

Development Meet 2023 Update

Following a recent County Executive meeting, a query was raised about the times set for entry to this year's Development Meet.

As has happened for a number of years since the Development Meet was first run by the county, the 'not faster than' times are based on the previous year's County Championship qualifying times. This means that the times this year were based on the 2023 qualifying times.

Prior to the pandemic, the Development Meet used to take place in June each year and so was an opportunity for swimmers who had not achieved county qualifying times to take part in a county meet.

Since the swimming calendar has become ever more congested, the decision was taken to hold the Development Meet in October. This move in the Development Meet now means that the competition takes place after the County qualifying times for the following year are published.

The County qualifying times for 2024 have been set with input from a number of club coaches – these have seen a number of changes for the benefit of swimmers wishing to look to qualify for the county championships.

This has resulted in these times not fully aligning to 'not faster than' times for the Development Meet 2023. At this late stage and in line with licensing guidelines, it is not possible for us to make any changes for this year.

The county will look at ways of aligning the entry times for Development Meet 2024 with county qualifying times for County Championships 2025 – this will include reviewing the age groups for the development meet and when the times for both competitions are published.