



Swimming Competitions FAQs

How do I enter a competition?

Competitions are entered on the club website using the 'Gala Entry' tab at the top of the website homepage. Different competitions have different entry requirements and it is vital you read the conditions of entry for each meet. You will have had to register as a member to be able to enter. Also, for any competition entry to go through, you must pay using the pay link you will receive before the closing date of the meet. The software will reject any entries where it cannot find payment. The payment includes the price for the entries and the competition fee. This is to cover the administration and staffing costs associated with any competition.

A video explanation on how to enter meets is available here: <https://vimeo.com/236821561>

Also, please carefully enter your child's times. The time that you enter MUST be in the below format:

e.g. 1 Minute, 45 seconds and 30 milliseconds would be 014530

Some competitions require times from the Swim England ranking system. You can find that here:

<https://www.swimmingresults.org/individualbest/>

Which competitions do I enter?

You're group coach will be your first port of call for this. They can advise you on which competitions and what events to enter if you are unsure.

What happens after the entries have been done and accepted?

Once the entry closing date has passed the entries will be processed and a draft programme of entries is produced. If it is a Coventry Meet this is then posted on the Club website for people to double check everything is correct. If it is an external meet then again a draft programme can appear on that Club's website, or details are confirmed to our Competition entry volunteer which is either Julia Betteley Julia.betteley@coventry-swimming.org.uk or Avril Ementon avril.ementon@coventry-swimming.org.uk, this will be stated for each individual competition.

What if I can't attend on the day?

Most Open Meets have a withdrawal system whereby if a swimmer is not intending to compete in an event they are on the programme for then they can withdraw before the competition starts. This is usually done via email before the day on at the Meet desk before the



warm up of the session the event is in. It is a good idea to withdraw in advance as this prevents any empty lanes in the races and in some instances can avoid any fines being imposed.

When should I get there?

The LATEST arrival time for the session your child is swimming in is 20 mins before the warm up starts for that session. This is to allow the swimmers time to acclimatise to their surroundings if at a new pool, and take part in their team pre-pool warm up.

This information can be seen on the pre-meet information on the Club website or details can be found from your Club Coach. You can go with your child into the changing rooms but once they are through the changing rooms you are not allowed onto poolside unless you have a poolside pass. Your child can then make their way onto poolside where the Club staff for that competition will be waiting for them. If running late please contact someone from the club so we are aware you are on your way, there will be coaches and team managers at each competition.

Leaving poolside

If your child needs to leave poolside for any reason, even if going to the toilet, then they need to let a staff member know. If there is more than one session of swimming that they are in they can leave poolside in between to see you etc but again the Team Managers need to be informed where they are. Please note the Team Staff are only responsible for your child whilst they are on poolside, once they leave the swimmer is then the responsibility of the parents/responsible adult appointed by parent.

Training Sessions

Training sessions are run as normal for all sessions over the weekends (including Fridays) and there are no problems with swimmers doing these and the competition. Any training changes will be notified in advance via Coaches, email and details on the Club website.

Competition Kit

The Club has Team kit which can be purchased online the Club Shop. We ask that all swimmers wear this team kit to feel part of the team etc. If your swimmer wears a swimming cap then it is compulsory in competition for this to be a "C" hat. Club Swimming Hats are available to order on the page linked below.

<https://www.coventry-swimming.org.uk/index.php?p=117>