



Aquatics GB

2026 European Aquatics Swimming (50m) Championships SELECTION POLICY

1. POLICY PURPOSE

- 1.1. This selection policy outlines the selection process for the swimming team to represent Great Britain at the 2026 European Aquatics Championships 10th-16th August 2026, in Paris, France.

2. PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives for this event are:
 - 2.1.1 To maximise medal opportunities in Olympic swimming events
 - 2.1.2 To provide a positive competitive opportunity in the long-term development of British swimmers towards podium success at the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games and beyond.
 - 2.1.3 To provide a high-level competitive opportunity to develop British relay combinations for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

3. SELECTION OVERVIEW

- 3.1 Selections will be made:
 - 3.1.1 from performances at the 2025 World Aquatics Championships (Singapore, 27th July – 3rd August 2025)
 - 3.1.2 from the 2026 AGB Swimming Championships, London, 14th – 19th April 2026
 - 3.1.3 at the discretion of the GB Head Coach and Performance Director (PD) in consideration of clauses 2.1 (above), and 4.1, 4.2, and 5.7 (below)

4. TEAM SIZE

- 4.1 Up to a maximum of 40 swimmers may be selected, subject to available funding and subject to clause 4.2. The total number of swimmers selected will be at the complete discretion of the Performance Director (PD).
- 4.2 A maximum of four (4) selections per individual event and one relay team per event can be selected.

5. SELECTION PROCESS

- 5.1 Athletes achieving a medal in an individual event at the 2025 World Aquatics Championships will be selected, subject to confirmation from the GB Head Coach. This selection will guarantee participation for that event only. Further events may be considered at the complete discretion of the GB Head Coach and PD.
- 5.2 The first placed finishers in the open final at the 2026 AGB Swimming Championships (14th – 19th April 2026) in all other events (not covered by 5.1 above) will be selected subject to the swimmer having equalled or bettered the qualification time listed in Table 1 (overleaf). In the event of a tie, both the first place and second place swimmers will be selected.
- 5.3 The second placed finishers in the open final in each event at the 2026 AGB Swimming Championships (14th – 19th April 2026) will be selected subject to the swimmer having equalled or bettered the qualification time listed in Table 1. In the event of a tie both the second and third placed swimmers will be selected.

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- 5.4 With reference to clauses 5.2 and 5.3, in the event of a three-way tie (or more), the GB Head Coach will decide swimmers selected for that event at his absolute discretion, taking into consideration clause 2.1 above.
- 5.5 The top four finishers in each of the 2026 AGB Swimming Championships Open Final of the 100m and 200m freestyle events will be ranked as a relay team on the basis of their combined open finals time against the time in Table 1. This will qualify the relay for the team and the top four athletes that swam the combined time inside the time in Table 1.
- 5.6 The winners of the 2026 AGB Swimming Championships open final of the men's and women's 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke, 100m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle will be ranked as a medley relay team on the basis of their combined open finals time against the times in Table 1. Subject to one swimmer winning more than one of the above events (100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke, 100m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle), in which case the PD may, at his complete discretion, use the time of the 2nd placed swimmer to create the fastest combined finals time for each medley relay. In terms of the mixed medley relay, the fastest combination of the four 100m strokes in the open finals (two men plus two women) will be ranked against the time listed in Table 1 for the mixed medley. Athletes will be selected (if not already via clauses 5.1 to 5.5) if their combined time is equal or better than the standard listed in Table 1.
- 5.7 Remaining places in accordance with clause 4.1 and 4.2 may be selected at the discretion of the PD in consultation with the GB Head Coach, in consideration of the performance objectives listed in 2.1. The PD is under no obligation to select the maximum number of swimmers.

6. INDIVIDUAL EVENT ENTRIES

- 6.1 Athletes selected under clauses 5.1 and 5.2 will qualify to swim in the event in which they have been selected. All other individual event selections will be made by the GB Head Coach in consultation with the PD.

7. RELAY EVENT SELECTIONS

- 7.1 All team members selected will be eligible for relay team selection.
- 7.2 Relay entries and selections will be determined by the GB Head Coach in consultation with the PD, in consideration of the performance objectives listed in clause 2.1.

8. NOTIFICATIONS

- 8.1 Athletes selected will be notified of their selection by email on or before 25th April 2026.

TABLE 1 – QUALIFICATION TIMES

Male	Event	Female
00:21.88	50m Freestyle	00:24.73
00:48.06	100m Freestyle	00:53.62
01:45.96	200m Freestyle	01:56.89
03:46.56	400m Freestyle	04:06.23
07:50.14	800m Freestyle	08:28.37
14:58.76	1500m Freestyle	16:07.20
00:24.70	50m Backstroke	00:27.66
00:53.47	100m Backstroke	00:59.76
01:57.87	200m Backstroke	02:08.68
00:27.13	50m Breaststroke	00:30.57
00:59.65	100m Breaststroke	01:06.64
02:09.55	200m Breaststroke	02:23.76
00:23.13	50m Butterfly	00:25.99
00:51.35	100m Butterfly	00:57.48
01:55.54	200m Butterfly	02:07.96
01:57.77	200m Individual Medley	02:11.27
04:13.16	400m Individual Medley	04:39.23
03:14.01	4 x 100m Freestyle	03:37.48
07:08.47	4 x 200m Freestyle	07:54.25
03:33.15	4 x 100m Medley	03:58.07
Mixed Events		
4 x 100m Medley		03:44.10

SELECTION POLICY GENERAL CONDITIONS

ELIGIBILITY

Swimmers must:

- G1 Be a British citizen and eligible to represent Great Britain as per the appropriate World Aquatics (WA) 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 WA 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 swimming 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 WA swimwear regulations whilst competing at the 2026 European Aquatics Championships.

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 GB Head Coach 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 Performance Director and GB Head Coach will exercise their authority to ensure that the final selections for the 2026 European Aquatics Swimming Championships team are in line with this policy.

APPEALS

- G16 Any appeals against non-selection must be made to Aquatics GB in accordance with the British Swimming 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 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.