

Performance Pathway Program

Athlete Selection Criteria 2023/2024

Scope

The purpose of this policy is to inform the selection of athletes into the following Performance Pathway Programs:

- WA Target Flippers Squad
- WA State Flippers Squad
- WA Development Squad

This policy encompasses the following disciplines of the sport of swimming:

- Able Bodied Pool events
- Multi Class Pool events
- Open Water events

Definitions

“Home State”	The State or Territory of Australia that the athlete considers themselves as a representative of at national competition.
Automatic Qualification	Selection into the respective squad is without discretion provided the athlete meets stated athlete eligibility standards and selection criteria.
Benchmark Championship	Competitions that have been identified by a governing body as the pinnacle competitions for an athlete’s annual program.
Final	The race in a specific event that athletes will compete for final placings, usually determined by placing in the preceeding heat session.
Performance Standards	An agreed time taken to complete a specified event, that is used to inform athlete selection into the respective squad.
Special Consideration	The consideration of an athlete for qualification, that does not meet performance standards, due to circumstances outside the athlete’s control significantly impacting the ability to meet performance standards.
Swimming Australia	Governing Body for the sport of Swimming in Australia.
Swimming WA	Governing Body for the sport of Swimming in Western Australia.
Timed Final	The race in a specific event that athletes will compete for final placings, where there was no preceeding heat session.
World Aquatics	Governing Body for the sport of Swimming (globally).

Criteria

Athlete Eligibility	<p>To be considered for selection, an athlete must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be an Australian Citizen* - Be a current financial member of a Swimming WA affiliated club - Declare Western Australia as their “home state” - Be eligible under World Aquatics regulations to represent Australia at the upcoming international benchmark championship as defined by Swimming Australia - Be considered in good standing by the Swimming WA affiliated club, Swimming WA and Swimming Australia <p>* Athletes that can demonstrate evidence of application for Australian Citizenship, with the estimated date of Australian Citizenship within a timeframe agreed by Swimming WA Athlete Pathways Manager and SA Technical Lead (Western Australia/South Australia), may be considered for selection.</p>
Selection Criteria	<p><u>Able Bodied and Multi Class Events</u></p> <p>ONLY Performances at the following benchmark championships will be considered for Automatic Qualification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2023 Swimming Australia Australian Open Water Championships - 2023 Swimming Australia Australian Age Championships - 2023 Swimming Australia Australian Open Championships - 2023 Australian Team Selection Trials <p>Athlete performances at the following benchmark championship may be recommended to the selection panel for qualification through special consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2023 Hancock Prospecting WA Swimming Championships (Long Course) <p>ONLY Performances in a Final (including Timed Final) will be considered using the following selection criteria.</p> <p>Automatic Qualification: Athletes must meet pool performance standards* outlined in Appendix A.</p> <p>Qualification through Special Consideration: Athletes may be recommended to the selection panel for special consideration by the Swimming Australia WA/SA Technical Lead and/or Swimming WA Athlete Pathways Manager.</p> <p>Factors contributing to special consideration include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent history significantly impacting ability to perform at benchmark championship - Previous performances in benchmark championships - Proximity to Automatic Qualification standards <p>* Pool performance standards are based on a percentage of 2022 World Aquatics World Long Course Championships, by event, gender and age.</p>

	<p><u>Open Water Events</u></p> <p>ONLY Performances at the following benchmark championships will be considered using the following selection criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Swimming Australia Australian Open Water (Age Category) Championships - Swimming Australia Australian Open Water (Open Category) Championships <p>ONLY Performances at the following distances will be considered using the following selection criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10km - 7.5km (Age only) - 5km (Age only) <p>Automatic Qualification: Athletes must meet open water performance standards outlined in Appendix A.</p> <p>Qualification through Special Consideration: Athletes may be recommended to the selection panel for special consideration by the Swimming Australia WA/SA Technical Lead and/or Swimming WA Athlete Pathways Manager.</p> <p>Factors contributing to special consideration include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent history significantly impacting ability to perform at benchmark championship - Previous performances in benchmark championships - Proximity to Automatic Qualification standards
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Process

Selection Process	<p><u>Automatic Qualification</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selection panel notified of athlete qualification following the conclusion of the benchmark championship. - Selection panel to confirm athlete eligibility for selection. - Athlete notified of selection within twelve (12) business days following the conclusion of the benchmark championship <p><u>Qualification through Special Consideration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selection panel notified of athlete qualification following the conclusion of the benchmark championship. - Selection panel to confirm athlete qualification and eligibility for selection. The selection panel may gather evidence from various stakeholders including the athlete's home coach in order to inform athlete qualification. - Swimming WA CEO to ratify athlete qualification outcomes. - Athlete notified of selection within twenty (20) business days following the conclusion of the benchmark championship. <p>Qualifying athletes will be announced via the Swimming WA website and relevant media outlets as soon as practically possible following the conclusion of the selection process.</p>
Selection Panel	Swimming WA Athlete Pathways Manager Swimming WA General Manager – Competitive Pathways Swimming Australia Technical Lead (Western Australia/South Australia) Western Australian Institute of Sport nominated representative Independent representative from the coaching community

Appeals Process	Disputes relating to decisions and application of this policy are bound by Part Four (Dispute Resolution, Mediation and Disciplinary Action) of the Swimming WA Constitution which can be found here .
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Appendix A
[Click here](#)

Performance standards for Pool (Multi Class) Events are currently pending with an expected publication in early March 2023.