



British Swimming Glasgow Meet 2021 – FAQs VERSION 3

Please note: all answers are correct at time of publication, however due to the ever changing COVID landscape, information and thus the answers to these FAQs, may change in line with the event COVID Management Plan. We will update this document on a regular basis.

1. What measures are in place to mitigate the risk of COVID?

There will be a number of measures in place in the COVID Management Plan that will be agreed with the local authorities the venue and relevant health stakeholders. As well as caps on numbers involved in the event, there will be protocols around flow within the building, access times, hygiene, physical distancing, as well as temperature and symptom checks. In addition, there will be testing protocols in place including pre competition testing 2-5 days prior to arrival at the event and testing on arrival. Testing will be via self-administered lateral flow tests, details of where to get your tests and the process involved will follow in a separate communication. There will be restrictions on where athletes, coaches and staff can stay, all will be required to stay in an official event hotel as part of a bubble. Please see Q2 – Q10 for further details on this. All athletes and staff will be required to attend relevant briefings and formally opt in to attending and participating in the event.

2. What does being part of an event bubble mean?

Once you arrive at the event hotel you will become part of the controlled event bubble and will therefore not be permitted to go anywhere other than between your designated event hotel and the competition venue, at any point.

3. At previous events there has been an event briefing to inform every one of the event information and COVID rules. Will there be one for this event?

Yes – similarly to the other British Swimming events there will be a compulsory event briefing, this will take place from 12.30 – 13.30 on Wednesday 26th May – further details will follow once entries have closed. You will also be required to ‘opt in’ to a code of behaviour confirming that you are aware of and agree to follow the rules set out in the COVID plan, all designed to keep everyone safe.

4. I have already booked accommodation for the event in a hotel/AirBnB, what should I do?

Please cancel your booking. As part of the evolving COVID management plan, all participants (including athletes, coaches, support staff, officials, volunteers, contractors and the events team), will be required to stay in one of the designated event hotels - this is a key part of the COVID Management plan. Participants will be allocated to one of the event hotels through British Swimming. Accommodation will need to be confirmed with event entries. Due to the restrictions on movement of people within hotels, participants from the same club may be allocated to different hotels. Athletes and coaches are asked to note that junior and senior athletes are competing in different sessions of the meet, and will be in different hotels, this is part of the COVID requirements.



5. My event is not until later in the programme (e.g. Sunday 6th June) – when do I need to join the bubble?

You must arrive by Thursday 3rd June and produce a negative COVID test upon entering the bubble. No entry past this date is permitted. Further information on arrival windows will be communicated.

6. When can I leave the bubble?

On the day your final race is complete you may leave the bubble. On the day of your departure, athletes in the open events will be supplied breakfast and athletes in the junior events will be supplied breakfast and lunch.

7. What is the process to follow if I want to return home from abroad to compete at the Glasgow Swim Meet?

In ALL cases, swimmers currently considering entering the meet and living out-with the UK MUST contact British Swimming (adam.clarke@swimming.com) in advance to discuss.

8. I live in Glasgow - can I stay at home and travel to the event on the days of my competition?

As part of the evolving COVID management plan, all participants (including athletes, coaches, support staff, volunteers, officials, contractors and event staff), will be required to stay in one of the designated event hotels to form an event 'bubble'. This does mean that individuals will not be allowed to stay at home and travel to the competition on their competition days, as this would compromise the bubble.

9. Can I travel to the event via public transport e.g. train, fly etc?

We strongly advise that everyone travels to the event independently, or with someone from their household. If independent transport is not possible, then shared transport with other team members with no more than 50% vehicle occupancy can be considered. If this is the case, masks should be worn and people spaced as much as possible. If you choose to share transport, you should form a 'transport bubble' with the same individual(s) and keep this consistent throughout the trip. Travelling via public transport should be avoided wherever possible, as it not only increases the risk of catching COVID but also means that you may come into contact with COVID and have to isolate in line with track and trace rules – if this happens whilst you are at the event, or if you were to test positive you would need to isolate in the event hotel at your own cost, if you have no means of independent travel

10. It is not possible for me to travel by car. How do I get to and from the pool each day?

If you have no access to a car please email georgina.coulson@swimming.org as soon as possible. A limited amount of transport will be provided for those with no alternative means of transport. Please note, that there will be small cost for using organised transport, details of this are still being arranged and will be communicated to those who have emailed their details to Georgina once entries have closed.

A link was provided to all those who have stipulated that they need to access transport. There is a small charge of £5 for day. Timetables will be available at each hotel. Where there is more than one service, you will have be allocated a service that best fits with your prescribed warm up time

11. Can I share a room?

Single occupancy is the default, however you may share a room if you live with the individual you are wishing to share a room with. The rate remains the same at £135 per person per night for full board. There is an option to do this when entering the event and arranging your accommodation.

12. How do I book accommodation?

Athletes will book and pay for their accommodation when entering the event. Once entries close and acceptance letters are sent out you will be notified of which hotel you have been allocated to during w/c 17th May.

When coaches and support staff submit their request for an event pass, they will also book and pay for their accommodation. You will be informed of your allocated hotel on w/c 17th May.

13. How much will accommodation cost?

We have worked hard to secure the most cost effective rates for all athletes, coaches and support staff. The event hotels will cost £135 per person per night. This is for full board accommodation – all meals are included. Please bring any additional snacks which you may require during your time at the event as you will be unable to access any shops due to being part of the event bubble.

14. Are parents allowed to stay with athletes U18?

If your child is U18 there are two options:

1. A parent can stay with the athlete at the hotel in the same room, at their expense. They will have to remain in the hotel room and only leave the room to collect food from the hotel restaurant - they will not be allowed out of the hotel for any reason other than to transport the athlete to the pool and back. Unfortunately, we are not allowed any spectators at the event.

2. For parents comfortable with their athlete staying on their own, we will provide a British Swimming safeguarding contact who will check in on the athlete daily, help them with logistics and

generally check their wellbeing. Parents will be given more information regarding this prior to the event and will also be required to attend the online event briefing.

Please note all parents need to have booked a room by contacting lindsay.lewis@scottishswimming.com before the event otherwise they will not be able to stay. Parents staying in the hotel are subject to the same COVID protocols and testing as all staff, athletes and volunteers.

15. Do I need to fund the accommodation myself or is there any financial support available?

As with attendance at previous events run over the course of the last four months, individuals will need to fund their own accommodation during the competition. Due to the spiralling costs of running the event under a COVID Management Plan, we are unfortunately unable to offer any financial support towards this.

16. When will I find out if my entry has been accepted?

Entries close on Tuesday 11th May and we aim to let all athletes know if they have been accepted into the event as soon as possible after this date; we hope that this will be by Thursday 13th May. Where you are accepted into the meet you will be required to accept or decline your place and events selected by 17.00 on Friday 14th May. No response in the time frame will mean we will offer the place to the next athlete on the list.

17. How will athlete entry be prioritised if the event is oversubscribed?

Due to DCMS Guidance and subject to the approval of the local Safety Advisory Group, we will have to manage and monitor people in the hotel environments and the venue itself. We will therefore have to limit the number of people in these places at any one time. The event organisers will work within the parameters defined within the COVID Management Plan to accept as many entries as possible for each event. Refunds will be made to any athlete who is not invited into an oversubscribed event.

18. I can see that there are junior events at the meet – but not all events are included? e.g. 1500 freestyle

Facilitating any competition at times of significant national restrictions has been an immense challenge – both logistically and financially. British Swimming has worked tirelessly with its partners to put on three domestic competitions to date for athletes who have legally been allowed to train and compete. We are currently working with sportscotland, Scottish Swimming and Glasgow Life to provide a further racing opportunity and Olympic consideration event in Glasgow, from 3rd – 6th June.

As part of our planning, we pushed hard and managed to negotiate a separate ‘junior section’ of the Glasgow Meet to allow some of our younger swimmers a return to racing opportunity, albeit with

some significant restrictions required to ensure we can operate within the guidance of the Scottish Government and the local public health bodies. This limits the number of people allowed in the venue at any one time, as well as ensuring the 'open' and 'junior' athlete cohorts are kept separate.

It has simply not been possible to include a full Olympic programme within the time and number constraints we have to work with, and we have, given the limited amount of preparation time most athletes have had, settled on the published programme of events, which includes 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m and 800m Freestyle. This schedule has had to be approved before it was communicated and is not subject to change.

19. Will coaches be allowed poolside?

To keep everyone as safe as possible, movement around the building will be strictly managed and monitored. As with all current events being operated within a strict COVID Management Plan, there are likely to be some restrictions to access of some areas. A 'coaches pen' will be in situ during the event, but this will be strictly monitored to ensure social distancing.

20. Will our club be able to bring support staff i.e. a physio?

We will need to manage numbers carefully in accordance with the COVID Management Plan. Unfortunately it will not be possible to bring club support staff to this event.

21. If I decide to withdraw my entry for any reason can I, and will I, be refunded?

You can withdraw your entry at any point up to the closing date (12:00 on Tuesday 11 May) and will be fully refunded. You will also be refunded for any races that you are not selected to compete in. However, if you are accepted to swim and decide to withdraw your entry after the closing date, there will be no refund available. Please note, it may take a few weeks before your refund is processed. If your accommodation has already been confirmed at the point of withdrawal you are liable for this cost.

22. I have already entered the meet but would now like to withdraw my entry before the closing date, how do I do this?

Please email britishevents@swimming.org before 12:00 on Tuesday 11 May stating your name, registration number and which event(s) you would like to withdraw from. Refunds will be processed in due course.

23. What happens if I test positive at the event?

You will not be allowed to compete in the event and if you have travelled by car you must return home immediately. You will not be eligible for an accommodation refund however we will refund you for any events you are no longer able to participate in. Any additional costs incurred if you

cannot return home immediately, (i.e. have travelled by public transport, are unfit to drive or live too far away to drive without stopping) and consequently need to isolate in the Event Hotels will be at your own cost.

24. Are spectators allowed at the event?

No. In accordance with government guidance and approval for the event no spectators will be allowed into the venue.

25. Can I visit the shops while I'm at the meet?

As part of the COVID plan for the event, with safety of all involved paramount, you will not be permitted to visit shops, concession stands or takeaways during the event. As part of the event bubble, you will only be permitted to be in the designated hotel, at the competition venue or transitioning between the two. The 'bubble' starts when you enter the hotel for your COVID test and you leave the bubble when you check out of the hotel.

26. What are the dining arrangements?

All meals are provided in the hotel, there will be a communal dining area in each hotel for you to eat your meal in a socially distanced manner. Takeaway food may be ordered and delivered if done so in a COVID secure way. Meal times will be provided at check in.

Meal times for each hotel will be published on Tuesday, and will be available on arrival at each hotel also. Pack lunches will be provided for all coaches, volunteers and staff who will be remaining in the venue for all 3 sessions each day.

Please note that all those remaining in the venue for the whole day will be required to report to the information desk in the venue foyer prior to the start of the evening warm-up to have a temperature check and your accreditation validated

27. Can I go to the pool to watch the racing if I'm not competing in the session?

Unfortunately this will not be allowed. As part of the COVID plan we are required to manage numbers in the venue and restrict people in the building to those essential to the meet. Only those competing will be allowed into a session.

28. Are there training sessions available during the competition, and how do I book these?

Training can be booked via the link on your accreditation email

29. Can I book any training sessions on the Thursday?

You cannot attend a training session before you have checked in and entered the bubble. The training sessions on Thursday are designated accordingly for specific sections of the meet, there is a junior training session at 12 noon, and training sessions for those in the open section of the meet. All training sessions are only for those already checked in, have a clear covid test and are in the bubble. The Junior training session on Thursday is only for juniors who have arrived on the Wednesday evening. Thursday check in for athletes in the junior section of the meet is 4:30pm-7:30pm.

30. What training sessions are available and how do I book these?

Please also see Q28 and Q29 above.

There is a junior only (those in junior section of the meet) training session on Thursday 3rd at 12noon-1pm. This is bookable only for Juniors who have arrived on Wednesday evening and are in the bubble. Training for athletes in the junior session on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th will take place at 1245-1345.

There are open meet (those in this section of the meet) training sessions on Thursday 3rd at 1:15pm-2:15pm and 2:30pm – 3:30pm. These are only for athletes that have arrived and are in the bubble. Training for athletes in the open session on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th will take place at 0645-0800.

ALL training sessions need to be pre-booked via the link sent direct to you with your accreditation email or via <https://www.swimmingresults.org/events/glasgow21training/index.php>

31. Are we allowed to access other spaces within the hotel other than the dining facilities and our room?

Unfortunately this will not be permitted under the COVID plan agreed. Whilst in the hotel you must remain in your room other than when accessing the dining facilities.

32. For 50m races do we start at the call room behind the curtain and head down to the learner pool call room or straight to the 'second' call room?

If you are racing in a 50m race, please report to the call room behind the curtain in the first instance. You will then be escorted to the 'second' call room in time for your race.

33. I have two races close together. Will I need to follow the one way routes shown to exit on race and get ready for another?

Please let a volunteer at the pool know if this is the case. In most cases you will be able to go straight from your swim down location to the call room without having to follow the one way routing

34. Will there be accreditation for parents who are in the hotel. Accepting that not entering pool venue (transport provider only) but will be in hotel area.

Yes, there will be hotel only accreditations for you

35. Do coaches sit in the athlete seating area when not in the pen ?

See also Q19. The coaches pen will only be accessible for coaches who have an athlete in the race taking part. If not in the pen, then coaches will be sat in the stand which will be housing both athletes and coaches and have physically distanced seating arrangements laid out.

36. Can athletes get changed between warm up and racing into suits ?

A warm up schedule has been drawn up working on the principles of a minimum of 45 min warm up time around 45-60 mins before your race time. There should be sufficient time between warm up end and race time to get changed etc.

Warm up schedules will be distributed on Tuesday 1st June. Warm up times/locations are allocated for each race.

37. Are junior swimmers (in the junior section of the meet) able to watch the senior (open section) swims?

See also Q27. Unfortunately not. This is not permitted under the COVID plan. We are required to keep the athlete cohorts separated. There are also caps on the numbers permitted in the building at any one time that we have work within.

Please also note that swimmers in the open section are not permitted to watch the junior section.

Only athletes competing in the session are permitted to be at the venue. The only exception are juniors booked in for training in the 1245-1345 sessions on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th.

All of the sessions will be live streamed.

38. Are athletes allowed into changing rooms?

The A & B Pool changing rooms are available for use at any time. Please ensure you used the sanitisation products before and after use. Showers will not be in use.

39. Are coaches allowed in the training pool to coach warm ups?

Although this is permitted, it is discouraged unless absolutely necessary. There is limited space on poolside. Capacity will be monitored but you are advised that there may be a need to limit the number of people in this part of the facility.



40. Where can I park?

Car parking at the event hotels is available and free of charge. There is plenty of parking at the competition venue.

41. What happens if I test positive on arrival?

If you test positive for COVID on arrival, you will need to self-isolate in accordance with UK Government rules. If you have travelled independently via private transport, you will be permitted to leave immediately to travel directly home to isolate there. If you have not travelled independently you must isolate in your hotel room, at your own expense, for the government stated isolation period.

42. What happens if I test positive on the pre-competition COVID test?

If you test positive on the test 72 hours before the competition you will be required to provide proof of a negative PCR test before you travel to the event. If you are unable to provide this then under the COVID Management plan you would not be permitted to enter the event and will be advised not to travel.

43. I am sharing a twin room as I live with someone else in the competition - what happens if one of us tests positive?

If one person in a twin room tests positive the other person must also isolate and you will not be allowed to compete in the event.

44. What time is check out?

Juniors have until 12 noon on the departure date to check out. Senior swimmers will be required to check out before you head to the pool on the final morning.

45. What facilities are there in the hotel rooms?

There will be tea and coffee making facilities in all event hotels. The Crowne Plaza has mini fridges in all rooms.

If you have any further questions please contact georgina.coulson@swimming.org