

British Universities Life Saving Clubs' Association

Competition Manual Update – September 2023





Below is a list of rules updated across the BULSCA manuals for February 2023.

BULSCA Constitution

6.2.2. Eligible Participants - For a student to be eligible for BULSCA Competitions they must:

6.2.2.1. Be a registered student at an institution of Higher Education; and

6.2.2.2. Be registered on a credit rated course (e.g. MSc, Degree or HND)¹, and

6.2.2.3. Be undertaking a study programme equivalent to at least 60 credits per year, or in the case of a postgraduate student be undertaking a study programme of no less than 50% of the full-time student programme. Higher Education institutions that have Further Education students registered with them and undertaking a minimum of 225 Guided Learning Hours are eligible.

6.2.2.4. Have paid the appropriate club membership fee.

¹ That is a course that is registered under CATS (Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme).

6.2.3. Special Cases for Participation – the following persons are eligible to participate in the BULSCA league:

6.2.3.1. Non-internal students, provided they meet the other eligibility criteria.

6.2.3.1.1. This allows a student whose home institution does not have a BULSCA club to compete in the BULSCA league with a BULSCA club of a different institution.

6.2.3.1.2. This also allows for students who are away from their home institution, e.g. on a year in industry, to compete in the BULSCA league should they have access to another BULSCA member institution.

6.2.3.1.3. Non-internal students should hold an appropriate membership for, and train with, the BULSCA member club for which they compete.

6.2.3.1.4. Where possible, internal students attending BULSCA member institutions must train and compete with their university's club.

6.2.3.2. A student who is fully registered as an internal student at more than one BULSCA member institution (and is by BULSCA regulations eligible to compete for each of those institutions) may choose, annually, from among the institutions which they are eligible, which of those member institutions to represent.

6.2.3.3. No student may compete for more than one institution in any one academic year.

6.2.3.4. A Sabbatical Officer of either a Students' Union or an Athletic Union who has paid the appropriate Union or Athletic Union subscription.

6.2.3.5. A student satisfactorily finishing their course of study from December onwards is eligible until the end of the academic year provided their club membership has been paid.



6.2.3.6. A student embarking on a Sandwich Course and / or Year Abroad course provided all of the following:

6.2.3.6.1. The appropriate club membership fee has been paid; and,

6.2.3.6.2. The duration of the course in industry is no more than one year,

6.2.3.6.3. In cases of doubt Club Captains/Committees should refer the circumstances to the BULSCA Committee.

6.2.4. Ineligible participants - The following students are ineligible to participate:

6.2.4.1. Students undertaking 'foundation' courses are only eligible if their institution's Registry Office (or equivalent) deems them to fulfil these BULSCA eligibility requirements; i.e. are internally registered students of the BULSCA member institution and are studying an appropriate course as listed above.

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2.2.3 League Teams:

2.2.3.1 Every BULSCA member in accordance with Section 3 of the BULSCA Constitution is entitled to present league teams at every BULSCA sanctioned competition.

2.2.3.2 The limit on the number of teams shall be decided by the Management Committee of the competition but shall not be less than one team per BULSCA member.

2.2.3.3 Multiple teams from a university shall be differentiated with a letter after the BULSCA approved team name, following the sequence:

- University Lifesaving Club A.
- University Lifesaving Club B.
- University Lifesaving Club C; and so on.

2.2.3.3.1 A university that enters a single counting team to a BULSCA League Competition, can choose whether this team will be entered as an A or B team. They cannot be entered with any other designation.

2.2.3.3.2 A university that enters more than one team to a BULSCA League Competition should label the counting teams as A, B, C... Any non-counting teams should take the subsequent letters. For example, a team entering 3 counting teams and 2 non-counting teams should designate the counting teams as A, B, C and the non-counting teams as D and E.

2.2.3.4 Each university should be allowed to enter up to two teams (one A-team and/or one B-team), regardless of whether these teams are counting or not. Additional teams may only be allocated after this is allowed for.

2.2.3.4.1 Extra teams shall be accepted evenly across all Universities, providing they are 'counting teams' as per 2.2.1 of the Competition Manual and 6.2 of the BULSCA Constitution. So that all counting C teams are accepted, followed by all counting D teams, and shall continue until there are no more teams or the competition is full. Once all counting teams are accepted, then non-counting teams (including non-league teams as per 2.2.4) shall be accepted across all universities in a 'first-come-first-serve' basis until the competition is full.'



2.2.5 Enforcement of allocation policy

2.2.5.1 It is the responsibility of the competition organiser and Management Committee to read, understand and follow the allocation policy as set out in 2.2.3 and 2.2.4.

2.2.5.2 Once sign-ups for competitions have closed, the competition organiser is to declare the teams they believe should be allocated spaces to their competition, to the BULSCA committee. It is then the responsibility of the BULSCA committee to ensure that the policy has been followed before the competition pack is published for the competition.

2.2.5.3 The BULSCA committee may allocate one committee member, or a set of committee members, to be responsible for the enforcement of this policy at the beginning of the BULSCA League Season.

2.2.5.4 There will be a five pound (£5) fine for any host club who fails to declare their team allocation to the BULSCA committee

3.4.1 Competition scores must be calculated using the BULSCA Competition Scorer (<https://scorer.bulzca.co.uk/>).

3.4.1.1 Any host club who does not utilise the BULSCA Competition Scorer will be subject to a five pound (£5) fine.

5.1.5 Where rules for an event are not included in this BULSCA Competition Events Manual, the event shall be run in accordance with the latest edition of the International Lifesaving Federation (ILSF) Competition Handbook or should this not be possible the latest edition of RLSS UK National Speed Championships Rules should such rules exist for that event.

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2.2.5 Rescue and first aid techniques will be judged in accordance with the latest published protocols from the Royal Life Saving Society (UK) National Lifesaving Academy Manual and Life Support manuals.

8.2 These events will be run according to the International Lifesaving Federation (ILSF) Competition Rulebook 2023, as per the BULSCA Competition Manual Section 5.1.5.

8.2.1 The same set of rules shall be used throughout the academic year, irrespective of any changes made by the ILSF UK during the year.

BULSCA Disciplinary Policy

A proposal was passed at the 2023 AGM to update some aspects of the disciplinary policy. The BULSCA committee, however, feels that the disciplinary policy currently in place is outdated and therefore inadequate for this competition season. A new policy, which better meets the welfare needs of BULSCA members in 2023, has been written and will be proposed to clubs before Fresher's competition.



For the Penalty and Disqualification code summary (updated to match ILSF rules):

DQ020 removed so manikin must not be carried face up.

DQ020 new code: *Not having the manikin in the correct position before the top of the manikin's head passes the 5m line.*

DQ041 updated to include contact with wall/edge as well as starting block for competitors who do not use starting block. This code has also been added into the Obstacle Relay.

DQ044 removed so the fourth competitor may make touch or grasp the rescue tube, its harness or line with one hand, before the third competitor has touched the turning wall/edge.

DQ059 updated so third competitor must not release contact with wall/edge before manikin head breaks surface of the water.

DQ060 removed so the third competitor may touch or grasp the manikin with one hand before the head of the manikin breaks the surface of the water and the fourth competitor may touch or grasp the manikin with one hand before the third competitor has touched the turning wall/edge.

DQ060 new code: *The third competitor not having the manikin in a correct carrying position before the top of the manikin's head passes the 5m line.*

DQ061 removed to align with BULSCA Events Manual 8.2.6.3, there will be no draw to determine which leg each gender must do.

DQ061 new code: *The fourth competitor not having the manikin in a correct carrying position before the top of the manikin's head passes the 10m line.*