

# Reading Swimming Club

Affiliated to Swim England South East Region and Berks and South Bucks County ASA

## Masters Spring Meet 2026

### 9th May – Rivermead Leisure Centre Reading Promoters Conditions and Competition Rules

#### Introduction

The meet will take place on 9th May 2026 at Rivermead Leisure Centre, Reading, RG1 8EQ. The pool is 25m long (short course), with 8 lanes, anti-turbulence lane ropes and AOE (electronic timing).

The meet is promoted by the Reading Swimming Club (RSC). Any enquiries should be addressed to the entries secretary by email to [meetenquiries@readingswimclub.org](mailto:meetenquiries@readingswimclub.org) .

On the day of the meet, all swimmers will need to register and confirm they are swimming in the events which they have been accepted for. There will be separate registrations for each session. Swimmers that do not register will be withdrawn from all their events in that session.

#### Awards

All events are Heat Declared Winner (HDW). Awards will be made to the fastest three swimmers in each age group per category (ages are as of 31st December 2026). Presentations will not be made. Awards should be collected from the awards table.

A trophy will be awarded to the visiting team with the highest combined team score. Team points will be awarded for the top six places, six points for first place, five for second place, and so on with one point for sixth place.

Trophies will be awarded to the top female and top open/male swimmer of the meet. The winners will be decided using a points-based method with age adjusted points calculated using a similar method to the British Swimming Master Decathlon Competition. The awards will be made based on the points for the best five swims (of any distance and stroke combination).

Individual age groups are: 18-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90-94, 95-99, and 100 and over.

Relay Age Groups are: 72 – 99 years, 100 – 119 years, 120 – 159 years, 160 – 199 years, 200 – 239 years, and 240 years and over.

Swimmers must be 18 years of age (or older) on 9th May 2026.

#### Programme of Events

The programme of events for the meet is at the end of the document. All events are open to all age groups. All age groups will be swum together in heats, which will be seeded from submitted entry times with slowest swimmers first. The final heat will be spearheaded. All 200m events will be swum in mixed heats (with separate awards for each open/male and female age group).

The Promoter reserves the right to amend the Programme of Events to ensure the smooth running of the Meet.

## Relays

We will be offering Female and Open 4x50m Freestyle Relay and 4x50m Medley Relays. Each event will be limited to a maximum of 24 teams across all age groups. Clubs may enter more than one team in each age group, but if we need to restrict entries, preference will be given to “first teams” over “second teams” and so on. Swimmers may compete in more than one team in a relay event, however they should be aware the two teams might be seeded in the same heat. Changes to seeding to accommodate such “doubling up” will not be made.

In addition there will be a mixed 10 x 25m ‘Canon’ Freestyle relay event which shall operate with the following rules.

- Combined team age of 300 years or greater
- 5 male swims and 5 female Swims
- Swimmers can swim more than once but cannot swim 2 x consecutive 25m's
- Results from the Canon relay will not be counted for the top club, or top swimmer awards, a separate trophy will be awarded for this event.

## Rules and Results

The meet will be run under Swim England Regulations and Technical Rules of Masters Swimming. No jury of appeal will be appointed. Over the top starts will be used wherever possible. A swimmer may only swim for one club at the meet and must be a registered member of that club.

If a record is broken, the swimmer shall complete an application form, available from the results team, as soon as possible after the swim and hand it to the promoter so that the appropriate signatures can be obtained. Claiming a record after the meet may not be possible if the paperwork is not completed at the time.

Times recorded at the meet will be sent to Swim England for inclusion in the Masters Rankings database.

## Swim England Transgender and Non-Binary Competition Policy

In line with the Swim England Transgender and Non-Binary Competition Policy, events will be held with the following categories:

- Female – Swimmers with a birth sex of female and categorised as female in the Swim England on-line membership system, or
- Open/Male – Swimmers with a birth sex of male, Trans or non-binary swimmers and any swimmers not eligible for the female category.

For the avoidance of doubt, swimmers eligible for the Female category may not enter the Open/Male category. Further details on the policy and the definitions can be found at [www.swimming.org/swimengland/transgender-competition-policy-update/](https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/transgender-competition-policy-update/).

## Entry procedure

The entry fee is £8.00 per individual event and £15.00 per relay team. Entries open at 09:00 on Monday 2nd February 2026 and will close at midnight on Friday 24th April 2026. Any entries received outside of these times will be ignored. Swimmers should enter an estimate of the time they expect to be able to swim.

All entries must be made and paid for using the online entry service: <https://bsbasa.org/meet/reasrm26> , a list of current entries can be found at <https://bsbasa.org/entries/reasrm26> .

Entries will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. It is possible that we will need to stop accepting entries to the meet or individual sessions/events before the closing date (because the meet/session/event has reached capacity).

By submitting an entry, you are confirming that entrants:

- are Swim England “Club Compete”, Scottish Swimming “Athlete” or Swim Wales “Club – Competitive” registered swimmers, with their registration numbers as provided in the online entry process,
- have all read and understood the Promoter's Conditions and accept them,
- are Club members of the entered clubs,
- declared dates of birth and entry times are correct
- for competitors entering in the female category, their birth sex is female.

In the case of relay entries, by entering a relay team the person entering is confirming the above (with necessary adaptation) is correct in relation to the swimmers who will swim in that team and will be declared on the relay declaration forms.

We will be checking compliance with the membership conditions above, and any entries that do not comply will not be accepted. You can check your membership record at [www.swimmingresults.org/membershipcheck/](https://www.swimmingresults.org/membershipcheck/), <https://www.scottishswimming.com/membership/membership-check> or <https://www.swimwales.org/membership-checker>.

Swimmers who have chosen to hide their membership data cannot be checked and so must contact the promoter before entering to discuss alternative checking arrangements as otherwise, their entry will be rejected

A list of accepted/rejected entries will be posted at <https://www.readingswimclub.org/> as soon as possible after the closing date. Competitors should check the confirmation of accepted entries carefully. Many errors can be corrected prior to the meet. It is most unlikely that errors can be corrected on the day.

Once accepted entries have been posted, no refunds will be made for entries withdrawn after that time. Withdrawals due to Certified Medical Reasons will be refunded by Reading Swimming Club shortly after the meet has been completed.

Relay team declaration forms will be sent by email before the meet. The names of the swimmers in each team must be “declared” on the forms and then posted in the tray provided on the announcer’s desk no later than the start of the warm-up for the relevant session. Teams who do not complete and return relay declaration forms in time will not be eligible to swim. Clubs may change the age group of their relays teams prior to submitting the form and the procedure for doing this will be set out on the relay team declaration form.

## Meet Officials

Reading Swimming Club strive to provide a professionally run open meet and rely on the valuable contribution of officials who volunteer their time to support us. All clubs submitting entries are strongly encouraged to assist in the running of the meet by providing the details of any licensed officials who are willing to assist at this meet. Officials are asked to sign up at <https://www.swim-meet.com/OfficialsSignup/Reading/>.

## Use of Data

Data collected during the entry process will be transferred to the RSC Meet Management System. The information collected is necessary to organise/run this meet and may be used to:

- contact entrants and their clubs regarding entries and the organisation of the meet
- publish entry information on the RSC website
- publish results at the meet venue and on the RSC website
- submit results to the Swim England Masters Ranking system
- generate/send an aggregated report of results

By entering the meet, entrants are consenting for their data (and that of the swimmers) to be used as described above.

## **Photography Policy and use of Mobile Phones/Devices**

By its very nature, this Open Meet is in a public arena. By entering this competition, the participants acknowledge that it may result in the recording and publication of his/her image. In line with Swim England guidance on the taking of photos, attendees may take photographs and videos where their swimmer is the main subject of the photo. Any such photos and videos may only be for their own personal use and may not be broadcast or published (including posting or web-streaming to the web) without the prior written consent of the Promoter.

Other competitors nearby may be included in the shot but should not be the main subject of the photograph.

By entering, swimmers accept that their image may be captured and used as described above, Swimmers and other adults who do not wish their images to be used should contact the promoter prior to entering.

As per Swim England policy, use of mobile phones and devices is strictly prohibited under any circumstances in the changing rooms (including simply making a call). Breaching this policy will result in serious consequences.

## **Facilities**

Rivermead Leisure Centre is situated on Richfield Avenue, on south bank of the River Thames, about ½ a mile west of Reading train and bus station. It is easily accessed from M4. It has a large park which offers 3 hours of free parking.

The centre has one 8 lane 25m pool which is deep and cool, so ideal for getting PBs, has electronic timing, and brand-new anti-wave lane ropes. There is also a diving pool which may be used for swim downs after events. Backstroke ledges will be available.

The centre also has a café and there is a large Tesco superstore less than a mile away. Reading also has a wide range of shops and hotels.

## **Warm-up/Swim down**

The competition pool will be available for warm-up before the start of each session; for provisional timings, please see the programme of events. The diving pool may be available for continuous warm up and swim down during the meet.

Swimmers should swim in the prescribed direction during free swimming and follow the one way system once sprint lanes are opened. Diving is not permitted during warm up except in designated sprint lanes as advised by the warm up marshals.

## **Spectators**

For the safety and welfare of all swimmers, spectators are NOT allowed poolside or in the changing rooms during the meet.

## Other matters

Competitors in the first event of each session should report to the stewards 10 minutes before the scheduled start time. Otherwise, competitors should report to the stewards one clear event before the event in which they are competing. It is the responsibility of the individual to report to the stewarding area in sufficient time for each event.

As previously stated - on the day of the meet, all swimmers will need to register and confirm they are swimming in the events which they have been accepted for. There will be separate registrations for each session. Swimmers that do not register will be withdrawn from all their events in that session.

Reading Swimming Club will not accept any form of abuse and expects all individuals attending the meet (swimmers, coaches, officials, volunteers) to abide with Swim England's Wavepower policy and associated member clubs' Codes of Conduct. Any individual found to violate this will be removed from all events at the meet and asked to leave the venue (no refunds given).

For safety and comfort reasons, we request that all swimmers place their swimming bags in the lockers provided. The lockers require a small padlock to be brought with the swimmer. No large bags are allowed on the poolside. Only swimmers, officials, chaperones and coaches with passes will be allowed into the changing area or poolside.

There is a large spectator area that has a great view of the pool, we recommend that swimmers use this area while waiting for their next race.

Possessions and articles must not be left unattended as neither the Promoters nor Rivermead Leisure Centre will accept any liability for any loss or damage that may occur during the meet.

Swimmers must wear suitable clothing and footwear on the poolside. No wet clothing is allowed in the spectator seating area.

The Promoter reserves the right to amend any of the conditions in this document to ensure the smooth running of the Meet. Any matter not covered in the conditions will be determined by the promoter and/or the Reading Swimming Club Open Meet Events Committee.

## Programme of Events and Session Times

Please note session times are provisional and will be confirmed once entries have closed

### Session 1 – Saturday 9th May 2026

WARM-UP STARTS	12:45	SESSION START	13:45	EST. FINISH	16:15
Event #	Category	Distance	Stroke		
101	Mixed	200m	Freestyle		
102	Mixed	200m	Individual Medley		
103	Female	50m	Butterfly		
104	Open/Male	50m	Butterfly		
105	Female	100m	Breaststroke		
106	Open/Male	100m	Breaststroke		
107	Female	50m	Freestyle		
108	Open/Male	50m	Freestyle		
109	Female	100m	Backstroke		
110	Open/Male	100m	Backstroke		
111	Female	100m	Individual Medley		
112	Open/Male	100m	Individual Medley		
113	Female	4x50m	Freestyle Relay		
114	Open/Male	4x50m	Freestyle Relay		

### Session 2 – Saturday 9th May

WARM-UP STARTS	16:45	SESSION START	17:45	EST. FINISH	20:15
Event #	Category	Distance	Stroke		
201	Mixed	200m	Breaststroke		
202	Mixed	200m	Butterfly		
203	Female	50m	Backstroke		
204	Open/Male	50m	Backstroke		
205	Female	100m	Freestyle		
206	Open/Male	100m	Freestyle		
207	Female	50m	Breaststroke		
208	Open/Male	50m	Breaststroke		
209	Female	100m	Butterfly		
210	Open/Male	100m	Butterfly		
211	Mixed	200m	Backstroke		
212	Female	4x50m	Medley Relay		
213	Open/Male	4x50m	Medley Relay		
214	Mixed	10x25m	Freestyle Relay		

**Presentation of Top Open Swimmer, Top Female Swimmer and Top Visiting Club awards**