

Swim England North West

Regional Winter Swimming Championships (25m) 2026

Incorporating Winter Development Meet

Event Conditions

License Number:
Level 2 Meet

1. General Conditions

- a. The Swim England North West Regional Management Board (the Board) reserves full powers over all Regional Swimming Championships including but not limited to cancelling, postponing or changing the competition venue and/or format due to reasons beyond its reasonable control.
- b. Management and Promoters responsibilities shall be delegated to the Swimming Management Group and their nominated representative at the event.
- c. The Championships shall be competed annually on dates decided by the Swimming Management Group.
- d. The Event shall be held under Swim England Regulations and the relevant World Aquatics/World Para Swimming rules.
- e. The entry fees will be set annually by the Swimming Management Group.
- f. Some 'noise' always raises the mood but please keep use of air horns to a reasonable level, Athletes and spectators who are sensitive to noise may wish to consider ear defenders.

2. Events

- a. Individuals Events: - Winter Championships (15/16yr and 17/Over)
 - i. 100m, 200m, 400m, Freestyle
 - ii. 100m, 200m Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly
 - iii. 100m, 200m and 400m Individual Medley
- b. Individuals Events: - Winter Championships (16/Under and 17/Over)
 - i. 50m, 800m and 1500m Freestyle
 - ii. 50m, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly
- c. Individuals Events: - Development Meet (14/Under)
 - i. 100m, 200m, 400m Freestyle
 - ii. 100m, 200m Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly
 - iii. 100m, 200m and 400m Individual Medley
- d. All individual events will be available for both open and female competitors.

- e. The schedule of events together with consideration times shall be published in addition to these conditions.

3. Entries

a. Individuals

- i. In line with the Swim England transgender and non-binary competition policy the following definitions apply:
 - 1. Female Athletes with a birth sex of female
 - 2. Open Athletes with a birth sex of male, trans or non-binary competitors and any competitor not eligible for the female category
- ii. Entries may only be accepted from competitors registered with Swim England at the time of entry as a member of a club affiliated to Swim England North West Region.
- iii. No individual may compete in the Championships if he/she has competed or entered in an equivalent Championship of another English Region in the same calendar year.
- iv. Individual Championship events for each gender will comprise Senior (17 years and over) and Junior (15/16 years).
- v. Individual Development Meet events for each gender from 14/Under age group
- vi. The number of entries that will be accepted is as follows:
 - Development Meet – 14/Under – 100m-400m – 8 Competitors
 - Championships – 16/Under – 50m – 24 Competitors
 - Championships – 15/16 – 100m-400m – 20 Competitors
 - Championships – 16/Under – 800m-1500m – 12 Competitors
 - Championships – 17/Over – 50m – 24 Competitors
 - Championships – 17/Over – 100m-400m – 20 Competitors
 - Championships – 17/Over – 800m-1500m – 12 Competitors
- vii. **The Championship Manager reserves the right to adjust the number of accepted entries or competitors in the 800/1500m these places will be shared equally across the age group should time allow.**

The Championship Manager has full authority over all entry rejections.
- viii. Should the number of submitted entries be less than the number of accepted entries specified above in any age group or event, we reserve the to amend the number accepted in other age groups. This will be at the discretion of the championship manager providing it is safe to do so and session times allow.

b. Ages as at 31st December 2026.

- c. All competitors are required to comply with the online entry process and pay the required fees.
- d. Entries together with the appropriate fees must be received by the Competition Manager no later than the published closing time and date.
 - i. **Entries will close at 23:59hrs on Tuesday 20th October 2026**
- e. Entry times achieved in either 25m pool or converted 50m times are permitted.
- f. Entry times must have been achieved at a Level 1, 2 or 3 licensed Swim England event between 1st April 2025 and the closing date for entries. Times from events of a similar standard will be acceptable.

- g. Submitted entry times shall be used for seeding and rejection purposes as required; once a time has been submitted improved times can be submitted using the link on the confirmation entry email, up to the closing date for entries for the competition.
- h. The Championship Manager has the authority to adjust the number of entries accepted to ensure the efficient running of the Championships in compliance with Swim England Meet Licensing requirements.

4. Meet Procedure

- a. All events shall have Heats and 'Championship Finals' with the exception of 400m Individual Medley and 400m, 800m and 1500m Freestyle events which will be swum as Heat Declared Winner events, these events will be swam within the heats with the exception of the fastest heat which will be swam within the finals.
- b. The fastest 16 swimmers overall from the 'Winter Championships' Heats and 'Development Meet' Heats will be entered into an A & B Final
- c. Where possible there will be four reserves for the finals, all competitors in the each of the finals and all reserve swimmers must report to marshalling unless they have complied with the withdrawals procedures found in 7.a.
- d. Competitors whose entries have been accepted will be expected to swim unless they have complied with the withdrawals procedure.
- e. Should a swimmer withdraw on grounds of illness or injury, they will not be eligible to compete in any other events during that day of competition.
- f. Heats and Finals will be seeded in accordance with World Aquatics rules. The fastest eight swimmers will be entered into a 'Championship A Final' and the next fastest eight swimmers will be entered into a 'Championship B Final' Three reserve finalists will be identified. Where a swimmer withdraws prior to the cutoff time from an 'A Final' the next fastest swimmer from the 'B Final' will be moved into the 'A Final' and then a reserve will be swam in the 'B Final'
- g. A supplementary 'Flash' strobe for race starts will be provided subject to availability.

h. Backfilling of Entries

Once the list of accepted entries has been published, backfilling may be offered to athletes whose entries were initially rejected. Backfilling will occur following withdrawals from other competitors. The specific events, age groups, and number of backfilled entries will be determined at the discretion of the Championship Manager. All decisions made by the Championship Manager are final.

Athletes selected for backfilling will be notified via email, and an updated Accepted Entries document will be published. Updated entries will be released according to the following schedule:

Back fill deadline: Monday, 26th October

5. Para Swimmers

- a. The conditions for the Swim England 2026 Winter Regional Swimming Championships (25m) shall apply to Para competitors except where varied by supplementary Para Swimming conditions to the Championships.

6. Withdrawal from Heats

- a. Withdrawals from Heats must be made no later than 60 minutes before the advertised competition start time of the relevant session using the [online entry viewer](#).
- b. Any swimmer who fails to attend without withdrawal shall incur a penalty fee of £15.00 **per event**.
- c. Unpaid fines will result in athletes being ineligible to enter further regional events.

7. Withdrawal from Finals

- a. Finalists and Reserves not wishing to compete in the final must withdraw no later than 20 minutes after the last event eligible for a final. Reserves are released at marshalling.
- b. Withdrawals must be submitted using the advertised procedure.
- c. Any swimmer who, having qualified for a Final as competitor or reserve, fails to attend marshaling without having been withdrawn from the Final in the official format, shall incur a penalty fee of £15.00 **per Final**.
- d. Unpaid fines will result in athletes being ineligible to enter further regional events.

8. Marshalling Area

- a. Swimmers must report to the Competitor Stewards in the Marshalling Area for Heats and Finals and follow their direction. It is the competitor's responsibility to report in sufficient time for their event.
- b. All competitors are required to report 'race ready' as under normal circumstances having reported to the Marshalling Area they should remain in the confines until led on to the deck for their race.
- c. Coaches, Team Staff and Chaperones will not be allowed Marshalling Area.

9. Awards

- a. Award categories for the championships will be.
 - i. Junior (16 / Under)
 - ii. Open
- b. Heat Declared Winner (400m / 800m & 1500m)
 - i. Where the event is HDW medals will be awarded to the top 3 fastest competitors in each age group using the results from the 'Heats'
- c. Finals (50m / 100m & 200m)
 - i. Where the event results in a final, the top 16 fastest competitors in each event across all age groups will be entered into either an A & B Final.

- ii. A & B Finals will seeded as follows
- iii. A Finals – Fastest 8 Competitors from the heats (Spearheaded)
- iv. B Finals – Next fastest 8 Competitors from the heats (Spearheaded)
- d. The result of the A & B finals will be used to calculate the awards.
- e. Results from competitors in the 'A Final' will take precedence even if a competitor in a 'B Final' swims a quicker time.
- f. Where an A final does not have 3 swimmers in each of the defined age categories, the results from the 'B Final' will be used to calculate the awards.
- g. Where neither an 'A Final' or 'B Final' has 3 swimmers in each of the defined age categories the results from the 'Heats' will be used to calculate the awards.
- h. Where results from heats are used to calculate awards, competitors in finals will take precedence even if a swimmer within the heats swims a quicker time.

Supplementary Para Swimming Conditions

1. Events

a. Individual Events:

i. Freestyle

50m	S1 to S13
100m	S1 to S14
200m	S1 to S5 and S14
400m	S6 to S14

ii. Backstroke

50m	S1 to S5
100m	S1, S2, and S6 to S14

iii. Butterfly

50m	S2 to S7
100m	S8 to S14

iv. Breaststroke

50m	SB1 to SB3
100m	SB4 to SB9 and SB11 to SB14

v. Individual Medley

200m – SM5 to SM14

2. Entries

a. Para Swimmers may enter events:

- i. Where they meet their classification Para qualifying time, or without reference to their classification they meet the able bodied qualifying time.
- ii. Where there is no Para Qualifying time, they meet the able-bodied qualifying time.

b. At the time of entry, competitors must indicate their classification.

- i. Para entries will be accepted in addition to the limits set out above

c. The schedule of qualifying times shall be published in addition to these conditions.

d. Para swimmers will be seeded within the able-bodied programme based upon their entry time.

3. Meet Procedure

- a. The competition format will be based upon Para Swimmers inclusion within the schedule of events. Swimmers will be seeded within the able-bodied programme on their submitted times.

4. Awards

- a. Awards shall be made to the Para Swimmers competitors place first, second and third in each event based upon British Para Swimming Points.
- b. Where there are less than four competitors in an event a minus rule will apply.
- c. Where there is a single competitor in an event, that competitor must achieve faster than their entry time to receive an award.