Swim England Hertfordshire

Officials Forum

4th November 2026

7:30pm

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. World Aquatics Rules Update
3. World Aquatics Disqualification Form
4. Counties 2027
5. County Meets
6. AOB

Swim England Hertfordshire

2. World Aquatics Rules Update

Delivered by Swim England Officials Group

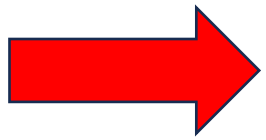
Next Date: **Wednesday 2nd December 2026 at 7pm**

Find the sign-up link on East Region website

- Swim England East Region
- Hover over Swimming tab
- Click on Swimming Technical Officials
- Click on Swimming Technical Officials Training CPD Page
- Scroll down to WA Rules and Para Update

Swim England Hertfordshire

2. World Aquatics Rules Update





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3. World Aquatics New Disqualification Form

Aquatics GB

DISQUALIFICATION CARD

EVENT:	
HEAT/SEMI/FINAL:	
LANE:	
REASON FOR DISQUALIFICATION:	
See check box overleaf	
Please provide any additional details as necessary:	

Name and signature of Judge:	Name and signature of Referee:
Date:	

Version: 25 June 2026

3. World Aquatics New Disqualification Form

WORLD AQUATICS

Version: 25 June 2026

THE START	RULE	TICK
Initiating a start before the signal.	4.4	
FREESTYLE	**RULE**	
Did not touch the wall at the _____ m turn ☐ or finish ☐	5.2	
Head did not break the surface of the water at or before the 15m mark following the start ☐ or after _____ m turn ☐	5.3	
Completely submerged during stroke except within 5m whilst reaching for the finish	5.3/ 5.4	
BACKSTROKE	**RULE**	
Left position on the back except when executing a turn	6.2	
Head did not break the surface of the water at or before the 15m mark following the start ☐ or after _____ m turn ☐	6.3	
Did not start executing the turn immediately after turning onto the breast at _____ m turn	6.4	
Turn not initiated at completion of the arm pull after leaving position on the back during the _____ m turn	6.4	
Did not touch the wall during the _____ m turn	6.4	
Not on the back upon leaving the wall after the _____ m turn	6.4	
Completely submerged during stroke except within 5m whilst reaching for the finish	6.3/ 6.5	
Did not finish the race while on the back	6.5	
BREASTSTROKE	**RULE**	
More than one downward butterfly kick prior to first breaststroke kick after the start ☐ or _____ m turn ☐	7.1	
Head did not break the surface before the hands turned inward at the widest part of the second stroke after the start ☐ or _____ m turn ☐	7.1	
Body not on the breast during stroke	7.2	
Stroke cycle not one arm stroke to one leg kick in that order	7.3	
Arm movements not simultaneous	7.3	
Hands not pushed forward together from the breast	7.4	
Elbows not under the water during stroke	7.4	
Hands brought back beyond the hip line during stroke	7.4	
Head did not break the surface during each stroke cycle	7.5	
Leg movements not simultaneous	7.5	
Feet not turned out during propulsive part of the kick	7.6	
Executed a downward butterfly kick during stroke, prior to _____ m turn ☐, or immediately prior to the finish ☐	7.6	
Did not touch at the _____ m turn or finish ☐ with both hands ☐; separated ☐; simultaneously ☐	7.7	
BUTTERFLY	**RULE**	
Body not on the breast during stroke	8.1	
Arms not brought forward simultaneously over the water	8.3	
Arms not brought backward simultaneously under the water	8.3	
Alternating movement of legs or feet	8.4	
Leg movements not simultaneous	8.4	
Breaststroke kicking movement	8.4	
Did not touch at the _____ m turn or finish ☐ with both hands ☐; separated ☐; simultaneously ☐	8.5	
More than one arm pull under water following the start ☐ or _____ m turn ☐	8.6	
Head did not break the surface of the water at or before the 15m mark following the start ☐ or _____ m turn ☐	8.6	
Completely submerged during stroke except within 5m whilst reaching for the finish	8.6	
MEDLEY	**RULE**	
Backstroke, breaststroke or butterfly swum in the freestyle section	5.1	
Incorrect stroke order in individual medley ☐ / medley relay ☐	9.1 / 9.2	
In the freestyle section, did not return to the breast before any kick or stroke	9.3	
Finish of section not in accordance with rule of the stroke concerned *(check box as applicable below)* • Butterfly ☐ / Backstroke ☐ / Breaststroke ☐/ Freestyle ☐	9.4	
THE RACE	**RULE**	
Did not complete the whole distance	10.2.1	
Did not remain in the same lane in which they started	10.2.2	
When turning did not make contact with the end of the pool	10.2.3	
Took a stride or step from the bottom of the pool	10.2.3	
Stood on the bottom of the pool (except in freestyle)	10.2.4	
Pulled on the lane rope	10.2.5	
Obstructing another swimmer	10.2.6	
Entered the water during a race not entered in	10.2.7	
Device or plan used for pace-making	10.2.9	
Relay team did not swim in the order listed	10.4.2	
Relay exchange did not commence from the starting platform	10.4.4	
Feet lost touch with the starting platform before the preceding team-mate touched the wall • Exchange No: _____ • Time differential (if AOE available) _____	10.4.5	
Relay team member re-entered the water before all teams finished the race	10.4.6	
Failed to leave the pool as soon as possible at the end of the race or section in a relay	10.4.7	
Use of non-approved device, swimsuit, adhesive substance	14.2 / 14.3	
Taping of more than two fingers ☐ / toes ☐	14.4	

3. World Aquatics New Disqualification Form

BACKSTROKE	RULE	
Left position on the back except when executing a turn	6.2	
Head did not break the surface of the water at or before the 15m mark following the start ☐ or after _____ m turn ☐	6.3	
Did not start executing the turn immediately after turning onto the breast at _____ m turn	6.4	
Turn not initiated at completion of the arm pull after leaving position on the back during the _____ m turn	6.4	
Did not touch the wall during the _____ m turn	6.4	
Not on the back upon leaving the wall after the _____ m turn	6.4	
Completely submerged during stroke except within 5m whilst reaching for the finish	6.3/ 6.5	
Did not finish the race while on the back	6.5	

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3. World Aquatics New Disqualification Form

Guidance Notes for Completion

New tick box format, which means very little information, if any, now needs to be written on the front of the form, save for the details of the event (Heat Number, Lane Number etc).

Officials simply tick the rule on the reverse side of the form. In some cases, they are invited to tick further boxes/add information, to provide additional clarity.

For an early start initiation - you would tick the relevant box on the back and sign the form. No 'additional information' would ordinarily need to be written on the front text box.

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3. World Aquatics New Disqualification Form

The following is an example from the Butterfly section.

Did not touch at the _____ m turn or finish ☐
with both hands ☐; separated ☐; simultaneously ☐

In this case, if the infraction occurred at the end of length two in a short course 100m Butterfly event, you would in the gap to say:

Did not touch at the **50**m turn and then tick the relevant box. Reference should now be made to the point at which the turn infraction occurred, in metres.

If you had ticked 'simultaneously', appropriate information on the front of the form might be 'left hand touched first, followed by right hand' - you would write only that.

The additional information on the front of the form should be extremely brief.

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3. World Aquatics New Disqualification Form

Again in the Butterfly section

You would simply tick the infraction below. On the front you might write - 'Length 2' - this is helpful additional information but not obligatory under the rules.

Arms not brought forward simultaneously over the water

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3. World Aquatics New Disqualification Form

The key principle is - use the back of the form, ask yourself if any information is really needed, and, if it is write it in as few words as possible.

########## IMPORTANT ############

Do not write/copy anything that is explained on the back of the form onto the front of the form.

This has resulted in disqualifications being overturned.

If this occurs the Referee will ask you to re-write the form.

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4. Counties 2027

Counties 2027 – Technical Officials

The meet itinerary is on the Swim Herts website.

When looking at the itinerary please pay particular attention of where the event is being held:

9th January 2027 – Haberdashers Boys School Pool – Relays
16th January 2027 – Westminster Lodge – Relays and 800m
23rd & 24th January 2027 – Westminster Lodge
30th January 2027 – Westminster Lodge – 1500m
6th & 7th February 2027 – Westminster Lodge

Please volunteer for as many sessions as you can especially if you have a swimmer entered.

The sign-up will be on Swim Meet

We will notify volunteers the week before if we are oversubscribed as per last year.

We will set up a WhatsApp Community Group nearer the time.

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4. Counties 2027

Counties 2027 - Volunteers

We have a sign-up for volunteers through Swim Meet on a separate link for marshals and other supporting roles, which will be organised by Nicola Rix.

If we are oversubscribed for officials and you would like to help poolside, there are plenty of roles to fill.

We would ask that you please don't volunteer on both systems.

More details to follow nearer the time……..

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5. County Meets that need your help!

- Hertfordshire Aquatics Autumn Open Meet – 7th/8th November 2024 @ Haberdashers Boys School.
    - More Officials Needed for all sessions
- Masters Inter County Championships – 15th November 2024 @ Bury St Edmonds.
    - 2 x Officials Needed to Represent County
    - The Masters Team are trying to repeat their success from last year.
- Hertfordshire Aquatics 800m Meet – 28th November 2024 @ Haberdashers Boys School.
    - More Officials Needed for all sessions

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6. Any other business

The floor is yours to ask questions



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