



LONDON YOUTH GAMES

GAMES RULES

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SECTION A – COMPETITIONS, CHAMPIONSHIPS & AWARDS

1. Competitions:

1.1. London Youth Games comprises of three categories of competition:

(i) Open Games – Jubilee Trophy

(iii) Para Games – Para Trophy

(ii) School Games

1.2. In addition, a number of other competitions/events may be delivered.

2. Championships & Awards:

2.1. **Jubilee Trophy** – awarded to the Borough with the highest 24 Open – Jubilee Trophy competition points added together. Any penalties attributed to a Borough **MUST** be included in their total. If there are more than two competitions cancelled this number will be reviewed by the Games Referees in conjunction with LYG staff.

2.2. **Para Games Trophy** – won by the Borough with the highest cumulative points total of the 13 Para Games competitions.

2.3. **Regatta Trophy** – won by the Borough with the highest cumulative points total for the Regatta competitions.

2.4. **Inner London Trophy** – presented to the Inner London borough placed highest on the final Jubilee Trophy Scoreboard.

2.5. **Most Improved Borough Trophy** – presented to the Borough that is the furthest number of places up the leader board from the previous year. If a borough receives any penalties, they will be ineligible for this award in the following year. Where the number of places moved is equal between two or more Boroughs, the Borough that finishes at the highest point on the Jubilee Table will receive the award.

2.6 Individual Sports Awards – each competition has a trophy or salver presented to the winning Borough. The top three individuals / teams in each event also receive LYG medals.

SECTION B – COMPETITOR ELIGIBILITY

3. Borough/ Open competitions:

3.1. Eligibility - General

3.1.1. A competitor is eligible to represent a Borough if they:

- are a resident in a Borough; or
- attends a school or college of further education in that Borough.

3.1.2. No competitor may represent more than one Borough in the same competition.

3.1.3. Competitors are allowed to compete for different Boroughs in different competitions.

3.1.4. If a competitor is eligible to represent two Boroughs, the choice is solely the competitors.

3.2. General eligibility by residence

3.2.1. Boroughs may be represented by individuals whose place of residence is within the Borough's boundaries.

3.2.2. Where a competitor is still in the care of a parent/guardian/carers, their Borough of residence will be defined as that which bills their parent/guardian/carers for council tax.

3.3. Other circumstances relating to residence

3.3.1. Recent move – If an individual is resident in Borough A up to and including the closing date, but then subsequently moves to Borough B before the event, s/he will only be eligible for Borough A, under residence criteria, not for any other Borough. If an individual is resident in Borough A up to and including the closing date but subsequently moves outside the Greater London area before their event s/he will be eligible to represent Borough A, under residence criteria.

3.3.1.1. Split guardian/parent – a competitor has the choice as to which Borough they wish to represent if parents reside in different London Boroughs.

3.3.1.2. Part time residence – where a competitor attends school outside of a Borough, it will not impact their eligibility. Therefore, if a competitor attends boarding school outside of London but is still resident in the care of the parent/guardian/carers outside of term time then they are eligible to represent their home borough.

3.4. General eligibility by school

3.4.1. Boroughs may be represented by a competitor who is an attendee at a school or college of further education in that Borough under the following conditions:

- competitors must have attended the school at the commencement of the academic year.
- only schools registered and approved by the Department for Education will be eligible.
- competitors in education at further education colleges shall be eligible but those at University/ College of Higher Education shall not be eligible; and
- boarders have a choice of which Borough they may represent if the individual lives in one Borough and attends school in another.

3.5. Eligibility – City of London

3.5.1. Residents from City of London housing estates qualify to represent the City of London or the host Borough under the Residence criteria. Permission has been granted by host Local Authorities to approach children on the said estates. There are also selected City of London schools that fall outside the boundaries whose pupils can represent City of London. A list of these is available from London Youth Games.

3.6. Age

3.6.1. The age categories for each event are shown in the individual rules.

3.6.2. Date of birth is the sole determinant for age eligibility – other information such as school year is provided as a reference guide only.

4. School Games competitions:

4.1. A competitor is eligible to represent their Borough where the school they attend is nominated to represent the Borough at a London Youth Games School competition.

4.2. Evidence of attendance must be available from the school on request. Single gender schools can apply to be twinned at the commencement of the academic year for the purposes of mixed team competitions.

SECTION C – ENTERING COMPETITIONS

5. General:

5.1. Only a BTO, SGO or nominated Team Manager can enter a competition.

5.2. A Team Manager must be registered on the LYG system in order to be able to enter a team. Registration is usually done through their relevant BTO/SGO.

5.3 A Borough can enter the maximum number of competitors set out by LYG for each sport a maximum of 1 team per competition. Two replacements can be submitted on the day of the sport.

5.4. Entries into all competitions must be made online according to the published entry process and dates on the individual sports rules.

5.5. No new competition or event entries will be accepted after the LYG submission deadline.

SECTION D – ON THE DAY

6. Kit: competitors should wear Borough or School t-shirts wherever appropriate for identification.

7. Late Arrival: if a team arrives at an event after their designated start time, they may forfeit any matches scheduled to have started at the absolute discretion of the Competition Director and LYG personnel. Subject to this:

- if informed at the earliest opportunity that a team is running late, LYG will try to move match timings where that is possible and does not have a detrimental impact on other boroughs, but this is not guaranteed.
- if that is not possible, where the draw structure allows, the team will join the competition at that point e.g. taking part in subsequent round robin matches.
- Where it is not possible to join the competition, and circumstances allow the Competition Director will endeavour to offer non-scoring matches.

8. Withdrawals and no shows: in the event of a team not being able to attend a competition in which they are entered; an official representative of the Borough or School must formally withdraw.

8.1. On formally withdrawing, the team will be allocated 0 points for this competition.

8.2. Boroughs failing to formally withdraw will be subject to a minus 25 penalty.

8.3. Boroughs can formally withdraw in one of the following ways:

- Email – up to 24 hours before registration closes to the relevant LYG Sport Lead Officer and copied into info@londonyouthgames.org;
- Phone – on the competition day before registration closes (to the LYG Sports Lead published in the Competition Day Information); or
- In person – on the competition day before registration closes (to the relevant registration desk).

8.4. In the event of a team qualifying for a finals competition but subsequently not being able to attend, an official representative of the Borough or School must formally withdraw.

8.5. On formally withdrawing, the team will be allocated:

- the finishing position below the lowest ranked qualifier if the Borough team notifies the London Youth Games at least 7 days prior to the competition. The next best team is invited to attend.
- 0 points if the Borough team notifies the London Youth Games fewer than 7 days prior to the competition; or
- Minus 25 points if the Borough team fails to formally withdraw by email, phone or in person by the close of registration.

9. Incomplete teams:

9.1. Boroughs that arrive at events with incomplete teams (as determined by the Competition Rules) may receive 0 points and can play non-scoring matches only if they have the agreement of the Competition Director and other teams.

9.2. Any team that is complete at registration or the first match but is subsequently deemed incomplete due to injury will retain their position and compete wherever feasible under the Competition rules.

10. Competing:

10.1. Teams must play within the rules of the competition.

10.2. No intimidation of any match referees or other officials will be permitted and players should accept decisions without argument.

10.3. Foul and abusive behaviour and language shall be dealt with by the match officials within the games and by the Competition Director outside of match. In addition, LYG may choose to invoke section F.

10.4. Team managers and BTOs are responsible for their team's behaviour and therefore also liable to the disciplinary process (section F).

10.5. All team managers and participants should recognise the **Code of Conduct** and adhere to it.

SECTION E – INCLEMENT WEATHER & INCOMPLETE COMPETITIONS

11. Indefinite suspension:

11.1. In the event it becomes necessary to delay or suspend a competition indefinitely, because the field of play is blocked by an accident or because the weather or other conditions make it dangerous to continue, LYG staff will refer to the Incomplete Competitions guidance.

11.1.1. In the event of indefinitely/completely suspending the competition, the following general principles will apply:

- Countback will be used to identify a winner or placings for the competition where possible.
- No points or winners will be awarded if at least one round or one event has not been fully completed.
- Each competition will be reviewed based on the furthest fully completed stage of competition.

SECTION F – RULE INFRINGEMENTS AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

14. Rules infringement – eligibility:

14.1. Competitors will be disqualified if found to be in breach of London Youth Games age and/or residential/ school regulations before the competition starts.

14.2. Once the competition has been started, if any player is found to be ineligible by age and/or residential/ school regulations or any other area of competitor eligibility (e.g. standard/ qualification) the whole team will be disqualified and subject to minus 50 penalty points.

15. Rules infringement – sport:

15.1. Any team can be disqualified from a sport by the Competition Director or LYG Staff due to breach of sport specific regulations. This will result in no placing and 0 points. Should the breach of rules also put them in breach of the LYG Games Rules, a Review Panel led by the LYG Games Referee will investigate any further penalty.

16. Rules infringement – behaviour:

16.1. Teams or individuals (participants, team managers and any other identifiable team officials) displaying “**Behaviour not in the Spirit of the Games**” may be liable to Team Disqualification and subject to a minus 50 penalty, upon confirmation from the Review Panel led by the Games Referee.

16.2. "Behaviour not in the Spirit of the Games" includes but is not limited to:

- Bullying or threatening behaviour towards officials or other participants.
- Taunting or verbal abuse towards officials or other participants.
- Physical violence or threatened physical violence towards officials or other participants.
- Any illegal behaviour or other behaviour not consistent with the code of conduct.
- Damage to venues or property.

17. Types of penalty – Disqualification:

17.1. Participant disqualification – this can occur when, but is not limited to:

- A competitor found to be ineligible prior to, during or post-competing; or
- A competitor is in breach of the sport specific regulations.
- A competitor is in breach of the code of conduct.

17.2. Team disqualification – this can occur when, but is not limited to:

- A team is found to be ineligible prior to, during or post-competing; or
- A team is in breach of the sport specific regulations.
- A team is in breach of the code of conduct.

18. Types of penalty – Borough penalty points:

18.1. When a team is subject to a Borough penalty, this points value will be counted in the final Jubilee Trophy calculations as one of their 24 competition results.

18.2. "Penalty minus 25" can occur when, but is not limited to:

- A team not attending an entered competition and no Borough representative formally withdrawing.
- A team not attending final stages of a competition where they have qualified and no Borough representative formally withdrawing.
- The participant has breached the code of conduct or not acted in the Spirit of the Games.
- Parent & Supporter behaviour is in breach of the code of conduct and not in accordance with the Spirit of the Games.

18.3. "Penalty minus 50" can occur when, but is not limited to:

- A team fielding an ineligible player with regard to age, residency, school or standard.
- A competitor competing for multiple boroughs in one scoring competition.
- A competitor using a pseudonym or being identified on the nomination sheet as another person.

- Steps taken to actively falsify eligibility criteria and requirements.
- The team (including Team Managers) have breached the code of conduct or not acted in the Spirit of the Games.

18.3.1. NOTE: “Penalty minus 50” will only be enforced where a competitor/ team has taken part.

18.3.1.1. In a team competition it will be assumed they have taken part once the team’s first match has commenced.

In an individual competition it will be assumed they have taken part at the start of the first race / event.

18.4 Types of penalties – other:

18.4.1. Other disciplinary action – such as deliberate fielding of ineligible players, verbal or other abuse or deliberately breaking the sport specific regulations – LYG reserve the right to:

- Report such behaviour to the relevant National Governing Body.
- Deem a person ineligible to participate in any official capacity in the Games, including but not limited to Team Managers, Coaches, Officials or Participants.
- Report such behaviour to relevant Borough, Regional & National safeguarding boards.
- Report concerns to statutory bodies including but not limited to the Police.

SECTION G – DISPUTES & COMPLAINTS, DISPUTES DURING A COMPETITION

19. Procedures:

19.1. Any dispute relating to field of play decisions must be lodged by a Team Manager, School Games Organiser or Borough Team Organiser with the Competition Director and LYG Staff immediately or as soon as practically possible when the infringement is suspected. It must be lodged prior to the completion of the day’s play.

Any dispute relating to progression through the day of competition (e.g. mistakes in scoring impacting on split draws) must be raised immediately. If the next stage of the competition has already commenced, it may not be possible to correct the mistake and draws for that stage of the competition will stand in such a situation.

19.2. Any other disputes, e.g. relating to final placings, must be raised with LYG staff within 48 hours of the completion.

19.3. Competition Directors and LYG staff reserve the right to review results, investigate and act upon any discrepancies found at any time before the completion of that competition.

19.4. The Competition Director in conjunction with the LYG Sports Lead is empowered to investigate the complaint to decide whether the complaint is sports specific or LYG Games Rules related.

19.4.1. Sports Dispute – Competition Directors and LYG sport personnel decisions are final where a dispute arises from the interpretation and enforcement of a sport's own rules and regulations as detailed and referred to in the Sport Specific rules provided.

19.4.2. LYG Games Disputes – The LYG Review Panel, led by Games Referees is appointed for the purpose of monitoring, interpreting and enforcing the Games Rules and will investigate and adjudicate. The Panel's decision is final in all matters.

20. Adjudication – Sports Disputes:

20.1. Before making a decision, the Competition Director and LYG staff shall ensure that both parties to the dispute have the opportunity to state their case, and that the respective Team Managers are given the opportunity comment where available.

20.2. Where the relevant penalty is team disqualification the Competition Director and/or LYG Sport Lead will notify an LYG Games Referee and ensure the BTO or SGO is present where possible.

21. Adjudication – LYG Games Rules Disputes:

21.1. Competition Directors will contact an LYG staff member to request LYG Games Referee intervention.

21.2. The LYG Games Referee will confirm if it is an LYG Games Rules issue, if yes, the Games Referee will convene a Review Panel to investigate the dispute with parties, including their respective Team Managers if possible. This process will occur post competition / event day.

21.3. BTOs and SGOs will be kept informed and invited to be present where possible.

22. After a Competition – Competition Scoring disputes:

22.1. At the end of the sports competition, the Competition Director and LYG personnel are responsible for determining the final results order of the Boroughs taking part. Any dispute over points allocation should be raised with the relevant

Competition Director within 15 minutes following close of play. Where the dispute refers to qualifying competitions disputes must be raised with LYG immediately and no later than 24 hours after the qualifying day. No changes will be made following presentations either at Competition or Championship (Jubilee) level.

22.2. In all sports disputes the Competition Directors / LYG staff decision is final.

22.3. In all other matters, including but not limited to LYG Games Rules, the LYG Games Referees' decision is final.

22.4. Any individual or team wishing to make a complaint may do so through the LYG complaints procedure, this procedure does not cover sports disputes, provision for sports disputes are covered above.

SECTION H – UNDERSTANDING THE GAMES, TERMINOLOGY

23. Games Referee: The LYG Games Referee team are responsible for ensuring the LYG Games Rules are upheld and that all those taking part are eligible. They also form part of the Review Panel process.

24. LYG: London Youth Games.

25. TM: Team Manager – responsible for one team in a competition.

26. BTO: Borough Team Organiser – an individual(s) who takes overall responsibility for all the borough teams including recruiting a Borough Welfare Officer, managing TMs and disputes.

27. SGO: School Games Organiser – an individual(s) who takes overall responsibility for all the School Games teams for a borough.

28. CD: Competition Director – for each sport this individual is responsible for ensuring the competitions are run fairly, to schedule and according to the Governing rules of the sport.

29. BWO: Borough Welfare Officer – responsible for the safeguarding and welfare of competitors and volunteers– sometimes also the BTO.

30. EMS: Entry Management System – the online system that squads are registered and sports management.

SECTION I – LIST OF BOROUGHs, (i) = Inner Boroughs

City of London(i), Barking & Dagenham, Barnet, Bexley, Brent, Bromley, Camden (i), Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Greenwich(i), Hackney(i), Hammersmith & Fulham(i), Haringey, Harrow, Havering, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Islington(i), Kensington & Chelsea(i), Kingston, Lambeth(i), Lewisham(i), Newham, Redbridge, Richmond, Southwark(i), Sutton, Tower Hamlets(i), Waltham Forest, Wandsworth(i) and Westminster(i).

