

Stockport Metro Mini Meet Grand Prix

2017 Series

Introduction and Aims

- The Mini Meet Grand Prix is a series of time trials for junior swimmers aged 10 - 14 years. This year the series will be restricted to swimmers from clubs actively involved with Stockport Metro's 'club link' programme and also to those clubs who are willing to provide volunteers for every round.
- The aim of the Mini Meets is to give our young swimmers added incentive to attend their training sessions and to work hard by providing an ideal competitive environment in order to develop their racing skills
- To provide an early introduction to the ASA BAGCATS awards for swimmers, parents and club coaches
- Regular Mini Meet attendance will allow a coach to monitor each swimmer's progress
- Parents are also to be actively encouraged to develop skills as officials and helpers in running the series
- To provide a fun environment in which to learn competitive swimming skills and ASA Laws and ASA Rules

Rules

- Ages will be calculated as at **17th June 2017**
- All swimmers must be category 2 registered now it is run as a Level 3 meet.
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- **Due to the tight time restrictions of the Mini Meet events swimmers entering the 200 Free or IM must enter time achieved previously.**
- **Swimmers with no entry time will be rejected.**
- **Due to time restraints, the 200m Events (IM & Free) swam in the Mini Meet Grand Prix Finals in June will now be invitational only. This will fall in line with the new British swimming policy for qualifying for events such as Nationals & International Meets.**

The top 24 fastest swimmers from rounds 1-4 in each age group and sex will be invited to swim in the final. Swimmers not in the top 24 in either the 200 Free or IM will not be entered in these events at the finals in June (Rounds 5 & 6).

The entry price will reflect this change and swimmers will not be charged for the 200's in the last 2 rounds.

There will be no change to the 50m events; all swimmers will swim all rounds.

- The Grand Prix will be held under ASA Laws and ASA Technical Rules

The Mini Meet Swimming Programme

4.30pm Warm up **5.00pm Start**

All rounds to take place at Grand Central Pools using whenever possible Omega Electronic timing with scoreboard display.

Coaches please remain with swimmers on the 'windows' side of the pool, this will allow the officials and marshals to organise competitors ready for each event.

Dates of Mini Meet		Closing date	All	All	Boys	Girls
Stage 1	Sat 29 Oct	Fri 30 Sept	50 Free	50 Fly	200 I.M	200 Free
2	Sat 26 Nov	Fri 30 Sept	50 Breast	50 Back	200 Free	200 I.M
3	Sat 11 Feb	Fri 13 Jan	50 Free	50 Fly	200 IM	200 Free
4	Sat 18 Feb	Fri 13 Jan	50 Breast	50 Back	200 Free	200 I.M
Finals 5	Sat 10 June	Fri 12 May	50 Free	50 Fly	200 IM	200 I.M
Finals 6	Sat 17 June	Fri 12 May	50 Breast	50 Back	200 Free	200 Free

- All age groups will swim the stages together with entry times being seeded. After the initial submitted time, only times from the series' previous stages will decide subsequent seeding.

Licence

- The 2017 series is expected to be licensed at Level 3, this mean swimmers can achieve entry times for County Competitions as it was very successful for the 2013-2016 series, however this licence will only apply if we have the correctly qualified officials.
- If we do not have the following, the licence will be void for that round and swimmers times will not go to the rankings.
- 1x Referee, 1x Starter, 8x Judges, Minimum of 8 Timekeepers. All of whom must be qualified & licensed (Judge 1 & above).

Entries

ELECTRONIC ENTRIES

Sports systems has been used to run the meet for several years now and there is a function in which clubs can enter their own swimmers using this system as an electronic entry. This is strongly advised to avoid any confusion or errors. All club contacts will be e-mailed the information to this simple format and this hopefully will be the future for mini meet entries.

All clubs are requested to enter via sports systems which all the details and files will be available from our website, there will be a full list of instructions on there too. All entries must be to Stockport Metro by **Friday 30th September 2016**, this includes paper entries and all payment.

What events should I enter?

GRAND PRIX SERIES whose age group events offer the opportunity for swimmers to practise racing skills on all strokes **plus** the 200m Individual Medley and 200m Free.

10 years (@ 17.06.17) to enter:					
50m Fly	50m Back	50m Breast	50m Free	200m IM *	200m Free
* 10 yrs swimmers only may with the agreement of their club coach enter 100m IM initially instead(10yrs 100 IM not in Finals)					
11 years (@17.06.17) to enter:					
50m Fly	50m Back	50m Breast	50m Free	200m IM	200m Free
12 years (@17.06.17) to enter:					
50m Fly	50m Back	50m Breast	50m Free	200m IM	200m Free
13/14 years (@17.06.17) to enter (If within the 200 consideration times):					
50m Fly	50m Back	50m Breast	50m Free	200m IM	200m Free

Always Remember - "Your coach is there to give advice on which events to enter".

Awards

In order to win an individual event award, a swimmer must swim in **at least 1 round and the corresponding final** of any stroke (50 Fly, 50 Back, 50 Breast, 50 Free)

The awards for the 200 Free & 200 IM will be taken from the nights results as all swimmers must have previously swam to compete in the event (as top 24)

Awards will be based as follows

- ON COMPLETION OF THE SERIES OF EACH EVENT in JUNE 2017 – medals will be awarded for who ever comes in the top 3 in each event on the night, this will help swimmers get used to a final situation, SWIMMERS MUST HAVE COMPETED IN AT LEAST ONE PREVIOUS ROUND IN THE CORRESPONDING EVENT TO GAIN MEDALS AT THE FINALS

Medals and awards	TOP 3 in each EVENT	for 10, 11, 12 & 13/14 years
Pennants	Swimmers placed 4-8 th	for 10, 11, 12 & 13/14 years
WOLFPACK Award	TOP 3 Swimmers in each AGE GROUP	for 10, 11, 12 & 13/14 years

BAG Points will be awarded for every swim. Points from the best 50m swims on each stroke plus best 200m IM Plus best 200m Free from any stage will be added together to give the overall BAGCAT Points total.

Entry Fees

Grand Prix Series events: The entry fee is **£70.00** which covers ALL the 50m events & the 200's in rounds 1-4. And all 50's in round 5 & 6.

Entries can be paid in instalments of £25 if you wish to enter each closing date. Sept for rounds 1 & 2, Jan for rounds 3 & 4, & May for rounds 5 & 6 – New entry forms must be completed if you wish to enter in instalments.

Initial entry forms with fees to be received by Lucas Connolly no later than Friday 30th September 2016

If swimmers swim in all 16 events it works out at £4.35 per event including ASA levy, this is the cheapest Level 3 meet around.

Subsequent entries with fees to be received by the stated closing date for the next Round.

Entry (with programme) for spectators will be **£4.00** per adult person (children under 16 free).

There will be no additional fee for the invited top 24 swimmers in the 200m Finals.

Results

Results sheets will be displayed during the Mini Meet on poolside and on the balcony.

A full set of results and acknowledgements will be displayed on the web site (www.stockport-metro.co.uk) shortly after each round has been completed with the notes of the DQ's & time penalties.

We also run live results service which means that results will appear on the website shortly after the end of each event.

Officials and Helpers

Due to the licence we are going to rely on helpers & officials more than ever. Each club will need to provide a number of officials in order for the gala to meet the requirements for the licence.

We always rely on the involvement of parents to help officiate at the Mini Meets as we offer this development series to **encourage parents and older swimmers to train as prospective officials and helpers.**

Please inform **your club contact** if you wish to be **(a) judge (b) time-keeper or (c)** to help in marshalling, recording and checking entries on computer **or (d)** acting as a runner.

This year each club will be required to provide a number of Officials and Helpers. Complete your club's official's sheet & return with your entries.

General Enquiries & Info: Lucas Connolly

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Entry Information & Results:

www.stockport-metro.co.uk