

BUCS LONG COURSE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

EVENT GUIDE

DATES

14 February – 16 February 2025

VENUE

Ponds Forge International Sports Centre

Sheaf Street

Sheffield

S1 2BP

TIMETABLE

The event schedule can be found [here](#).

You can view the programme of events [here](#).

ACCEPTED/DRAFT ENTRIES

Please check the draft entry lists IMMEDIATELY to ensure that everything is as expected for you/your team, these can be accessed [here](#).

Please advise us of any queries IMMEDIATELY, DO NOT LEAVE UNTIL THE EVENT as changes cannot be made at that point. Athletic Unions should email changes to joseph.gallimore@bucs.org.uk

Note that changes to times/addition of SE No etc. will incur a **£10 admin charge**.

REJECTED ENTRIES

Please refer to the BUCS Long Course Swimming webpage for the lists of 'Rejected Entries' to check if any entries have been rejected. You can do this by clicking [here](#).

Note that the only entries that have been cut are those that were invalid such as swimmers entering times outside of consideration entry times in that event will have been rejected at point of entry. This is the same for any entries by Para Swimmers in Non-Para Events that are outside of the general consideration times.

WITHDRAWALS

Once a swimmer is entered via BUCS Play and is accepted as per the draft entries, it is assumed they are swimming unless a team representative officially withdraws them.

You must withdraw any swimmers not participating in the entire event or any specific events ASAP. Competitors failing to withdraw from an event by the given deadlines will be liable to a fine.

Withdrawal Process

Withdrawal forms must be used and are available [here](#).

Pre Event (up to 11:00 Thursday 13 February)

These must be emailed to bucs@rainsbury.com with joseph.gallimore@bucs.org.uk CC'd in by your Athletic Union.

At Event (After 11:00 Thursday 13 February)

Withdrawals must be made in person at the BUCS Help Desk or by phoning 07913 419397.

Withdrawal Deadlines

Pre-Event (by email) for all events up until 11:00 Thursday 13 February 2025

Friday's Events – Deadline 11:00 Thursday 13 February 2025 (by email)

Saturday's Events – Deadline 11:00 Friday 14 February 2025 (at Helpdesk)

Sunday's Events – Deadline 11:00 Saturday 15 February 2025 (at Helpdesk)

Finals – at Helpdesk within 30 mins of the published heat result.

FINES

Offence	Payment at Event	Late Payment
No Show – Heat	£15	£20
No Show – Final (including Reserves)	£20	£25
Late Withdrawal – Heat	£10	£15
Late Withdrawal – Final	£15	£20
Inappropriate Behaviour	£30	£40
Failure to Finish within Consideration Time or Qualifying Time*	£10*	£15*

*This may be increased to an Inappropriate Behaviour Fine at the discretion of the Meet Director and BUCS staff depending on the severity of the offence and whether proof of achieving the qualifying time in the previous 12 months can be supplied.

COMPETITION FORMAT

Heats

There will be two heat sessions each morning A & B.

50m, 100m & 200m Events – A minimum of the fastest 3 heats will be swum in the first heat session (A), any remaining heats in each event swum in the second heat session (B).

Please check the start lists as some events may have more than the fastest 3 heats swum in Heat Session A based on the overall competitor numbers.

HDW Events - 400m, 800m & 1500m will have their fastest heat in the finals session the remaining heats will be swum as follows:

- 800m & 1500m Freestyle– the second fastest heat will be swum in heat session A and the third fastest heat (where there is one) will be swum in heat session B.
- 400m Events – the second, third and fourth fastest heats will be swum in the first heat session (A), any remaining heats will be swum in the second heat session (B).

Finals

There will be A & B finals for all 50, 100 and 200m Events.

The top 10 swimmers/teams will advance to A finals and the next 10 to the B final.

Guest entrants may not progress to a final.

RELAY DECLARATIONS

Those students listed as your relay team(s) on BUCS Play at the point of entry are **not** your declared team.

Institutions will be provided with the relevant number and types of relay declaration forms for the teams they have entered in the Championships. Once completed, relay declaration forms must be handed in to the staff on the BUCS Help Desk and the staff member who receives the form will sign, date, tear-off and return to the team representative a receipt slip of their submission.

Heat Declarations

Relay declaration forms for heats are required to be submitted at least **ONE hour before** the beginning of the respective session. These declarations will then be automatically carried forward for the finals if a team progresses.

Final Declarations

You may wish to change your team for the final. To do this you must go to the BUCS Help Desk and request and submit a new declaration form at least **ONE hour before** the beginning of the respective final's session and earlier if possible please. Note: If a new team declaration form is not submitted on time for the finals, then the same team and order as the heats must be maintained.

The relay finals do not have to be made up of swimmers who swam in the relay heats. However, please note that no movement is permitted between 1st, 2nd and 3rd relay teams etc. – each set of swimmers must remain in their respective relay team for heats and finals, i.e., if you swim in the 1st team for the heats you cannot swim in the 2nd team for the finals and vice versa. If you are unsure, please ask at the BUCS desk.

Teams failing to correctly submit a form will not be permitted to participate and teams failing to submit a form detailing the correct order of swimmers will be disqualified from the event.

REGISTRATION AND TECHNICAL BRIEFING

Each institution must collect a 'Team Pack' from the BUCS Help Desk by 07:25 on Friday 14 February

2025. The BUCS team will be onsite from 16:00 on Thursday 13 February, with the help desk opening from 18:00 – 20:00 to allow teams arriving the day before to resolve any queries and collect their 'Team Pack'.

A representative from each institution must attend the Technical Briefing at 07:30 on Friday 14 February 2025 in the Diving Officials Room. This representative will need to ensure they have collected their 'Team Pack' prior to the briefing, which includes copies of the Relay Declaration Forms (where applicable) and Heats Withdrawal Forms for their institution.

TEAM SEATING

This event is operating a clear deck policy and asks all teams to sit upstairs on either side of the pool please. Coaches and Team Managers may work poolside as required.

Team-mates may support in the finals session on poolside but should ensure adequate space is left for marshalling and officials.

WARM UPS

Warm Ups are split as per the schedule.

Ponds Forge has strict warm up restrictions. To comply with these please ensure that you only participate in the warm up assigned.

Diving Pit - The diving pit will be available for training, warm up and swim down as per the schedule from first thing each morning until post finals.

Para Warm Up Lane – Lane 6, the lane closest to the diving boards in the diving pit, is assigned to para swimmers throughout the event and will be clearly marked. If any non-compliance is observed please bring this to the attention of the lifeguard on duty and the Meet Director.

No fins or paddles are permitted in the warmups. They may be permitted in the diving pit at quieter times at the discretion of the lifeguards whose instructions **MUST** be followed.

REPORTING FOR FINALS

Finalists must report to the Competitor Steward on poolside located at the 50m start end on the side opposite to the Omega Suite and the Diving Officials Room. Failure to do so may result in a reserve being permitted to swim.

All finalists (including reserves) are expected to either report for their finals or withdraw (within 30 minutes of the result being published) from the event if they do not wish to participate.

Reserve finalists: Only 2 reserves per final will be called up should there be withdrawals. withdrawals/reserves will be updated online. If you have any doubt please at the BUCS Help Desk. All reserve finalists should report to the Competitor Steward at the end of the final session warm up who will advise if they are required to swim or stand them down.

Final fines: If there is an empty lane due to the no-show of a finalist who has not withdrawn then the non-showing finalists will be fined. If a reserve fails to report and has not withdrawn and is required to swim (resulting in an empty lane) then the reserve swimmer will be fined.

AWARDS & CEREMONIES

BUCS medals will be awarded to the first 3 individuals/teams in each event from A finals only.

Trophies will be awarded to:

Top Overall Institution (calculated using Swimming Event Points)

Top Open and Women's Teams (calculated using Swimming Events Points)

Top Open and Female Performances (calculated using FINA Points)

Top Open and Female Para-Swimming Performances (calculated using British Para-Swimming Points)

Medal Ceremonies will take place en-bloc in event order immediately after each final's session.

Universities are expected to send a representative if the medallist is unavailable. Ceremonies will proceed with a min of 2 swimmers but where only 1 swimmer attends this will be at the discretion of the swimmer.

Para Swimming Ceremonies and Deaf Swimming Ceremonies where events meet the criteria will take place immediately after the conclusion of the Finals Sessions on Friday and Saturday and ASAP after the conclusion of the Heats Sessions on Sunday.

All medal and award winners are expected to report immediately to the ceremonies area after the conclusion of the finals and be wearing clothing/team kit when receiving awards (minimum of shorts and t-shirts).

PARA-SWIMMING ENTRANTS

The following list (in line with events currently being swum in Great Britain for Para-Swimmers) are recognised events for para-swimmers, as such, eligible entrants in these events can (subject to competitor numbers) earn BUCS Points, BUCS Medals and Swimming Event Points, as part of multi-classification extracted results using British Para-Swimming Points.

Event	Eligible Classification
50m Freestyle	S1-S13
100m Freestyle	S1-S14
200m Freestyle	S1-S5 & S14
400m Freestyle	S6-S14
50m Backstroke	S1-S5
100m Backstroke	S1, S2 & S6-S14
50m Breaststroke	SB1-SB3
100m Breaststroke	SB4-SB9, SB11-SB14
50m Butterfly	S2-S7

100m Butterfly	S8-S14
200m Individual Medley	SM5-SM14

A secondary strobe light will be available for athletes with a hearing impairment.

If you have any specific requirements for competing, E.g., Strobe Lights, use of 'tappers' etc. please advise us by emailing joseph.gallimore@bucs.org.uk.

Any para-swimmers requiring the use of tapping devices, blackened goggles or starting devices **MUST** have these signed off at the Technical Briefing at 07:30 on Friday 14 February 2025, for them to be used during the Championships.

BUCS will require proof of classification status from the individual. Swimmers **MUST** bring evidence with them to the Championships and present it to the Lead Referee if requested. Swimmers can download and print the required information from here:

[Swim England/Swim Wales Membership Check](#)

[Scottish Swimming \(SASA\) Membership Check](#)

[Welsh Swimming Membership Check](#)

[World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations](#)

This event is World Para Swimming approved. However, in line with World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations (Regulation 10.17) any World Record swims will not be recognised.

PARA SWIMMER RESULTS (Para Swimming Points)

Swimmers in each recognised event listed above shall have their results ranked based on a multi-classification basis using British Para-swimming Points. The following rules shall apply:

1. There needs to be 2 or more eligible swimmers that participate in a specific event to constitute a race and for BUCS Points, BUCS Medals or Swimming Event Points to be awarded. The 2 or more swimmers participating do NOT need to be of the same classification.
2. To be eligible you need to have a confirmed classification for para-swimmers and be in recognised event (as listed above)
3. To win BUCS Points, a BUCS Medal or Swimming Event Points for your institution you must have beaten a swimmer who also has an eligible classification for that recognised event. For example, if only an S4 and an S7 enter the 50m Backstroke, no points or medals can be awarded. If an S4, an S8 an S9 and an S11 enter the 400m Freestyle, points and medals will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place only as the S4 is ineligible for that discipline.
4. In each event, only the fastest para-swimmer from each institution can score Swimming Event Points. Additionally, only up to the fastest 2 para-swimmers from the same institution in each event can win a BUCS Medal or BUCS Points. E.g., if 3 para-swimmers from the same institution finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd, only the top 2 would receive BUCS Medals and Points. Points and medals will be awarded regardless of whether a non-disabled athlete from the same institution is awarded in the equivalent event.

BUCS POINTS

BUCS points will be awarded to the top 4 swimmers/teams for eligible events, however, please note that only the top 2 swimmers from each institution, or 1 team per institution for relay events, will be eligible for BUCS points. Therefore, if there are not enough eligible swimmers/teams in the top 4 to earn the points, then the remaining points will be awarded to the next best eligible swimmers/teams based on the rest of the A Final results, B Final results and/or the heat results as required.

In the case of HDW events (400m Individual Medley, 400m Freestyle, 800m Freestyle, 1500m Freestyle), institutions can have more than 2 swimmers entered, but would not be able to achieve more than 2 sets of BUCS Points, and only 1 set of Swimming Event Points.

For BUCS Points awarded to para-athletes please see **Appendix 1**.

SWIMMING EVENT POINTS (NOT BUCS POINTS)

In each event only the fastest individual/team from each institution will score points.

For clarity, where there is more than one A or B finalist from the same institution only the highest ranked swimmer/team will score points.

Individual Events - Individual events will be scored by 1st place being awarded 20 points, 2nd place 19 points, continuing with a decreasing points scale for subsequent ranked placings in the order of 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12 etc. down to 1 point. Points are awarded to the highest ranked swimmers from each different institution based on their finishing position 1-20.

EG University A's 1st ranked swimmer wins, and they receive 20 points, University A's 2nd ranked swimmer finishes 2nd, they receive no points, University B's 1st ranked swimmer finishes 3rd, they receive 18 points, and this process continues until the top 20 places have been considered for points.

Relay Events – Relay events will score double points with 1st place being awarded 40 points, 2nd place 38 points, continuing with a decreasing points scale for subsequent ranked placings in the order of 36, 34, 32, 30, 28, etc. down to 2 points for 20th. Points are awarded based on the highest ranked team from each different institution based on their finishing position 1-20.

EG University A's 1st ranked team wins, and they receive 40 points, University A's 2nd ranked team finishes 2nd they receive no points, University B's 1st ranked team finishes 3rd so they receive 36 points and this process continues until the top 20 places have been considered for points.

TRAVEL, DELAYS AND EMERGENCIES

It has been noted that in previous years teams have experienced difficulties in travelling to Sheffield due to heavy pre-weekend traffic on the roads. Please ensure that your team leaves plenty of time to travel to the venue.

Please note that Sheffield have introduced a Clean Air Zone in the city centre and therefore charges may apply when driving to and around Sheffield over the course of the weekend.

If you are delayed, please contact us to arrange any relay declarations and/or withdrawals by phoning 07913419397.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Photographers, videographers and press are allowed to attend BUCS Long Course Swimming Championships and must complete our [Nationals Media Accreditation](#) form if you wish to take photos or video at this event. Sign-up will close on Sunday 9 February 2025 at 11:59pm and WILL NOT open again, this means there will be no sign-up on the day so please ensure you have signed up beforehand.

SPECTATORS

Spectators are permitted to attend the BUCS Long Course Swimming Championships 2025 however capacity is limited. This is a free to attend event, and tickets are not required. A livestream will be available for all days of competition. This can be accessed via the BUCS YouTube and BUCS Facebook pages.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Championships are held under the [BUCS Swimming Regulations](#), which stipulate that all Swimming Championships are held under [BUCS General Regulations](#), [Swim England Laws](#), [World Aquatics Rules of Swimming](#) and [World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations](#).

RESULTS

Live results will be available from the [BUCS Long Course Swimming website](#) over the weekend. Full results will be published after the event.

ACCOMMODATION

It is the responsibility of all the competing teams to organise their own accommodation requirements.

PARKING

All event attendees are advised to use the official event car park- Castlegate Q Park (closest to Ponds) or Sheffield Station

1- Attendees should pre book this via the following website- <https://www.q-park.co.uk/en-gb/cities/sheffield/>

2- Customer selects one of the 2 list car parks (Castlegate or Sheffield Station).

3- Enter the discount code for 50% off - PFQPSHF50 & enter vehicle reg plate which will enable the barriers to open on the event day

You can enter and exit as many times as they like during the prebooked period without the need for any tickets.

If you are bringing a larger vehicle, then you may be interested in a couple of the following car parks that have no height restrictions; Sidney Street (S1 4RG) and Matilda Street (S1 4QW), both of which are about a 10-15 minute walk to Ponds Forge.

FOOD & DRINK

There is an on-site café at Ponds Forge which is open at 08:30-19:00 which serves hot and cold food, drinks and snacks. There are also a wide range of local shops and café's available within a 10-minute walk of the venue.

SAFEGUARDING AT BUCS EVENTS

BUCS' mission is to provide exceptional student sporting experiences that inspire, develop and unite.

Critical to our success is our commitment to always providing safe, friendly and enjoyable environments for all participants. Whether competing, coaching, officiating, volunteering, working or spectating at these events, the welfare of all is critical to our mission.

To find out more or report a concern, please click [here](#).

SUSTAINABILITY

The sustainability of our event matters to us and these are the positive steps we are taking to manage our environmental impact:

- All staff and volunteers are encouraged to travel to the event via public transport
- We have used local suppliers where possible
- Event programmes are all online, minimising paper use
- We will print on demand merchandise (if applicable)
- We are beginning to track our carbon footprint across BUCS events to identify areas of improvement.

How can you help at this event? Here's some ideas:

- Be self-sufficient by bringing your own refillable bottles and coffee cups to reduce waste
- Ensure you are disposing of waste correctly – Check around the venue for specific recycling and food waste bins
- Go paperless - use your phone for all event information

EVENT PARTNERS

BUCS are delighted to announce Milk Every Moment as the supporting partner of Nationals 2025 and Ashaway as the Sports Programme Partner for Badminton.

[Milk Every Moment](#) is a campaign showcasing milk, the timeless classic in your fridge, it is more than just a beverage, it's a nutritional powerhouse. Loaded with essential nutrients, it's a top-notch source of high-quality protein, all you need to build and repair muscles after a workout. Whether you're

gearing up for your race or looking to recover post event, take a look at the [website for more information](#) and [useful recipes](#).

Both partners are excited to be supporting you as you take on a thrilling weekend of sport. You will find Milk Every Moment ambassadors located across the venues during the event, where they'll be offering the opportunity to win some exclusive giveaways. You can also find further information about our partners on the official event webpage.