

2026 Hampshire County Championships Information

Dear clubs, coaches, parents and swimmers

Thank you for your entries to the County Championships - we are looking forward to welcoming you to the 3 weekends.

Officials

- **We need a lot of licensed officials to run the Meet. Please sign up if you are able to help. All officials will receive a parking pass and refreshments if covering more than 1 session in a day).**
- **If you are able to help please contact Dave Greenaway**

Volunteers

- The request for Volunteer sign up has been sent to the Meets Coordinators of those clubs selected to cover a session. Please ensure you send back the completed form as soon as possible to reduce the stress of our volunteer coordinator.

Timings

- Warm up, start and estimated finish times are posted on the website.

Venue details

- The address for the pool is Winchester Sports and Leisure Park, Bar End Road, Bar End, Winchester SO23 9NR.
- From the M3 Northbound exit at Junction 10. From the M3 Southbound exit at Junction 9. <https://goo.gl/maps/nwJeaZSikX8n7dHu7>
- Winchester City Centre is a 10 minute walk away along Bar End Road or the more scenic, signposted, path alongside the Itchen Navigation.
- If you don't want to spend hours poolside there are some lovely local walks – up St Catherine's Hill, along the river, or out along the South Downs Way.
- There's also plenty of good shopping and eating to be done in Winchester city centre.
- There is a small cafe at the centre. There is also a garage just opposite selling a range of sandwiches etc, and with a newly opened Greggs bakery attached!

Parking

- Please do not park at the pool (unless you are officiating and have a pass). Space is limited as there are other activities on at the same time. The traffic officers monitor the car park very closely when there is an event on.
- Instead, please use the Barfield or East Winchester Park and Ride car parks, both less than 5 minutes' walk from the sports centre. The charge for these is £3.50 for the day on Saturday. There is no charge on Sundays. <https://goo.gl/maps/yizo2fbjionQprNUA>

Withdrawals - ONLINE only please

- Please let us know if a swimmer needs to withdraw, so we can avoid empty lanes and help the meet run smoothly. A charge may be made if a swimmer fails to withdraw in time (see conditions)
- Withdrawals must be made online via our website and not by email please
- Please ensure you let your club know of any withdrawal
- On-the-day withdrawals will also be online - a QR code will be supplied

Relays

- Clubs can adjust the swimmers/times of their relay until 20.00 on the Thursday prior to the weekend of that event.
- Any amendments after that time will need to be made with the tech team poolside prior to the warm up of the session the event is in
- A relay team may be withdrawn by a club only using the link [Relay Withdrawals](#)

1500m and 800m Arrangements

- There will be a break before the start of the 800m and after the first two heats of the 1500m events each day.
- Swimmers may warm-up before the start of the session or during the break. We will provide estimated times for the start of the break. The actual time of the break may be a little earlier or later.
- To ensure 1500m swimmers know if they will be swimming before or after the break, we will publish a provisional start list as soon as possible after 5pm the evening before each 1500m event. The list will be provided on the website, Meet Mobile and emailed to club entry coordinators.
- The provisional start list may be adjusted if we receive any subsequent withdrawals before the start of warm-up. However, we will not make any changes that result in swimmers being moved to the other side of the break. This ensures any swimmer who is told the previous evening they are swimming after the break can be confident they can elect to warm-up in the break if they wish.
- We ask that clubs submit all withdrawals from the 1500m before 5pm on the day before the event if possible. However, the final deadline for withdrawals remains the start of warm-up.

Finals

- Finalist and reserves will be announced and published to meet mobile
- Any finalist or reserve who will not be presenting themselves to marshalling must withdraw

Meet Security

- We will have a security officer at the entrance to the changing room for the duration of the Meet.
- Please respect the Security Staff, abuse of any kind will not be tolerated

Pool hall details

- The Meet will use the whole of the pool complex, which is accessible via the changing rooms off the entrance foyer.
- **Parents are not permitted in the changing rooms or on poolside.** Only competing swimmers, officials, and adults with a poolside pass will be allowed access to the changing rooms or onto

poolside. Clubs must ensure they order sufficient poolside passes for their team to comply with Swim England supervision ratios

- We will allocate a small poolside seating area for each club. Please ensure your team remains within your allocated area
- If you need first aid assistance please notify a lifeguard.
- Coaches are reminded that **NO hot drinks** are allowed on poolside please.

Changing Areas

- The changing area is only for use while changing and/or accessing lockers
- Mobile phones (or any other similar photographic devices) must not be used in the changing rooms. Any swimmer/official/coach/volunteer using such a device in the changing area may be banned from the rest of the meet
- Bags/towels/kit may not be left unattended in a cubicle. If anything is left this will be removed.

Dry side space

- The first 2 squash courts are available for teams to use. To prevent overcrowding on poolside the dry side space provides additional space for larger teams or swimmers who wish to warm up, stretch or rest. We would expect clubs to supervise swimmers at all times.

Bags

- We will be strictly enforcing a **no big bags on poolside rule**. This leaves more space, and stops bags / kit from blocking the air vents (otherwise we all roast). This is a requirement of the centre.
- **We would ask all coaches and swimmers to support this please.**
- Swimmers may only take onto poolside one small bag containing towel / hat / goggles / drink and snacks. Big bags can go in lockers (of which there are over 500) - they need a £1 refundable coin.

Warm up / Warm down pool

- The 20m, 4 lane teaching pool will be available from 2pm on Saturday and the whole of Sunday, from the end of the scheduled warm up until the end of that session.
- Swimmers are expected to use this facility appropriately and responsibly and to not stay in for longer than necessary.
- **There must be NO diving in this pool.**
- If it gets too busy numbers will need to be limited.
- Any swimmer not using this pool properly will be asked to get out. Repeat offenders may risk their entire club not being allowed to use the pool.

Awards

- Medals will be awarded in line with the conditions
- Results will be put up on a board outside the spectator's gallery and on the ends of the locker units in the changing rooms.
- The medals table will be on poolside.
- Medals must be collected on the day

SPECTATORS

Spectating - ticket sales online

- Tickets can be purchased in advance via OrderWhizz using the link online
- Sales will open at 10am on the Friday prior to each weekend. Adult tickets are £5.50 per session children under 11 are £1. . There is a limit of one adult and one child ticket per swimmer.
- You will need to present your order details at the entrance to the gallery.
- Ticket sales will remain open online until and during the Meet, if there is availability.
- **Please note:** we are limited by health and safety regulations with regards the total number of tickets we can sell. **Hence we cannot guarantee there are enough spectator tickets for all swimmers. We strongly advise you to book tickets ahead.**
- Tickets will be refunded in the event of certified medical withdrawals.

Spectator gallery

- Spectators must use the seating and must not stand at the back (this is a fire regulations requirement).
- Folding chairs or additional seating of any kind are not permitted in the gallery
- Swimmers must not enter the spectator area unless dry, clothed and wearing shoes.
- Anyone wishing to use a camera, mobile phone camera, or video camera, should adhere to the Swim England guidelines on the use of images and restrict to their own child and their own private use with no posting on social media or similar.
- Flash photography is not permitted at the start of any heat.

Livestream on Youtube:

- We will be aiming to livestream all sessions
- We plan to enable comments on the YouTube feed so that viewers can show their support through shoutouts over the announcement system!

Meet Mobile

- The programme, live start lists and results will all be on the HyTek Meet Mobile app. The app can be downloaded from both Apple and Google app stores.

Fastlegs

- The Fastlegs shop will be available upstairs on the balcony outside of the gym.
- There will be a small selection of County merchandise to purchase or order. We recommend you order any County Merchandise in advance using the link on the website

