

Welcome to the 2026 Australian Short Course Championships. We are really looking forward to seeing you all at the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. It is imperative that all coaches, team managers and support staff read this information to understand your leadership obligations to your athletes.

The 2026 Australian Short Course Championships will be conducted under the Swimming Australia Swimming Rules and Competition Regulations, World Aquatics Swimming Rules and WPS Swimming Rules

Stakeholders must also abide by Swimming Australia's National Integrity Framework which can be [viewed here](#).

KEY PERSONNEL

Kaity Brunsdon

Event Experience Manager

Gabby Hines

Event Coordinator

Shannon Smith

Competition Manager

Penelope Simmons

Broadcast Manager

Jodie Hawkins

Executive GM Commercial

Karen Macleod

SA Technical Manager

Gary Barclay

EGM Performance Pathways, Coaching & Participation

Mark McCarthy

SA Medical Attendant

Accreditation Queries:

accreditation@swimming.org.au

Event Queries:

events@swimming.org.au



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KEY EVENT TIMES

All key event times can be found in the table to the right.

Please note that the Competition Pool will be closed for warm up 15 minutes prior to the commencement of each session. We ask that swimmers clear the water when the announcement is made to enable the pool to be readied for competition.

We will ask all accreditation holders to clear the venue 30min post the conclusion of every session.

Date	Details	Start
Sunday 27 th September	Pre-meet training & Accreditation open	3:00PM-6:00PM
Monday 28 th September	Pre-meet training & Accreditation open	8:00AM – 11:00AM
	MC venue walk through and Q&A (meet in marshalling room – optional and not mandatory)	3:00PM-3:30PM
Tuesday 29 th September – Friday 2 nd October	Pre-meet training & Accreditation open	3:00PM-6:00PM
	Gates & Accreditation open + Athlete warm-up	8:00AM
	Competition (Heats)	10:00AM
	Gates & Accreditation open + Athlete warm-up	4:00PM
	Competition (Finals)	6:00PM



PROGRAM OF EVENTS & QUALIFYING TIMES

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

- The Program of Events can be found under Competition Information on the event page of the website [HERE](#)
- This event will be conducted in a 10-lane pool
- All Heats will be swum in the order of fastest heat to slowest heat, with the exception of relay events
- 400m, 800m and 1500m freestyle and 400m IM events are Timed Finals with the slow heat/s in the morning (swum fastest to slowest) and the fastest heat contested in the evening finals session
- MC Events will be swum as Open Heats and Finals, regardless of how many contest the heats
- Relay events are Timed Finals and will be contested in the evening finals session, slowest heat to fastest heat, with the exception of the 4x200m freestyle relay which will be contested in the morning Heats session on Day 3

QUALIFYING TIMES

- All qualifying times must be achieved before the closing date. Long Course times, unconverted, can only be used where a short course time has not been achieved and Swim Central will work this out for you. Swimmers cannot ask for a manual entry to use a Long Course time if they have an available Short Course time
- [CLICK HERE](#) to view qualifying times
- [CLICK HERE](#) to view MC age qualifying times
- Age is determined by the swimmer's age as at Tuesday 29th September, 2026
- The minimum age for swimmers competing is 13 years and 12 years for MC swimmers



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ENTRY PROCEDURES

Entries close at **12:00noon (midday) AEST Monday 14th September.**

[CLICK HERE](#) for Relay Only Swimmers to process your accreditation payment.

Late Entries may be accepted for a limited time only at the discretion of Swimming Australia. Entry times for late entries must be achieved prior to the original closing date as advertised above and online. Times achieved after this date will not be accepted, regardless of accessibility in Swim Central. Refunds will not be provided.

A ‘Late Entry Meet’ will open in Swim Central at 12:00pm AEST on Monday 14th September. Late entries will incur additional fees and will close at 5pm AEST Wednesday 16th September.

If you have already submitted your entries on time, please **DO NOT** re-submit them as you will be charged higher fees and refunds are not available.

No further late entries will be accepted after **5pm Wednesday September 16th** under any circumstances.

ENTRY FEES	PRICE	LATE ENTRIES
Individual Events	\$35 per event	\$50 per event
Relay Events	\$70 per relay	\$110 per event
Relay Only Swimmers	\$50 per swimmer	



ACCREDITATION

APPLYING FOR ACCREDITATION

Accreditation for Coaches, Team Managers, Physios, Sports Science, Staff-Member Organisations, MC Carers, and Technical Officials will open on Wednesday 24th June, 2026 via [Swim Central](#). User guides are available on our website. All individuals are required to have a current and valid WWCC.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Relay Only Swimmers to process your accreditation payment.

Accreditation applications must be made in advance and WILL NOT be accepted onsite.

Accreditation applications close at **11:59pm AEST Monday 16th September**. Late applications may be accepted following this date at the discretion of Swimming Australia. Late fees will apply.

There are five different types of accreditations available to clubs which include:

- Coach: (\$110)
- Team Manager (\$110)*
- Physiotherapist (\$62)
- Massage Therapist (\$62)
- Multi-Class Carer (\$45)

*Clubs must nominate their Team Manager via this [form](#).

If you are unsure of what accreditation position to apply for, please read the Accreditation Guide [HERE](#) or email accreditation@swimming.org.au

Accreditation limits per club do apply and are as follows:

ATHLETES IN INDIVIDUAL EVENTS	TOTAL ACCREDITATIONS
1 to 5	2
6 to 10	3
11 to 20	4
21 to 30	6
31+	7



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ACCREDITATION

ACCREDITATION TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Accreditation will open on Wednesday June 23rd, 2026
- Accreditation applications close at **11:59pm AEST Monday 16th September**
- Accreditation can be collected from the accreditation booth at the event entry on pre-meet or competition days
- Accreditation passes must be visible at all times and are strictly non-transferable
- We encourage Team Managers to collect accreditations for the whole club to avoid long lines at the accreditation booth
- Any accreditations that need reprinting onsite will incur a \$25 reprint fee
- Please also remember to collect your accreditation post race at the Accreditation collection tables on pool deck

ATHLETE ACCREDITATION PHOTOS

Swimmers will now have the option of including their photo on their accreditation pass for National Championship events. This is no longer mandatory. Instructions for uploading your photo can be found under the Accreditation menu header [HERE](#).

Athletes who enter online entries will automatically receive accreditation. This is a separate accreditation to Relay Only Swimmers. Relay Only Swimmers **do not** receive automatic accreditation and must apply via the link on the previous page.

MC CARERS PASS

MC Carer passes at Short Course Championships are restricted to swimmers with an 'A' or 'T' exception. This is aimed at promoting self-sufficient swimmers who exhibit the values and behaviours of an athlete performing at a National level championship. If you don't believe your swimmer is ready for this level of exposure, regardless of making the qualification standards, please consider this when making the decision to attend.

There will be an area accessible outside of the accredited zone for both parents and athletes to use for athlete swimsuit assistance.



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RULES & EVENT PROCEDURES

RULES

- The 2026 Australian Short Course Championships will be conducted under the Swimming Australia Swimming Rules and Competition Regulations, World Aquatics Swimming Rules and WPS Swimming Rules
- Heats will start over the top for all strokes including backstroke with the exception of Multi Class events where the pool will be cleared after each heat
- 10 lanes will be used for all heats and finals
- As this is a selection event for able-bodied swimmers, visitors will not be eligible to progress to A Finals in able-bodied events at this meet, however a maximum of 2 visitors will be able to progress to the B Finals, and unlimited visitors will be able to progress to the C Finals where applicable. For a full understanding of our visitor policy, please review Competition Rules 11 of our [Competition Regulations](#)
- Where a visitor places ahead of an Australian swimmer, places will be adjusted accordingly. This may result in some athletes with a slower time showing 'above' another athlete with a faster time. For a full understanding of this process, please review Competition Rule 25.1 of our [Competition Regulations](#)

PROTESTS

- Protests must be submitted as follows:
- To the Referee
- In writing on the Swimming Australia protest form setting out the reasons for the protest
- By the responsible Team Leader
- Together with a deposit of \$100.00 AUD
- Within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective event
- If conditions causing a potential protest are noted prior to the event, a protest must be lodged before the starting signal is given
- If the Referee rejects the protest, they must state the reasons for this decision. The Team Leader may appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeal whose decision shall be final



RULES & EVENT PROCEDURES

FINALS AND MEDALS

The below changes are in place for all events at the 2026 Short Course Championships:

FINALS

For 50m, 100m and 200m events:

- A 'B' Final will be held if there are 24 or more swimmers that complete the heats in that event. Where fewer than 24 athletes achieve the Qualifying Time during the heats, the corresponding B Final will not be conducted (for able-bod and MC events)
- A 'C' Final will be held if there are 36 or more swimmers that complete the heats in that event. Where fewer than 36 athletes achieve the Qualifying Time during the heats, the corresponding C Final will not be conducted (for able-bod events only)
- In able-bod events: While visitors cannot progress to A Finals, 2 visitors may progress to B Finals and unlimited visitors may progress to C Finals where applicable
- In MC events: A maximum of 2 visitors may progress to A Finals and unlimited visitors may progress to B Finals where applicable

MEDALS

Open medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place swimmers in the A Final / Timed Final in all able-bod and MC events.

Age group medals will be awarded to the highest placed eligible swimmers based on performances as follows:

- Gold, silver and bronze medals will first be awarded to the highest placed 18 years and under, and Multi-Class 17 years and under swimmers in the A Final
- If fewer than three eligible swimmers compete in the A Final, remaining medals will be determined from performances in the B Final
- If fewer than three eligible swimmers compete across the A and B Finals combined, remaining medals will be determined from performances in the C Final (if applicable)
- If there are still insufficient eligible swimmers across the A, B and C Finals (or if B and/or C Finals are not conducted for that event), the remaining medal positions will be awarded based on their heats swim
- Medals will be awarded to the top 3 placed swimmers in Timed Finals whether they swim in the heat or final session



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RULES & EVENT PROCEDURES

WITHDRAWAL FORM PROCESS

- Withdrawal forms for both Heats and Finals can be collected from and returned to the Help Desk
- Any swimmer wishing to withdraw from the finals must do so within 30 minutes of the results of the event in which they have swum have been posted
- If you do not wish to be considered for a place in an A or B final after swimmers above you withdraw, please go to the Help Desk and complete a withdrawal form
- **Please note that once a withdrawal form has been submitted, it cannot be withdrawn**
- Late withdrawals from finals will incur a \$100 fee that must be paid before your next swim at any SwimAus meet. This also includes the fastest heat of timed finals

RELAY FORM PROCESS

- All relays are swum as timed finals in the evening finals session, with the exception of the 4x200m Freestyle Relay which will be contest in the morning Heats session on Day 2
- Relay forms can be collected from and returned to the Help Desk at any time during the competition. Forms must be returned to the Help Desk prior to the commencement of the heats session on the day the timed final relay is to be swum
- If you are not making changes to the athlete order of the relay teams submitted online, you do not need to submit a relay form
- For clubs who enter multiple teams in an event, swimmers listed in these relay teams are automatically considered as reserves for all teams nominated by that club for that club relay event
- To check your relay team order, please email events@swimming.org.au prior to the competition

MULTI CLASS ATHLETES

- Multi Class athletes are not required to report to the Referee with their classification card
- Multi Class athletes do not need to apply for any Australian records they will be automatically processed
- Heats and finals will be contested for all MC events regardless of the number of swimmers who contest the heats
- The men's and women's MC 100m Individual Medley was added to the Program of Events late. As such, entry into these events will be via manual entry only provided you hold a valid qualifying time. The link to this entry form can be found on our website under Pre Event Information
- In MC events, a maximum of 2 visitors may progress to A Finals and unlimited visitors may progress to B Finals where applicable
- There will not be Age Medals in any MC event



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ONLINE CHECK IN

The 400m, 800m and 1500m freestyle and 400m individual medley events are timed finals with the fastest heat swum in the finals session. As per [Competition Regulation CR 19.2](#), swimmers for all heats of these events, including the fastest heat to be swum in the finals session, are required to declare their intent to swim by [no later than one hour prior](#) to the scheduled start time of these events in the heats session as noted on the timeline.

For Multi Class 400m Freestyle events, currently there is no requirement for swimmers entered in those events to check in.

Swimmers, coaches and team managers will be able to check in via the QR code on their phones, tablets etc, or via the QR code which will be posted around the venue.

You will need access to your email to confirm your identity. Once you click on the QR code, you will need to fill out the form and confirm your intention to swim or withdraw from your event then submit the form. Once your form has been submitted, you will receive a confirmation email for your records. Please check your spam folder in the event it doesn't come through to your inbox.

The ability to check in will cease 1 hour prior to the scheduled start time of each 400m, 800m & 1500m freestyle and 400m individual medley event in each heats session. In the event of any timeline changes throughout the competition, the check-in times for all distance events (400m Freestyle & Individual Medley, 800m Freestyle, 1500m Freestyle) will remain as the original published times as per V1 of the timeline.

Online check in for your 400m, 800mm & 1500m freestyle and 400m individual medley events will be available 48 hours prior to the day of your event.

A reminder that once a withdrawal has been submitted it cannot be reversed.



Swimmers, Coaches or Team Managers must either use the QR code or check-in at the Help Desk during the heats session, failure to do so will be deemed a withdrawal.



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ONLINE CHECK IN

To check in online for 400m, 800m and 1500m freestyle and 400m individual medley events, please scan the adjacent QR code



If you do not receive a confirmation email, you may not have submitted the form correctly. You will need to submit the form again and remember to press the 'submit' button at the end of the form.



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MARSHALLING PROCEDURES

HEATS AND TIMED FINALS

Self-Marshalling will be in place for all heats and timed finals (for finals, fastest heats of timed finals, and relay events refer below). Swimmers will be instructed by the check starter to move behind the blocks once the race ahead of them has entered the water. Athlete accreditation passes must be brought to marshalling and collected from the Accreditation Collection Table after each race. An overflow space (marshalling room) will be available for swimmers to ready themselves prior to their race.

THERE WILL BE CHECK STARTERS ON HAND TO DIRECT THE SWIMMERS TO THE POOL DECK.

Swimmers may approach the Help Desk for assistance or ask their club manager or coach.

Multi Class Athletes with an 'A' or 'T' exception code only are eligible to have a MC Carer in the Marshalling Room with them.

ALL FINALS INCLUDING FASTEST HEAT OF TIMED FINALS AND RELAY EVENTS WILL BE MARSHALLED IN THE SELF-MARSHALLING AREA

Any swimmer entered in the first or second event of the finals session, who fails to report to the marshalling area at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the session, may be deemed to be a withdrawal.

For all subsequent finals and/or Relay events, any swimmer or team who fails to report by the start of the event at least two events prior to their event, may be deemed to be a withdrawal.

SWIMMERS WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE SELF-MARSHALLING AREA AS FOLLOWS:

50m events:	8 heats prior to their heat
100m and 200m events:	4 heats prior to their heat
400m events:	2 heats prior to their heat
800m and 1500m events:	1 heat prior to their heat



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CLASSIFICATION

Multi Class events are open to all eligible swimmers with a disability in sport classes 1 - 19. A swimmers' classification must be recorded against their profile in Swim Central. Athletes are required to meet the qualifying times and must be members of a swim club affiliated with a State Swimming Association.

- Swimmers in classification groups **1–10 (Physical Impairment)** are required to hold an eligible classification with a Sport Class Status of National Review (NR) or National Confirmed (NC) by the close of entries
- Swimmers in classification groups **11–13 (Vision Impairment)** are required to hold an eligible classification with a Sport Class Status of National Review (NR) or National Confirmed (NC) by the close of entries
- Swimmers in classification groups **14 (Intellectual Impairment)**, **18 (Intellectual Impairment 2)** and **19 (Intellectual Impairment 3)** are required to hold an eligible classification with Sport Class Status National Confirmed (NC) prior to close of entries
- Swimmers in class groups **15 (Hearing Impairment)** and **16 (Transplant)** must hold an eligible classification with Sport Class Status National Confirmed (NC) prior to the close of entries
- Swimmers in classification group **17 (Transition Classification)** are required to hold an S17 classification with a Sport Class Status of National Review (NR) or National Confirmed (NC) prior to the close of entries

The S17 class is a participation-based transition class resulting in athletes not being eligible for finals or medals.

International Athletes are required to hold an approved WPS Swimming International Classification or hold an approved National Classification issued by their National Paralympic Committee.



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CLASSIFICATION

In the case of a National Classification, international swimmers are required to supply proof of their approved classification in writing signed by their NPC to Swimming Australia prior to close of entries. Swimming Australia reserves the right to determine classification eligibility of International Athletes.

It is advised swimmers confirm their classification and Sport Class Status well in advance of the close of entries.

To confirm your classification details in the National Classification Master List, [CLICK HERE](#).

Know someone with disability who may be interested in swimming competitively, scan the QR code to learn more.



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WARM-UP PROCEDURES

Please refer to the below training schedule for availability in the competition pool, the dive pool and the training pool.
The competition pool will be available for two hours before the commencement of each session for those athletes competing in that session only.
No paddles or fins to be used in competition pool.

The following general pool procedures for the **COMPETITION POOL (25m)** must be observed throughout the meet:

Lanes 0 and 9	Reserved for dive sprints from the start end of the pool. Swimmers must clear the lane immediately
Lanes 1 and 8	Reserved for pace swimming, feet first entry (no diving)
Lanes 2 and 3	Reserved as MC Only
Lanes 4 – 7	Reserved as circle swimming lanes, feet first entry

12 lanes of the Diving Pool will be available during both warm-up and competition periods. Please refer to the lane signage before entering the pool to ensure you are using the appropriate lane. Lane usage will be indicated by the signage displayed at each lane, as follows:

- 2 x Dive Start lanes
- 2 x MC Only lanes
- 2 x Pace lanes
- 6 x Circle Swimming lanes

In addition to the procedures above, please be aware of announcements to determine lane usage throughout the meet. Swimming Australia reserves the right to adjust lane usage if deemed appropriate



GENERAL INFORMATION

PROGRAMS

- SwimAus will no longer be providing hard copy Heats programs for coaches. The Heats Program will be published online for you to download and print as needed
- Finals Programs will be available online to download after each Heats session and will be shared in the WhatsApp group as soon as it is available each day. **Limited** hard copies will be printed for coaches, and we encourage you to download the online version instead
- All Timelines should be used as a guide only and SwimAus takes no responsibility for swimmers missing their events. A digital timeline will be shared in the WhatsApp group and published online after heats each day and we encourage athletes and coaches to following along the events and heats currently in the water to be mindful of your marshalling requirements

WHATSAPP INFORMATION GROUP

- An Information group has been created in WhatsApp for all coaches, team managers, swimmers, parents and carers to join to receive important updates throughout the event as well as copies of official results, programs and timelines as soon as they are available, and/or edited
- Please scan the QR Code to the right of this page with your WhatsApp camera to join
- Updates to this group will commence with reminders of entries closing

RESULTS

- Results will be posted near the Help Desk for heats only
- Online via Live Results on the Swimming Australia Website and via *Meet Mobile
- *Meet Mobile results are considered "unofficial" at all times*
- Via the WhatsApp Info group



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GENERAL INFORMATION

MEDICAL

The Pool Lifeguards will assist with emergencies in the first instance. Swimming Australia's medical attendant Mark McCarthy will be on pool deck during the event. The First Aid location will be confirmed closer to the event date. For information on medical facilities in the area please see a venue staff member onsite.

SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA / DOPING CONTROL

- Sport Integrity Australia may be present at the meet
- To be adequately informed on testing procedures, please [read here](#)
- Swimming Australia strongly encourages all athletes, coaches, and support personnel to maintain ample knowledge about your rights and responsibilities in relation to testing. Sport Integrity Australia provides education tools, [available here](#)

BASKET HANDLERS

There will be Basket Handlers in place for this event during the A Final events only. Baskets will be located near the diving pool (refer to maps when finalised).

TEAM SELECTION

This event will form part of the selection process for the 2026 World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m). For more information on team selection please check [HERE](#).

Team announcement will be made on Night 4.



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GENERAL INFORMATION

MASSAGE/PHYSIO BEDS

- There will be a designated area for physio tables on pool deck near the diving pool (this will be noted on maps closer to the date)
- Tables can be left there overnight and between sessions but at your own risk

GENERAL VENUE INFORMATION

- Water stations are located on pool deck
- A lost property table will be set up near the diving pool (items of value will be kept in the SwimAus Event Ops room)

COACHES AND ATHLETE AREA

- A coaches viewing area will be located on pool deck opposite the AOE room (please refer to maps closer to the date)
- Athletes can view the competition from the grandstands overlooking the 25m end of the competition pool that is not being utilised for competition. Seats directly overlooking the competition pool are for spectators. Athletes will be asked to move if found in these seats
- Space around the warm-up pool/dive pool is not allocated and cannot be reserved. Swimmers and clubs are advised that they cannot reserve space or leave items overnight due to the cleaners needing access



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BROADCAST INFORMATION

BROADCAST

- This event will be broadcast live and exclusively on NINE Now. Links can be found on the Event page on our website
- Official photos and videos will be taken throughout the competition
- Media, social and broadcast interviews to camera may take place throughout the event
- If you have any concerns regarding the above, please speak to a Swimming Australia staff member

NAME PRONUNCIATION

Name pronunciation – if your first and/or last name is pronounced a particular way, and to ensure that our commentary team publicly announce your name correctly, please send us the phonetic spelling of your name. If you have submitted a name pronunciation at a prior event, please do not resubmit – we now have you on an ongoing database.

To spell your name phonetically, break the parts of your names into syllables, capitalizing the letter sounds that one might emphasize when pronouncing your name. Include all letter sounds that might help a person say your name, even if those same sounds are not present in the actual spelling of your name. Please send this detail, with your full name and Club to penelope.simmons@swimming.org.au

NAMES ON SCOREBOARD

Due to the specialised timing equipment for Multi-Class events, some swimmer's names may appear incomplete on the scoreboard & on the live results page. This will be rectified when the final results are published online after the meet.

CAMERAS:

Use of cameras on pool deck (including the outdoor pool) is strictly prohibited at Swimming Australia Events, excluding accredited media and contracted photographers/videographers. Unauthorised use of cameras on pool deck will result in a warning and may lead to accreditation revocation. If you would like to take photos of your athletes using a camera, you must do this from the spectator stands.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

COMMITMENT STATEMENT

Swimming Australia and its Member Organisations remain fully committed to the protection of children, young people and all members in our sport and encourage swimming clubs throughout Australia to familiarise themselves with the policies and to raise the issue of child safety to everyone involved in their club.

We are committed to providing children and young people with positive and nurturing experiences and will strive to ensure that children and young people are protected from harm.

We aim to ensure that swimming is a safe, fair, and inclusive environment for all participants.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay up to date with our events on social media

Facebook: [@swimmingaustralia](#)

Instagram: [@swimmingaustralia](#)

Twitter: [@SwimmingAUS](#)

Website: www.swimming.org.au



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QUESTIONS?

Thanks for reading! We hope we covered everything in this Info Book, however this is a work-in-progress so please check back for further updates. If you still have any questions regarding the 2026 Australian Short Course Championships and the answer to your question cannot be found in here or online, please send us an email via the link below.

Version 02: 17/07/2026

SWIMMAUS EVENTS TEAM

Swimming Australia

events@swimming.org.au



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

