

Gala Guidelines

Gala's have been renamed:

Grade C becomes Grade 3

Grade B becomes Grade 2

Grade A becomes Grade 1

Age divisions for Grades 2 & 3 have been introduced: 7-11yrs, 12/13yrs and 14 +yrs.

Qualifying/cut off times have been introduced for each age group.

Development galas

These are a stepping stone to Grade 3 galas.

Events to be 50m Back, Breast, Free and 25m Fly.

There are be no qualifying time's and swimmers will not be disqualified.

However, each club will be given a record of their swimmers who have committed stroke violations, this will ensure that the club is aware of the aspect of the stroke that should be corrected.

Swimmers will have to have two times from these galas before they become eligible to swim in Grade 3 galas

Grade 2 qualifying standards

BOYS		CUT OFF TIME			GIRLS	
7 – 11	12-13	14 +	EVENT	7 -11	12-13	14 +
1.30.00	1.25.00	1.20.00	100m Free	1.33.00	1.28.00	1.23.00
1.44.00	1.39.00	1.34.00	100m IM	1.48.00	1.43.00	1.37.00
53.00	50.00	47.00	50m Brs	54.00	51.00	48.00
47.00	44.00	41.00	50m B/C	49.00	46.00	43.00
52.00	49.00	46.00	50m Fly	55.00	52.00	49.00

To qualify for Grade 2 swimmers must achieve the qualifying times in

100m Freestyle **and** 100m Ind. Medley event

OR

100m Freestyle **and** 2 of the 50m events (Back, Breast or Fly)

OR

100m Ind. Medley **and** 2 of the 50m events (Back, Breast or Fly)

Grade 1 qualifying standards

BOYS		CUT OFF TIME			GIRLS	
7 - 11	12 – 13	14 +	EVENT	7 -11	12-13	14 +
2.50.00	2.45.00	2.40.00	200m Free	3.00.00	2.55.00	2.50.00
3.05.00	3.00.00	2.55.00	200m IM	3.15.00	3.10.00	3.05.00
1.32.00	1.27.00	1.22.00	100m Back	1.35.00	1.30.00	1.25.00
1.47.00	1.42.00	1.37.00	100m Brs	1.50.00	1.45.00	1.40.00
1.39.00	1.34.00	1.29.00	100m Fly	1.42.00	1.37.00	1.32.00

To qualify for Grade 1 swimmers must achieve the qualifying times in

200m Frontcrawl and 200m IM

OR

200m Frontcrawl and **two** of the other 100m events (100m Fly / 100m Backstroke / 100m Breaststroke)

OR

200m IM and **two** of the other 100m events (100m Fly / 100m Backstroke / 100m Breaststroke)

When a swimmer achieves the required number of qualifying times, they will become the next grade swimmer and carry those times over into the next age group.

HOWEVER, IF A SWIMMER HAS ACHIEVED SOME BUT NOT ALL THE REQUIRED TIMES, AND CHANGES AGE GROUP, THOSE TIMES WILL NOT CARRY OVER INTO THE FOLLOWING CALENDAR YEAR. ALL TIMES MUST NOW BE ACHIEVED WITHIN THE NEW AGE GROUP.

Entering a gala:

A swimmer entering a Grade **3** gala may enter 4 events, but is restricted to **1** of the 100m events

A swimmer entering a Grade **2** gala may enter 4 events but is restricted to **1** of the 200m events.

Grade **1** will have 100m in all four strokes

200m in all four strokes

200m IM, 400m Free and 400m IM

Events **may** have to be split as it may not be possible to swim all the events at one gala.

Two distance events (800m & 1500m Freestyle) will be held per season. These may be held on an evening depending on pool availability.

Meet Conditions

- 1. Relays:** One swimmer may swim up in age, but must remain in that age group for all relays in the competition.
- 2. Entry Times:** In line with Swim Ireland policy all entry times must have been achieved within the previous fifteen months.
- 3. Electronic Times:** As and from September 2016 only times achieved where electronic timing was used will be accepted for all competitions of Grade "2" standard and above.
- 4. Age Up Date:** From the start of the 2016/2017 season Munster will follow SI policy and the age up date will be 30th December in the year of the competition (e.g. if a swimmer turns 13 in Sept 2017, he/she will be classed as 13 from 30th Dec 2016)
- 5. Age for Competition** - Swim Ireland policy states that swimmers should not compete until they are seven years of age. In future galas where there are age groups this will be included in the conditions. However, in Championship events the lower age limit is eight years of age.
- 6. Closing Dates** –All closing dates are **three weeks** before the competition. However, this may be amended to permit entries to be accepted if a gala takes place **on the weekend** of the closing date.
- 7. Entries on the Day:** May be taken at the discretion of the referee in certain situations at Grade 2 & 3 galas. At galas other than Grade 2 & 3 submitted entries will be returned to the clubs for verification, amendments etc. before the competition and a date for the return will be specified. No changes or additions will be taken after that date.
- 8. DQ's at Grade 3** – At present there is no policy regarding DQ's at Grade "3" level. Swimmers will be given the benefit of the doubt where minor stroke violations are concerned, but disqualifications will be imposed in other cases.
- 9. Seeding** - Non-conforming times will be seeded in the first heats (i.e. In a Long Course competition swimmers entered on SC times will be seeded slower than swimmers entered on LC times and vice-versa in a Short course competition). **Conversion times will NOT** be accepted where there are LC and SC qualifying standards.