

Reading Swimming Club

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

Christmas Qualifier 2025

13 & 14th December 2025 – Rivermead Leisure Centre Reading

Licensed at level 3 - 3SE25xxxx

Promoters Conditions and Competition Rules

Introduction

The meet will take place on 13 & 14th December 2025 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.

Events and Awards

All events are Heat Declared Winner (HDW). 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. "Female" and "Open/Male" events will be swum separately. **Wherever possible**, over the top starts will be used for all appropriate events and side by side starts may be used for backstroke events.

Awards will be made to the fastest three swimmers in each age group per category (ages are as of 14th December 2025). Presentations will not be made. Awards should be collected from the awards table.

Age groups are: 9 years, 10 years, 11 years, 12 years, 13 years, 14 years, 15 years & over. Competitors must be 9 years of age (or older) on 14th December.

The *Programme of Events and Session Times* for the meet follows these conditions. The Promoter reserves the right to amend the Programme of Events to ensure the smooth running of the Meet. The timing of session 2 will be confirmed when accepted entries have been issued, the promoter will aim to leave 45 minutes between the end of session 1 and the start of warm-up for session 2.

Upper Limit Times

In accordance with Swim England requirements for Level 3 licensed meets, there are *Upper Limit Times*, which can be found at the end of this document. The Upper Limit times for each event and age group are attached. Swimmers who, at the time of entry, have achieved a time faster than the upper limit since 14th December 2024 are not eligible to enter that event.

Rules and Results

The meet will be run under Swim England Laws & Technical Rules of Racing. No jury of appeal will be appointed.

It is the responsibility of competitors, coaches, and clubs to ensure that all swimmers are competent to the standard of the Swim England Competitive Start Award. Competitors may start from the side or in the water. Swimmers must remain in their lane after finishing their race until the next race has started or instructed to leave the pool by the referee or starter. Swimmers should promptly leave the pool by the side so as not to interfere with the timing system.

This Meet has been licensed at Level 3 by Swim England. Times recorded at the meet will be sent to Swim England for inclusion in the National Rankings database, and as such will be valid for entry into County and Regional Competitions and Championships.

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 new 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/.

Entry procedure

The entry fee is £8.00 per event, apart from the 400m events which are £10. Entries open at 09:00 on Tuesday 21st October 2025 and close at midnight on Friday 21st November 2025. Any entries received outside of these times will be ignored. All entry times should be short course and must be achieved since 14th December 2024 (long course times that have been converted to short course via ASA tables are permitted). Entry times must be slower than the Upper Time Limit (see below). No time entries will be accepted.

The entry file set will be available on request from meetenquiries@readingswimclub.org.

All entries must be made and paid for using the online entry service: <https://bsbasa.org/meet/reasrd25>.

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 Club Compete registered swimmers, with their Swim England 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, and birth sex is female for competitors entering in the female category (see above)

We will be checking compliance with the membership conditions above, and any entries that do not comply may not be accepted. You can check your membership record at www.swimmingresults.org/membershipcheck/.

Classified disability swimmers may enter any event provided they meet the eligibility requirements above. Swimmers holding a Certificate of Swimming Disability, signed by the Swim England Medical Officer or a Functional Ability Card must submit this to the Referee via the Promoter by the beginning of the warm up for the session in which they intend to swim.

A list of accepted/rejected entries will be posted at <https://www.readingswimclub.org/> , and emailed to entrants as soon as possible after the closing date.

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.

Supervision and Poolside Passes

Swimmers under the age of 18 years are to be supervised throughout the event. In the absence of a club representative (Coach, Team Manager or Chaperone), this responsibility resides with the individual entering the swimmer. This responsibility applies especially to periods of non-competition or between sessions.

Clubs are expected to provide sufficient poolside staff to manage their swimmers on poolside and comply with Swim England [Team Manager, Coach and Chaperone Policy 2023](#) which requires clubs to follow the supervision ratios set out in that policy. All team staff must be DBS checked and have undergone a relevant Swim England Safeguarding course to gain a coaches/team managers pass and access the poolside and swimmers seating area.

Reading swimming club will not be responsible for any unaccompanied swimmers on poolside, responsibility falls on the club or individual entering the swimmer.

Entries (individual and Club) for swimmers under 18 will not be accepted without the purchase of Poolside Passes to support coaches, team managers and chaperones. The cost of a poolside pass is £10 per person per session or £25 per person for the weekend which covers admission to poolside, heat sheets and mid-session refreshments on the first day of the meet. Poolside passes must be applied for as part of a club entry.

Only individuals wearing a valid, visible poolside pass will be permitted on poolside.

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/> .

Time Trials

Time Trials may be offered after the entry closing date where space and capacity permits. Time trials will be swum in the appropriate seeding order (but not normally in the final heat) based on submitted times which must not be faster than the Upper Limit Times. Time trials will be offered on a first come first served basis. Competitors wishing to swim time trials should email the entries secretary prior to the meet (meetenquiries@readingswimclub.org). Please note, time trial requests must be made, and entries and payment submitted before midnight on Thursday 11th December 2025. There will be a charge of £9.00 per time trial swim, apart from 400m events which will be £11.00 per time trial swim. Time trials will not be accepted on the day of the meet.

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 Ranking system
- generate/send an aggregated report of results by club to the relevant club

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 participant and their parents 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 parents 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.

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 will be available for continuous warm up and swim down during the meet. Unacceptable behaviour by swimmers in or around the diving pool may result in the warmup / swim down facility being withdrawn.

During warm up swimmers should swim in the prescribed direction during free swimming and follow the one way system once sprint lanes are opened. Warm up marshals will not be appointed, it is the coaches responsibility to supervise their swimmers during this period so as not to endanger themselves or others whilst in the water. Diving is not permitted during warm up except in designated sprint lanes as advised by the announcer.

Spectators

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

Admission: £6 per session, £10 all day (free to children under 14 and pensioners). Seating in the spectator gallery is limited and admission will be restricted to those that have bought a spectator ticket from the Order Whizz website.

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. After that car parking must be paid for, this is vigorously enforced with camera technology.

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.

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.

Other matters

This event will be run as a sign-in meet, i.e. all swimmers must sign in to confirm their intention to swim the events that they have entered in the subsequent session. Sign-in for session 1 will open 30 minutes prior to warm-up and will close 5 minutes after the first warm-up starts. Sign-in for session 2 will open at the end of session 1 and will close when the warm-up starts.

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.

A secondary strobe for deaf swimmers may be available on request. S15 swimmers wishing to use the secondary strobe should contact the organisers before the day of the competition. Backstroke ledges will not be available.

The electronic timing display results are only provisional and may be overruled by the referee

Reading Swimming Club will not accept any form of abuse and expects all individual attending the meet (swimmers, parents, 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 £1 coin deposit to be brought with the swimmer. No large bags are allowed on the poolside. The changing rooms are unisex and will be patrolled during the Meet to ensure the safety of all the swimmers. Only swimmers, officials, chaperones (Team Managers) and coaches with passes will be allowed into the changing area or poolside. Swimmers must wear suitable clothing and footwear on the poolside. No wet clothing is allowed in the spectator seating area.

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.

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.

Any appeals must be submitted under Swim England procedures and will be handled by the Meet Promoter and Lead Referee. Any conditions not covered in the competition rules will be dealt with under the laws of the sport and at the discretion of the Promoter. Depending upon the situation, the Meet Promoter or Lead Referee's decision will be final. By submitting an entry, participants agree to be bound by any decisions made by the Promoter and/or Lead Referee.

Reading SC, the Promoter, and the Rivermead Leisure Centre will not accept liability for any loss (including theft) or damage to personal items or property that may occur during the Meet.

Programme of Events and Session Times

Session 1 – Saturday 13th December

WARM-UP STARTS	13:00	SESSION START	13:45	EST. FINISH	16:15
Event #	Category	Distance	Stroke		
101	Female	400m	Freestyle		
102	Open/Male	200m	Freestyle		
103	Female	50m	Butterfly		
104	Open/Male	50m	Backstroke		
105	Female	200m	Breaststroke		
106	Open/Male	200m	Individual Medley		
107	Female	100m	Backstroke		
108	Open/Male	100m	Breaststroke		
109	Female	50m	Freestyle		
110	Open/Male	200m	Butterfly		

Session 2 – Saturday 13th December

WARM-UP STARTS	TBC	SESSION START	TBC	EST. FINISH	20:15
Event #	Category	Distance	Stroke		
201	Open/Male	400m	Freestyle		
202	Female	200m	Individual Medley		
203	Open/Male	50m	Breaststroke		
204	Female	50m	Breaststroke		
205	Open/Male	200m	Backstroke		
206	Female	200m	Backstroke		
207	Open/Male	100m	Freestyle		
208	Female	200m	Freestyle		
209	Open / Male	50m	Butterfly		
210	Female	100m	Butterfly		

Session 3 – Sunday 14th December

WARM-UP STARTS	09:00	SESSION START	09:45	EST. FINISH	12:45
Event #	Category	Distance	Stroke		
301	Open/Male	400m	Individual Medley		
302	Female	400m	Individual Medley		
303	Open/Male	100m	Butterfly		
304	Female	100m	Breaststroke		
305	Open/Male	200m	Breaststroke		
306	Female	200m	Butterfly		
307	Open/Male	100m	Backstroke		
308	Female	50m	Backstroke		
309	Open/Male	50m	Freestyle		
310	Female	100m	Freestyle		

Upper Limit Times

Female

Event		Age Group						
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15+
50m Freestyle	ULT	32.00	32.00	30.00	29.00	28.00	27.00	26.50
100m Freestyle	ULT	1:12.00	1:12.00	1:04.00	1:02.00	1:00.00	58.00	56.00
200m Freestyle	ULT	2:36.00	2:36.00	2:17.00	2:14.00	2:10.00	2:06.00	2:02.00
400m Freestyle	ULT	5:22.00	5:22.00	4:49.00	4:41.00	4:35.00	4:22.00	4:14.00
50m Butterfly	ULT	36.00	36.00	33.00	31.00	30.00	29.00	28.00
100m Butterfly	ULT	1:24.00	1:24.00	1:12.00	1:08.00	1:07.00	1:05.00	1:03.00
200m Butterfly	ULT	3:02.00	3:02.00	2:43.00	2:37.00	2:34.00	2:21.00	2:19.00
50m Backstroke	ULT	37.00	37.00	34.00	32.00	31.00	30.00	29.00
100m Backstroke	ULT	1:19.00	1:19.00	1:12.00	1:07.00	1:05.00	1:03.00	1:02.00
200m Backstroke	ULT	2:51.00	2:51.00	2:31.00	2:27.00	2:23.00	2:19.00	2:15.00
50m Breaststroke	ULT	43.00	43.00	38.00	36.00	34.00	33.00	33.00
100m Breaststroke	ULT	1:35.00	1:35.00	1:25.00	1:20.00	1:15.00	1:12.00	1:10.00
200m Breaststroke	ULT	3:25.00	3:25.00	2:58.00	2:52.00	2:46.00	2:41.00	2:35.00
200m Individual Medley	ULT	2:56.00	2:56.00	2:35.00	2:30.00	2:25.00	2:20.00	2:15.00
400m Individual Medley	ULT	6:14.00	6:14.00	5:30.00	5:18.00	5:06.00	4:55.00	4:45.00

Open

Event		Age Group						
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15+
50m Freestyle	ULT	31.00	31.00	28.00	27.00	25.00	24.50	24.00
100m Freestyle	ULT	1:04.00	1:04.00	1:02.00	58.00	55.00	53.00	51.00
200m Freestyle	ULT	2:22.00	2:22.00	2:14.00	2:07.00	2:04.00	2:01.00	1:55.00
400m Freestyle	ULT	4:56.00	4:56.00	4:52.00	4:29.00	4:26.00	4:17.00	3:57.00
50m Butterfly	ULT	34.00	34.00	31.00	29.00	28.00	27.00	26.00
100m Butterfly	ULT	1:17.00	1:17.00	1:09.00	1:03.00	1:01.00	58.00	55.00
200m Butterfly	ULT	3:14.00	3:14.00	2:36.00	2:24.00	2:18.00	2:12.00	2:06.00
50m Backstroke	ULT	35.00	35.00	32.00	30.00	28.00	27.00	26.00
100m Backstroke	ULT	1:16.00	1:16.00	1:11.00	1:04.00	1:02.00	1:01.00	59.00
200m Backstroke	ULT	2:46.00	2:46.00	2:33.00	2:25.00	2:19.00	2:12.00	2:04.00
50m Breaststroke	ULT	41.00	41.00	39.00	36.00	34.00	32.00	29.00
100m Breaststroke	ULT	1:30.00	1:30.00	1:23.00	1:18.00	1:13.00	1:09.00	1:03.00
200m Breaststroke	ULT	3:20.00	3:20.00	3:04.00	2:50.00	2:44.00	2:33.00	2:16.00
200m Individual Medley	ULT	2:45.00	2:45.00	2:34.00	2:22.00	2:16.00	2:09.00	2:02.00
400m Individual Medley	ULT	5:52.00	5:52.00	5:28.00	5:02.00	4:48.00	4:33.00	4:19.00

All times are short course (i.e.: a 25m pool). Ages are as of 14th December 2025.