

Parramatta City Swim Club

External Carnival

Frequently Asked Questions

www.parracityswimclub.com.au

Note: This document aims to answer the most commonly asked questions about entering external carnivals. If the information below does not answer the question you have, please see one of the race committee who will be happy to try to help you.

Where do I find out about “external” carnival?

There are two good sources of information about external carnivals, the Swimmer magazine and Swimming NSW’s website.

The club’s copy of the Swimmer magazine arrives early in the month. The current version of the magazine can be found on the recording table. In the back of the magazine you can find all the major carnivals for the next few months.

The other source is the Swimming NSW website (www.nswswimming.com.au). The Calendar page contains a listing of upcoming carnivals.

It is very important you read the program of the carnival you intend to enter carefully to ensure you are aware of all the conditions of entry.

How do I enter an external carnival?

To enter most external carnivals you will need to fill out the appropriate entry card(s). Completed cards must then be handed to the recording table, along with the correct money to cover the cost of the entries.

There are two types of entry cards. For carnivals using electronic timing, **multi-entry cards** are normally used. This means you only need to fill out one card per swimmer. For other carnivals, you will need to fill out a separate **single-entry** card for each race you wish to enter. The blue cards are for boy’s entries and pink for girl’s entries.

The program for each carnival will outline if single or multi-entry cards are required.

Both multi-entry and single-entry cards can be obtained from the recording table. As the cards have to be purchased by the club, they will be provided on an as needs basis.

On multi-entry cards, only races where a qualifying time is required need the location and date where the time was achieved. If there is no qualifying time, it is important you provide a suitable entry time to ensure that you get seeded in the correct heat.

When do I have to have the entries in?

The closing date for carnival’s entries will be found on the program for the carnival. Normally this is two or three weeks before the day of the carnival.

Entries must be handed into the recording table at least 3 clear business days before entries close. This ensures the entries can be checked and then posted, so they reach the appropriate address a day or so before the closing date.

Most carnivals do not accept late entries or entries by phone. This ensures that the carnival’s program is finalised and printed well before the actual date.

How do I know if the entries have been sent?

Unless you are contacted to the contrary, swimmers must expect that once their entries have been handed in to the recording table they have been entered into the carnival.

On rare occasions during the checking process, a problem may be found with an entry. If this occurs, the race committee will endeavour to contact the effected swimmer to discuss the issue. If this can not be done, the race committee will make any decision required and then inform the swimmer of the decision made.

To help reduce the possibility of a problem, where possible a copy of the summary sheet for a carnival will be emailed to the swimmers who have entered that carnival. Each swimmer should check this immediately to ensure its correctness. **It is therefore essential that each swimmer take note of which events they have entered on a copy of the program.**

How do I enter Metropolitan, State or National Championships?

To enter Metropolitan, State or National Championships you must first achieve the qualifying time for the event you wish to enter. Qualifying times can be found in the Swimming NSW Summer/Winter Almanac and on the Swimming NSW website. The current Almanac can be found on the recording table.

If you have qualified, you must then fill in entries as per any carnival and present them at the recording table at least a week before the closing date.

How do I enter the Area Summer or Winter Championships?

As Swimming Metro North West Championships are only open to swimmers from clubs in the district, the program for these carnivals does not appear in the Swimmer or on Swimming NSW's website.

Instead the programs for these carnivals will be handed to all interested swimmers approximately 6 weeks before the event. The dates of these Championships are also shown on the club's Race Program.

There will be a note about the championship handed out with the program. This will contain the date when entries must be handed in to the recording table.

How do I enter a club relay team at the carnival?

The club normally enters as many relay teams as possible at a carnival. Relay's are always lots of fun and really bring out the best in swimmers.

If there are relay events at a carnival and the club has enough swimmers, the entry for the relays will be entered and paid for by the club. The club's race committee will decide from the swimmers available, who will swim in each relay. Depending on circumstances, this may not always be the fastest swimmers available.

In most circumstances, relay teams for a carnival will be decided as part of the process of checking and collating the entries before they are sent. If this occurs, the swimmers who have been targeted for a relay will normally be informed as part of the confirmation process outlined above.

How do I know the times I achieved at a carnival?

At most carnivals, the results of each race are posted on a notice board once the results are finalised.

For district, state and national carnivals/championships, the full results are normally available within two or three days on the various organisations' website. You can use the links on the club's website to navigate your way to the appropriate site.

For other carnivals, the club running the carnival usually posts or e-mails a full copy of the results to each club represented. On receipt of these results, the race committee will endeavour to provide a copy of at least a swimmer's own results to each that competed in the carnival.

All results sent to Swimming NSW also can be searched online. To do this, go to the Swimming NSW website and click on the "SEARCH RESULTS" icon on the right hand side of the screen.

What happens if a carnival clashes with Saturday morning races?

The race committee designs the club's race program such that district, state and national events do not clash with the club's championship events. Unfortunately it is not possible to stop some clashes between normal *graded* races and these events.

To minimise the impact on representative swimmers, the club's Race Rules allow for *graded* points to be awarded to a swimmer whose attendance at a carnival makes competing at club races "impractical".

You should refer to the club's Race Rules for exact details regarding when points will be awarded and how they can be claimed.