SWIM IRELAND

2026

MCCULLAGH INTERNATIONAL OPEN MEET (50m)

EVENT GUIDE

SPORT IRELAND NATIONAL AQUATIC CENTRE
SPORT IRELAND CAMPUS, DUBLIN

20th - 22nd February 2026

SPORT IRELAND

arena

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MEET CONDITIONS

VENUE INFORMATION

All training and competition will take place in the National Aquatic Centre, Sport Ireland Campus, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

The National Aquatic Centre is a 10 lane 50m pool. The competition pool has anti-turbulence lane ropes, wedge starting blocks and backstroke ledges.

The warm up/swim down pool is a 25m pool consisting of 6 lanes.

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA AND INFORMATION

Times may be achieved in Long Course OR Hy-Tek converted Short Course times and must be achieved in the *Period 26th June 2025 – 25th January 2026.*

Only Hy-tek converted times are accepted, other converted times not using the same conversion methods will NOT be accepted.

Times must have been achieved in **meets licenced at Level 3 or higher** to be eligible to be used for entry into this meet.

Qualification times for all athletes can be found further in this document.

SWIM IRELAND TRANSGENDER POLICY

Please note that this competition will be run under the stipulations of the Swim Ireland Transgender and Non-Binary Participation and Competition Policy.

Female Category – athletes with a birth sex of female

Male & Open Category – athletes with a birth sex of male, trans or non-binary competitors and any competitor not eligible for the Female category

Further information on this can be found in the Policies section on the Swim Ireland website

ENTRIES

Entry Forms

All entries to be submitted as **Electronic Hy-tek entries files** via email to the **Swim Ireland Office** at entries@swimireland.ie

Clubs who do not have hy-tek can download Hytek lite to complete the entry file. We can provide instructions on how to use this software if required.

Please note that the meet Hy-tek entry file will be set to automatically convert Short Course times. No other conversion methods will be accepted Clubs must NOT attempt to do any conversions themselves.

Proof of Entry

ALL entries must be accompanied by a **proof of times Entry Report**. Be aware the Electronic Hy-tek entry file contains the entry times only, it does not include information regarding meet levels or dates these entry times were achieved, for this reason the proof time entry report is also required to be submitted with your entry. Random checks on entry times will be carried out prior to and during the event. Any Athletes submitting an entry time with no proof time or with a time that is non-compliant with the meet conditions will be withdrawn from all entered events and will forfeit all entry fees.

If your club does not use hy-tek, you must provide proof of all entry times via **official results links (or official copies of the meet results reports).** *Please note that meet mobile results are not official results.*

Please contact Swim Ireland Office at entries@swimireland.ie if you require any assistance or advice regarding above.

Relay Entries

Clubs are permitted to enter up to two relay teams per event. The names of the 4 relay team members swimming in the race and the order of swimming must be declared on the official Team Declaration Sheet and submitted to the Swim Office Table no later than 60 minutes before the start of the session in which the race takes place. Failure to do so will be subject to a fine of €50 without exception and disqualification of the relay team.

Relay swimmers must be registered members of the club for which they are swimming.

All competing swimmers must be entered in the meet electronic hy-tek file (*even if they are not swimming in individual events*). All teams must have a minimum of 2 swimmers entered in individual events, in order to make up a relay team. Relay teams that swim in an order that is different from the declared order of swimming shall be disqualified in accordance with WA Rule SW 10.12.

Entry Fees

Individual entries cost €12/£11 per event.
Relay entries cost €27/£24 per event.

No entry will be processed until the appropriate fee has been received at the Swim Ireland Office.
*Please note that entries are non-refundable once the final date for payment has passed AND accreditations will not be approved/issued until full payment of entries and any outstanding fees have been received.

Entry Deadlines

Closing date for entries is **5.00pm Wednesday 28th January 2026.**

Payment for ALL entries must be received by **5.00pm Friday 2nd April 2026.**

Payment Options

Bank Transfer:
Please reference all payments as "McCullagh Open '26" and include club details.
Account Name**: Irish Amateur Swimming Association**

Euro	Sterling
Bank: AIB	**Bank: Danske Bank**
Sort Code: 932515	**Sort Code: 950111**
Account Number: 59772048	**Account Number: 51051490**
IBAN: IE03 AIBK 9325 1559 7720 48	**IBAN: GB55 DABA 9501 1151 0514 90**
BIC: AIBKIE2D	**BIC: DABAGB2B**

Cheque/Postal Order:
Made payable to Swim Ireland

COMPETITORS WITH DISABILITIES

Competitors must have an authorised World Para Swimming (WPS) Classification or National Classification at the time of entry to be considered an athlete with a Disability and may enter under the published Consideration Times for that disability.

Where a participant has an eligible impairment recognised by WPS or Deaf Sport Ireland ***but does not have Authorised classification***, they may still enter but must adhere to the Consideration Times as indicated in the Standard entry route.

Lane allocation will be seeded by qualification times of both able-bodied and competitors with a disability, exemptions to this can be requested via gala secretary in advance of the competition.

If a swimmer is entering an event as a competitor with a Disability this *must be declared with their entry submission via the gala secretary* in advance of the competition.

Swimmers with a disability must declare with their entries whether they wish to be considered for **Multi-Class (MC) finals OR Male & Open/Female finals** should separate MC Finals be available in their event. It is possible for athletes to declare a different status for different events (i.e. declare as a MC swimmer for the 100 butterfly but Male & Open/Female for the 100 backstroke), however once the declaration is made and the competition has commenced, this cannot be changed.

Para-swimmers

Athletes who wish to enter a non-para event can only do so at the discretion of the Para Swimming Head Coach. This will only be granted with clear performance rationale. *Athletes must have a National Classification with Paralympics Ireland to compete at this competition*. Please contact Paralympics Ireland directly for this information: classification.

Swimmers with Hearing Impairments

Athletes who wish to enter using these qualification standards MUST be registered with Deaf Sport Ireland.

SWIMMING COMPETITION FORMAT

The competition will consist of the following:

- **50m, 100m 200m Events –** Heats, 'A' Final, Age Group-Final & 'B' Final
- **400m Events –** Heats, 'A' Final & Age Group-Final
- **800m & 1500m Freestyle Events –** Heat Declared Winner events with fastest heat swimming as a Final
- **Relay Events –** A maximum of two relay teams ('A' and 'B') can be entered per club per relay event. All take place as HDW events in the Heats Session – only one team will score towards the McCullagh Award.

Please note that following receipt of entries, we MAY revert to split heats sessions if numbers dictate a need for this

Finals

- **'A' Final –** Fastest 10 athletes from the heats (Male & Open and Female, all ages, all nationalities)
- **Age Group Final –** Fastest 10 athletes (Male & Open and Female born 2012 & 2013) that have not qualified for the A Final
- **'B' Final –** Fastest 10 athletes from the heats (50m, 100m 200m events only) that have not qualified for the A Final or the Age Group Final where 31 or more athletes compete in the heats in the event, and, following withdrawals, a minimum of 6 athletes remain

Awards

- Top 3 placings in the 'A' Final (Male & Open and Female, all ages)
- Top 3 placing Irish teams (Male & Open and Female) and commemorative medals to foreign relays placing in top 3.
- Top 3 placings in the Age group finals - medals will be presented to the fastest 13-14 years athletes (Male & Open and Female) with the 'A' Final taking priority over the Age Final in this regard.
- A formal award ceremony will take place for the relay and age group winners only.

Scoring

Top 10 swimmers in each event receive points (10-1) based on final results. The Irish club team with the highest cumulative points are awarded the Dave McCullagh Memorial Trophy.

Heats Ages

For qualification purposes only the ages will consist of the following:

1. **13/14 years** (competitors born 2012-2013)
2. **15/16 years** (competitors born 2010-2011)
3. **17/18 years** (competitors born 2008-2009)
4. **19 years & over** (competitors born 2007 or earlier)

COMPETITION RULES

These Meet Conditions must be read in conjunction with the Swim Ireland General Event Rules available HERE.
Please note that the Swim Ireland Eligibility Policy will be enforced at this competition

Withdrawals

All withdrawals must be submitted via the online form (this form will be available following the closing date for entries).

Withdrawals from **day 1** must be submitted via the **online** form by **3pm** on **Tuesday 7th** April.

Withdrawals for **days 2 and 3** must be submitted through the swim office table at the event by 6pm the previous day, i.e. for day 2, withdrawals must be submitted by 6pm on day 1.

There will be a €50 fine if swimmers are not withdrawn within 30 minutes of the announcement of the results of an event for the final that evening or by 6pm for an event for the next day.

Swimsuits

It is not a requirement for swimmers to be wearing WA approved swimwear in this competition.

World Aquatic Approved Swim Wear Policy

Anti-Doping

It is a condition of attending a Swim Ireland event that athletes may be required to be tested for prohibited substances in accordance with the Sport Ireland/WADA/World Aquatics Anti-Doping rules.

Further information can be found at Sport Ireland Anti-Doping.

Pre-Competition Training Session

There will be limited pool availability for a pre competition training session on **Thursday 20th February (time TBC.)**

ACCREDITATION

Athletes and Team Staff will only be permitted poolside if they can show official accreditation. This is for the safety and wellbeing of ALL athletes participating in events or activities under the umbrella of Swim Ireland, there are certain requirements for visiting adult team staff attending competitions, see below.

Accreditation lanyards & pouches can be picked up at the accreditation desk at the venue from the morning of Day 1. We would encourage swimmers and clubs to reuse lanyards and pouches from previous competitions.

Athletes and Team Staff will only be permitted poolside if they can show official accreditation. This is for the safety and wellbeing of ALL athletes participating in events or activities under the umbrella of Swim Ireland, there are certain requirements for visiting adult team staff attending competitions, see below.

Further information on how to apply for your accreditation can be found **HERE**.

Irish Based Clubs

Accreditation will be produced through the JustGo-Membership system. Club administrators will need to apply for accreditation for athletes, team managers & coaches.

Please ensure that team managers & coaches meet all the requirements for accreditations. Athletes, team managers & coaches must have a profile picture on their profile, otherwise their accreditation will not be awarded. Also please ensure that the swim club that they are currently entering the competition under is selected on their profiles as their primary club must, as this is where accreditation will be sent (i.e. if a swimmer is a member of a swim club, and a water polo club, but the water polo club is listed as their primary club, then this is where the accreditation will be sent).

Overseas Athletes

Overseas Athletes require permission from their club to enter this event, so the Athletes must have a club representative confirm entry via email or letter stating that the Athletes are members of good standing and the club is happy for the Athletes to attend and represent their club at this event.

All athletes will need to apply for poolside accreditation, they will either need to set up an account with Swim Ireland on the following system Signup - JustGo or if they or their club already have an account they will need to update your details. Further details will be provided in the Team Information document.

Overseas Team Staff

Visiting Team Staff and Coaches (this includes parents wishing to go poolside at the competition) need to complete a Visting Staff Form for Competitions and provide copies of required documents listed in the form. Further details will be provided in the Team Information document.

The following must be provided by the club/national federation for each visiting individual:
1. Proof of membership of a WA registered national federation
2. Attendance at a child protection/safeguarding course within the last three (3) years of the prospective event being attended. This must be approved by the same national federation as above.
3. Verification/copy of a vetting or police check (or equivalent) having been undertaken within three (3) years of the prospective event being attended. The vetting or police check (or equivalent) process must be as accepted by the same national federation as above. In line with current legislation, valid Disclosure Certificates/PVG/CRB from any other agency, will not be accepted *

Note*

In the absence of any vetting process being available from the national federation,(for example due to war etc.) a letter of good standing from their national federation will be required. The letter of good standing must be dated within the 3 months prior to the start date of the Swim Ireland competition.

All Team staff and coaches will also need to apply for accreditation for Team Managers & Coaches do this you will either need to set up an account with us on the following system Signup - JustGo or if you already have an account you will need to update your details by following the instructions linked UPDATE .

Oversees Teams and Athletes should also be aware, some National Federations require that each individual member or group of members wishing to compete overseas need to apply to them for permission by completing an International Permit application, so please check what is required by your own Governing Body.

OFFICIALS

Where we do not have the required number of licenced officials available for a session, clubs will be assigned roles based on the ratio of 4:1 (4 Athletes to 1 Official) in that session.

*Please note that this will be based on clubs' original entry list.

As per Swim Ireland's officials' uniform, officials are asked to wear black bottoms. T-shirts will be provided.

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

The primary safeguarding point of contact at the event in relation to wellbeing and protection matters or accidents is the Meet Director. The secondary point of contact is Kate Hills, Swim Irelands Head of Safeguarding, Ethics & Youth Development **katehills@swimireland.ie**

PHOTOGRAPHY

It is a condition of attending a Swim Ireland event that swimmers accept they may be photographed or filmed as part of the occasion, either as an individual or as a member of a group. Swimmers may also appear in a photograph or video inadvertently. Parents and swimmers must accept this. All photography and/or filming must be in accordance with Swim Ireland Guidelines.

All devices capable of taking photographs or videos must be switched off when using toilet or changing facilities at any competition venue. Refer to the Full policy **here**

Photographs cannot be taken at this event without first having registered the photographer and device at the administration desk. Photographic ID must be presented at registration. A wristband will be given to all those who successfully register a photography device. The wristband must be worn at all times. Once registered, photographs are only permitted from the balcony or in the reception area. **Photos and Videos are not permitted on poolside.**

EVENT CONTACT

Please direct all queries to entries@swimireland.ie

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Day 1 – Friday 20th February 2026	Day 2 – Saturday 21st February 2026	Day 3 – Sunday 22nd February 2026
Session 1 Heats **Warm Up 0730** **Start 0900**	**Session 3 Heats** **Warm Up 0730** **Start 0900**	**Session 5 Heats** **Warm Up 0730** **Start 0900**
Female 800m Freestyle Relay HDW	Male & Open 400m Freestyle Relay HDW	Male & Open 400m Freestyle
Male & Open 800m Freestyle Relay HDW	Female 400m Freestyle Relay HDW	Female 400m Freestyle
Female 400m IM	Male & Open 400m IM	Male & Open 50m Breaststroke
Male & Open 50m Backstroke	Female 50m Butterfly	Female 50m Breaststroke
Female 50m Backstroke	Male & Open 50m Butterfly	Male & Open 50m Freestyle
Male & Open 100m Freestyle	Female 200m Freestyle	Female 50m Freestyle
Female 100m Freestyle	Male & Open 200m Freestyle	Male & Open 200m IM
Male & Open 200m Butterfly	Female 200m Breaststroke	Female 200m IM
Female 200m Butterfly	Male & Open 200m Breaststroke	Male & Open 100m Butterfly
Male & Open 100m Breaststroke	Female 100m Backstroke	Female 100m Butterfly
Female 100m Breaststroke	Male & Open 100m Backstroke	Male & Open 200m Backstroke
Mixed 400m Medley Relay	Female 800m Freestyle HDW	Female 200m Backstroke
Male & Open 800m Freestyle HDW	Male & Open 1500m Freestyle HDW	Male & Open 400m Medley Relay HDW
Female 1500m Freestyle HDW		Female 400m Medley Relay HDW
Session 2 Finals **Warm Up 1600** **Start 1730**	**Session 4 Finals** **Warm Up 1600** **Start 1730**	**Session 5 Finals** **Warm Up 1500** **Start 1630**
Female 1500m Freestyle Fastest Heat	Male & Open 1500m Freestyle Fastest Heat	Male & Open 400m Freestyle Age Group Final
Male & Open 800m Freestyle Fastest Heat	Female 800m Freestyle Fastest Heat	Male & Open 400m Freestyle 'A' Final
Female 400m IM Age Group Final	Male & Open 400m IM Age Group Final	Female 400m Freestyle Age Group Final
Female 400m IM 'A' Final	Male & Open 400m IM 'A' Final	Female 400m Freestyle 'A' Final
Male & Open 50m Backstroke 'B' Final	Female 50m Butterfly 'B' Final	Male & Open 50m Breaststroke 'B' Final
Male & Open 50m Backstroke Age Group Final	Female 50m Butterfly Age Group Final	Male & Open 50m Breaststroke Age Group Final
Male & Open 50m Backstroke 'A' Final	Female 50m Butterfly 'A' Final	Male & Open 50m Breaststroke 'A' Final
Female 50m Backstroke 'B' Final	Male & Open 50m Butterfly 'B' Final	Female 50m Breaststroke 'B' Final
Female 50m Backstroke Age Group Final	Male & Open 50m Butterfly Age Group Final	Female 50m Breaststroke Age Group Final
Female 50m Backstroke 'A' Final	Male & Open 50m Butterfly 'A' Final	Female 50m Breaststroke 'A' Final
Male & Open 100m Freestyle 'B' Final	Female 200m Freestyle 'B' Final	Male & Open 50m Freestyle 'B' Final
Male & Open 100m Freestyle Age Group Final	Female 200m Freestyle Age Group Final	Male & Open 50m Freestyle Age Group Final
Male & Open 100m Freestyle 'A' Final	Female 200m Freestyle 'A' Final	Male & Open 50m Freestyle 'A' Final

Female 100m Freestyle 'B' Final Female 100m Freestyle Age Group Final Female 100m Freestyle 'A' Final Male & Open 200m Butterfly 'B' Final Male & Open 200m Butterfly Age Group Final Male & Open 200m Butterfly 'A' Final Female 200m Butterfly 'B' Final Female 200m Butterfly Age Group Final Female 200m Butterfly 'A' Final Male & Open 100m Breaststroke 'B' Final Male & Open 100m Breaststroke Age Group Final Male & Open 100m Breaststroke 'A' Final Female 100m Breaststroke 'B' Final Female 100m Breaststroke Age Group Final Female 100m Breaststroke 'A' Final	Male & Open 200m Freestyle 'B' Final Male & Open 200m Freestyle Age Group Final Male & Open 200m Freestyle 'A' Final Female 200m Breaststroke 'B' Final Female 200m Breaststroke Age Group Final Female 200m Breaststroke 'A' Final Male & Open 200m Breaststroke 'B' Final Male & Open 200m Breaststroke Age Group Final Male & Open 200m Breaststroke 'A' Final Female 100m Backstroke 'B' Final Female 100m Backstroke Age Group Final Female 100m Backstroke 'A' Final Male & Open 100m Backstroke 'B' Final Male & Open 100m Backstroke Age Group Final Male & Open 100m Backstroke 'A' Final	Female 50m Freestyle 'B' Final Female 50m Freestyle Age Group Final Female 50m Freestyle 'A' Final Male & Open 200m IM 'B' Final Male & Open 200m IM Age Group Final Male & Open 200m IM 'A' Final Female 200m IM 'B' Final Female 200m IM Age Group Final Female 200m IM 'A' Final Female 100m Butterfly 'B' Final Female 100m Butterfly Age Group Final Female 100m Butterfly 'A' Final Male & Open 100m Butterfly 'B' Final Male & Open 100m Butterfly Age Group Final Male & Open 100m Butterfly 'A' Final Male & Open 200m Backstroke 'B' Final Male & Open 200m Backstroke Age Group Final Male & Open 200m Backstroke 'A' Final Female 200m Backstroke 'B' Final Female 200m Backstroke Age Group Final Female 200m Backstroke 'A' Final

QUALIFIATION TIMES

(Long Course OR Hy-Tek converted Short Course times achieved in the Period 26th June 2025 – 25th January 2026)

MALE & OPEN					FEMALE			
Born 2012 & 2013	Born 2010 & 2011	Born 2008 & 2009	Born 2007 & Earlier	EVENT	Born 2007 & Earlier	Born 2008 & 2009	Born 2010 & 2011	Born 2012 & 2013
Via 100m or 200m	26.20	25.19	24.58	50m Freestyle	28.09	28.49	29.12	Via 100m or 200m
1:01.41	56.95	55.19	53.96	100m Freestyle	1:00.60	1:02.04	1:03.03	1:07.97
2:15.85	2:05.97	2:01.63	1:59.13	200m Freestyle	2:13.14	2:15.60	2:16.92	2:27.66
4:47.95	4:27.01	4:24.49	4:19.23	400m Freestyle	4:39.92	4:48.46	4:51.08	5:13.91
9:15.56		9:12.83	9:03.86	800m Freestyle	9:45.78	9:59.32	10:04.64	
18:10.04		17:57.04	17:39.12	1500m Freestyle	18:48.17	19:11.31	19:19.36	
Via 100m or 200m	31.08	29.49	28.94	50m Backstroke	31.87	32.75	33.41	Via 100m or 200m
1:10.93	1:05.77	1:03.89	1:02.23	100m Backstroke	1:08.60	1:09.92	1:11.06	1:16.64
2:35.14	2:23.86	2:21.51	2:18.42	200m Backstroke	2:31.32	2:33.74	2:35.22	2:47.40
Via 100m or 200m	34.78	32.52	31.16	50m Breaststroke	35.62	36.59	37.40	Via 100m or 200m
1:20.17	1:14.34	1:11.85	1:09.11	100m Breaststroke	1:17.92	1:20.44	1:21.47	1:27.86
2:57.79	2:44.86	2:38.70	2:34.34	200m Breaststroke	2:52.84	2:53.05	2:56.93	3:10.81
Via 100m or 200m	28.80	27.24	26.53	50m Butterfly	29.96	30.39	31.46	Via 100m or 200m
1:07.89	1:02.95	1:01.00	59.11	100m Butterfly	1:07.74	1:09.66	1:10.38	1:15.90
2:39.20	2:27.62	2:24.27	2:19.11	200m Butterfly	2:33.64	2:41.02	2:42.55	2:55.30
2:34.85	2:23.59	2:20.81	2:18.13	200m IM	2:30.71	2:33.55	2:36.70	2:48.99
5:08.92	5:04.46		5:00.82	400m IM	5:26.57	5:29.19	5:35.49	

Heats may be limited in order to manage session timelines. ***Please note that the meet Hy-tek entry file will be set to automatically convert Short Course times. No other conversion methods will be accepted*** **Clubs must NOT attempt to do any conversions themselves**

PARA SWIMMER QUALIFICATION TIMES – tbc

QUALIFICATION TIMES FOR ATHLETES WITH A HEARING IMPAIRMENT

MALE & OPEN	EVENT	FEMALE
00:29.35	50m Freestyle	00:33.99
01:02.83	100m Freestyle	01:12.10
02:14.93	200m Freestyle	02:37.59
05:12.09	400m Freestyle	05:55.35
10:48.90	800m Freestyle	11:19.80
20:46.30	1500m Freestyle	21:48.10
00:32.96	50m Backstroke	00:37.49
01:17.25	100m Backstroke	01:26.52
02:47.07	200m Backstroke	03:06.43
00:36.57	50m Breaststroke	00:45.32
01:20.34	100m Breaststroke	01:34.76
02:50.46	200m Breaststroke	03:29.09
00:31.41	50m Butterfly	00:37.08
01:10.04	100m Butterfly	01:21.37
02:47.89	200m Butterfly	03:04.37
02:39.65	200m IM	03:05.40
05:48.14	400m IM	06:41.70