

PBSC Competition and Open Meet Policy

It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to set out an appropriate competition programme that is suitable for all levels of swimmer within the Club. This competition programme will include events such as Club time-trials, Club Championships, Team Gala's, Swimming Leagues (National Arena Swimming League, Peanuts League and the Hertfordshire Major League), Hertfordshire ASA County Championships, ASA East Regional Championships, ASA Zonal Championships and National Championship events.

The current time-tabling of events in British Swimming ensures that there is a recognised pathway of competition for swimmers who aspire to reach the very top of our sport. The first step of this pathway is our own Club Championships that are held at the end of September each year, subsequent steps are the Hertfordshire ASA Championships, then the ASA East Regional Championships, followed by ASA Zonal Championships and finally the British National and Age Group Championships. It is an objective of the PBSC Coaching Team to support our swimmers to reach the highest level of competition for their ability and to celebrate this. It is also recognised that to reach the highest echelons requires swimmers to have excellent technique and fitness levels so it is important to balance the need to have good blocks of training against over-competing.

It is the Head Coaches' remit to identify an appropriate number of licensed open meets for all abilities of swimmers within the Club. These open meets along with the rest of the competition programme will give swimmers sufficient opportunity to attain qualification times that they may be seeking. The Head Coach will also ensure that Coaching Staff are at each event to support the swimmers. The Coaching staff will be responsible for the supervision of our swimmers when they are on the poolside. These supported open meets will be circulated to our members by the PBSC Gala Secretary who will deal with all administration and entries to the event. Members should not communicate directly with the Host Club but send any queries to our own Gala Secretary who will deal with the matter.

The PBSC Coaching Team and Committee do not support swimmers attending "unsupported" open meets and therefore encourage all members to adhere to the competition programme set out by the Head Coach. It is accepted that there may on occasion be good reason why a swimmer may need or wish to attend an open meet that is unsupported by the Club. These occasions are likely to be rare and the exception to the norm. In these cases members should seek written confirmation from the PBSC Head Coach and Club Secretary that permission has been granted to compete. Those members that choose to attend "unsupported" open meets will receive no administrative support from the Club. We have a busy year of competition ahead and we are looking to take the Club forward again in terms of our competitive performance and seek everyone's commitment to the above policy.

For Further Information please contact: -

Chris Andrew PBSC Club Secretary secretary@pottersbarsc.co.uk

Wray Shewell-Cooper, PBSC Head Coach chiefcoach@pottersbarsc.co.uk