

Diary dates

Week one is start of the calendar year.

English county championships

Weeks 2-9: The beginning of each calendar year is marked by the staging of the respective English county championships. Short or long course.

Age groups: 10/11 years, 12 years, 13 years, 14 years, 15 years, 16+ years

English regional championships

Weeks 14-22: The English regional championships take place during April or May. Long course.

Age groups: 11/12 years, 13 years, 14 years, 15 years, 16 years, 17+ years

Swim England national summer meet

Weeks 29-33: Our national summer meet takes place in the week after the British summer championships and is held in a long course pool.

Age groups: 12/13 years, 14 years, 15 years, 16/17 years, 18+ years

Swim England national winter meet

Week 51: the national winter meet brings the calendar year to an end with Great Britain's top swimmers battling it out in the short course pool.



Newquay Cormorants

Terminology

- Short course = 25m pool
- Long course = 50m pool
- SCR = This means the swimmer's entry has not been accepted
- X = This means the swimmer has been accepted as a time trial (TT).
- NT = No time. Something to be avoided – if events allow and you don't have a time ask your coach for an estimate.

Useful resources

Check your swimmers latest ranking times
www.swimmingresults.org/individualbest

All licenced meets
www.swimmingresults.org/licensed_meets

www.swimming.org/sport/swimming-competitions-in-england

Converting times
Short course <> long course

swimcalc.com/cgi-bin/convert.cgi/default



Guide to entering competitions

Things you need to look at

Promoters conditions

This is a really important document and sets out the 'conditions' under which the gala is run. It will determine things like:

- Entry deadlines
- Which swimmers can enter
- Age categories
- What happens if too many swimmers enter the gala

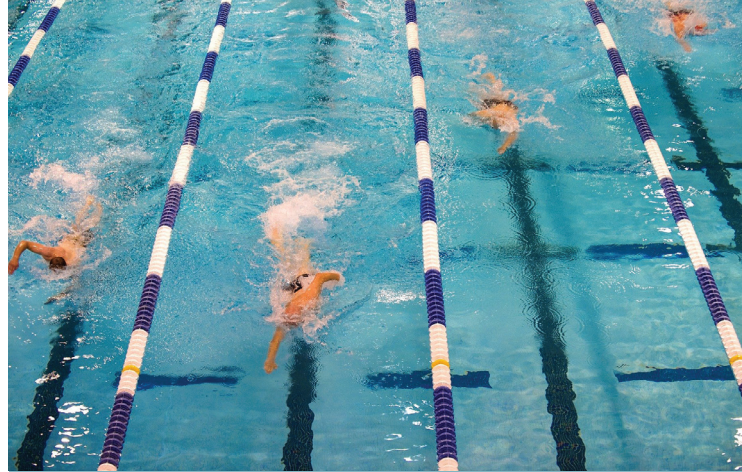
Meet pack

This will include details of the events and the qualifying times that are being used for the gala as well as the entry form.

Qualifying times are specific to the gala. Higher level galas (e.g. level one) will have faster qualifying times than lower level galas (e.g. level three).

Some galas will allow times to be converted from short course to long course (and opposite way).

Some galas have upper and lower cut-off times others may have one or the other.



Entering competitions

Minimum ages

The minimum age for level one to three galas is nine. For level four meets it is eight. Galas can be 'age on the day' or age at 31 December (but must meet minimum age requirement).

Getting your entries in

Make sure you get your entry submitted together with the relevant fee. Late entries or entries without payment won't be accepted.

Withdrawals

If a swimmer withdraws after entries are submitted the refunds are only normally given in exceptional circumstances e.g. a medical condition however it is down to the meet organiser. Some higher level competitions will penalise for 'no shows'.

Heats

These will normally be swum slowest to fastest based on entry time (so mixed ages but similar ability).

Levels of competition

Level one

Meets are long course (50m) only and cover national, regional and county championships. Their purpose is to enable athletes to achieve qualifying times for entry into national, regional and county championships.

Level two

Meets are short course only and cover national, regional and county championships. Their purpose is to enable athletes to achieve qualifying times for entry into national, regional and county championships in short course.

Level three

Meets are long and short course events. Their purpose is to enable athletes to achieve times for entry into regional and county championships and other meets at level one or level two.

Level four

Meets are entry level events in pools 25m or greater. They are for inexperienced athletes and swimmers seeking to compete outside their club environment. Many club champs are licenced at this level.

