

## Gala Organisation



Swimming galas are a wonderful way of showing how your swimming skills are put into practice in a competitive field. NASCH has been promoting and developing galas since 1966, to meet the needs of a competitive disabled swimmer. (We are constantly reviewing and updating our policy and rulebook to enable the swimmer to be given the best opportunity to compete on an equal basis with other disabled swimmers.)

The system is simple and has been designed to give every disabled swimmer the opportunity to swim competitively with an equal chance to win a medal or cup.

The does not discriminate between people with physical or learning disabilities, nor indeed does it discriminate between types of disabilities or performance (speed) of swimmers. Using this system the most severely disabled people can compete on equal terms with those who have a slight disability and are therefore much faster swimmers. It follows of course that by using this system both disabled and non-disabled people can compete together on equal terms.

NASCH organises galas in all regions covering the UK enabling the disabled swimmer to meet and compete with swimmers from other clubs in their area and then if successful go on to swim in the National Finals. The National finals are held once a year usually in November.

To assist club organisers, NASCH has published a booklet called the Gala Organisers Handbook, (Guidelines to the NASCH Competitive System). We can also supply on request "race cards" for use at club galas.

Both the Gala Organisers Handbook and the race cards are available from the NASCH Administrative Officer, Mrs R O'Leary, The Willows, Mayles Lane, Wickham, Hants PO17 5ND.

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