

1. POLICY PURPOSE

- 1.1. This selection policy outlines the process for selecting the team to represent Great Britain at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Open Water (Marathon) Swimming Championships (EJM26) in Hungary, 19th -21st June 2026.

2. PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. The target for the event is to provide a meaningful competitive opportunity in the long-term development of British junior swimmers towards future senior international podium success.

3. TEAM SIZE

- 3.1. Up to six (6) swimmers may be selected, subject to available funding, for the EJM26. The total number of swimmers selected will be at the discretion of the Marathon Swimming Lead (MSL) and Performance Director (PD). There is no obligation to select six (6) swimmers.
- 3.2. Swimmers based overseas (outside of the United Kingdom) should take specific note of clause 7.1 and of the General Conditions of this policy, with specific reference to clauses G3, G8, and G9.

4. AGE ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 Athletes born 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

5. SELECTION PROCESS

- 5.1. Athletes will be expected to achieve the Aquatics GB Marathon Swimming Pool Consideration standard (see Table 1) within the qualification window (1st September 2025 to 19th April 2026).
- 5.2. The fastest male and fastest female swimmers in the 800m and 1500m freestyle at the 2026 Aquatics GB Championships from the eligible age categories (5.1) will be invited for selection, subject to achieving the Aquatics GB Marathon Swimming Pool Consideration standard (Table 1) within the qualification window (1st September 2025 to 19th April 2026).
- 5.3. If any of the invited swimmers decline their selection invite, the selection panel may consider inviting other swimmers who achieved the minimum consideration times (detailed in Table 1 below) within the qualification window (1st September 2025 to 19th April 2026). All male and female swimmers achieving the minimum consideration time within the qualification window (1st September 2025 to 19th April 2026) will be ranked against this and be used by the panel as a guide. Meeting the consideration times in Table 1 does not guarantee selection for the EJM26. Selections under this clause will be pursuant to clause 2.1.

- 5.4. All remaining places at EJM26 will be determined by the MSL in consultation with the PD and GBHC at their discretion and pursuant to clause 2.1. There is no obligation to select six (6) swimmers.
- 5.5. In the event that the 2026 Aquatics GB Swimming Championships are cancelled, a revised selection policy will be published by the Aquatics GB Swimming Leadership Team.

6. TEAM ASSEMBLY

- 6.1 All selected swimmers will be required to cover their own travel expenses to the designated assembly point in the UK for travel to the EJM26.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT

- 7.1. The EJM26 team will be announced on or before Monday, 27th April 2026.

Table 1 – Aquatics GB Marathon Pool consideration standards (50m)

Male		Female	
800 Freestyle	08:06.50	800 Freestyle	8:43.00
1500m Freestyle	15:33.20	1500m Freestyle	16:42.50

Times to be achieved between 1st September 2025 and 19th April 2026, and published on www.swimmingresults.org

SELECTION POLICY GENERAL CONDITIONS

ELIGIBILITY

Swimmers must:

- G1 Be a British citizen and eligible to represent Great Britain as per World Aquatics rules.
- G2 Have completed a Selection Acceptance Form to confirm they will be available to participate by the deadline to be imposed by Aquatics GB. Failure to do so will be interpreted as non-availability by Aquatics GB. Selection Acceptance Forms will be provided by Aquatics GB to qualifying team members.
- G3 Be available to fulfil all team commitments from the time of selection through to the Championships.
- G4 Comply with any other World Aquatics eligibility criteria from time to time, including in respect of nationality and/or anti-doping.

TEAM COMMITMENTS

All Team members will be required to:

- G5 Comply with the Aquatics GB Code of Conduct. A breach of the Aquatics GB Code of Conduct may result in de-selection from the team.
- G6 Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the team.
- G7 Abide by media protocols of the Aquatics GB Programme. Athletes must only speak to the media about their own performances and group coaches must only comment on performances of swimmers in their group. The GB Head Coach and Performance Director may discuss performances of the entire team. Swimmers must not publicise any information in relation selection-related matters until authorised to do so by the Team Leader.
- G8 Not take holiday or attend overseas camps and/or competitions between the selection trials and the meet for which they have been selected without prior written approval from the Performance Director.
- G9 Make themselves available for all team activities designated by the GB Head Coach (including but not limited to preparation camps and staging camps). No team member will be allowed to leave a national team camp or undertake any activities that are not directly relevant to the team camp programme; this includes any external media, sponsor or social activities. Failure to attend the required activities could result in withdrawal from the team. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities may be given by the Performance Director.
- G10 Comply with Aquatics GB and World Aquatics swimwear regulations whilst competing at the EJM26.

WITHDRAWALS AND REPLACEMENTS

- G11 If for any reason a swimmer is unable or unwilling to fully comply with the Team Commitments (G5 to G10) they may be withdrawn from the team.
- G12 Swimmers becoming unfit due to illness or injury (physical or mental) at any time following their selection must notify Aquatics GB immediately and will be required to undertake a full medical examination which may result in the swimmer being de-selected from the team at the complete discretion of the GB Head Coach. In the event of injury or illness athletes may be deselected if they pose a risk to themselves, other athletes or team staff as determined by the Aquatics GB Chief Medical Officer or her designate.

REPLACEMENTS

G13 Replacement of swimmers withdrawn from the team will be considered at the complete discretion of the MSL and GBHC in the best interest of the overall team performance.

OTHER

G14 The World Class Programme Swimming Leadership Team may amend selection policies, within reason at its discretion.

G15 The PD and GBHC will exercise their authority to ensure that the final selections for the EJM26 team are in line with this policy and will result in the best possible achievements at the Championships.

APPEALS

G16 Any appeals against non-selection must be made to Aquatics GB in accordance with the aquatics GB Team Selection Appeals Procedures, available online at <https://www.britishswimming.org/performance/swimming/selection-policies/team-selection-appeals/> or by request from Adam Clarke, Performance Strategy and Operations Director via email at adam.clarke@aquaticsgb.com. Athletes should be aware of the time limits contained in the Procedures, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues expeditiously and fairly.