

SE London Festival of Swimming Meet

COVID-19 Procedure for the London Aquatic Centre

General:

1. Each club is considered to be a “bubble” for purposes of the competition.
2. All swimmers must advise their club if they or any of their household have shown any symptoms of COVID-19 as described by the Government website within the previous two weeks. No swimmer should attend this meet if this is the case.
3. Each club bubble must have a COVID Marshall in attendance from the club. This person’s role is to ensure all COVID Protocols for the competition are followed by their club.
4. All swimmers must remain in their bubble except where described by the protocols below. Under no circumstances can swimmers from different bubbles mingle without social distancing.
5. All swimmers must advise their coach and the promoter if they or any of their household shows any symptoms of COVID-19 as described by the Government website at any time during the competition. The swimmer concerned must not attend the competition if this is the case. Coaches must apply the track and trace protocols specified by the UK Government to determine which additional swimmers should not attend the competition as a result of being in contact with a swimmer who becomes symptomatic.
6. Face coverings must be worn by all attendees at the meet while entering and exiting the venue and while in enclosed spaces. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes at all times at entrance and exit doors, in corridors and stairwells and while marshaling on deck up to the referee’s four blasts on their whistle ahead of a race in which the swimmer is taking part.
7. There will be a limit of 600 spectators per day at the event. Spectators must enter the venue wearing face coverings but may remove them once seated.

Access procedure:

1. You should arrive at the LAC at least 15 minutes before your warm up time and enter the venue through the competitors’ entrance.
2. You must hand sanitise before you enter the changing village.
3. After changing, you should proceed to the gallery seating designated for your club and follow the direction of your coach and COVID Marshall.

During the Competition:

1. The toilets and changing areas are available during the competition. You must hand sanitise on every access and egress from the changing village.
2. If a swimmer should feel unwell during the competition, they must tell their coach and the COVID marshal who will advise the promoter. The swimmer will be isolated in a COVID secure room until they can be escorted securely to the exit of the venue and taken home.
3. The swimmer should get a COVID-19 test and advise their coach and the promoter of the result. In the meantime, you should not attend the competition.
4. If your test is positive, the club will advise all members of your bubble to get tested too, if possible. The club must not attend the competition until a negative test result is received or until two weeks have passed, whichever is the sooner.
5. The promoter will action the track and trace procedure for the event.

During racing:

1. We will call swimmers to marshaling by heat in the usual way.
2. All swimmers must wear a face covering while in the marshaling area and at the starting position until they remove their clothing on the referee’s four short blasts on the whistle.
3. Marshals will move swimmers forward and escort the next heat to their starting positions.
4. No start lists will be printed for coaches or team managers. All start lists will be available on the Meet Mobile app which is available from the Apple and Google app stores.
5. Timekeeper sheets will be produced as will start lists for the referees and marshals. The paper will be retained by the officials concerned.
6. A large coaches pen can be used by coaches to interact with their swimmer after the race.
7. Coaches will be permitted on deck during the warm up for each session.

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Officials:

1. All officials will wear a face covering while accessing the deck but may remove it once undertaking their role.
2. Timekeepers will not change lanes or use equipment from other lanes. They will use the back-up button which will be sanitised at the end of the session. They will use their own clipboard and pen and will record their manual time in the usual way. They will not hand in their timekeeper's sheet at the end of the session but will keep it safe in case the referee needs to make reference to it in determining a race result or a protest.
3. All DQ forms will be written by the official making the observation in discussion with the referee and retained by the Control Room Supervisor should reference be needed at a later date.
4. DQs will be communicated to the timing officials using the radios which will be sanitised between sessions.
5. Seating will be provided in the Tribune Press Area of the gallery.
6. Official briefings will take place in the gallery above the Tribune Press Area.

Egress procedure:

1. After a swimmer has competed, they should proceed to the changing village to get changed and return to the seating gallery.
2. Once a swimmer has completed their races they should exit the venue through the emergency exit down the side of the timing suite.
3. Showers will be available.
4. Swimmers must wear their face covering throughout the egress procedure.
5. Once exited from the venue, swimmers should make their way to their parents or the railway station.