

Swim England North West/Swim England North East

Open Water Regionals Swimming Championships - 29th June 2024

Meet Conditions

1. General Conditions

- a. The Swim England North West Regional Management Board (the Board) reserves full powers over all Regional Swimming Championships. Management and Promoters responsibilities shall be delegated to the Swimming Management Group and their nominated representative at the event.
- b. The Event shall be held under Swim England Regulations and the relevant World Aquatics (WA) Technical Rules of Open Water. Para athletes will compete under current World Para Swimming (WPS) Rules and Regulations
- c. A competitor must be a registered member, or equivalent of the club in whose name he or she is entered, at the date of making the initial entry. Swimmers may enter in the name of one club only.
- d. Foreign competitors will be accepted if they are from one of the Countries affiliated to World Aquatics other than those from countries that World Aquatics or the UK Government have deemed ineligible to compete (provided they are insured by their home federation).

2. Events

- a. Individuals Events:
 - i. 12 years – 2km
 - ii. 13 Years – 2km
 - iii. 14/15 years – 3km
 - iv. 16 and Over – 5km
 - v. Para Swimmers S7 to S14 – 2km (sight impaired swimmers who need a guide are responsible for providing a guide).

Age as 31 ST December 2024	Regional Qualifying Event for Nationals	National Championship Race Distance
12 years	-	-
13 years	2K	3K
14/15 years	3K	5K
16 years +	5k	7.5k

The first four finishers from SENE and SENW in each of the National Age Groups and competitions category's (Female and Male) will be eligible (by invite) to swim at the National Age Group Championships.

- b. Senior Age Category 18 – 24 years (can only enter one):
 - i. 1.5km
 - ii. 3km
 - iii. 5km
- c. Master Events (can only enter 1 event)
 - i. 1.5 km
 - ii. 3km
- d. Age categories for the Masters events are: 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64 and in 5-year age bands as required.
- e. Para Swimmers (S7 – S14); can only enter 2km event.
 - i. Sight impaired swimmers who need a guide are responsible for providing a guide.
- f. All individual events are available for both open/male and female competitors.
- g. The schedule of events shall be published in addition to these conditions.

3. Entries

In line with the Swim England transgender and non-binary competition policy the following definitions apply:

Female Athletes with a birth sex of female

Open Athletes with a birth sex of male, trans or non-binary competitors and any competitor not eligible for the female category

By entering the 'Female' category, an athlete confirms that their birth sex is female.

- a. Individual Events
 - i. Entries may only be accepted from competitors registered with Swim England, Swim Scotland, Swim Wales as a member of an affiliated club or those competitors entering by virtue of condition (1d) at the closing date for entries.
- b. Ages as at 31st December 2024.
 - i. Senior Age Group must be 18 years old on the day of the competition
 - ii. Masters must be 18 years old on the day of the competition.
- c. All competitors are required to comply with the entry process and pay the required fees.
- d. Entries together with the appropriate fees must be received by the Championship Manager no later than the published closing time and date.
 - i. **Closing dates for entries is 9am, Wednesday 12th June 2024.**
- e. A Para Swimmer who is a vision impaired swimmer and requires a guide **will not** be required to pay an extra fee for the guide.
- f. The Championship Manager has the authority to adjust the number of entries accepted to ensure the efficient running of the Championships in compliance with Open Water Safety requirements.

4. Meet Procedure

- a. A cut off time limit of 30 minutes after the first swimmer in each event has finished may operate at the referee's discretion.
- b. Competitors must have their number displayed on their swimming cap (provided), back or upper arms. Swimmers must also wear the electronic chip and/or wristband provided. When wetsuits are in use, only the hats will be numbered.
- c. Where athlete numbers require, swimmers will be started in waves/groups. These waves/groups may include mixed ages, including masters and based on submitted entry times.
- d. Swimmers shall be allowed to use grease or other substances providing these are not deemed excessive, in the opinion of the Referee.
- e. Masters Swimmers may be required to swim with age group swimmers to ensure the timely running of the event.

5. Registration and Briefing

- a. Swimmers must sign in at the registration desk at the appropriate times which will be published in the briefing information following the closure of entries.
- b. Any swimmer representative (coach or chaperone) not in attendance at the briefing (either face to face or delivered virtually) will result in the swimmers not being allowed to swim.
- c. The safety briefing will be delivered virtually by way of
Zoom at 7.00 pm on either Tuesday 25th June or Wednesday 26th June 2024.
Zoom details will be confirmed once entries have been accepted.
Prior to the briefing a register will be taken and non attendees at the briefing will not be permitted to swim. The briefing is part of the safety measures in place for the competition, therefore this is non-negotiable.
NON ATTENDANCE AT ONE OF THE BRIEFINGS MEANS NO SWIM
- d. For those under 18 years at the time of the virtual briefing an adult (parent, guardian, coach) needs to be present for the duration of the briefing.
- e. Following the virtual briefing a confirmation may be sought that swimmers have understood the briefing, for those under 18 years on the day of the briefing this will need to be returned by either a parent, guardian or coach or suitable responsible adult over 18 years of age.

6. Safety Conditions

- a. Water temperature will be monitored in the run up to the Championships
- b. On the day of the competition, prior to the start, the course will be inspected and water temperature measured to ensure all of the safety requirements are met and the conditions are suitable for staging the championships.
- c. Reasonable modification may be made to the course or the manner in which the Championships is conducted based on the conditions at the time.
- d. For guidance regarding water temperature please see information in Entry Pack.

7. Wetsuits

- a. As per World Aquatics Rules 7.2 and 8.1.6.3:
 - i. Water Temperature 18°C – 31°C: wetsuits are not permitted.
 - ii. Water Temperature 16°C – 17.9°C: the use of wetsuits is compulsory.
- b. Wetsuits and swim suits must comply with World Aquatics Open Water Rules.
- c. **Approved Swimwear**. Please ensure you check the list.

8. Cancellations

- a. If the conditions are deemed to be unsuitable and not safe, then a decision may be made to cancel or stop the Championships.
- b. Full refunds of entry fees will be offered to all competitors.
- c. No refunds will be offered for any other expenses incurred in relation to the Championships.

9. Awards

- a. SE North West and SE North East medals will be awarded to the first 3 open/male and female swimmers, from the respective region, in each of the following age groups; 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17/18 and 19/over.
- b. Cheshire County WPSA; Lancashire County WPSA; Northumberland & Durham SA; and Yorkshire ASA medals will be awarded to the first 3 open/male and female swimmers, from the respective county, in each of the following age groups: 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17/18 and 19/over.
- c. SE North West and SE North East medals will be awarded for Masters Events for the first 3 open/males and females, from the respective region, for each age category as listed in condition 2d.
- d. SE North West and SE North East medals will be awarded for Para Swimmers (S7 – S14) for the first 3 open/males and females, from the respective region, for each category as listed in 2a.
- e. Cheshire County WPSA; Lancashire County WPSA; Northumberland & Durham SA; and Yorkshire ASA medals will be awarded for Masters Events for the first 3 male and female swimmers, from the respective county, in each age category as listed in condition 2c.
- f. Swimmers outside of SE North West; SE North East and the above counties can enter but will not be awarded medals. This condition also applies to competitors who enter the event by virtue of condition 1.d.

10. Other Protocols

- a. The Championship Manager has the authority to adjust the number of entries accepted to ensure the event is compliant with safe conduct of a competition.
- b. The structure, programme and delivery of the Championships will be subject to Government (National or Local), Swim England or facility guidelines.

11. Withdrawals

Withdrawing from the event must be completed prior to the event/session in which the individual is due to compete. Any failure to withdraw or notification of withdrawal received later than the event withdrawal cut off time will result in no refund being processed.

Individuals who have withdrawn from events due to either a medical reason or injury – refund will be considered by application and submission of appropriate evidence (e.g. note from doctor or note from physio). Submission of additional supporting evidence must be sent to events@swimnorthwest.org

12. Data Protection Statement

Entries to the meet will be held on computer and consent, as required by the Data Protection Act 2018, to the holding of personal information on computer will be deemed to have been given by the submission of an entry. You agree that we may publish your Personal Information as part of the results of the competition.

Your information will only be shared in relation to your participation in the event, e.g. the list of entrants, results and event reports and may be shared on the SENW website, social media pages or in emails sent by the organiser.

[SENW privacy policy can be found here.](#)

We may pass such information to the governing body or any affiliated organisation for the purpose of insurance, licenses or for publishing results either for the event alone or combined with or compared to other events.

Information may include but not be limited to name, club affiliation, events, results & age category.

Pre-event zoom briefing will be recorded to provide proof of content if required.