

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY SWIM ENGLAND – SWIMMING COMPETITION RULES**  
**County Championships**

Under Swim England Laws and Swim England Technical Rules

1. County Competitions shall be conducted annually upon dates to be fixed by the Swimming Committee of the Association and confirmed by the Executive.
2. **ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY**
  - 2.1 These Competitions shall be open to eligible swimmers, as defined by Swim England, who are members of clubs affiliated to the Association, who shall not have competed in the Championships or Competitions of another County in the same calendar year.
  - 2.2 A swimmer must have been a Swim England (CAT2) registered member of the club in whose name he /She is entered. The appropriate registration form must have been received by the relevant governing body **at least 60 days prior to the first day of the Competition.**
  - 2.3 **A swimmer may only compete in the name of one club at the Competition.**
  - 2.4 Time trials will not be permitted during the Competition.
  - 2.5 A swimmer's age shall be determined as at midnight on the last day of the Competition year (31<sup>st</sup> December).
3. **TEAM COMPETITIONS**
  - 3.1 These Competitions shall be open to all clubs affiliated to the Association.
  - 3.2 A team shall consist of four members.
  - 3.3 A swimmer entered in the name of one club in the individual events may not compete in the name of another club in the team events.
  - 3.4 Clubs may enter one or more teams but members shall swim for one team only.
4. **EVENTS**
  - 4.1 Individual Events (Male and Female)
    - 4.1.1 Ages will be as determined by the Swimming Committee.
    - 4.1.2 The events will be:
      - 50m of each of the four strokes;
      - 100m of each of the four strokes;
      - 200m of each of the four strokes;
      - 100m, 200m and 400m Individual Medley;
      - 400m, 800m and 1500m Freestyle.
    - 4.1.3 There will be finals for all individual events of 50m and 100m. All other events will be heat declared winner.
  - 4.2 If Applicable Team Events
    - 4 x100m Freestyle and Medley (boys and girls) for 10/11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17+
5. **ENTRIES**
  - 5.1 Entry fees shall be as authorised by the Executive.
  - 5.2 Entries shall be made on the official form or in the official format.
  - 5.3 Entries and Summary form, accompanied by the appropriate entry fee, shall be received by the Competitions Secretary by the specified closing date.
  - 5.4 For all individual events the Swimming Committee shall set entry qualifying times.
  - 5.5 ENTRY QUALIFYING TIMES are shown in the entry instructions and all swimmers must have achieved the time shown during the previous 12 months. Times entered must be confirmed by Swim England rankings. Times slower than the qualifying time will **not** be accepted.  
**Any club found to be submitting entry times faster than those already achieved by swimmers will be reported to the County Disciplinary Committee.**
  - 5.6 In the interests of safety and to ensure the smooth running of the Competition, the Swimming Committee reserves the right to restrict the number of entries in any event. Entries will be accepted on a timed order fastest being first, but with possible consideration to balancing out the numbers in each age category.

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**6. MEET PROCEDURE**

- 6.1** There shall be 800m and 1500m freestyle for both females and males but swum as mixed.
- 6.2** Swimmers shall report to marshals as directed by the announcer.
- 6.3** On the day any withdrawals must be made at least 30 minutes before the start of each session. **Failure to withdraw in adequate time may result in the club being fined £5 per swimmer per event and £10 per team for relays unless there are mitigating circumstances.** Should a swimmer be withdrawn by mistake, the swimmer shall be allowed to swim in unallocated lanes in the earlier heats in the same event if available. All fines are to be levied on the swimmer's club. The fine shall be reduced by 50% if paid within 28 days
- 6.4 Heats and Finals.** In all events where there are to be finals, heats will be swum to determine the allocation of lanes for the final. The heats of all events where there are finals shall be seeded slowest to fastest. In the finals, the maximum number of places practicable shall be allocated. A maximum of two reserves will be declared for finals. Lanes for finals will be allocated on the spearhead principle. In heat declared winner events the heats will be allocated on the spearhead principle.
- 6.5** The names of the finalists and two reserves shall be announced as soon as possible after the completion of the heats. Swimmers, including reserves, wishing to withdraw from a final shall do so by completing a withdrawal form and handing it to the Recording Table within 10 minutes of the announcement (or such lesser period of time as may be determined and announced by the Promoter in the interest of the efficient running of the Competition). Vacant places shall be filled from the announced reserves.
- 6.6** Any swimmer withdrawing from a final in such a manner as to prevent a reserve from taking part (Except in the case of genuine illness or a proven emergency) shall be suspended immediately from all further events at the Competitions. Where a reserve is brought in at short notice, the reserve shall occupy the vacant lane and there will be no amendments made to the allocation of other lanes.

**7. AWARDS**

- 7.1** Medals shall be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed swimmers in each event for individuals and to each of the four members of teams placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in team events.
- 7.2** To qualify for an award a swimmer must have achieved the entry qualifying time in either the heat or the final or, in the case of heat declared winner events, in the heat. In all events a swimmer failing to make the qualifying time in either the heats or final will not score points for any individual or club trophy.

**8. COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITIONS**

- 8.1** Any swimmer or team failing to comply with any of the conditions shall be disqualified and shall forfeit any fee paid.
- 8.2** Swimmers and Coaches are reminded that under Swim England rules and regulations, swimmers are not allowed to change on poolside, failure to comply to this rule will result in the swimmer being disqualified and escorted from the premises.

**9. TEAM MANAGERS/COACHES**

Clubs are reminded of their duty of care to their swimmers during a meet and that they should have with them full contact details of parents/guardians for all swimmers attending the meet. They should also hold any details on medical conditions that may be deemed necessary. Coaches/Team Managers will only be allowed on poolside if visibly wearing a pass.

To apply for a new Coach Pass: Follow [link](https://uk.teamunify.com/SubTabGeneric.jsp?team=reczmcuk&_stabilid_=93954): ([https://uk.teamunify.com/SubTabGeneric.jsp?team=reczmcuk&\\_stabilid\\_=93954](https://uk.teamunify.com/SubTabGeneric.jsp?team=reczmcuk&_stabilid_=93954)). Coaches and Team Managers should be club trained personnel and registered members of Swim England. Untrained parents without a current DBS certificate are not allowed to take charge of swimmers on poolside.

**10. DISPUTES**

Any dispute for which the foregoing conditions do not provide shall be determined by the Swimming Committee.