

Hamilton Aquatics Competitions

Frequently Asked Questions



- **How can we get the full information of the competition?**

All information is in the entry pack which can be downloaded in the [Hamilton Aquatics Competitions Page](#) at www.hamiltonaquatics.ae.

Please take note that for **Hamilton Aquatics Swimmers**, the deadline of accepting entries is **different** from the entry pack. Please speak to your coach regarding the club deadline.

- **Can I enter if I am not registered with a club in Dubai?**

To enter Hamilton Aquatics Competitions, you do not have to be registered with a club in Dubai however, if you are not registered with a club in Dubai, you must provide proof that you are registered with a swimming club that is affiliated to the National Federation or Governing Body in the country in which it is based.

- **What is a qualifying time?**

A qualifying time is a time you **must** be faster than to be able to enter the competition. Entry times in qualifying times will be **guaranteed entry**. You will have to prove that you have achieved this time when entering.

- **What is a consideration time?**

A consideration time is a time you **must** be faster than. Entry times in consideration times **may be considered** to enter the competition and **does not** guarantee entry. In the event of oversubscription, we will reject entries from slowest to fastest regardless of age groups.

- **What is a cut-off time?**

You cannot enter if you are faster than the cut off time. If you are faster than the cut-off time, you may be eligible to enter in the higher-level competition and you can check the qualifying times in the entry pack which can be downloaded in the [Hamilton Aquatics Competitions Page](#) at www.hamiltonaquatics.ae.

- **What is a proof of time?**

Proof of time is evidence of where a time was achieved. All entries from Hamilton Aquatics First Series to Hamilton Aquatics Open Meets **must** now be accompanied by proof of time. It is the responsibility of clubs and coaches to provide proof of time which must be achieved in a competition licensed or ratified within the country it is held or with publicly available results that can easily be referenced to establish the proof of time. A proof of time report must be submitted with all entries. Failure to do so may result in all entries being **rejected**.

Times achieved in time trials, recorded by coaches during a training session or achieved in school gala's where no electronic timing is used, cannot be used for entry and will not be accepted. Swimmers whose times cannot be proven will be rejected.

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- **What is a proof of time?** (Continuation)

Teams holding internal competitions such as club championships or dual meets should publish the meet entry criteria and the official results on their website so that they are publicly available. Results should be recorded with individual timekeepers on each lane and in the presence of at least one qualified official. Preferably results will be recorded in meet management software such as Hy-tek Meet Manager.

Please take note that proof of time should not be older than 12 months.

Please take note that proof of time should be sent along with the entry file/form.

- **What is the timing system used?**

A semi-automatic Omega timing system is being used in our competitions run at the school venue. Backup buttons are used as the primary timing.

For competitions run at Hamdan Sports Complex, an automatic Omega timing system is being used. This system uses touchpads as the primary timing and backup buttons as secondary timing.

Both timing systems use stopwatch time as backup times.

Please take note, we don't use video as a reference in getting the times.

- **Can we use entry times in short course for long course competition and vice versa?**

If entering a long course competition, type S for a Short Course time after the entry time. If entering a short course competition, type L for a Long Course time after the entry time.

- **What if the entry times are not faster than the consideration/qualifying time?**

In these cases, the swimmer is not in the right level of competition. Hamilton Aquatics have four levels of competition and these competitions have consideration times, qualifying times and cut-off times. Please check the time standards in the entry pack.

- **Which competition that accept entries with no time?**

MSC Novice Series and Ramadan Race Series are the only competitions that we can accept entries in no time.

- **How would we know if our entries have been accepted or rejected?**

After the closing date, we send the entry report confirming for accepted entries and exception report for the rejected entries. Accepted entries are in the draft programme and final programme as well which are posted in the [Hamilton Aquatics Competitions Page](#) at www.hamiltonaquatics.ae.

- **What is the difference between a draft programme and a final programme?**

In draft programme, we can still allow the clubs to have changes on or before the deadline of amendment. In final programme, we cannot allow any changes and all entries must be paid for.

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- **What competitions that have finals?**

We only have two competitions that have finals, Middle East Open & Junior Championships and Hamilton Aquatics Summer Sizzler.

Middle East Open & Junior Championships offer finals in 100m and 200m Middle East Open events only.

Hamilton Aquatics Summer Sizzler offer finals in 100m events (except Butterfly) and 200m Individual Medley.

- **Do you refund entry fees if I cannot attend?**

Entry fees will only be refunded due to medical reasons if a valid medical exemption certificate is provided. It can take up to 28 working days to process the refund. For clubs overseas, we will send the refund (minus the bank charges) via bank transfer.

- **Can I pay via bank transfer?**

To pay via bank transfer, payment should be made at least 3 days before the first day of the competition for the amount paid to be reflected in our bank account. Any bank transfer charges and payment should be paid by the payee. Any balance should be paid on the first day of the competition.

- **Can I pay in a different denomination (e.g. US dollars, Omani Riyals)?**

For cash payments, we can only accept UAE Dirhams (AED).

- **Can I enter if I am not accompanied by a coach?**

Swimmers can enter if they are not accompanied by a coach, however only coaches can be issued a coach pass for poolside access.

- **Can I enter wearing burkini?**

In the Hamilton Aquatics First Series and Hamilton Aquatics Development Series, swimmers may wear a Burkini. In Hamilton Aquatics Open Meets all swimwear must be FINA approved.

- **What is an exhibition swimmer?**

The exhibition swimmer is a swimmer who can swim an event for time only. This swimmer cannot place and score in the exhibition event. An exhibition swimmer is designated with an X beside the seed time and results time.

- **How the heats are sorted?**

Heats are sorted based from slowest to fastest entry time regardless of age. There will be some heats that have mixed age-groups racing.

Results is based on the age-groups and not based on the heats.

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- **Why we can't give out printed meet programme?**

Due to a very short time to print the programmes after the entries withdrawals, we only provide printed meet programme to the officials, events staff, and the coaches (except for Middle East Open & Junior Championships but depending on the type of spectator's pass). Spectators can view the meet programme on Meet Mobile application (this is not a free app).
- **How the results are processed?**

Results are processed based on the age groups of the event. Results are not based on the heats. Exhibition swimmers and swimmers that have been disqualified are not included in the ranking.
- **When, Where and How we publish results?**
 - **Printed Results**

As soon as the event is done, we will print the results as soon as possible and post it in the swimmers' area and spectators' area.
 - **Meet Mobile Application**

*Results can be accessed through the Meet Mobile app. The Meet Mobile app is free to download from the Apple App Store (iPhone Apps) and Google Play and will allow access to heat sheets and results throughout the weekend. **Please note that this is not a free app.***
 - **Live Results Page**

Live results are available on the Hamilton Aquatics website at www.hamiltonaquatics.ae/live-results. Results will be updated at the end of each event. Results can be accessed via your mobile phone or tablet using mobile data. Hamilton Aquatics will not provide public Wi-Fi access.
- **How can we check the disqualification?**

Disqualifications are included in the results posted around the venue. You can check the details of the disqualification by checking the full results found on [Hamilton Aquatics Competitions Results Archive](#) 24 to 48 hours after the competition.
- **How do we protest for the results and disqualification?**

Protests must be made in writing by the club coach to the Competition Director within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the event. Parents must speak with club coach first regarding the problem.
- **What is a speeding ticket? (Hamilton Aquatics First Series Only)**

Swimmers who swim faster than a speed limit will receive a speeding ticket for their achievement in Hamilton Aquatics First Series. A competitor who swims faster than a speed limit time will not be eligible for medals or other awards in that event. By swimming faster than a speed limit time, it is an indication that a competitor should be competing in a higher-level competition.
- **Why flash photography is not allowed during the start of the race?**

Light from cameras can distract the swimmers and may affect their starts.

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- **Why parents are not allowed in the swimmers' area?**
Due to our child protection policy, we only allow coaches and events staff to access the swimmers' area.
- **Why food and drinks (except water) are not allowed on poolside?**
Food and drinks can contaminate the pool. To prevent any contamination, we must enforce rules not allowing food and drinks on poolside.
- **How to become a volunteer?**
Anyone who is older than 12 years can be a volunteer. You can drop us an email to volunteers@hamiltonaquatics.ae and providing your name and preferred session. We will then send you the final information.
- **What are the benefits of a volunteer?**
Volunteers will receive refreshments and for every session they volunteer for you will received a 'race voucher'. If you use a race voucher when paying for your child's entries, one of the events will be free. Volunteers will also not have to pay the admission fee for the session(s) that they help in.

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