



OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTIES ASA

Affiliated to Swim England South East

County Championship and Age Group Competitions 2022

Revised: 1st February 2022

PROMOTERS UPDATE

We look forward to welcoming ONB Swimmers and Clubs to the two main weekends of ONB County Championships 2022. Please do share the information below fully with all those attending the counties, in whatever capacity they are involved.

We have reviewed our Covid-19 arrangements following the 400m events and, have decided to continue to close the first two sessions on each day of the remaining championships to spectators. This decision has been reached after taking soundbites from numerous coaches, volunteers and team managers and in light of the reduced seating capacity at Aquavale. We appreciate that this will be disappointing for many; however, we hope you will support our decision to prioritise and enable as many swimmers as possible to compete at Counties while ensuring an environment in which competitors, coaches, officials and volunteers feel safe. The table attached details those Galas which spectators may watch poolside.

Spectator Information (Finals ONLY, that is Galas 9, 12, 15 & 18 only).

Where spectators are allowed, it is based on one spectator per one competitor; ie one parent/guardian comes to watch their one swimmer who is competing. Therefore, spectators should not bring children unless they have more than one competitor racing. Following Swim England and Government guidelines, **spectators are encouraged to wear face masks** unless exempt. This is in line with the latest Government COVID guidance, which recommends the continued wearing of face coverings in crowded and indoor spaces where you may come into contact with people you do not usually meet.

Note: Admissions will open 15 minutes after the start of warm-up, please do not arrive early as you will not be granted access and this will result in overcrowding in the centre foyer.

We strongly recommend that spectators take a Lateral Flow test on the day of the competition. Should they test positive before travelling to the venue, they MUST NOT come to the competition.

Spectators will be charged £5.00 for entry to the finals. We have secured a card payment machine and spectators are encouraged to pay by card, if card payment is not an option please have the exact amount of cash to



OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTIES ASA

Affiliated to Swim England South East

County Championship and Age Group Competitions 2022

tender. No paper programmes will be produced. Instead, programmes for all events will be available on the ONB website.

We have been notified that the cafe at the Aquavale venue will be closed during the County Championships.

We request that whoever drops/collects swimmers does not remain in the venue following swimmer drop off/collection. The foyers of Aquavale can get congested, so please exit the venue swiftly and do not wait in another part of the facility for your swimmer.

Swimmer Information

It is strongly recommended that swimmers take a Lateral Flow test on the day of the competition and before travelling to the venue. Should their test register positive, they MUST NOT come to the competition. See the COVID Withdrawal section below.

Swimmers are encouraged to wear facemasks at all times and are **required to** (unless under 11 years or exempt) **when in marshalling**. This is in line with the latest Government COVID guidance, which recommends the continued wearing of face coverings in crowded and indoor spaces where you may come into contact with people you do not normally meet.

Coaches, Officials and volunteers Information

All Coaches, Officials and volunteers are also **encouraged to wear face masks at all times unless exempt** and are **strongly recommended to take a Lateral Flow test on the day of the competition and before travelling to the venue**. Should their test register positive, they MUST NOT attend the event.

Coaches are requested to keep the number of relay competitors down and avoid bringing 2 sets of relay swimmers. Large bags will not be permitted on the poolside at the Aqua Vale venue.

Poolside space at Aquavale is limited, and there is a need to keep poolside air vents clear, meaning that swimmers and clubs will need to keep to a minimum what is brought onto the poolside. For closed to spectator sessions, the spectator gallery will be used to accommodate competing teams. Further Information for Officials and volunteers will be issued nearer the date.

Withdrawals

Once entries have been accepted, the entry fee shall become non-refundable. In addition to the Promoters Conditions, which detailed



OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTIES ASA

Affiliated to Swim England South East

County Championship and Age Group Competitions 2022

withdrawal procedures, please find below additional Withdrawal Information, taking COVID withdrawals into account:

Medical Withdrawals

1. Swimmers, who have sustained injuries after the Accepted entries have been posted to the website/Clubs, may apply to the Swimming Championships Secretary for a Medical Withdrawal and Refund. A Refund will be given only on the production of Medical Evidence and will be for **ALL** the remaining Championship events that the swimmer has entered.
2. In order to qualify for a refund, the Promoter must be advised of any medical withdrawals at the first possible opportunity and no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of the final gala of the County Championships.

COVID Withdrawals

1. Swimmers who have a positive Lateral Flow Test must register the test result on the GOV UK Covid test result website. Swimmers must follow the COVID-19 self-isolation guidance and can end self-isolation after 5 full days, as long as they test negative on day 5 and day 6 and compete thereafter.
2. In order to qualify for a refund, the Promoter must be advised of any COVID Withdrawals at the first possible opportunity; retrospective claims for COVID Refunds WILL NOT be accepted. Only events in which the swimmer cannot take part (due to a positive lateral flow test result and/or isolation) will be considered for a refund; swimmers MUST provide proof that they have tested positive. [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/report-a-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result).
3. A refund will be given on the production of swimmers Lateral Flow test results and will **ONLY** apply to those events that the swimmer has been unable to participate in.
4. Swimmers must complete a **COVID Withdrawal Form**, which is attached.
5. Team Managers/Coaches should also withdraw those swimmers applying for a **COVID** Withdrawal in the usual way on the day of competition.
6. The Promoter will review all withdrawals on a case-by-case basis and the Promoters decision is final.

Any queries arising from the condition as detailed above should be forwarded to the Promoter & County Swimming Secretary, Oliver Stockland at: oastockland@aol.com.



OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTIES ASA

Affiliated to Swim England South East

County Championship and Age Group Competitions 2022

Saturday 5th February 2022 – Aqua Vale, Aylesbury		
Gala 7	Session 1	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 8	Session 2	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 9	FINALS Session 3	Spectators Allowed. 1 Spectator per competitor entered. Spectators are encouraged to wear face masks, unless exempt. This is in line with the latest Government COVID guidance. The taking of a Lateral Flow test on the day of competition and before travelling to the venue is strongly recommended .
Sunday 6th February 2022 – Aqua Vale, Aylesbury		
Gala 10	Session 1	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 11	Session 2	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 12	FINALS Session 3	Spectators Allowed. 1 Spectator per competitor entered. Spectators are encouraged to wear face masks, unless exempt. This is in line with the latest Government COVID guidance. The taking of a Lateral Flow test on the day of competition and before travelling to the venue is strongly recommended .
Saturday 12th February 2022 – Aqua Vale, Aylesbury		
Gala 13	Session 1	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 14	Session 2	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 15	FINALS Session 3	Spectators Allowed. 1 Spectator per competitor entered. Spectators are encouraged to wear face masks, unless exempt. This is in line with the latest Government COVID guidance. The taking of a Lateral Flow test on the day of competition and before travelling to the venue is strongly recommended .
Sunday 13th February 2022 – Aqua Vale, Aylesbury		
Gala 16	Session 1	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 17	Session 2	NO Spectators allowed.
Gala 18	FINALS Session 3	Spectators Allowed. 1 Spectator per competitor entered. Spectators are encouraged to wear face masks, unless exempt. This is in line with the latest Government COVID guidance. The taking of a Lateral Flow test on the day of competition and before travelling to the venue is strongly recommended .