H&SCL Competition Secretaries Report Jan 2024

Following the pandemic and the introduction of the Arena junior league, a new competition structure was agreed for 2022 and it is proposed to continue this structure for 2024.

A new calendar has been produced for 2024 and the web has been updated to receive entries. All entries should be submitted by 1/3/24 to allow the new seeding plan to be produced and pools booked for first gala in May 2024.

The main issue we had were clubs not attending galas which leaves the club with a significant shortfall to cover missing door contributions. With 10 to 20 spectators per club the loss is between £30 and £60. The 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013 and 2015 HSCL Rules contained the following:

Clubs failing to attend a gala may be liable to suspension from the League and/or to a fine, not exceeding fifty pounds (£50) as determined at the Annual General Meeting. Part or all of such fine shall be used to compensate the host club of the gala concerned.

At the 2008 AGM it was noted that the fine for no show at a gala were not effective and needed reviewing. In 2007 the league fined several clubs for not showing on the day of the cup final. The rule was lost when they were reformatted into the HSCL constitution and separate competition rules in 2018 to meet Swim England format requirements.

I propose the earlier rule is placed in the competition conditions and enforced at £50 for 2024 season, unless the committee are satisfied that the no show was no fault of the club.

In 2023 this resulted in absurd situation where we had only two clubs swimming in an 8 lane pool for the Junior Cup division 1. Galas later in the year seem to suffer most

11,18/03/23 New Rother Lg round 1 (2023 17 entries) incorporates Rother Junior Trophies (2023 17 entries) 18/05/24

10/06/23 New Rother Lg Round2 (2023 17 entries, 1WDL) incorporates Rother Relay Gala (2023 18 entries, 1WDL) 08/06/24

30/09/23 New Rother Lg round3 (2023 17 entries, 2WDL) incorporates Rother Age Group Gala (2023 18 entries, 2WDL) 14/09/24

07/10/23 Gemini (2023 5 entries 2 WDL) 05/10/24 – Issue with gala was loss of a pool at short notice not teams fault.

04/11/24 Junior Cup (2022 13 entries 3WDL, 2DNS) 30/11/24

WDL – Withdrawal before date, but after scheduling) DNS- did not show at gala

An urgent update was made to the Rother Age group/Rother League round 3 competitions in 2023 at very short notice as it was realised as the new format adopted in 2022 would not work in 2023 as seeding from the previous year meant that for the first time a club may be in a different age group gala to the league gala and so all divisions had to use the same format to allow times from the gala to be moved to the league. This was done by adopting the east and west division format with combined G/B relays in place of separate G and B relays in the other divisions. It also cut all U16 and open events from 100m to 50m. We need to discuss this format for 2024 as clubs may prefer the 100m length for all clubs rather than the 50m length.

H&SCL Trophy Secretaries Report Feb 2024

Since the last report a major effort has been put in place to ensure all trophies are available for 2024 season. Outstanding issues from 2023 are:

Trophies for 2024 Gala programme:

* The Gemini Group 1 silver cup base became full and is having a new base engraved for passing to Basingstoke as 2023 winners. Original new base was damaged when it arrived at engravers so a second one was ordered. This trophy should be available in next few weeks.
* The Gemini Group 2 silver cup has is still missing since 2015 when we know Godalming had it. Neither Godalming or Fareham can find the trophy and no one else can find the trophy. This trophy was not needed in 2023, but may need replacing for 2024.
* Rother Junior Trophies East division – This trophy is probably missing as an older Rother League Junior team trophy was presented to Staines. I am trying to get the trophy back to see its history and try and work out where real Rother Junior Trophies trophy was last used. This trophy will now be redundant as a new one was produced as it had been missing for years.

New or upgraded trophies provided in 2023

* Rother Junior Trophies West trophy upgrade - passed to winners Winchester
* Premier League Div1 replacement trophy- passed to winners Basingstoke
* Rother League Div1 veteran’s replacement trophy – passed to Basingstoke to take to 2023 gala, but veteran’s team not swum. I need to check its current location.
* Rother League East Div trophy replacement 17/1/24 – passed to 2023 winners Eastleigh.
* Rother League East Div Junior team replacement 17/1/24 – Trophy Sec to get Staines engraved on front and passed to Staines.
* Rother League East Div Senior team replacement 17/1/24– Trophy Sec to get Staines engraved on front and passed to Staines.
* Rother League West Div replacement trophy – posted to 2023 winners Andover on 4/10/23
* Rother League West Div Senior team replacement – posted to 2023 winners Andover on 4/10/23

So my outstanding actions are:

1. Collect upgraded Gemini group1 silver cup from engravers as soon as it is ready.
2. Take upgraded Gemini group 1 trophy to Basingstoke and collect two trophies sent to Eastleigh in error.
3. Get Staines added to two trophies
4. Take two trophies to Staines and collect old one they have in error.
5. Track down Rother Junior trophies east division trophy based on info engraved on trophy received from Staines.