

COMEN CUP SWIMMING COMPETITION

General Contest Rules

1. DEFINITION

a) Participating Countries

All Comen Member Federations and Associated and Federations requesting to participate in writing and admitted

b) Competitions' Age Groups

Boys 16 & 15 years old - Girls 14 & 13 years old.

The Comen Cup Swimming Competition, is open to additional countries. If a Federation wants to participate then it has to send the request to the Secretariat at least three (3) months before the date of the Competition.

If the number of participating countries is greater than the number of lanes in the competition pool, two heats shall be swum in each event.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Eligible to participate in the meets are Boys 15 - 16 years of age and Girls 13 - 14 years of age at the beginning of the year in which the event takes place (in 2010, boys born in 1994-1995 and girls born in 1996-1997)

On arrival, passports, identity cards or certificates of birth of all swimmers, even local, shall be handed to the Jury of Appeal for any age-check. This shall be completed prior to the meeting of the technical committee, which is empowered to discuss any age irregularities.

3. FINA RULES

The competition shall be held under FINA-Rules. The starting commands shall be in English.

4. ROTATION

The competitions shall be held in the countries of the participating countries, according to a common decision.

5. DATE OF TOURNAMENTS

The competition will take place on the 3rd week-end in June (in 2010, on June 19-20)

6. SUBSCRIPTION

- Confirmation at the Comen Cup Meeting, which will take place during the LEN Congress of the year before.
- The countries willing to organise the competition have to bring to the Official Meeting at the LEN Congress of the year before the necessary information about Hotels' standard, costs of room & board and also a possible offer of a small cultural program.
- The organising countries may ask for a preliminary subscription concerning the number of swimmers, delegates, etc.
- The final subscription must reach the organising countries 10 days before the competition with mention of:
 - Names of swimmers for each event (except relays) with the year of birth and entry time;
 - A list of records (national and age group);
 - Names of the coaches and officials.

- Change of swimmers can be made until 1 hour before the beginning of each session.
- The names and the order of the relay swimmers must be handed before the beginning of each session.

7. TRAVELS AND LODGING

Each country shall pay its own travel and lodging expenses. The organising countries shall help the other nations with information about hotels, travel, local transport, etc.

If the tournament takes place in a city other than in which the airport is located, interurban travel shall be at the expenses of the hosting country.

The organising countries shall also take care of transport between the hotels and the pool, but not if one of the countries make their hotel reservation themselves and not on the list of recommended hotels by the organising countries.

8. PROGRAM (See Annexe 1)

There will be 15 minutes rest immediately after the last individual event before the relay events.

Two participants and one relay team shall represent each country.

Each country may enter 16 boys and 16 girls maximum.

All events shall be held in final heat where the classification shall be decided according to times achieved.

Vacant lanes may be filled up by general consent of the technical meeting. Time trials may be held if the majority of the delegates agree.

9. HOURS

The hosting country shall decide the hours of starting the competition but between the two sessions of each day there shall be a rest of **four hours** at least.

The first event of each day shall not start before 09:00 AM.

10. LANES

The placement of the swimmers in the lanes shall be decided according to the times announced by the Federations. These times have to be swum in a 50m pool in the period which starts from the precedent Comen Swimming Cup and they have to figure in the LEN Statistics. If not, the Delegate of the Team has to prove the times by presenting the results of the meeting where the times have been swum.

11. SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool must be 50 meters in length.

The competition pool must be available to the participating countries for two training sessions the day before the tournament.

12. AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC TIMEKEEPING

The competition shall be controlled by an official electronic timekeeping, which is recognised by FINA.

13. OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony shall be held on the first day before the start of the afternoon events. Only the national anthem of the organising country will be played.

14. VICTORY CEREMONY

The victory ceremony shall involve the first, second and third swimmer of each event and shall take place after the following event (victory ceremony for boys event after the girls event, etc.)

15. AWARDS

The first three swimmers of each event shall receive a medal. Gifts are allowed. The boys winning team shall receive a cup, the same for girls; the first country in the overall ranking shall receive the Comen Trophy .

16. COMEN CUP TROPHY

The organisers shall present the Comen Trophy after the last victory ceremony for the winning team of boys and girls.

17. POINTS

For **individual events**:

- 1st place 9 points
- 2nd place 7 points
- 3rd place 6 points
- ...
- 8th place 1 point

For **relays**:

- The relays score double.
- In case of disqualification no points.

- In case of dead heat in the overall points, the winner shall be decided according to the number of first places. If a dead heat still remains, the winner shall be decided according to the number of second places.

18. JURY

The organising country shall be responsible for the officials. If any of the participating countries brings an official, he should be a qualified one in order to officiate.

Member countries must inform in advance of the participation of qualified officials. One member of each country should compose the jury of appeal. The chairman of this jury will be the member of the organising country and shall have casting vote in case of equal voting.

19. DOPING CONTROL

Doping control is possible; it has to be announced at the Technical Meeting prior to the competition.

20. CHANGING OF RULES

This can only be done by the official delegates of the participating countries at the Comen Cup Meeting, which is always held during the LEN Congress