



WATFORD SWIMMING CLUB

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Regional Qualifier Open Meet

Affiliated to the Swim England East Region

(Under Swim England Laws and Regulations, the Swim England Technical Rules of Swimming and the Swim England Open Meet Licencing Criteria)

(Licence Number 3ER250120)

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th March 2025

Woodside Leisure Centre Horseshoe Lane Garston WD25 7HH

MEET RULES AND INFORMATION

- 1) The Promoter of this Meet is Suzy Harper on behalf of Watford Swimming Club
- 2) The meet will take place at Woodside Leisure Centre on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th March 2024 and is licensed by Swim England at Level 3 under Licence No. 3ER250120.
- 3) This meet will be run in accordance with, and held under Swim England Regulations, Swim England Technical Rules of Swimming and these conditions.
- 4) Entries to this meet will be accepted on a first come first served basis
- 5) Competitors must be Club Compete members of an affiliated club, eligible to compete and registered in accordance with Swim England Laws and Technical Rules and may enter in the name of one club only. Entries will only be accepted from competitors registered as members of Swim England, SASA or WASA or competitors from a country affiliated to World Aquatics.
- 6) Those swimmers in possession of a Swim England Certificate of Swimming Disability / Certificate of Exception, or those swimmers whose membership details record a disability Sport Class are welcome to enter the competition with a time slower than the lower limit standard. An entry time must be provided.
- 7) The pool length is 25m. 8 lanes and AOE will be used. A secondary strobe for the starting system is not available.
- 8) Age groups for male/open and female are single banded age groups from:
10 yrs –16yrs and 17yrs & over
- 9) 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.
- 10) There will be awards for the top three in each age group in each event.
- 11) Age as at 31st December 2025.

- 12) Swimmers need to be aged 10 or over by 31st December 2025 to be able to compete in line with Swim England rules (11 as at 31st December 2025 for 400 IM)
- 13) Heats will be swum with all ages combined and seeded on submitted times.
- 14) Over the top starts may be used at the Referee's discretion.
- 15) Once an entry has been accepted a competitor shall swim or give **notice of withdrawal**. Withdrawals can be made on the day, or can be emailed in advance to wscmaropenmeet@gmail.com. Notice of withdrawals from a club shall be reported to the recorders **at least 50 minutes** before the start of the session. Refunds are not available other than for medical reasons which must have supporting documentation and are at the discretion of the Meet Promoter.
- 16) Any swimmer not present when required to swim will incur a £10 penalty. In the event of a competitor not paying the penalty, the Club in whose name the competitor has entered the competition shall be responsible for payment. Refunds are not available for withdrawals after the accepted entries have been posted, other than for medical reasons.
- 17) All swimmers should be supervised by their coaches/team managers during warm up and whilst on poolside. It is the Club in whose name the competitor has entered the competition's responsibility to ensure the appropriate number of coaches/team managers are present to adhere to Swim England TM, Coach and Chaperone Policy. Coaches and team managers are responsible for the behaviour of their swimmers at all times.
- 18) No responsibility can be accepted for any loss or damage to clothing or other articles.
- 19) Swimmers will only be permitted to enter the gallery or cafe if they are appropriately dressed including footwear.
- 20) Spectators will be welcome in the viewing gallery and there will be a charge to enter the gallery of £5 per session.
- 21) Only swimmers, officials, Watford SC helpers and Team Managers/ Coaches accredited with coaches passes will be allowed poolside
- 22) Results will be posted during the meet on Meet Mobile and will be supplied to Aquatics GB for entry into the national rankings database and on the Watford Swimming Club website after the event.
- 23) All participants must observe the safety precautions in operation at Woodside Leisure Centre. Neither the Promoter nor Watford Swimming Club will be responsible for any loss or damage occurring during the meet.
- 24) In accordance with the Swim England 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. Should you have any concerns about photography or filming at this event then please bring them to the attention of Lorraine Reader (Club Welfare Officer) or Suzy Harper (Meet Promoter). **Note that any photography in the changing rooms is absolutely forbidden.** Participants and spectators are requested to follow

the Swim England guidelines for photography and use of photographs on social media. The Swim England Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, Wavepower Section 3 provides guidance on the use of social networking and guidance on photography (page 94-99). Both sets of guidance apply if social media platforms are being used to share images or recordings either after the meet or during live streaming of the event. Swim England safeguarding policies have been updated to state that mobile phones should not be used under any circumstances in the changing rooms (Wavepower safeguarding in the changing rooms section 3 page 82-84), any use will be reported to the Welfare officer. These policies will be rigorously enforced, and any person found to be contravening them will be asked to leave the gala without refund.

ENTRIES

- 25) Valid entries (which must include payment) will be accepted in order of receipt, that is, first come first served. Complete entries for each club are required together with an electronic payment. Individual entries will only be accepted at the Promoter's discretion.
- 26) Any individual entries must include a £5 administration charge per swimmer.
- 27) For an entry to be valid it must appear on British rankings, checks on times submitted will be made. If a time is found to be invalid for a swim, then it will be rejected and no refund will be given
- 28) If the number of entries received for the meet becomes untenable, the promoter reserves the right to limit the number of entries accepted. Deletions / scratches made will be based on the first come first served basis.
- 29) "No Time" (NT) entries are not allowed
- 30) We will accept long course times provided that they are converted to short course times when entered into Hytek and are drawn from British rankings.
- 31) The promoter reserves the right to limit the 400m Freestyle to 4 heats for Male/Open and 4 heats for Female. There will be a reserve list of the EIGHT fastest swimmers for Male/Open and for Female should any swimmer pull out or not turn up on the day.
- 32) The promoter reserves the right to limit the 400m IM to 2 heats for Male/Open and 2 heats for Female. There will be a reserve list of the EIGHT fastest swimmers for Male/Open and for Female should any swimmer pull out or not turn up on the day.
- 33) Complete entries for each club are requested together with a bank transfer. WSC bank details are Watford Swimming Club, Account Number 00440774, sort code 30 99 21. Where five or more competitors enter from the same club entry shall be made by using HYTEK and sending the entry file to the Promoter. Later individual entries may not be accepted. **Closing date for entries is midnight 9 February 2025** (or when the Meet is full if this is earlier). The Promoter reserves the right to re-open the Meet for entries after the closing date if there is capacity and entirely at the Promoter's discretion.

- 34) The entry fee is £8 per individual event except the 400s and £10 for the 400m Freestyle and 400 IM. All club entries with over 5 swimmers must be via Hy Tek software.
- 35) Time Trials will be considered if submitted by email in the week preceding the meet at the Promoters discretion if there are spaces available to fill lanes at the cost of £10 per time trial (£12 for 400 events). Entrants for time trials must comply with the original entry conditions.
- 36) Please submit your entry file with the Summary Sheet to Suzy Harper at 32 The Mount, Rickmansworth, Herts, WD3 4DW or at wscmaropenmeet@gmail.com
- 37) Any enquiries please contact Suzy Harper at wscmaropenmeet@gmail.com
- 38) Any individual entries must include a £5 administration charge per swimmer.
- 39) Confirmation of entries will be sent to clubs.
- 40) **Coaches Passes** -Weekend Coaches' passes, to include food, are available for poolside access at £20 per day or £30 for the weekend. Coaches' passes will not be sold on the day.
- 41) The Data Protection Act 2018 requires us to provide you with certain information and to obtain your consent before processing data about you. Processing includes: obtaining, recording, holding, disclosing, destruction or retaining information. We require certain personal data for the purposes of making entries to the competition, managing the meet and the submission of results to Rankings. The information provided by you will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. Consent to process such personal data is deemed to have been given by the submission of the entry. Where the personal data of competitors, officials and coaches/team managers has been passed to us by a third party such as a club rather than by the individuals themselves, we rely on the third party to ensure that consent has been obtained.
- 42) Any matter not covered by these Meet conditions will be determined by the Promoter and Referee, subject to Swim England laws, Regulations and the Swim England technical Rules of racing.

Gala to be held at: **Woodside Leisure Centre**, Horseshoe Lane, WATFORD, Hertfordshire
WD25 7HH

www.watfordswimmingclub.co.uk