

Swim England South East
Long Course Swimming Championships 2026
Licence Numbers: To be confirmed

1 **General conditions**

1.1 The 2026 Swim England South East Region Swimming Championships shall be conducted on

- 25th/26th April 2026 at K2 Crawley Sports and Leisure Centre (Age Groups Championships).
- 1st – 4th May 2026 at Wycombe Leisure Centre (Youth Championships, Para-Swimming competition).
- 9th/10th May 2026 at Winchester Sports and Leisure Park (Age Group Championships).

1.2 All events shall be conducted in accordance with Swim England Laws and Technical Rules of Swimming, the relevant World Para Swimming Rules and these promoters' conditions. This competition will be licensed at Level 1 and run over long course (50m) and shall fully conform to the Swim England Guidance for Running Safe Events.

1.2.1 These Championships are planned to be held long course, however if a 50m pool is not available they will be transferred to a short course competition. If it is not possible to configure the pool for a long course competition, the competition shall run as a short course competition. If this situation occurs, the Region will make reasonable efforts to offer those swimmers, with a realistic chance of setting a time that would qualify for a summer national competition, the opportunity to re-swim in a long course competition. Such re-swims would not change the results of the championships swum short course and notwithstanding condition 7.1 would not be considered to be time trials.

1.2.2 Backstroke starting ledges will be available.

1.2.3 A starting strobe will be provided where it is requested by the athlete at time of entry.

1.3 The programme of events shall be:

Freestyle	50m	100m	200m	400m	800m	1500m
Backstroke	50m	100m	200m			
Breaststroke	50m	100m	200m			
Butterfly	50m	100m	200m			
Individual Medley			200m	400m		

1.3.1 An **event** is a unit of competition for which medals are awarded (e.g. Female 14yrs 100m freestyle); an **event group** is the group of events that are swum together (e.g. Male/Open 15yrs & Over 100m freestyle).

1.4 There shall be the following age groups for Open/Male and Female competitors:

11/12yrs 13yrs 14yrs 15yrs 16yrs 17yrs 18yrs/over

1.4.1 Age Group Championships shall be for ages - 11/12yrs, 13yrs & 14yrs
Youth Championships shall be for ages - 15yrs, 16yrs, 17yrs & 18yrs/Over

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1.5 Para Swimming events

1.5.1 Para Swimming events shall conform to guidelines provided by Swim England.

Stroke	Classification	WPS recognised events			
Freestyle	S1 – S14	50m	100m		
Freestyle	S1 – S5, S14			200m	
Freestyle	S6 – S14				400m
Backstroke	S1 - S5	50m			
Backstroke	S1, S2, S6 – S14		100m		
Breaststroke	SB1 – SB3	50m			
Breaststroke	SB4 – SB9, SB11 – SB14		100m		
Butterfly	S1 – S7	50m			
Butterfly	S8 – S14		100m		
Individual Medley	SM1 – SM4		150m (without butterfly)		
Individual Medley	SM5 – SM14			200m	

1.6 Para swimming competition format:

The general conditions for Swim England South East Region Swimming Championships shall apply to the Para Swimming events except where they vary by any of the following conditions.

- 1.6.1 The competition format will be based on para-swimming inclusion within the able-bodied programme in the Youth Championships. Swimmers will be integrated on a time-banded basis in all events except for the 150m Individual Medley.
- 1.6.2 Para-swimmers may enter events which are not included in the multi-classification programme, on the same basis as able-bodied swimmers.
- 1.6.3 Placing shall be determined by the three swimmers who either achieve a time better than or is closest to the equivalent British Long Course record relevant to their own classification (using the version of the Para-Swimming Points Calculator available from British Swimming on the day prior to the start of the competition).
- 1.6.4 The organisers may swim the Open/Male and Female SM1-SM4 150m Individual Medley events together depending on the number of entries.
- 1.6.5 All results shall be calculated from heat times, even if swimmers qualify for and swim in a final in the able-bodied competition.

2. Eligibility for entry

2.1 The Championships shall be open to eligible swimmers as defined by Swim England, who, on the date of submission of entry, are members of clubs affiliated to Swim England South East Region and who shall not have competed in the championships of another Region since 1st January 2026.

2.2 A swimmer must have been a Swim England registered member of the club in whose name they are entered at least 30 days prior to the first day of the Championships.

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- 2.3 For all events a swimmer's age shall be determined as at midnight on 31st December in the year of the Championships.
- 2.4 The Female category is for birth sex females in accordance with [Swim England's Transgender and Non-Binary Competition Policy](#). By entering the 'Female' category you confirm that your birth sex is female.
- 2.5 Entries will not be accepted from any club whose entry fees for any previous regional championships have not been paid.
- 2.6 All swimmers may qualify with either a Long Course or Short Course entry time. Entry times must have been achieved between **1st June 2025 and 6th April 2026** inclusive.
- 2.7 **Eligibility for para swimmers.**
 - 2.7.1 All swimmers must have an authorised Para Swimming, British Swimming, INAS-FID or British Blind Sport classification, which is held on the British Swimming or Para Swimming classification database at the time of entry.
 - 2.7.2 A qualifying standard of 200 points will apply to all events in the para competition.
- 3. **Entry management**
 - 3.1 The entry fees for this competition are £10 per event
 - 3.1.1 Shortly after the end of the competition, clubs will be invoiced for the fees for accepted entries and fines for swimmers who failed to withdraw and did not report for the start of their race. No fee will be levied for withdrawals due to significant injury or illness. The invoice will be sent to the person who submitted the entry file. Payment is due within 7 days of the issue of the invoice. A surcharge of 5% will be added to all invoices not paid by 1st July 2026.
 - 3.1.2 Waiving of fees. Once entries have been confirmed, entry fees will only be waived if the swimmer is unable to swim on medical grounds (as determined by the Swimming Competition Manager).
 - 3.2.3 A request to waive fees, must use the form provided and must be received no later than 24hrs after the date of swim. Late requests will not be considered.
 - 3.2.4 Submission of a request does not constitute a withdrawal, and the online withdrawal form (condition 6.2) must be completed. All requests to waive fees will be reviewed after the last day of competition.
 - 3.2.5 The online withdrawal form includes provision to explain the reason for the withdrawal. Swim England South East will review all withdrawals and determine which fees will be waived. Clubs may challenge any decision not to waive fees.
 - 3.2 All entry files must be submitted on or before **18:00 on 2nd April 2026**.
 - 3.2.1 Clubs may submit a revised entry file on or before 18:00 on 9th April 2026 to make corrections, withdrawals and add entries achieved since 2nd April 2026.

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- 3.2.2 Late entries will not normally be accepted for this competition. If truly exceptional circumstances apply, then a late entry may be considered by the Swimming Competition Manager if a request is submitted in writing setting out why such a request should be granted. Any request will be considered in confidence. Problems with the entry system or swimmer illness will not be considered a valid reason.
- 3.2.2 For all individual events, the Swim England South East Region Swimming Competitions Group shall set Automatic and Base Level qualifying times.
- 3.2.3 Both short course and long course times shall be published. Swimmers must submit a time for each entry which has been achieved on or after 1st June in the previous year.
- 3.2.4 This is a long course competition. For the purposes of determining acceptance and seeding, submitted long course and converted short course files, using the Swim England (ASA) conversion algorithms, will be used.
- 3.2.5 Submitted times may be either short or long course. All short course (25m) times will be automatically converted by the entry portal, using the Swim England (ASA) Equivalent Performance Tables for the purpose of accepting entries.
- 3.2.6 Converted times are NOT acceptable. All times submitted must be actual times swum and recorded on Swim England Rankings.
All times must be set in competitions licences at level 1, 2 or 3.
- 3.2.7 Times set in Masters competitions and appearing only in Masters Rankings are not acceptable.
- 3.3 All times will be checked against Swim England Rankings on entry. Any time that cannot be validated against rankings will be rejected as an invalid entry. Entries may be amended up to the closing date, after which subsequent improved times will not be accepted.
- 3.3.1 If it is not possible to validate entries against Swim England Rankings all entries will be deemed to be validated. Entries subsequently discovered to be invalid will be rejected and any time recorded in the Championships for an invalid entry will be disqualified.
- 3.4 All entries shall be submitted via the online entry portal on the Swim Manager web site. A link to the entry system will be provided via the competition webpage
(<https://www.southeastswimming.org/swimming/long-course-championships-2026/>)
- 3.4.1 The entry procedure will be defined on the competition webpage at least 2 weeks prior to the entry opening date.
- 3.5 All entries to this competition must be from a club affiliated to Swim England South East Region and made by a designated club officer. Individual entries other than for the disability competition are not accepted.
- 3.5.1 Entries for the multi discipline competition must be submitted individually and must form part of the club entry and be included on the club entry declaration sheet. Full details will be published on the competition web page
(<https://www.southeastswimming.org/swimming/long-course-championships-2026/>).

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- 3.5.2 By submitting an entry file via the entry portal, the club confirms that all reasonable efforts have been made to ensure that entries conform to the championships conditions and accepts liability to pay the appropriate entry fee.
- 3.6 Swim England South East Region Competition Group shall determine the target number of swimmers to be accepted for each event in the Age Group Championships and each event group in the Youth Championships and shall also set a minimum number of entries for each event in the Youth Championships.
- 3.6.1 Age Group Championships
- All swimmers who achieve the automatic qualifying time will be accepted, even if that exceeds the target number of swims.
 - Any additional spaces up to the target number of swims will be filled by swimmers who have achieved the consideration time, fastest first.
- 3.6.2 Youth Championships
- All swimmers who achieve the automatic qualifying time will be accepted.
 - For any event where the minimum number of swims has not been reached, additional swims will be accepted up to that minimum number, by accepting swims that have achieved the event group consideration time, fastest first.
 - If the target total number of swims for the event group has not been reached, additional swims will be accepted up to the total number from other swimmers who have achieved the event group consideration time, fastest first regardless of age.
- 3.7 Notwithstanding condition 3.6, in the interests of safety and to ensure the smooth running of the Championships, the promoter reserves the right to restrict the number of entries in any event, in which case, the swimmers with the fastest submitted times shall take preference.
- 4 Confirmation of entry**
- 4.1 All entries will be confirmed by e-mail to the person who submitted the entry.
- 4.1.1 Entries may be corrected at any time up to the closing date. After this date, only errors introduced by Swim England South East Region may be corrected.
- 4.1.2 A list of **submitted** entries will be published through the competition web page as soon as possible after the initial closing date (18:00 on 2nd April 2026).
- 4.1.3 A list of **accepted** entries will be published through the competition web page as soon as possible after 9th April 2026.
- 5 Access to poolside**
- 5.1 Access to the poolside is restricted to swimmers competing in the session, coaches, chaperones, team managers in possession of the recognised poolside accreditation, officials working during the session and assigned volunteers. Pool side accreditation must be purchased ahead of the competition through the Swim England Member Options portal. Accreditation must always be visible.

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- 5.1.2 Spectators and parents are not allowed on the pool deck, in the changing rooms or in any designated overflow area for swimmers, unless they are given explicit permission by the event or pool staff and are always accompanied by a member of the event or pool staff.
- 5.2 All club representatives supervising athletes shall abide by the Swim England Wavepower policies and guidelines and shall have completed appropriate training in accordance with those policies and guidelines. Clubs shall ensure that they comply with Swim England supervision ratios.
- 5.2.1 Swim England South East Region recognises that the minimum supervision numbers may challenge small clubs. Several clubs may work together as a “virtual club” to ensure that there is sufficient supervision.
- 5.2.2 To manage space on poolside and to comply with conditions of hire of the pool used for the competition:
- swimmers are not allowed to carry a bag larger than a small draw string bag onto poolside
 - coaches and team managers are allowed a single kit bag on poolside
 - only 1 folding chair per club is permitted on poolside
 - any loose kit, such as fins, rollers and slam balls, is banned from poolside during the competition
- 5.2.3 Anyone who deliberately contravenes any health and safety or safeguarding requirement (condition 12) may be expelled from poolside, have their poolside pass withdrawn and be denied poolside passes for future events.
- 5.2.4 Any use of a mobile phone or device in a changing area during a Swim England regulated activity is prohibited. Anyone found using a mobile phone or device in the changing area may be asked to leave the competition.
- 5.3 It is the duty of coaches and team managers to ensure that swimmers in their charge are in good health and are not likely to pose a risk to others. Swimmers who are unwell should be removed from the pool deck as soon as possible.
- 5.3.1 It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure they are aware of the whereabouts of their swimmers with neurodiversity and that appropriate support, in line with Swim England guidance, is provided by the club for these swimmers.
- 6 Management of the pool**
- 6.1 A warm-up schedule will be published in advance of each session. Swimmers may only access the pool for warm-up at the time allocated and must follow the directions of the appointed warm-up marshal.
- 6.1.1 Some venues will have a continuous warm up facility which may be used only when a lifeguard is present.
- 6.2 Clubs shall ensure that all their athletes are appropriately supervised from the time they arrive at the venue until the time they leave the venue.

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- 6.3 If a venue must be evacuated coaches and team managers are responsible for following the evacuation procedures determined by the operator and ensuring that athletes are taken to the designated meeting point without endangering their own lives or the lives of others. Coaches and team managers should always maintain a register of all swimmers in their care.
- 7 Meet procedures**
- 7.1 There shall be separate events for each category (Open/Male & Female).
- 7.1.1 Time Trials will not be permitted during the Championships.
- 7.2 A withdrawal system will be in operation. Club representatives are expected to withdraw any individual swimmers as early as possible. All withdrawals are final.
- 7.2.1 Withdrawals before the first day of the Age Group or Youth competition weekends must be made using the link on the competition web page.
- 7.2.2 Club representatives are expected to withdraw swimmers who are not intending to swim no later than the start of warm-up for the session in which the event is scheduled. Withdrawals during the event may also be made using the QR code link posted on poolside.
- 7.2.3 All withdrawals from finals must be submitted no later than 5 minutes after the announcement of finalists from the last heat in the session of heats.
- 7.2.4 A fine of £10 will be levied in respect of each competitor who fails to withdraw and does not present themselves at the start of the event (except in the case of genuine illness or a proven emergency). Any swimmer may request that the fine be waived by completing a form to be available through the competition web page within 24 hours of the start of the race.
- 7.3 Competitors are responsible for presenting themselves to the clerks of the course in time for their race.
- 7.3.1 There will be no call for missing competitors.
- 7.3.2 For some or all events, swimmers may be instructed to report to the clerks of the course at the starting blocks.
- 8 Heat and finals**
- 8.1 Heats shall be held for all events.
- 8.1.1 A final may not start earlier than 15 minutes after all the swimmers involved have completed their heat swim for that event.
- 8.1.2 Finals shall be held for all 50m, 100m and 200m events. All 400m, 800m and 1500m events shall be decided on heat times and places (heat declared winner). Under exceptional circumstances, the promoter shall have the right to declare additional events to be heat declared winner.
- 8.1.3 Events may be combined for the purpose of heats and heat declared winner events.
- 8.2 Swimmers shall be seeded according to their entry time, slowest to fastest. The last 3 heats in all events with finals shall be cyclically seeded. All other events in heats shall be spearheaded; all finals shall be spearheaded based on times recorded in heats.

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- 8.3 Swim-offs will not be held. If there are equal times for the slowest place in the final or for a reserve place, the order of precedence will be determined by:
1. Asking swimmers if they wish to swim in the final
 2. The drawing of lots for a place in the final or for a reserve place.
- 8.4 In finals, the maximum number of places practicable shall be allocated. A maximum of four reserves shall be declared for each final.
- 8.4.1 If an additional swimmer is allowed to swim in a final after finalists have been announced, and no other finalist withdraws, that final will be swum as two timed heats.
- 8.5 The names of finalists and reserves shall be announced as soon as practicable after completion of the heats. Announced finalists and reserves not intending to swim shall withdraw using the QR code link posted on poolside.
- 8.6 If a finalist withdraws within the time allowed, the final shall be reseeded. If a finalist withdraws after that period, the lane shall remain vacant.
- 9 Results and awards**
- 9.1 Results will be published via the “Meet Mobile” application. Results will also be published on the pool deck. A full set of results for each day will be published in PDF on the competition web page.
- 9.2 The first, second and third placed swimmers in each event shall be awarded medals. Awards may be collected from the medals table shortly after the results of the event have been announced. A decision on whether to include presentations will be made after all entries have been processed.
- 9.3 Medals must be collected by the competitor or their representative during the competition. Unclaimed medals will NOT normally be posted on after the competition.
- 9.4 There shall be an award to the top club in the “Age Group” and “Youth” competitions, based on the total points scored. Eight points will be awarded for each 1st place, points for 2nd, down to 1 point for 8th (excluding multi classification events).
- 9.5 **Para swimmer results and awards:**
- 9.5.1 Awards shall be determined on a multi classification basis to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each event across all ages.
- 9.5.2 Except for swimmers below the age of 15, swims will also be placed within the able-bodied programme, and swimmers are eligible to receive medals or compete in finals.

10 Spectators, photography and live streaming

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- 10.1 A limited number of spectators may be allowed in the spectator gallery. The number of spectators will be determined based on the promoter's risk assessment, local conditions introduced by the operator, guidance from Swim England and NHS advice. Entrance will be by ticket purchased in advance.
 - 10.2 By submitting an entry, entrants are accepting that their photographs may be taken and used to promote the sport by Swim England South East Region, and/or made available for download and purchase. All photography will conform to the "Swim England Photography and Photographing Swimmers Policy". Swimmers or parents of swimmers under 18 years of age on the day of competition have the right to withhold consent, by informing the promoter by email before the (final) closing date of the competition.
 - 10.3 Swim England South East Region plans to provide a live video stream of this competition. It is not practical to exclude individual swimmers from that coverage, but swimmers or parents of swimmers under 18 years of age on the day of competition have the right to request that no close-up image be shown by informing the promoter by email before the (final) closing date of the competition.
- 11 Disputes / changes to conditions**
- 11.1 Any dispute related to a matter not covered in these conditions shall be determined by the Promoter. Any individual who is not satisfied with such determination has the right to invoke Swim England Judicial processes.
 - 11.1.1 Whenever possible, a Jury of Appeal shall be appointed.
 - 11.2 Once the license has been granted for this competition, no changes to conditions are permitted without the explicit approval of the Swim England South East Region Licensing Panel.
- 12 Health and Safety**
- 12.1 Every individual participating in this competition in any capacity shall conform to any specific health and safety or safeguarding requirements imposed by the Pool Operator, Swim England or Swim England South East Region. These requirements will be published on the competition web site at least 3 days before the start of the competition.
 - 12.2 Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of their swimmers in all areas of the facility, including (but not limited to) the pool hall, changing rooms and overflow areas.
 - 12.3 Swimmers must always be supervised
 - 12.3.1 Swimmers are not permitted to be in the changing area other than for the purpose of showering or changing and must not congregate in the changing cubicles or group changing areas at other times.
 - 12.4 The use of mobile phones or similar devices in a changing area during Swim England regulated activities is prohibited.

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13 Expenses

- 13.1 Expenses are offered to all volunteers (including officials and Event Makers) in accordance with the Swim England South East Region expenses policy.
- 13.1.1 Swim England South East Region offers a contribution towards travel expenses for any person travelling from outside of the Region or from the Channel Islands. Please contact the Swimming Competition Manager (swimcompmanager@southeastswimming.org) to obtain the rate applicable to this competition.