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1929 - 2021

**NTS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021 (15 TO 19 DECEMBER) GALA RULES**



**1. General swimming competition rules**

- 1.1. FINA technical rules will apply
- 1.2. Visitors (from outside the Metro of Tshwane) must please forward a clearance letter to compete and entry times to be verified
- 1.3. If, due to weather conditions, any section of the swimming program cannot be completed the following will apply:
  - **On the final day of the competition, the results and medals will be awarded as per the results of the heats if the finals cannot be completed.**
  - **If on any of the other days, the finals cannot be completed due to time constraints, the finals will be rescheduled or the results awarded as per the heats results.**
  - **If circumstances require, any part of the program may be swum as timed finals.**
- 1.4. The Northern Tigers Swimming Code of Conduct will apply.
- 1.5. Swimmers are to climb out on the side of the pool and not over the touch pads.
- 1.6. If two or more times in the heats are the same for the 8<sup>th</sup> place in the final, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve for the final, a swim off will take place within half an hour after the completion of the heats.
  - 1.6.1. Any swimmer who does not want to participate in the swim off must scratch.
  - 1.6.2. In the event of only one swimmer remains or stays for the swim-off, that competitor will take the 8<sup>th</sup> place in the final, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve, as the case may be.
  - 1.6.3. In the event that all the swimmers scratch or that none of the swimmers stay for the swim off, the next placed swimmer will automatically be placed in the final, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve – as the case may be.
- 1.7. **NB!** If a swimmer misses a race, he or she will not be allowed to swim in a later heat.
- 1.8. The organisers reserve the right to change the session order and breaks should circumstances on the day necessitate such change.

**2. Covid-19 Regulations**

- 2.1. Spectators will be allowed subject to the prevailing lockdown regulations at the time of the competition. Right of admission is reserved, and NTS reserves the right not to allow spectators, should they deem it necessary.
- 2.2. Coaches will always need to ensure that they and their swimmers wear masks (except when reporting for or swimming their race) and adhere to social distancing.
- 2.3. Chaperones will be allowed to look after swimmers 11 year of age and younger. The number of chaperones per club will be based on the number of 11 & under swimmers that the clubs entered. These chaperones need to fulfil the coach's responsibilities outline in clause 2.2 above. All

chaperones must be registered members of NTS.

### 3. Technical officials



3.1. Clubs are responsible to provide officials for each session that their swimmers compete in. Officials must make use of the electronic form to indicate their availability to officiate at the gala.

3.2. It remains the clubs responsibility to ensure that they provide sufficient officials to work at each session.

3.3. All technical officials must be correctly attired:

- White shirts for all sessions
- Navy blue trousers or skirts for finals sessions
- Navy blue shorts for heats are allowed

### 4. Qualification

4.1. **Qualification period:** 01 September 2020 until the day before normal entries close (please see section 7.6 below.)

4.2. All swimmers must be registered with SSA or any other National Federation.

4.3. Swimmers must have times on the database within the qualification period mentioned above for any and all events that they would like to swim.

4.4. All qualifying and entry times must have been achieved within the qualification period. This applies to all times and events mentioned below. Swimmers will not be permitted to enter (normal nor late) on times achieved after the normal entry closing date.

4.5. Achieving any NTS Champs qualifying time within the qualification period will qualify a swimmer for the 2021 NTS Championships.

4.6. A swimmer may enter all the events he/she has qualified in, plus three additional events that he/she has not qualified for. The swimmers must have times on the database within the qualification period for the additional three selected events.

4.7. Provincial Open Water Swimmers may enter the 800 and / or 1500 meter events if they do not have any other NTS Champs qualifying times, but they must have a time on the database within the qualification period for the event they want to enter.

4.8. Swimmers aged 17 and over who do not have any NTS Champs qualifying times, may enter three events, providing they have times on the database within the qualification period.

4.9. Swimmers who do not have qualifying times in the Long Distance events (i.e. 1500 and 800 Free, 400 IM and 200 Fly) may enter any of these events provided they have times on the database within the qualification period. These events will not be included in the three additional events listed in 4.6 above, except that only the top 24 entries in the 1500 and 800 Freestyle events will be accepted.

4.10. Swimmers may enter the 50m event if they have a time on the database within the qualification period for that 50m event. If the Swimmer has a qualifying time within the qualification period in another distance of that stroke, the 50m event will not count as one of the three additional events referred to in 4.6 above.

### 5. Eligibility

5.1. For a swimmer to be eligible to compete at the NTS Championship's, he/she must have achieved the qualifying standard's as set out on clause 4 above, AND

5.2. All swimmers 18 years and younger must have one IM (200m or 400m) time on the database within the qualification period to be eligible to participate. It is NOT compulsory to enter the 200 IM at the championships.

5.3. Any swimmer 18 years and younger who wants to participate in the 200 IM at the championships, must have at least two IM times (200m and / or 400m) on the database within the qualification period.

## 6. Age groups

6.1. The age of swimmer will be determined as on first day of Championship.

	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
Guppies:	11 years and under	11 years and under
Sub-Junior:	12 and 13 years	12 and 13 years
Junior:	14 and 15 years	14 and 15 years
Senior:	16 and 17 years.	16 and 17 years.
Open:	Open	Open

6.2. Swimmers may only compete in one age group for the duration of the Championship. e.g. A swimmer that is 17 years old or younger may participate in the open age group, however then that swimmer must swim all his / her events in the open age group.

## 7. Entries



7.1. Entries will be accepted on Team Manager *Commlink* file with hardcopy via email only

7.2. Incomplete or incorrect entries will be discarded

7.3. Entry Times to be set in a 50m pool or converted SCM times

7.4. Only swimmers with official times on the NTS/SSA database (or other National Federation Database for foreign swimmers) achieved during the qualification period as set out in clause 4.1 above may enter the NTS Championships

**7.5. No entries will be accepted without attached proof of payment of entry fees.**

7.6. Closing date for entries: **28<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

7.7. Closing date for late entries: **03<sup>rd</sup> December 2021:** cost = three times the normal entry fee.

7.8. Closing date for late late entries: **08<sup>th</sup> December 2021:** cost = ten times the normal entry fee.

7.9. Entries from Swimmers qualifying for Champs at the Mayors gala for the first time will accepted until **12<sup>th</sup> December 2021** at three times the normal entry fee.

7.10. Psych sheets will be distributed via e-mail by 02<sup>nd</sup> December 2021.

**7.11. No entries will be accepted from NTS Clubs if the club is not in good standing with NTS.**

7.12. Only accredited team managers may withdraw competitors, lodge objections or complaints

7.13. The following must be submitted to NTS:

7.13.1. *Commlink* Export File from Team Manager

7.13.2. Print out of entries **with proof of Time.** (Entries received without proof of time will be ignored.)

7.13.3. Print out of entry fees

7.13.4. An Excel list of all swimmers entered with their valid authorised SSA Unique Numbers.

7.13.5. An Excel list of all officials, coaches and a Team Manager with their valid authorised SSA Unique Numbers, as well as the sessions that they will attend.

7.14. Entry Fees are not refundable.

## 8. Relay entries

8.1. Clubs may enter as many relay teams as they like, however only the nominated A and B teams will score points.

8.2. Each relay team must consist of 4 swimmers.

8.3. Mixed relay teams must consist of 2 male and 2 female swimmers.

8.4. The names must be received in the correct following order for the relays on the prescribed electronic form and must be submitted before the end of the session (e.g. morning session) preceding the session (e.g. evening session) in which the relay will be swum. This will be the confirmation of the relay entry. If the relay form is not received, the team will be withdrawn from the event. Only swimmers entered in the competition may swim in the relays.

8.5. Clubs with less than 20 registered swimmers may combine with another club with less than 20 registered swimmers for relays, but no points will be awarded.

8.6. A Swimmer may swim up in a relay, but may not participate in 2 age groups for the same relay.

8.7. The Age groups for relays will be as follows:

- 12 & Under
- 13 – 15
- 16 and Over

## 9. Entry fees and payment

9.1. Registration per swimmer NTS Registered Swimmers R130.00 per swimmer

9.2. Registration per swimmer not registered within NTS (out of district): R 160.00 per swimmer

9.3. Individual event for NTS registered swimmers: R45 per event

9.4. Individual event for swimmers not registered with NTS (out of district): R60 per event

9.5. Relay event for NTS registered clubs: R100 per relay

9.6. Relay event for clubs not registered with NTS (out of district): R120 per relay

9.7. Late entry fee (three times entry fee): R135 / R180 per event

9.8. Late late entry fee (ten times entry fee) R 450 / R600 per event.

9.9. Payment: All entry fees must be paid via the club. Swimmers are requested not to make direct deposits for the championships.

9.10. Entry fees are not refundable.

9.11. **No entries will be accepted without attached proof of payment of entry fees.**

9.12. All coaches, chaperones and team officials must make use of the electronic form to indicate their attendance at the gala, and must ALL be registered members of NTS / their District.

## 10. Gala format and finals

10.1. The Championship will be swum in an 8-lane format.

10.2. Heats and finals will be swum in all events, with the exception of those outlined below; all swimmers are required to swim heats.

10.3. The 200m Butterfly, 400m IM, 800m and 1500m Freestyle will be swum as timed finals with only

the top 8 seeded swimmers, swimming the finals in the evening. Other entries in these events will swim during the heats in the morning session.

- 10.4. Only the fastest 24 entry times will be accepted for the 800 and 1500 Freestyle events.
- 10.5. The 400m Freestyle will be swum as Timed Finals on the First evening.
- 10.6. A maximum of two (2) out of district / province competitors will be allowed to compete in a final.
- 10.7. Withdrawals / Scratching from finals must be made within 15 minutes after conclusion of the heats for the day.
- 10.8. Time Trials will only be accepted if approved by the Appeals committee. Application for Time Trials should be made in writing, properly motivated and submitted 24 hours in advance together with the R 400 fee.

## 11. Withdrawals

- 11.1. Withdrawals from heats must be made before 12:00, noon on the day preceding the event. Withdrawals made after this time as well as “No Shows” will be fined R100 per event. **The swimmer will not be permitted to compete further until the fine has been paid.**
- 11.2. Withdrawals from finals must be made within **15** minutes of the end of the heats session.
- 11.3. Withdrawals from timed final events must be made before 12:00 noon on the day preceding the event. **(Please note that withdrawals from the 400 Free must be made by 12:00 noon on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021)**
- 11.4. Finalists not reporting will be fined R 400.00 per event **and will not be permitted to compete further until the fine has been paid.**
- 11.5. Withdrawals from finals after the closing times listed above will be accepted at R 200 per event.
- 11.6. If the referee deems a swimmer to have deliberately false started or not performing to the swimmer’s capabilities then the swimmer may be fined R400 and will not be permitted to compete further until the fine has been paid.
- 11.7. **Withdrawals will only be accepted on the electronic withdrawal form.**

## 12. Ceremonies, trophies and prize money

- 12.1. Medals will be awarded, but the prevailing Covid-19 regulations at the time will determine whether or not the medals are presented or not.
- 12.2. Medals shall be awarded to NTS swimmers. Should an out of district / province swimmer place in the first three, the appropriated all comers medal will be awarded.
- 12.3. For swimmers aged 14 and older (Junior) the best male and best female performances in each of the age groups will receive a trophy. Only NTS registered swimmers will be eligible for trophies and prize money. The best male and best female performance is determined by using FINA points, and is calculated for a single event.
- 12.4. For swimmers aged 13 & younger (Guppies & Sub junior) the best male and best female performers (i.e. Victor and Victrix Ludorum) in each of the age groups will receive a trophy. Only NTS registered swimmers will be eligible for trophies and prize money. The Victor / Victrix Ludorum will be the swimmer who scores the most points in each of these age groups.
- 12.5. The prize money will be:

- Guppies male and female: R400
- Sub junior male and female: R500
- Junior male and female: R600
- Senior male and female: R700



- Open male and female: R900
- Endurance Events (15 & Under and 16 & Over) R900
- Dash for Cash (to be swum at the Mayors gala) 1<sup>st</sup> R 900; 2<sup>nd</sup> R 500, 3<sup>rd</sup> 200

12.6. Opening Ceremony: Managers should instruct swimmers on respectful behavior during the performing of the National Anthem and opening speeches

### 13. Club points scoring table

CLUB POINTS SCORING TABLE		
Place	Individual	Relays
1	14	28
2	10	20
3	7	14
4	5	10
5	4	8
6	3	6
7	2	4
8	1	2

### 14. Protests / Appeals

- 14.1. Protests / Appeals must be lodged with the referee as per FINA Rule GR 9.2 together with a R200 deposit, which is refundable if the appeal is upheld.
- 14.2. Appeals must be submitted within 30 minutes of the completion of the respective race. If conditions causing a potential appeal are noted prior to the race or competition an appeal must be lodged before the starting signal is given.

### 15. Starting times & Managers meetings



- 15.1. A Manager's meeting will take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 15h30. Clubs who are not represented at this meeting and who do not comply with the rules concerning entries will not receive any concessions.
- 15.2. Starting time for timed finals on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 is at 17h00
- 15.3. Starting time for heats is at 09h00 and finals at 17h00 on all other days, except the finals will start at 16h00 on the last day.

- 15.4. Due to Covid-19 regulations a warm up schedule will be drawn up for each session. Warm ups will start 1 ½ hours before each session.
- 15.5. An opening ceremony will be held on the second day at 16h40

### 16. Dash for Cash

- 16.1. The dash for cash will take on a different format this season and will take place at the start of the Saturday afternoon session of the Mayoral Gala.
- 16.2. Swimmers will be invited to enter the dash for cash, however only the top 10 entries in each event will be accepted.
- 16.3. The next two ranked entries will be allocated as two reserves for each event.

- 16.4. Only swimmers registered with NTS (i.e. no out of district swimmers), and who are entered in NTS Champs may enter the Dash for cash.
- 16.5. The age groups will be 15 & under and 16 & over for both men and women.
- 16.6. Swimmers age to be taken on the first day of NTS Championships – i.e. 15 December 2021.
- 16.7. Swimmers who enter and are accepted to the dash for cash, and who are unable to swim, MUST withdraw from the event by no later than 24 hours before the start of the race.
- 16.8. Swimmers who do not withdraw, and do not participate in the event will be subject to the same fine outlined in clause 11.4 above and will not be allowed to participate at NTS Champs until the fine is paid.

## **17. General**

- 17.1. Only coaches registered with SSA or any other National Federation will be allowed on the pool deck.
- 17.2. Warm up procedures will be provided separately.
- 17.3. Lane 10 will be available for “swim down”. Consult swim down rules. If abused, this privilege may be taken away.