

Open Meets

What is an Open Meet?

Open Meets are competitions where swimmers compete against other swimmers from other clubs from all over the country as well as swimmers from Chesterfield S.C. Swimmers compete under the name of their club i.e. Chesterfield Swimming Club.

Medals or trophies are normally given to swimmers finishing in the top 3 (1st, 2nd, 3rd) places.

At some of these meets a prize for Top Swimmer or Top Club is awarded. To win one of these prizes points are awarded to swimmers finishing in the top 3 - 8 places depending on the meet.

Swimmers will swim in a heat, then the times are put together for that age group and the fastest 6 swimmers (depending on the size of the pool) will go on to the final. You must swim as fast as you can in your heat to stand a chance of getting in the final. There maybe several heats in your event and you may be seeded in a low heat but if you swim fast you still have a chance of making the final. If the event is HDW this means it is Heat Declared Winner and there will be no final.

ENTERING AN OPEN MEET:

Information will be given to you (**Sunday at the Club desk**) re: day and date of the event, age group, events etc. Enter a variety of events and not just your favourite stroke. Specialising in one event will not happen until you are older.

To enter fill in the entry form and hand it back to the Open Meet Secretary (Colin Goucher) by the required date:

Example:

Swimmer Name: Dave Bloggs **DOB:** 15/02/1983 **ASA Registration Number:** BLOGDB00150283

Your number will be on your ASA Registration Card.

Event numbers, event and your time:

1. 50m Butterfly	29.04
2. 200m Freestyle	2.04.89
3. 100m IM	1.10.12

Amount - 3 events @ £4each = £12

Place a cheque in an envelope payable to **Chesterfield Swimming Club**

All local meets are own transport.

The Club at a cost will arrange transport if they are far away

THE MEET

If the organisers of the meet receive a large amount of entries the slower times in each event will be rejected and entries will be refunded.

Swimmers may receive cards for their events. Usually blue for boys and pink for girls.

INFORMATION ON THE CARDS WILL BE:

Swimmers name, club, event, competitor number, entry time, session time, warm up time, start time, and most importantly - post cards by (time).

ON THE DAY

Before leaving home make sure you have your kit: 2 towels, 2 or 3 costumes/trunks, plenty to drink (very important), 2 pairs of goggles, snacks for poolside (**NO** chocolate or crisps), club top, dark blue tracksuit bottoms, poolside shoes and **YOUR CARDS**.

Always arrive in plenty of time to post your cards.

Boxes to post your cards in are normally situated by the entrance to the pool or by the changing rooms. If you can't find them, **ASK**.

If you forget your cards tell your coach as soon as possible.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS THE POSTING TIME FOR YOUR CARDS...

- Take your cards to your coach, who will then take them to the organisers. If the coach is busy they may ask you to do this.
- If the events have already been sorted and there is space in the first heat you will sometimes be offered this.
 - If there is no space you will not be able to swim that event.

WHAT NEXT?

Get yourself changed and go onto poolside. You will need to look for the Chesterfield Coach and the rest of the swimmers. Don't panic you will find them eventually.

Report to the coach and tell them who you are.

You must **NOT** leave poolside without informing the coach.

The coach will organise you for warm up and tell you when your swim is coming up. Keep an eye on what is going on and cheer for all the Chesterfield swimmers.

YOUR SWIM

The announcer will call your event usually 2 events in advance. The coach will send you to a marshalling area.

Your card either be given back to you or maybe on a table with lots of others. The marshal will then call your event and send you down to the block. Your card will have your heat and lane number on it now. Give the card to the time keeper. Get ready to swim fast.

ONCE YOU ARE ON THE BLOCK NOBODY ELSE MATTERS. SWIM AS FAST AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN AND DO NOT BE TEMPTED TO LOOK AROUND!

ENJOY IT!