



Global School Swimming Series Athlete Selection Policy

Effective Date: 8th June 2026

1. Purpose of this Policy

This Athlete Selection Policy sets out the principles, eligibility requirements and selection process for swimmers wishing to participate in the Global School Swimming Series and to be considered for selection to the Grand Final.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that athlete selection is fair, transparent, performance-based and clearly understood by swimmers, parents, coaches, schools and event organisers.

This policy applies to all qualifying events within the Global School Swimming Series and to the selection of athletes for the Grand Final in London.

Swimmers can only qualify for selection to the Grand Final by competing in one of the official Global School Swimming Series qualifying events. No swimmer will be selected for the Grand Final without having competed in an official qualifying event, unless an exceptional circumstance is formally approved by the Selection Committee.

2. About the Global School Swimming Series

The Global School Swimming Series is an international school swimming competition created through the partnership between TEEMS Global and AP Race.

The Series is designed to inspire the next generation of school swimmers through a fast-paced, high-energy competition format. Qualifying events will take place in selected international locations, with successful swimmers progressing to the Grand Final in London.

The Grand Final will take place at the London Aquatics Centre, home of the London 2012 Olympic Games, and will form part of a wider multi-day experience that may include masterclasses, educational opportunities and exposure to a world-class international swimming environment.



3. Core Selection Principles

Selection for the Grand Final will be guided by the following principles:

1. Qualification Through Official Events Only

Swimmers may only qualify for the Grand Final through participation in an official Global School Swimming Series qualifying event.

2. School-Based Entry

Swimmers may only enter a qualifying event through a school that has formally registered to compete. Individual entries will not be permitted.

3. Performance

Selection will be based primarily on results achieved at the official Global School Swimming Series qualifying event.

4. Fairness and Transparency

All swimmers will be assessed against the same published criteria within their relevant age group, gender and event category.

5. Eligibility

Only swimmers who meet the eligibility requirements set out in this policy may be considered for selection.

6. Integrity of Competition

Selection decisions will be based on official results recorded at the qualifying event and confirmed by the event organisers.

7. Safeguarding and Welfare

Athlete welfare, safeguarding, behaviour, readiness to travel and suitability for participation in an international team environment may be considered before final confirmation of selection.

8. Team Balance

Final team selection may take into account the overall balance of the team, including individual event qualifiers, relay requirements, age-group representation and logistical considerations.

4. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for selection, swimmers must meet all of the following requirements.

4.1 Age Eligibility

The Global School Swimming Series is open to school swimmers aged 10–18 years old.

Age groups will be based on the swimmer's age as of 1st June 2027.

The competition age bands are:

- 11 and Under
- 12–13
- 14 and Over

4.2 Schooling Eligibility

Swimmers must be enrolled in a recognised school at the time of the qualifying event.

Swimmers must compete in the qualifying event linked to their country of schooling, unless otherwise approved by the Selection Committee in advance.

4.3 School Entry Requirement

Entry to each qualifying event must be made through a school that has formally registered to compete in the Global School Swimming Series.

Individual entries will not be permitted. Swimmers may only enter and compete as part of a registered school entry.

Each participating school is responsible for ensuring that its swimmers, staff, coaches, parents and accompanying adults comply with all event requirements, including the policies, procedures and operational instructions of the host school, host venue and event organisers.

This includes, but is not limited to, safeguarding requirements, health and safety procedures, venue access arrangements, supervision expectations, emergency



procedures, codes of conduct, photography and media rules, and any other policies communicated before or during the qualifying event.

Failure by a school, swimmer or accompanying adult to follow the policies and procedures of the host school, host venue or event organisers may affect the swimmer's eligibility to compete, be considered for selection, or attend the Grand Final.

4.4 Qualifying Event Requirement

Swimmers must compete in an official Global School Swimming Series qualifying event to be considered for Grand Final selection.

A swimmer cannot qualify for the Grand Final through training performances, previous competition results, club rankings, school nomination, coach recommendation or any event that is not formally recognised as an official Global School Swimming Series qualifying event.

4.5 Event Entry Eligibility

Swimmers must be officially entered by their registered school into the relevant qualifying event and must compete in accordance with the event rules, entry requirements and competition procedures.

4.6 Conduct and Compliance

Swimmers, parents, coaches, school staff and accompanying adults must comply with all event rules, codes of conduct, safeguarding expectations and operational requirements issued for the Global School Swimming Series.

Failure to comply with these requirements may affect a swimmer's eligibility to compete, be considered for selection, or attend the Grand Final.

5. Qualifying Events

There will be five qualifying rounds forming part of the Global School Swimming Series. These are expected to take place in:

- Singapore
- Thailand
- Malaysia



- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- The United Arab Emirates

Each qualifying event will provide swimmers with the opportunity to race against domestic peers in a structured competition environment.

Results from each qualifying event will be used to determine which swimmers are selected to represent that qualifying location at the Grand Final.

Only swimmers who compete in an official qualifying event may be considered for selection to the Grand Final.

Entry to qualifying events is only available through schools formally registered to compete. Individual swimmer entries will not be accepted.

All participating schools must follow the policies, procedures and requirements of the host school, host venue and event organisers throughout the qualifying event.

6. Competition Age Groups and Events

The final schedule of events will be confirmed in the official qualifying event entry information. However, the expected events are as follows.

6.1 11 and Under Age Group

Swimmers in the 11 and Under age group may compete in:

- 50m Freestyle
- 50m Backstroke
- 50m Breaststroke
- 50m Butterfly
- 100m Freestyle

Events will be offered for male and female swimmers.

6.2 12–13 Age Group

Swimmers in the 12–13 age group may compete in:

- 50m Freestyle
- 100m Freestyle



- 50m Backstroke
- 100m Backstroke
- 50m Breaststroke
- 100m Breaststroke
- 50m Butterfly
- 100m Butterfly

Events will be offered for male and female swimmers.

6.3 14 and Over Age Group

Swimmers in the 14 and Over age group may compete in:

- 50m Freestyle
- 100m Freestyle
- 200m Freestyle
- 50m Backstroke
- 100m Backstroke
- 50m Breaststroke
- 100m Breaststroke
- 50m Butterfly
- 100m Butterfly

Events will be offered for male and female swimmers.

7. Selection for the Grand Final

7.1 Automatic Consideration

Swimmers who compete at an official qualifying event and meet the relevant eligibility criteria will be automatically considered for Grand Final selection.

Automatic consideration does not guarantee selection.

7.2 Performance-Based Selection

The primary basis for selection will be performance at the qualifying event.

Selection may include:

- Top-ranked swimmers in each eligible event;



- Swimmers achieving published qualifying standards, where applicable;
- Swimmers required to create a balanced team across age groups, genders and events;
- Swimmers required for relay team composition at the Grand Final.

7.3 Individual Events

For individual events, swimmers will normally be considered according to their official finishing position and/or recorded time in the relevant age group and event.

The organisers may publish further details confirming how many swimmers per event, age group or gender will be selected from each qualifying round.

7.4 Relay Events

A wide selection of relay events may be added for the Grand Final.

Relay selection may be based on:

- Individual performances at the qualifying event
- Stroke-specific strengths and suitability
- Freestyle performance levels
- Age-group balance and relay composition requirements
- Overall team strategy and event requirements
- The swimmer's ability to contribute positively to the wider team environment, including attitude, commitment, and sportsmanship

Being selected for the Grand Final does not guarantee selection for a specific relay event.

Final relay team composition will be determined by the appointed team staff and/or the Selection Committee.

8. Selection Committee

Grand Final athlete selection will be confirmed by a Selection Committee appointed for the Global School Swimming Series.

The Selection Committee may include representatives with responsibility for:

- Event leadership and strategic oversight



- Competition operations and event management
- Technical swimming performance review
- Athlete welfare, safeguarding, and wellbeing
- Team logistics and administration
- Grand Final planning and delivery

The Selection Committee will be responsible for reviewing results, confirming eligibility and approving the final list of selected swimmers.

The Selection Committee will have final decision-making authority in relation to all athlete selection matters.

9. Selection Decisions

Selection decisions will be made after the conclusion of the relevant qualifying event and following confirmation of official results.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to consider the following before confirming selection:

- Official race results and performance data
- Compliance with eligibility requirements
- Conduct and behaviour during the event
- Medical, welfare, or safeguarding considerations
- Ability to travel internationally and meet any relevant entry requirements
- Parent or guardian consent, where applicable
- School approval or confirmation, where required
- Any outstanding disciplinary, safeguarding, attendance, or behavioural concerns

All selection decisions will be made in good faith and in the best interests of the integrity of the competition, the safety of swimmers and the successful delivery of the Grand Final.

10. Notification of Selection

Selected swimmers will be notified following the relevant qualifying event.

Notification may be sent to the swimmer's parent or guardian, school, coach or nominated contact, depending on the registration information provided.



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Selection will not be considered final until the swimmer and their parent or guardian have completed all required confirmation steps, which may include:

- Acceptance of their selection place
- Completion of all registration documentation
- Submission of passport and required travel information
- Completion of medical, emergency contact, and consent forms
- Agreement to and compliance with all relevant codes of conduct and team policies
- Payment of any applicable programme, travel, accommodation, or participation costs

11. Reserve Athletes

The Selection Committee may identify reserve athletes for the Grand Final.

Reserve athletes may be invited to join the team if a selected swimmer is unable to attend, becomes ineligible, withdraws, or is removed from the team.

Reserve selection will normally be based on the same principles used for initial selection, including performance, eligibility, team balance and event requirements.

12. Withdrawal or Removal from Selection

A swimmer may be withdrawn from selection or removed from the Grand Final team if:

- They are no longer eligible to participate
- Required documentation is not completed by the stated deadline
- Required payments are not received by the stated deadline
- They are unable to travel or meet applicable travel requirements
- They breach the event, team, or participant code of conduct
- Safeguarding, welfare, medical, behavioural, or disciplinary concerns arise
- Their parent, guardian, or school withdraws permission for participation
- They bring the event, organisers, host school, participating school, or team into disrepute
- Their school, or any accompanying adults associated with their school, fail to comply with the policies, procedures, safeguarding requirements, or reasonable instructions of the host school, host venue, event organisers, or team management



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Any decision to remove a swimmer from selection will be made by the Selection Committee, in consultation with relevant team staff or safeguarding leads where appropriate.

13. Appeals

An appeal may only be submitted where there is evidence that:

The selection policy was not followed;
There was an administrative error in the recording or interpretation of results;
Eligibility was incorrectly assessed;
Relevant information was not considered by the Selection Committee.

An appeal may not be submitted solely because a swimmer, parent, coach or school disagrees with a performance-based selection decision.

Appeals must be submitted in writing within the stated appeal window, which will be confirmed in the qualifying event information.

The appeal must include:

- The swimmer's full name
- The event and age group concerned
- A clear explanation of the grounds for appeal
- Any supporting evidence or relevant documentation

Appeals will be reviewed by an appropriate representative or panel appointed for the Global School Swimming Series. The outcome of the appeal will be final.

14. Discretionary Selection

The Selection Committee reserves the right to make discretionary selection decisions where necessary to protect the integrity, quality or safe delivery of the Grand Final.

Discretionary selection may be used in circumstances including, but not limited to:

- Overall team balance and composition requirements
- Relay team requirements and strategic considerations
- Exceptional circumstances that may have affected performance results
- Administrative, officiating, or technical errors impacting the selection process



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- Injury, illness, unavailability, or withdrawal of selected swimmers
- The need to ensure appropriate representation across age groups, events, and competition categories

Any discretionary selection decision will be made by the Selection Committee and must be consistent with the principles of fairness, transparency and athlete welfare.

Discretionary selection does not remove the requirement for swimmers to have participated in an official qualifying event, unless an exceptional circumstance is formally approved by the Selection Committee.

15. Medical Fitness and Welfare

Selected swimmers must be medically fit to participate in the Grand Final and related activities.

Parents or guardians must disclose any relevant medical, physical, psychological or welfare information that may affect the swimmer's participation, travel or support needs.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to request further information or medical confirmation where appropriate.

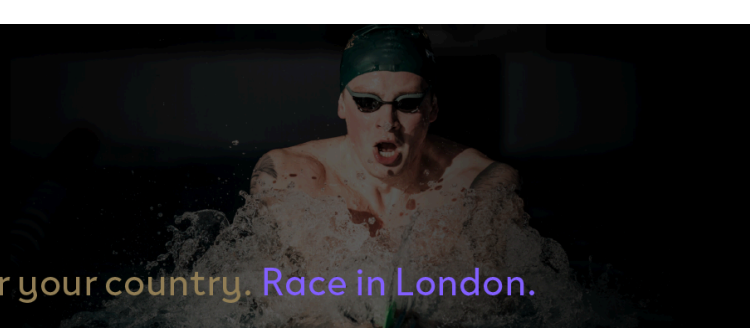
Failure to disclose relevant information may result in withdrawal from the team.

16. Codes of Conduct

All selected swimmers will be required to follow the relevant codes of conduct issued for the Global School Swimming Series.

This includes expectations relating to:

- Positive behaviour and good sportsmanship at all times
- Respect for teammates, coaches, staff, officials, volunteers, and competitors
- Attendance at all required meetings, training sessions, competitions, and team activities, with punctuality maintained throughout
- Appropriate wear and presentation of official team kit and apparel
- Responsible and respectful use of social media and digital communications
- Compliance with all safeguarding, welfare, and child protection requirements
- Professional and respectful conduct during travel and transportation arrangements



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- Appropriate behaviour within hotels, accommodation venues, and event facilities
- Active participation in team activities and a positive contribution to the overall team environment

Selection to the Grand Final is both a performance opportunity and a responsibility. Swimmers are expected to represent their school, country of schooling and the wider Global School Swimming Series with pride and integrity.

17. Costs and Travel

Selection for the Grand Final may involve international travel, accommodation, team activities and associated costs.

Any costs, inclusions, exclusions, payment deadlines and refund terms will be communicated separately.

A swimmer's place may not be confirmed until all required acceptance steps and payment requirements have been completed.

18. Changes to this Policy

The Global School Swimming Series reserves the right to amend this policy where required.

Any changes will be communicated through official event channels.

Where possible, material changes affecting athlete selection will be published before the relevant qualifying event.

19. Final Authority

The Selection Committee is responsible for the final interpretation and application of this policy.

The decision of the Selection Committee will be final, subject only to the appeals process set out in this policy.