

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

PROMOTER'S CONDITIONS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

1. General

- a. The Executive of Northamptonshire ASA ("the Promoter") reserves full power over the Northamptonshire ASA County Championships 2026, including but not limited to cancelling, postponing, or changing the Championships venue and/or format due to reasons beyond its reasonable control.
- b. The Championships shall be held under Swim England Regulations and Technical Rules of Swimming.
- c. Entries may only be accepted from competitors registered as Club Compete members of Swim England, who are members of a club affiliated to Northamptonshire ASA.
- d. Competitors may enter in the name of one club only.
- e. Ages as at 31st December 2026.
- f. The Promoter will not tolerate any verbally or physically abusive behaviour from any attendee. The Meet Director will require any attendee behaving improperly to leave the Championships for the remainder of the session, day, weekend, or the entirety of the event at their discretion.
- g. Mobile phones are not permitted to be on display at any time in the changing village. Devices must be away in pockets or bags. This includes while passing through the changing village to access or leave poolside. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in suspension from the remainder of the championships as per 1(f).
- h. The event may be live streamed, and an event photographer may be present.

2. The Events

- a. Individual events:
50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, and 1500m Freestyle
50m, 100m, and 200m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly
200m, and 400m Individual Medley
- b. Relay events:
12/under, 15/under, Open 4x50m Freestyle and Medley,
4x100 Mixed Freestyle
Open 4x100 Freestyle and Medley, 4x200 Mixed Freestyle
12/under, 15/under 4x100 Mixed Medley

3. Entries

- a. Entries shall be received no later than the closing date – Wednesday 14th January, accompanied by the appropriate entry fee (£6.50 per event). Entries for Day 1 of the Championships (Open/Male 800m and Female 1500m) must have been received by Wednesday 8th January.
- b. Entries are to be submitted by the club entry administrator.
- c. All entrants must have equalled or bettered the qualifying times. All individual times must be recorded in British Rankings and have been obtained at a meet licensed at Level 1, 2, 3, or 4 since 1 January 2025.
- d. Entries for 1500m and 800m events may be accepted from swimmers who do not have a qualifying time, if they have a qualifying 400m Freestyle time. Swimmers will only be considered for entry via this route if there is space following the acceptance of all direct qualifiers.
- e. The fastest long course or converted short course time recorded in British Rankings will be accepted.

- f. 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, a swimmer confirms that their birth sex is female.
- g. The Competition Secretary has the ability to adjust the number of entries accepted to ensure the smooth running of the Championships.
- h. At least two members of each relay team must have qualified for and have entered the competition.

4. Administration

- a. Coaches, team managers, and chaperones will be required to obtain a poolside accreditation pass by means of an online application in advance of the closing date. Coaches, team managers, and chaperones must print their own pass.
- b. Competitors who appear over the age of 16 and are not easily identified as swimmers by the door stewards, may be given some form of identification or accreditation to access the poolside.
- c. Admission to the pool and athlete only areas will only be allowed with a valid accreditation, or by an individual clearly identifiable as a participating athlete.
- d. Competitors are only permitted to access poolside during sessions in which they are competing.

5. Meet Procedure

- a. All individual 50m and 100m events, and 200m Freestyle and IM, will have heats and a final. All other events will be Heat Declared Winner events.
- b. All heats will be divided into three sub age groups – 10-12, 13-15, 16/over.
- c. The final three heats in events which progress to finals will be cyclically seeded. All other heats will be spearheaded.
- d. Finals will be swum in the following age groups: 10/11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17/over. These age groups will apply to both open/male and female.
- e. Competitors whose entries have been accepted will be expected to swim unless they have complied with the withdrawal procedure.
- f. A secondary strobe will be available during the meet.

6. Withdrawal from Heats

- a. Withdrawals should be made by 6pm on the day before the race is scheduled.
- b. An online withdrawal process may be used.

7. Withdrawal from Finals

- a. Finalists not wishing to swim shall notify the Chief Recorder of their intention to withdraw no later than 20 minutes after the conclusion of the last individual event in the Heat Session in which the final was qualified for.
- b. Withdrawals from finals must be made by a responsible coach or team manager. Individual swimmers cannot withdraw themselves from finals without the consent of their coach or team manager.
- c. Failure to withdraw from a final before the deadline may result in a fine of £10.

8. Awards

- a. Medals shall be awarded to the first, second, and third placed competitors in each final.
- b. In events without a final, medals shall be awarded based on the results of heats, using the same age groups as finals.
- c. Junior and Senior Championship Trophies will be presented to the fastest 15/under and Open competitor in each eligibility category.
- d. On accepting a trophy, athletes consent to the sharing of their email address with Northamptonshire ASA for the purpose of ensuring its safe return.

Para Specific Conditions

9. Para Swimming

- a. The general conditions for the Championships shall apply to the Para-Swimming events except where varied by the following conditions.
- b. Events at the Championships will be “Para-inclusive” with Para-swimmers racing in the general events. All Para-swimmers will compete in the 16/over sub age group regardless of their age.

10. Eligibility

- a. Any swimmer with a British Swimming Classification S1-14 may enter any event at the Championships, provided they have a time on British Rankings for the event they wish to enter achieved since 1st January 2025 achieving at least 100 British Para-Swimming (BPS) points.
- b. S99 and S64 swimmers may use condition 10a to qualify for the Championships. They must have a time on rankings in the relevant event, but they do not need to exceed 100 BPS points. S99 and S64 swimmers will not be considered Para-swimmers in any other sense.
- c. Members of Swim England with a World Para Swimming Classification may apply to enter the Championships, even if they do not belong to a club based within Northamptonshire. Applications to enter via this route will be rejected first if the event is oversubscribed.
- d. Multi classification para finals will be swum in all events described in 5a.
- e. Finalists shall be determined based on the top eight BPS points from the heats.
- f. In the event of a dead heat of equal points which results in the number of finalists exceeding eight; the swimmer with the fastest time will be allocated a place in the final. If the competitors have the same time a swim-off shall take place to determine which of those swimmers shall go forward to the final.
- g. Finals will be seeded by time.
- h. The competition will take place under the relevant WPS Swimming Rules and Regulations.

11. Medals

- a. Medals shall be awarded on a multi-class basis to the competitor placed first, second, and third in each event by using BPS scores for each event.
- b. Medals for events without a final will be awarded on a HDW basis.
- c. Medals will be awarded to Northamptonshire competitors only. Commemorative medals may be awarded to non-Northamptonshire competitors at the discretion of the Meet Director.