

Penn Del Referee Clinic Explanation of 12 Year Old Participation Rule

1. This is to provide you with guidance in applying the rules for 11-12 Age Group swimmers swimming up. First the rules.
2. Rule 2.2 – Age Groups

A. A swimmer's age for the entire League season (**League Age**) is determined by the individual's age as of December 1 of the current season. Those individuals having birthdays on December 1 will be considered to have attained the older age.

B. Swimmers whose **LEAGUE AGE** puts them in the 8 & under, 9-10, or 11-12 Age Group categories may move up one Age group for any League Dual meet. However, the swimmer must compete in the advanced age group for the entire League Meet. For example, a 9-10 swimmer who wishes to compete in the 11-12 Butterfly event may then compete (officially) only in the 12 & under Age Group events. The swimmer would not be eligible to compete (officially) in any 9-10 Age Group events.

C. A swimmer whose **League Age** put them in the 13-14 Age Group category may move WITHOUT restriction between the 13-14 and 15-19 categories in any League Dual Meet and may officially compete in either or both age groups in the same dual meet.

D. A 11-12 Age Group swimmer who is at least 12 years old (their 12th birthday is on or before the day of the meet) on the day of the meet may move WITHOUT restriction between the 11-12 and 15-19 (or 13-14 and 15-19) Age Groups in any League Dual Meet. A swimmer may not swim (officially) in both the 11-12 and 13-14 Age Groups (or in the 11-12, 13-14 and 15-19 Age Groups) in the same League Dual Meet.

3. The rule allows swimmers who are 12 years old by actual **BIRTH AGE** to move between age groups. Younger age swimmers cannot move back and forth between age groups. If an 11 year old swims as a 13-14 age group, they must stay in 13-14 for the whole meet.
4. If an 11-12 Age group swimmer has swam as a 13-14 or 15-19 you will see them listed in the exception report. The report will indicate that a swimmer swam in an incorrect age group.

This is a legal combination for swimmers who are actually 12 years of age by birth date. They may swim in 11-12, or in 11-12 and 15-19, or in 13-14 and 15-19. The only incorrect combination is if they swim as 11-12 and 13-14.

Once you get the exception report showing a 11-12 has swam as 13-14 or 15-19, you have to determine the actual age by birth date of the swimmer and also determine which age groups the swimmer competed in as official swims. Exhibition swims are not a consideration.

5. If the 11-12 swimmer had three swims in the 13-14 age group, they are legal, irrespective of age.
6. If the 11-12 swimmer had three swims in the 15-19 age group, and they are 12 years of age based on **BIRTH AGE** they are legal.
7. If the 11-12 swimmer had swims in both the 11-12 and 13-14 age groups, they are NOT LEGAL, irrespective of age.
8. If the 11-12 swimmer had swims in the 11-12 and 15-19, or 13-14 and 15-19, and they are 12 years of age based on **BIRTH AGE** they are legal.
9. If the 11-12 swimmer had swims in the 11-12 and 15-19, or 13-14 and 15-19, and they are 11 years of age based on **BIRTH AGE** they are NOT LEGAL.