



MEDWAY 50/200 GALA 2026 RULES & CONDITIONS

DATE. Sunday 8 November 2026.

LICENCE. The event is licensed at Level 3 - 3SE260938.

FACILITIES. The event will take place at Medway Park in a 25m, 6 lane pool with electronic timing and anti-wave lane ropes. A secondary strobe is available. Water depth at the start end is 2.0m and the height of the starting blocks are 0.78m above the water surface.

RULES. The event will be held under Swim England Laws and Regulations, Swim England Technical Rules of Racing and the Rules & Conditions of this competition. The gala promoter has the right to amend the programme to ensure the smooth running and fairness of the event.

ELIGIBILITY. All swimmers must be registered with Swim England and a member of a club affiliated to Medway ASA.

EVENTS. Events will consist of 50m and 200m in all four strokes. The objective of this meet is to provide every swimmer with the opportunity to achieve short course qualifying times for entry into County and Regional Championships. The competition will be run on a 'heat declared winner' basis. All events will be seeded by entry times, slowest to fastest. All heats will be swum in a spearhead formation.

AGES. Swimmers must be aged 9 years as at midnight on Sunday 8 November 2026.

GENDER. All events will be run as separate gender heats. The Female category is for birth sex females in accordance with Swim England's Transgender and Non-Binary Competition Policy. By entering this category, a swimmer confirms that their birth sex is female.

AWARDS. The results will be declared in Open age groups only. There will be no awards at this event.

ENTRY STANDARDS. Entries must be slower than the listed upper limit times. Submitted entry times must be short course and achieved since 1 January 2025. 'No-time' entries will be accepted subject to event session time limits (see over-subscriptions section).

ENTRIES & FEES. Entries must be received no later than Sunday 18 October 2026. The entry fee is £4.50 per event. The entry fee includes a levy charge per event payable to Swim England South East Region. Please DO NOT send payment until your club entries are confirmed. Notification of acceptance/rejection of entries will be made electronically to each club, along with the required amount for payment to the following account. Payment must be made within 5 working days of notification. Failure to make payment within this timeframe will result in all entries from the club being rejected, and the club will therefore be unable to participate.

Account Name - HSBC: Medway ASA
Sort Code: 40-22-20
Account: 21601598

REFUNDS. Entries may be withdrawn, with refund, up to the entry closing date. There will be no refunds for withdrawals after the closing date other than for medical reasons that are accompanied by the appropriate certification.

Withdrawals due to injury or illness, incurred after event entry, may be made up to the day before the gala. At the discretion of the Promoter, a full refund will be provided on receipt of proof of injury or illness through a doctor's/medical certificate or similar.

OVER-SUBSCRIPTION. The event programme is based on allocated session times in accordance with Swim England guidelines. Should any of the sessions become over-subscribed then rejections may become necessary. Any rejections made will be slowest first. Clubs will be advised as soon as possible after the closing date if any entries are rejected. The list of accepted entries will be sent to each club shortly after the closing date. It is the competing club/swimmer's responsibility to check this list for accuracy and advise immediately of any mistakes or changes that may be required.

WITHDRAWALS. To avoid empty lanes an online withdrawal system will operate. Withdrawals MUST be made before the start of the session warm up as indicated on the schedule.



MEDWAY 50/200 GALA 2026

RULES & CONDITIONS

STARTS. The event will operate over the top starts throughout, at the Referee's discretion, with the exception of the Backstroke events. In the event of a faulty start, the swimmer must make a safe entry and not fall into the water. All swimmers should remain in the water at the end of their race until told to leave the pool by the Referee.

WARM UP. A warm up marshal will be appointed, but coaches must supervise their swimmers during this period so as not to endanger themselves or others whilst in the water. Diving is not permitted during warm up except when advised by the warm up marshal. The instructions of pool lifeguards or others in authority must be obeyed immediately.

RESULTS. Every effort will be made to provide full electronic results after each event as the meet progresses via the Maidstone club website. However, in the event of a technical failure, this may not always be possible. Results will be sent to each of the clubs and will also be available on the Medway ASA website as soon as possible after.

OFFICIALS. The event requires a minimum number of officials for each gala. If we are unable to fulfil the required number of qualified officials to ensure each gala meets the licence requirements, it may be downgraded to a lower licence level and the times recorded by swimmers will not be allowed into 'Rankings' as at that date and level.

COACHES & TEAM MANAGERS. To comply with the Swim England Team Manager, Coach and Chaperone Policy, all clubs must ensure that team managers and coaches are Swim England registered and hold a valid DBS check. Untrained parents without DBS checks are NOT allowed poolside. Clubs are asked to maintain the minimum supervision ratios for a single day of competition for athletes under the age of 18 years as follows -

Swimmers	Coach	TM
Up to 10	1	1
20	1	2
30	2	2
40	2	2
50	2	3
60	3	3

SPECTATORS. Entry will be £3.00. Details will be provided closer to each gala regarding spectator attendance.

BEHAVIOUR. Coaches and Team Managers are responsible for the swimmers' conduct at all times. The Promoter and the leisure centre management reserve the right to remove any swimmer or spectator from the pool area whose behaviour is either against pool rules or is affecting the running of the competition. Please be safe and courteous at all times. Anyone found causing damage or misbehaving will be banned from the meet.

SAFETY. For the reasons of child protection; only officials, leisure centre staff, registered volunteers and swimmers shall be allowed poolside other than in the designated spectator area. Spectators, officials and competitors must observe the safety precautions in operation at the leisure centre and are asked to familiarise themselves with the location of all emergency exits, and must abide by any rules laid down by the venue management. The emergency exits must be kept clear at all times. Anyone observing anything they consider to be a safety hazard must report any issues immediately to a member of the leisure centre staff or to the Promoter. Medway ASA will not be responsible for any loss or damage occurring during this meet. The depth of the pool at the starting end is 2m and 1m at the shallow end.

CHANGING & ATTIRE. Swimmers must wear suitable clothing and footwear on poolside and when moving around the venue. No outdoor shoes are allowed on poolside unless exclusively used for the purpose of poolside shoes. Swimmers wearing wet clothing are not allowed in the spectator seating area. Swimmers are advised to remove all jewellery in order to prevent accidental injury to themselves. Lockers are available in the changing rooms and should be used for the safe keeping of all belongings.

SECURITY. Medway ASA cannot be held responsible for the loss or damage to personal property and requests that all persons remove their belongings if they leave the premises at any time. Competitors and spectators must not leave their belongings unattended. Any lost property not claimed from the announcer during the meet will be handed to the venue management for collection by the owner.



MEDWAY 50/200 GALA 2026

RULES & CONDITIONS

PHOTOGRAPHY. Participants and spectators are requested to follow the Swim England guidelines for photography and the use of photographs on social media. The Swim England Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, 'Wavepower 2025' Section 2 provides guidance on the use of social networking (page 24-25) and guidance on photography (page 94-99). Flash photography is prohibited at all times. Any use of a mobile phone or device in a changing area is prohibited.

DATA PROTECTION. Medway ASA uses a computer to manage entries and results. The Data Protection Act 2018 requires us to provide you with certain information and to obtain your consent before processing data about you. Processing includes: obtaining, recording, holding, disclosing, destruction or retaining information. We require certain personal data for the purposes of making entries to the competition, managing the meet and the submission of results to Rankings. The information provided by you will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. Consent to process such personal data is deemed to have been given by the submission of the entry. Where the personal data of competitors, officials and coaches/team managers has been passed to us by a third party such as a club rather than by the individuals themselves, we rely on the third party to ensure that consent has been obtained.

PARKING. Parking is free of charge in the large pay and display car park adjacent to Medway Park, as long as you enter your car registration number into one of the machines in the foyer as soon as you arrive inside the centre.

Any conditions not covered in the above information will be at the discretion of the promoter and Medway ASA. By entering this event, competitors and coaches agree to abide by these conditions.

EMAIL. If you require further information, please contact galas.medwayasa@gmail.com.

September 2026



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PROGRAMME & UPPER QUALIFYING TIMES

PROGRAMME

Session 1		Session 2	
Warm-Up: 10:00		Warm-Up: 14:00	
1	Female 50m Backstroke	9	Female 200m Backstroke
2	Open/Male 50m Backstroke	10	Open/Male 200m Backstroke
3	Female 200m Breaststroke	11	Female 50m Breaststroke
4	Open/Male 200m Breaststroke	12	Open/Male 50m Breaststroke
5	Female 50m Butterfly	13	Female 200m Butterfly
6	Open/Male 50m Butterfly	14	Open/Male 200m Butterfly
7	Female 200m Freestyle	15	Female 50m Freestyle
8	Open/Male 200m Freestyle	16	Open/Male 50m Freestyle

UPPER QUALIFYING TIMES - SHORT COURSE

Swimmers must be equal to or slower than these times to enter.

LC times converted to SC, using official conversion tables, are acceptable.

There are no event qualifying times.

OPEN	Female	Open/Male
50m Freestyle	24.00	21.00
200m Freestyle	1:50.00	1:45.00
50m Backstroke	27.00	25.00
200m Backstroke	2:08.00	1:58.00
50m Breaststroke	29.00	27.00
200m Breaststroke	2:20.00	2:05.00
50m Butterfly	27.00	23.00
200m Butterfly	2:10.00	2:00.00