2027 AUSTRALIAN OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS
QUALIFYING TIMES AND PROCEDURES

Entries using a different open water distance time can now be processed via Swim Central. When processing entries, please carefully check the event titles on the online entry screen to ensure you are entering the swimmer into the correct event. Any swimmer wishing to enter on the basis of your Australian Age or Australian Open qualification as detailed below may do so via manual entry. Proof of this qualification will be required at the time of entry.

All entries that can be processed via Swim Central must be done so and manual entries of this nature will be rejected.

Please be advised, the Swimming Australia offices will be closed from Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027. There will not be any events staff available to assist you during the office closure, so we strongly recommend you process your entries before this time where possible in case you need assistance with your entries.

Late entries will **no longer be accepted** into any Swimming Australia competitions. All entries must be submitted before the advertised deadline.

AGE
Age for all events is as at 31 December 2027 (regardless of the qualifying criteria you meet).
The minimum age for Open swimmers is 14 years as at December 31, 2027.

ENTRY FEES
Individual Entry: $42.00 per event.
Relay Entry: $78.00 per event.
Relay Only Swimmer: $52.00 per swimmer.

ENTRY LIMITS & MEDALS
Swimmers can enter either their respective age or open event, but not both.
Swimmers can register for **one individual event per** day and **one relay event.**
Medals will be awarded for all Championship events. Where age groups are swum together, medals will be awarded to each age.
Entries close 12noon (MIDDAY) AEDT Tuesday 5 January 2027. Entry times must be achieved before the entry closing date. There will be no late entries accepted for this competition.

ENTRY INTO THE 10KM
Swimmers can enter using a 10km qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised 10km open water swimming event on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Age swimmers (18 & 19 years) can enter using a 7.5km time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised 7.5km open water swimming event on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers can enter using a 5km qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised 5km open water swimming event on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers who have not swum a 10km open water qualifying time may enter the 10km using a qualifying time for any stroke or distance for the 2027 Australian Open provided the time was achieved on or after 1 January 2026.

ENTRY INTO THE 7.5KM (16 & 17 YEARS)

Swimmers can enter using a 7.5km qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised 7.5km open water swimming event on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers can enter using a 5km qualifying time or a 10km qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised open water swimming event for the qualifying distance you are utilising on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers can enter using a 5km pool time, provided the time was achieved at an approved 5km time trial on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers who have not swum a 7.5km qualifying time may enter the 7.5km using a qualifying time for any stroke or distance for the 2027 Australian Open or 2027 Australian Age Championships, provided the time was achieved on or after 1 January 2026 (for Aus Open) or on or after 1 May 2026 (for Age Champs).

- Where swimmers age up for the 2027 Australian Open Water Swimming Championships (as age is taken as at 31 December), they can use the time that would allow them entry into the age group they'll be eligible for at the 2027 Australian Open or 2027 Australian Age Championships (which is age as at the first day of the respective competition)
    - **The above clause is only for swimmers who are not entering with an eligible Open Water entry time.** If you are entering on the basis of your Australian Open or Age Championships QT, your Aus Open or Age Champs entry time must meet the Aus Open QT or Age Champs QT for the age you will be at the Aus Open or the Age Champs. You will still compete at Open Water as your age as at 31 December 2027

ENTRY INTO THE 5KM

Swimmers can enter using a 5km qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised 5km open water swimming event on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers can enter using a 10km qualifying time or a 7.5km qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised open water swimming event for the qualifying distance you are utilising on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers can enter using a 5km pool qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at an approved 5km time trial on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Swimmers who have not swum a 5km qualifying time may enter the 5km using a qualifying time for any stroke or distance for the 2027 Australian Open or 2027 Australian Age Championships, provided the time was achieved on or after 1 January 2026 (for Aus Open) or on or after 1 May 2026 (for Age Champs).

- Where swimmers age up for the 2027 Australian Open Water Swimming Championships (as age is taken as at 31 December), they can use the time that would allow them entry into the age group they'll be eligible for at the 2027 Australian Open or 2027 Australian Age Championships (which is age as at the first day of the respective competition)
    - **The above clause is only for swimmers who are not entering with an eligible Open Water entry time.** If you are entering on the basis of your Australian Open or Age Championships QT, your Aus Open or Age Champs entry time must meet the Aus Open QT or Age Champs QT for the age you will be at the Aus Open or the Age Champs. You will still compete at Open Water as your age as at 31 December 2027
- Swimmers wishing to enter the open event, must achieve an open qualifying time for the 2027 Australian Swimming Championships.

ENTRY INTO THE MULTI-CLASS 1.5KM, 3KM AND 5KM
Multi-class swimmers can enter using a 5km qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised 5km open water swimming event on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Multi-class swimmers can enter using a 5km pool qualifying time, provided the time was achieved at an approved 5km time trial on or after 1 October 2025; OR

Multi-class swimmers without a valid open water time may enter the MC open water events using a qualifying time for the 2027 Australian Open or 2027 Australian Age Championships in one of the following events: 200m or 400m Freestyle, or 150m or 200m Individual Medley, provided the time was achieved on or after 1 January 2026 (for Aus Open) or on or after 1 May 2026 (for Age Champs).

ENTRY INTO THE 3KM KNOCKOUT SERIES or THE OPEN 1.5KM
Swimmers can enter using an approved 800m or 1500m freestyle pool time, provided the time was achieved at a recognised swimming event on or after 1 October 2025.

MIXED GENDER RELAYS
The mixed gender relay events are staged as a typical relay, a gender mix of two males & two females is required. The course in total is 6km with each swimmer covering 1.5km (i.e., 4 x 1.5km).

All four swimmers must be from the same club. This event is limited to 14-15 years and open age.

CRITERIA FOR AN APPROVED OPEN WATER TIME
Open water times must be achieved at an approved open water swimming event.

CRITERIA FOR TIMES ACHIEVED IN SWIMMING WA OPEN WATER SERIES EVENTS WITH A BEACH FINISH
Due to extra distance swum for beach finishes achieved in Western Australia as part of the Swimming WA OW Series, 1 minute will be removed from your finish time to ascertain a distance appropriate Qualifying Time.

CRITERIA FOR AN APPROVED 5KM POOL TIME TRIAL
To achieve an approved 5km pool time trial a swimmer must swim a continuous 5km swim in a 50m long course pool under the designated pool qualifying time. The Time Trial must adhere to the Swimming Australia Time Trial Policy.

The swim must have an official Starter and Referee present to sign off on the result.

Time trial information for the claimed performance (date, location, name of swimmer and club) as well as the contact details for the swimmers' home coach must then be submitted to Swimming Australia via email events@swimming.org.au

CRITERIA FOR A POOL QUALIFYING TIME
Pool times must be achieved at an approved and verified event, in a 50m pool, using electronic timing.

CRITERIA FOR MULTI CLASS ELIGIBILITY
Swimmers with an impairment who hold a current national or international classification according to the classification database held by Swimming Australia, in line with eligibility requirements outlined in the Swimming Australia classification policy and procedures for classes 1-10 (physical), 11-13 (vision impaired), 14 (intellectual impairment), 15 (hearing impairment), 16 (transplant recipient), 17 (transition), 18 (intellectual impairment with a significant other impairment) and 19 (autism) are eligible to compete at these Championships.

AGE QUALIFYING TIMES

BOYS					
AGE & EVENT		Open Water 5km Time	Pool 5km Time	Open Water 7.5km Time	Open Water 10km Time
18 & 19 Years **5km & 10km**	19 YEARS	1 Hour 4 Min	1 Hour	1 Hour 40 Min	2 Hours 15 Min
	18 YEARS	1 Hour 5 Min	1 Hour 2 Min	1 Hour 45 Min	2 Hours 20 Min
16 & 17 Years **5km & 7.5km**	17 YEARS	1 Hour 7 Min	1 Hour 4 Min	1 Hour 50 Min	
	16 YEARS	1 Hour 9 Min	1 Hour 6 Min	1 Hour 55 Min	
14 & 15 Years **5km**	15 YEARS	1 Hour 11 Min	1 Hour 8 Min		
	14 YEARS	1 Hour 14 Min	1 Hour 10 Min		

GIRLS					
AGE & EVENT		Open Water 5km Time	Pool 5km Time	Open Water 7.5km Time	Open Water 10km Time
18 & 19 Years **5km & 10km**	19 YEARS	1 Hour 10 Min	1 Hour 5 Min	1 Hour 47 Min	2 Hours 25 Min
	18 YEARS	1 Hour 11 Min	1 Hour 7 Min	1 Hour 52 Min	2 Hours 30 Min
16 & 17 Years **5km & 7.5km**	17 YEARS	1 Hour 12 Min	1 Hour 9 Min	1 Hour 55 Min	
	16 YEARS	1 Hour 14 Min	1 Hour 11 Min	2 Hours	
14 & 15 Years **5km**	15 YEARS	1 Hour 16 Min	1 Hour 13 Min		
	14 YEARS	1 Hour 19 Min	1 Hour 15 Min		

OPEN QUALIFYING TIMES

MEN	5KM		10KM
	Open Water	Pool 5km Time	Open Water
	1 Hour 4 Min	1 Hour	2 Hours 10 Min
MULTI-CLASS	1 Hour 20 Min	1 Hour 17 Min	
WOMEN	**5KM**		**10KM**
	1 Hour 10 Min	1 Hour 5 Min	2 Hours 20 Min
MULTI-CLASS	1 Hour 25 Min	1 Hour 22 Min	

3KM KNOCKOUT SERIES and 1.5KM QUALIFYING TIMES (14 years and over)

	800M POOL TIME	1500M POOL TME
MEN	8:41.49	16:37.10
WOMEN	9:17.66	17:55.61

NOTE: SwimAus strongly advises all participants to check the Start List on the day it is published to ensure your seed times are correct. All care is taken to ensure the most recent times are used, however due to unexpected system delays, this may not always be the case. Swimmers will have a small window of time to submit any changes if needed.

SWIMAUS