

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2027

(comprising Championship, Junior Championship and Age Group Championship)

**Held under Swim England Regulations
and under Swim England Open Meet Licensing Criteria**

Licence Numbers: 2ER270028, 2ER270029, 2ER270030, 2ER270031

16th, 23rd, 24th, 30th January 2027 and 6th, 7th February 2027

Westminster Lodge Leisure Centre, Holywell Hill, St Albans, AL1 2DL

CONDITIONS

1) GENERAL CONDITIONS

- a. The Championships are licenced by Swim England East Region.
- b. Any matter not covered by these conditions will be determined by the Championship Executive being the Promoter, Meet Director and Technical Director.
- c. The Promoter of this event is Louise Hughes on behalf of Swim England Hertfordshire (SEH) promoter@swimherts.org
- d. The Meet Director of this event is Bryan Thompson on behalf of Swim England Hertfordshire (SEH) swimming@swimherts.org
- e. The Technical Director of this event is Sheila Mackenzie on behalf of Swim England Hertfordshire (SEH) secretary@swimherts.org
- f. Any queries regarding the Championships should be directed to the Promoter in the first instance.
- g. The pool length is 25m, it has 10 lanes, anti-turbulence lane ropes will be used along with Swiss Timing electronic timing and an external strobe.
- h. Heats will be swum in two tranches, 10-14 year olds and 15 & over and will be seeded within those age groups on entry times.
- i. Age is at 31st December 2027.
- j. Over the top starts will be used at the discretion of the referee.
- k. 50m and 100m events shall have heats progressing to age group finals.
- l. 200m events shall have heats progressing to Championship finals.
- m. 400, 800m & 1500m events shall be swum as timed finals.
- n. For 50m and 100m events the top 10 swimmers per age group per event will be called for finals, the next two swimmers will be called as reserves.
- o. For 200m events the top 10 swimmers across ALL age groups will be called for finals, the next two swimmers will be called as reserves.
- p. All clubs must submit two Club Contacts to the Promoter, and provide contact details (email and mobile number) for the two representatives to be used during the championships. These contacts will be responsible for dissemination of information within their clubs
- q. The nominated club contacts will be added to a WhatsApp group for communications regarding the championships.

- r. The nominated contacts will be sent the necessary access details for the online entry system and any other necessary communications which may arise.
- s. For issues with the online entry systems, please email events@swimherts.org.
- t. The SEH entries manager will acknowledge receipt of entries as soon as possible after receipt.
- u. Receipt of entries does not constitute acceptance.
- v. A list of accepted entries and a list of scratched entries will be published on the SEH website www.swimherts.org as soon as possible after the entry deadline.
- w. Accepted and rejected entry lists will be sent to clubs.
- x. Throughout this event SEH will have several authorised media partners taking static and video footage. These images are intended solely for the purposes of promotion and celebration of the activities and will include live streaming to the internet. Images will be made available via our website and social media network sites.
- y. Consent is deemed to be granted by entering the meet.
- z. Under GDPR for data protection, the promoter requires confirmation that entered swimmers (or the swimmers' parents/guardians/carers) have granted consent to personal data (i.e. name, age and swim time) being published in the online programme and the meet results and being stored in electronic media. This consent will be given via a summary sheet signed by a club official.
- aa. Personal data will be available for inspection during the meet, on application to the promoter.
- bb. Meet administration software will be used.
- cc. SEH expects all clubs attending the championships to adhere to the SE Safe Supervision Policy.
- dd. Swimmers must be supervised by their coaches/team managers during warm up and whilst in the poolhall/building.
- ee. Team Managers are responsible for the behaviour of their swimmers at all times.
- ff. SEH accept no responsibility for loss or damage to any clothing or other articles.
- gg. In accordance with SE's Safeguarding Policies and Procedures any parents or carers of swimmers under the age of 18, who wish to take photographic or video images, are requested to focus on their own child as much as reasonably possible and to avoid including other children in those images, particularly if those images are being shared with family and friends through social media platforms.
- hh. No use of any devices capable of taking photographic images or video is permitted in the changing village.
- ii. Anyone seen with a device capable of taking photographs/video in the changing village may be removed from the competition and reported to the SE Safeguarding team. In cases where it is believed images may have been recorded, the police may be called.
- jj. All participants must observe the safety precautions in operation at the venue.
- kk. Admission to the pool area for non-swimmers is only allowed with a valid supervisory pass.
- ll. Only swimmers competing in a specific session are allowed in the pool area.
- mm. In line with the SE Coach/Team Manager/Chaperone policy, Coaches/Team Managers/Chaperones must apply for accreditation in advance and must have up to date qualifications as well as Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and valid Safeguarding qualification.

- nn. Equipment such as massage benches are not allowed in any area hired by the promoter.
- oo. Any club wishing to bring such equipment to the championships must make alternative arrangements with the pool provider.
- pp. Corridors must be kept clear at all times.
- qq. The warmup protocol will be issued to clubs in advance via email to the nominated contacts and will be made available on the SEH website.
- rr. Warm up times will be communicated via the WhatsApp group (to the designated club contacts). Other than the first session in a day warm up times will not be published anywhere else. This is to avoid confusion if disparate systems are not kept up to date.
- ss. Results will be circulated to clubs, will be available on the SEH website and will be uploaded to the Aquatics GB Rankings Database.

2) ELIGIBILITY

- a. The competition is open to SE Club Compete members who are members of clubs in the county of Hertfordshire.
- b. All competitors must be registered as members of the club in whose name they are entered at the date of making their entry.
- c. Where swimmers are members of more than one club they must opt to compete in the name of one club only throughout the championships – this applies to both individual and relay events.
- d. Entry times must be achieved between 16th May 2026 and 13th December 2026
- e. Entry times must appear on the Aquatics GB rankings database by the time entries close.
- f. Club entries must be submitted using the online entry system and comply with all eligibility requirements.
- g. Disability Qualifying Times have been set for swimmers with a formal classification.
- h. Entry times may be swum in either 25m or 50m pools. If an entry time is swum in a 50m pool, it will automatically be converted within the entry management software.

3) CATEGORIES

- a. The championships shall be swum in two categories:
 - i. Open/Male
 - ii. Female
- b. The Female category is for birth sex females in accordance with the SE Transgender and Non-Binary Competition Policy.
- c. By entering the Female category, a swimmer confirms that their birth sex is female.

4) AGE GROUPS

- a. Age groups for Individual events are:
 - i. 10/11 years, 12 years, 13 years, 14 years, 15 years, 16 years and over.
- b. Age as at midnight on 31st December 2027.

5) EVENTS

- a. By entering an individual event, swimmers are automatically, without further cost, entered into the Junior Championships (15 & under) and the Championships (all ages).

b. Events

Ages 10/11

- i. 50m, 100m, 200m & 400m Freestyle
- ii. 100m & 200m Individual Medley
- iii. 50m, 100m & 200m Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly

Ages 12 & over

- i. 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m & 1500m Freestyle
- ii. 100m, 200m & 400m Individual Medley
- iii. 50m, 100m & 200m Backstroke, Breaststroke & Butterfly

6) ENTRY PROCEDURE

- a. All entries for individual events must be submitted using the online entry system before that system closes at 23:59 on Wednesday 9th December 2026 in one submission per club.
- b. No alternatives or additional entries can be submitted after the system closes.

7) ENTRY LIMITS

- a. Entries will be accepted on the following basis
 - a. All valid entries to an event with time equal to or faster than the qualifying time for that event will be accepted for a swim in that event regardless of the limits set out below.
 - b. Thereafter, valid entries with a time equal to or faster than the consideration time for that event will be accepted based on the fastest times submitted, up to the following maximum number of swimmers (including swimmers with qualifying times).

10/11 years	50m, 100m	top 17 entrants
	200m	Top 16 entrants
	400m	top 8 entrants
12, 13, 14, 15 years	50m and 100m	top 25 entrants
	200m	top 20 entrants
	400m	top 14 entrants
16&over	50m and 100m	top 33 entrants
	200m	top 24 entrants
	400m	top 16 entrants

800m	12 years	top 9 entrants
	13, 14 years	top 15 entrants
	15,16+ years	top 18 entrants
1500m	12 years	top 4 entrants
	13, 14 years	top 8 entrants
	15,16+ years	top 10 entrants

8) PAYMENTS

- Invoices for entries will be issued on or before 4th January 2027.
- Payments must be cleared into the SEH account by 23:59 on Friday 15th January, otherwise the club will have all entries to the championships rejected.
- Payment procedure

Payment must be made via BACS to the SEH bank account

Account Name: Swim England Hertfordshire

Sort Code: 30-97-24

Account Number: 07128220

Payment to be calculated as follows:

Each Individual entry: £10 per event

Supervisory passes will be provided FREE OF CHARGE.

9) WITHDRAWAL PROCESS

- An online withdrawal system will be in operation for the duration of the competition.
- For sessions on 23rd/24th January and 6th/7th February, If a swimmer is not going to swim in an event, it is the responsibility of the club in whose name the swimmer is entered to make the withdrawal using the online system, no later than the end of the session preceding the session in which the event is to be swum.
- For the long-distance sessions on 16th and 30th January, withdrawals must be made using the online system no later than 12:00 (midday) on the day on which the event is to be swum.
- Swimmers not present when required to swim will be identified from the results where DNC is recorded against their name.
- Finalists and reserves not wishing to swim shall notify the events team of their intention to withdraw when the team circulate around the clubs to confirm finalists/reserves.
- Refunds will only be issued where the competition is cancelled, or where there is a significant change to the schedule that results in a change of venue or session for the event entered, meaning that the competitor cannot swim.
- Refunds will not be made when there are withdrawals on medical grounds.

- h. Any swimmer not present for a heat swim in the 50m, 100m and 200m events will incur a £10 administration fee.
- i. Any swimmer not present for a heat swim in the 400m, 800m and 1500m swim will incur a £10 administration fee.
- j. Any swimmer not present for a final swim in the 50m, 100m and 200m events will incur a £20 administration fee.
- k. After the Championships, the club, in whose name the competitor has entered the competition, will be invoiced for the administration fee, and will have 28 days in which to make the payment. If the payment is not made within the 28 days, the fee per missed swim will be doubled (£20, £20, £40), and no entries will be accepted from that club for any county swimming events until the fee is paid.

10) AWARDS

a. AGE GROUP

Age group awards are open to all swimmers according to their age at 31st December 2027.

- i. Age group medals will be awarded to swimmers placed first, second and third in the finals of the 50m and 100m events.
- ii. Age group medals will be awarded to swimmers placed first, second and third in the overall heat results in 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m events.

b. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Junior Championship awards are open to all swimmers aged 15 years and under at 31st December 2027.

- i. Junior Championship medals will be awarded based on times achieved in the finals of the 50m and 100m events – across age groups 10/11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.
- ii. Junior Championship medals will be awarded based on times achieved in the heats of the 200m events where no 10 to 15 year old swimmer competes in the Championship final.
- iii. If one or more 10 to 15 year old swimmer competes in the Championship final they shall be awarded the Junior Championship medals according to their placing in that final.
- iv. Junior Championship medals will be awarded to swimmers placed first, second and third in the combined heat results (10-15) in the 400m, 800m and 1500m events.

c. CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship awards are open to all swimmers regardless of age at 31st December 2027.

- i. Championship medals will be awarded based on times achieved in the finals of the 50m and 100m events across all age groups.
- ii. Championship medals will be awarded based on times achieved in the finals of the 200m events.
- iii. Championship medals will be awarded based on times achieved in the heats of the 400m, 800m and 1500m events across all age groups.

11) TOP 10 AWARDS

The overall top 10 swimmers in each age group will be acknowledged and rewarded.

- a. For 10 and 11 year olds there will be 4 event categories. To be placed in the Top 10 awards swimmers must compete successfully in at least one event from each category.

Category 1	50m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle
Category 2	100m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle
Category 3	200m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle
Category 4	100m and 200m Individual Medley

- b. For 12 year olds and over there will be 5 event categories. To be placed in the Top 10 awards swimmers must compete successfully in at least one event from each category.

Category 1	50m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle
Category 2	100m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle
Category 3	200m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle
Category 4	400m, 800m and 1500m Freestyle
Category 5	100m, 200m and 400m Individual Medley

- c. Scoring for the Top 10 awards is as follows:

- a. For ALL Age Groups
- b. The swimmers highest scoring event in each of the groups will count towards their overall position in their age group. Points will be awarded for placings in finals, where swum, or from heats where no finals are swum as follows:
- i. 1st 17 points
 - ii. 2nd 14 points
 - iii. 3rd 12 points
 - iv. 4th 8 points
 - v. 5th 6 points
 - vi. 6th 5 points
 - vii. 7th 4 points
 - viii. 8th 3 points
 - ix. 9th 2 points
 - x. 10th 1 point



- c. NOTE the 200IM will score 10 bonus points in addition to the points for positions listed above. This is to continue to reflect the stance by the Swim England Talent Team and our County Coaches that it gives real encouragement and reward for developing swimmers with efficiency in all 4 strokes in an event that also requires some aerobic development.
- d. To be eligible for one of the above awards swimmers MUST compete successfully in all the relevant groups as details in the conditions.
- e. In the event of a draw, bonus points will be awarded as follows:
 - i. Improving event time from entry time to heat time and not improving from heat time to final time +3 points
 - ii. Improving event time from heat time to final time, but not improving event time from entry time to heat time +5 points
 - iii. Improving successive times from entry time to heat time AND from heat time to final time +12 points

12. Para Swimming Conditions

- a. The general conditions for the SEH Championships shall apply to Para competitors, except where varied by any of the following conditions.
- b. Para swimmers who have not achieved the SEH County Championship consideration standard in any event are invited to enter.
- c. Swimmers with the indicated classifications will be accepted for the following events only:

50m, 100m	Freestyle	S1 – S14
200m	Freestyle	S1 – S5, S14
400m	Freestyle	S1 – S14
50m	Backstroke	S1 – S5
100m	Backstroke	S1 – S2, S6 – S14
50m	Breaststroke	SB1 – SB3
100m	Breaststroke	SB4 – SB14
50m	Butterfly	S1 – S7
100m	Butterfly	S8 – S14
200m	Individual Medley	SM5 – SM14

1. Each Para competitor shall be a Swim England Club Compete member or an equivalent member of Swim Scotland or Swim Wales whose membership record shows a S1-15, SB1–SB14 or SM1-SM14 World Para Swimming (WPS) classification, which is held on the British Swimming or World Para Swimming Classification database at the time of entry.
2. Competitors should indicate on their entry their relevant:
 - I. WPS classification or British Swimming classification
 - II. UKSA or INAS classification (accompanied by the relevant number)
 - III. British Blind Sport classification
 - IV. UK Deaf Sport classification
 - V. Exception codes
3. Competitors are advised to bring to the competition a printed copy of their exception codes with them in case there are any queries.
4. Qualifying times for Para competitors are in a separate document and must have been achieved during the specified qualifying period.
5. Personal Care Attendants and Coaches will be permitted for swimmers in the following classes: S1, S2, S3, S4 and S11. All coaches, chaperones and personal care attendants must conform with the Swim England Child Protection procedures.

13. Competition format

- a. The competition format will be based on disability inclusion within the able-bodied format.
- b. All swimmers will be seeded in the heats according to their entry times.
- c. Para competitors will be included within the results for their age group.

14. Awards

- a. Medals will be awarded to Para swimmers on a multi-classification timed basis based on British Disability points, regardless of age.
- b. If there are fewer than 4 competitors in an event the minus one rule shall apply.
If there is only one competitor in any one event, the swimmer needs to improve on their entry time to medal.