

H&SCL Competition Secretaries Report Feb 2026

A new calendar has been produced for 2026 and the web has been updated to receive entries and tested, but then the sending of emails failed again before first entries were submitted. We are having issues with 123-reg as we are on their old system which has separate servers for web, database and email and they fixed password on one to allow php upgrade so we would not be charged for supporting old php version, however to move to their new platform with integrated services they want to charge a £250 one off charge unless we export all data and rebuild the site on the new platform. In addition we may need to buy a new gravity forms licence to allow the move.

All entries should be submitted by 1/3/26 to allow the new seeding plan to be produced and pools booked for first gala in Jun 2026.

The worst issue we had in 2025 was clubs withdrawing at short notice which caused significant losses due to missing spectator income. The 2025 galas had less entries than 2024 and due to the increasing number of other competitions this is expected to be even lower in 2026. Entries from western area smaller clubs remained strong, while eastern area clubs did not enter or did not swim, except, for Sutton & Cheam, Dorking and Wey Valley. I don't think it will be viable to offer galas in the east of the region in 2026.

The 2025 galas had the following entries,

17/05/24 Rother Lg Round 1 (2025 10 entries, 1 WDL) incorporates Rother Junior Trophies (2025 10 entries 1 DNS Haslemere, 1 WDL Rushmoor)

08/06/24 Rother Lg Round2 (2025 10 entries, 1 WDL) incorporates Rother Relay Gala (2024 13 entries, 2 DNS Haslemere, Rushmoor)

14/09/24 Rother Lg Round3 (2025 10 entries, 1 WDL) incorporates Rother Age Group Gala (2024 11 entries, 1 DNS Haslemere)

05/10/24 Gemini (2025 2 entries).

30/11/24 Junior Cup (2025 3 entries 1 DNS RATS)

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

Generally, all galas ran well in 2025 without any major issues.

H&SCL Trophy Secretaries Report Feb 2025

A major effort was put in place to ensure all trophies were available for 2025 season.

All trophies were available for 2025 Gala programme, but many were returned late by 2024 winners. The last of them were not returned until Dec 24 and one of them then needed an upgrade as it was full so was not sent to winner until mid Jan 25 once updated.

Major issues were:

Getting trophies forwarded by clubs for Sep galas due to summer break at many clubs. I think movements for Sept gala needs to be coordinated with round 2 before the summer break.

Staines, lost track of several trophies and said they no longer had them, however they then found them in Dec 25.