic means. Failure to do so will result in a \$25.00 fine.
  - 2.1.6. Fees - A check made payable to GKAISA in the amount of \$15.00 along with a Facility Fee per swimmer must be turned in with the completed computer sheets. The Facility Fee will be determined yearly by the GKAISA Executive Committee. All outstanding fees and fines must be paid in full before an entry will be accepted.

## 3. Meet Protocols

- 3.1. Preliminaries for swimmers ages 10 and under will be held on Thursday; 11 and up will be held on Friday; and all Finals will be on Saturday, unless otherwise specified in the Meet Invitation or by the GKAISA Executive Committee.
- 3.2. Location and placement of team tents will be under the direction of the GKAISA President or other person(s) designated by President.

3.3. Electronic timing system, with manual backup, will be used for the meet.

- 3.4. Team workers must attend the Workers Meetings held prior to the start of the meet and the start of each session at a time and place to be announced. Teams who do not perform their assigned duties will be penalized as follows: 25 points per position and \$20.00 per infraction up to a maximum of \$100.00 per meet. (An infraction refers to each part of the meet - 10 and Under, 11 and Up prelims, finals, etc. or other session as prescribed by the Executive Committee).
- 3.5. Warm-ups will be conducted and supervised by coaches to ensure the safety of the swimmers.
- 3.6. During the meet, coaches are welcome to see the cards and results of any event, preliminary or final, but this request must be made to the Chief Clerk. If there is a change to be made, it must be approved by the Meet Referee. All preliminary results will be sent to the clubs.
- 3.7. In the case of a tie for the 9<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, or 18<sup>th</sup> places in the Preliminary session, there will be a swim-off to decide the placing, with the swim-off occurring immediately following the Preliminary session.
- 3.8. After the Preliminary session, a team coach may add one alternate swimmer's name to the four swimmers that participated in a relay during the preliminary session, and this alternate may replace any one of the four preliminary team swimmers. The team coach must make any changes in Relay Team members known to the Meet Referee prior to the stated time to turn in Relay Cards for that particular event. The alternate must be eligible (not swimming in more than three preliminary events but must have swum in at least one preliminary event) and be present at the meet. The coach will sign the Relay Card indicating any change in membership or order of swimmers on the back of the relay card. The swimmer being substituted for in a relay shall not be allowed to compete in subsequent events at the meet.
- 3.9. Scoring in GKAIISA Championship Finals and Consolations shall be in accordance with USA Swimming rules.
- 3.10. Lead-off splits of relay events will not qualify for individual GKAIISA Championship records.
- 3.11. Photography and/or videography is prohibited from behind the starting blocks. Any person in violation of this rule may be removed from the pool deck.

#### **4. Meet Rules**

- 4.1. USA Swimming Rules shall apply to the GKAIISA Championship Meet, except:
  - 4.1.1. False Start Rule;  
When the starting signal is given and one or more swimmers have obtained an unfair advantage, all swimmers shall be recalled at once by a second signal. All swimmers leaving their marks before the starting signal was given shall be charged with a false start, except as excused by the Starter or Referee. Any swimmer charged with a second false start in the same heat shall be disqualified and not permitted to swim in the event.
  - 4.1.2. Backstroke Turn Rule;  
After the swimmer's head has passed the backstroke flag, prior to the turn, the swimmer's upper shoulder may (but is not required to) rotate past the vertical toward the breast before the touch is completed provided such rotation is accompanied by an initiation of the turning action or continuation into the wall.  
The initiation of the turning action shall be accomplished by a single-arm or simultaneous double-arm pull, or in the absence of such pulls, by a downward, underwater movement of the head.  
After the initiation of the turning action, no additional arm pulls may be started; however, kicking and gliding actions are permitted.  
The swimmer shall assume a position on the back before the feet leave the wall.
- 4.2. Technical Suits  
GKAIISA shall follow USA Swimming rules regarding the use of technical suits for swimmers ages 12 and under. Per USA Swimming rules, technical suits may not be worn by swimmers ages 12-under beginning September 1, 2020.

## **5. Clerk of Course**

- 5.1. All events will be announced three times.
- 5.2. A swimmer should report to the Clerk of Course at least by the third call and remain there until the swimmers in the event move as a group to the blocks unless otherwise released at the discretion of the Clerk of Course. It is the responsibility of the Club Representative or coach to have the swimmer or relay team at the Clerk of Course in time. Failure to report to the Clerk of Course before all the swimmers for the heat have moved into the building will constitute a scratch from the event. The swimmer that misses his/her heat will not be allowed to swim in a heat other than the one designated for that swimmer. The Meet Referee may grant exceptions to this rule for specific cases, such as a swimmer/coach, back to back events, etc.
- 5.3. Teams are required to send a chaperone with all 10 and Under relay teams to facilitate getting them to the Clerk of Course. Once the swimmers are in place, responsibility for them becomes that of the marshal, and chaperones must leave the area, except at the discretion of the Referee. Chaperones may be required to escort the children to the blocks.

## **6. Protests**

- 6.1. Protests must be made in writing within one-half hour after posting of the event or occurrence under protest. After Finals, all protests must be submitted within fifteen minutes after the posting of the last event.
- 6.2. Protests against judgment decisions of Referees, Starters, Stroke & Turn Judges, or Relay Takeoff Judges can only be considered by the Meet Referee, whose decision is final.
- 6.3. All other protests will be considered by a Meet Jury to be appointed by the Meet Referee.
- 6.4. No protests based on inability of the swimmers or coaches to hear event calls will be accepted.

## **7. Scratches and No-Shows**

- 7.1. A swimmer missing or scratching an event shall not be disqualified from participation in later events.
- 7.2. There may be a \$1.00 scratch or 'No Show' fee assessed to each club for each entry scratched or if a swimmer does not swim in an entered event. The amount of the fee, if any, will be specified in the Meet Invitation.
- 7.3. In the case where there is a scratch or 'No-Show' in the Consolation heat, the first alternate shall take the place of the missing swimmer and the heat shall not be re-seeded.
- 7.4. In the case where there is a scratch or 'No-Show' in the Final heat, the highest placed swimmer in the Consolation heat shall take the place of the missing swimmer. The first alternate shall take the place of the swimmer moved out of the Consolation heat. Neither the Consolation nor Final heat will be reseeded.