## **County Championships**

Following considerable confusion, the purpose of this note is to clarify the situation regarding what is, and is not, permitted with regard to County Championships.

No Licence will be granted to a County Championships outside the "County Window", weeks 2 to 9 inclusive.

The swimming programme must follow that published in the Performance Pathway presentation at http://www.swimming.org/library/191/524

Specifically, the Age Bandings are to be 10/11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 & over. This is particularly relevant in the events with finals, where the oldest age group final permitted is "16 and over".

Where Counties wish to give more swimmers the opportunity to swim in heats and finals, "B", "C", etc., finals are permitted, but all at the same upper age group of 16 and over. Separate finals at, for example, 17 to 19 years, are not permitted.

However, Counties are permitted to make additional Awards, such as to the top 17/18 or 19 and over, based on the swimming to the Pathway programme.

Counties are free to set different Qualifying Times for the different age groups, appropriate to local conditions and requirements, to achieve a balanced programme and suitable opportunity for all.

Counties are urged to send two representatives to the County Conference at Kegworth on October 19<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the invitation letter to this is also attached.

8<sup>th</sup> August, 2016

Ja Pfall