

Club Time Trials / Leinster Meet plans to the end of 2020

Leinster Swimming has reluctantly abandoned plans to hold either a Development Meet or a Short Course Qualifying Meet over the coming months. However we are still hoping to run the Leinster SC Championship 2020 Meet, although this will be entirely dependent on the Government advice pertaining at that time. This is currently scheduled to be a three-day meet, taking place in the NAC from 13/11/2020 to 15/11/2020.

The format of the SC Championships is likely to be HDW for all events with 'rounds' of athletes allowed into the arena in turn. Restrictions on overall numbers allowed into the building will dictate that only the absolute minimum necessary of coaches and team managers will be able to accompany the swimmers. Parents will not be able to access the pool hall during the event. The details, especially on the numbers we will be able to facilitate, will depend on the government and Swim Ireland guidelines in force at that time and cannot be confirmed until nearer the event.

Swimmers will be able to enter this event on times achieved in open competition since 01/07/2019 (both SC times and converted LC times). However, in order to give athletes an additional route to qualify for this event, Leinster Swimming are providing a framework for structured **Club Time Trials**, the times from which will be accepted as entry times for the Leinster SC Championships 2020. The times from all the **Club Time Trials** held will be merged by Leinster Swimming into an "**October Virtual Meet**" on the Leinster Swimming database.

In regard to the plans to hold the Leinster SC Championships in November, it must be emphasised that overall restrictions on numbers in the NAC are likely to be the key factor in determining how many swims we will be able to accommodate at this event; we are unlikely to be able to accommodate the numbers of entries received in recent years.

Club Time Trial Protocols:

Club Time Trials will have to be organised and run under the following protocols in order for the resultant times to be accepted into the Leinster Database as part of the "**October Virtual Meet**" and used for entry into the Leinster SC Championships 2020

- Time trials must take place in the time window between 03/10/2020 and 25/10/2020
- The relevant COVID-related government guidelines in force for each County at the relevant time must be respected
- If some Counties cannot hold Time Trials within the window above because of COVID-related restrictions, the time window may be extended
- Leinster Swimming will generate a Hy-Tek "October Virtual Meet" Meet Events File in Meet Manager and distribute it to all Leinster Clubs
- Clubs can then organise and run the Time Trial events within the time window specified above
- Time trials may be held in 20m or 25m pools

- Clubs can run the Time Trial events in whatever order they choose, and can spread them over a number of days to allow them use their normal training-time pool sessions to complete the time trials
- Clubs do not have to run all of the events specified in the Meet Events file, but can choose which events to run according to their needs
- There will be no Consideration or Qualifying times necessary for entry to the **Club Time Trials**
- Clubs must register athletes by submitting entries to Leinster Swimming on behalf of participating swimmers via a "Meet Entry File" (as would be done for any normal competition)
- Registration of athletes must be submitted to Leinster Competitions for each event no later than the date of the first Time-Trial session organised by that club
- Clubs can come together to organise Time Trials involving two or more clubs, providing that the government guidelines on total numbers within a building at any one time are respected
- Clubs must arrange for at least the following officials to be present for each Time Trial session; Starter/Referee, Recorder, Director of Timekeeping, One Timekeeper per lane.
- Clubs should, if possible, have at least one Leinster Official qualified to probationary level in attendance at each session of the time trial(s)
- Stopwatch / automated times should be recorded for all swims and returned to Leinster Competitions in the form of a results file. This file should preferably be in Hy-Tek format. Note that Team Manager can be used to manually enter results and to generate a Results File
- For time trials with a dive start, if the club has no blocks, 0.5 seconds is subtracted from the submission/result time
- If a swimmer achieves a QT for the Leinster SC Champs in the 400m Free, they can also be entered in the 800m and/or the 1500m event. Similarly for the IM events; if the swimmer achieves a QT in the 200m IM they can use that time to enter the 400m IM.
- Results for each Time Trial session must be accompanied by a sign off form completed by two persons; if possible the Head Coach and a Leinster Official. The sign off form will state that the Head Coach and Leinster Official supervised the Time Trial and that the times recorded are a true reflection of times achieved by the listed swimmers.
- If a Leinster Official cannot attend the Time Trial session, the results may be signed off by the Head Coach and either the Club Chair or the Club Secretary.
- Leinster Swimming will consolidate the results of the various club Time Trials into the "October Virtual Meet" and publish the results as normal
- There will be no requirement for clubs to apply for or get Swim Ireland Meet Licensing in regard to the Time Trials
- Leinster Swimming will not be charging any fees in relation to this service. Clubs may charge entry fees of up to €3 per swim to participating swimmers to cover their pool costs and in accordance with their own needs and policies

- Any and all costs associated with the running of the Time Trials will be the responsibility of the clubs.

Times will be registered to the Leinster database and can be accepted as qualifying / consideration times for entry to the Leinster SC Championships 2020, scheduled for 13/11/2020 to the 15/11/2020

Times will NOT be permitted for use to enter Irish SC Championships.

Clubs found to have mis-reported times will be fined up to €250

Leinster Swimming will examine the reported Time Trial results against previous results achieved by each swimmer, and also results achieved at the Leinster SC Championship 2020, using an algorithm designed to identify significant anomalies in swimmer performance. Where evidence reveals a consistent pattern of mis-reporting of results by clubs, Leinster Swimming may impose a fine of up to €250.

Leinster Development Times

Clubs can also record Development level times at the **Club Time Trials** within the defined time window (03/10 to 25/10). Development times registered to Leinster may be used for entry to the next Leinster qualifying meet, currently scheduled for Jan 2021.