



ENGLISH SCHOOLS' SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

Patron: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales

3rd ISF U15 WORLD SCHOOL GAMES Zlatibor, Serbia 4th – 14th April 2025

SELECTION POLICY

POLICY PURPOSE

This selection policy outlines the process that the English Schools' Swimming Association will follow to select a team to represent England Schools at the U15 ISF World School Games in Zlatibor, Serbia 4th – 14th April 2025.

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

The target for this meet is the provision of a positive competitive opportunity that assists in the long-term development of English junior swimmers, as the event is a multi-sport international competition, which includes Olympic/Paralympic sports.

1 TEAM SELECTION

- 1.1 The ESSA team for the ISF World School Games 2025 will primarily be identified from performances listed on Swim England rankings up to and including the Swim England Winter Nationals 2024 (Sunday 8th December 2024).
- 1.2 Swimmers that meet one of the criteria in 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 below are eligible for selection. Swimmers that wish to be considered are asked declare their availability by completion of an [expression of interest form](#) available on the website and return it to the ESSA International Organiser by **midnight on 15th December 2024**.
- 1.3 Swimmers who have competed in the ESSA National Inter-Divisional Championships or have taken part in an ESSA event over the past 4 years and are in fulltime education are eligible for selection.
- 1.4 If two swimmers or more from the same ESSA division are ranked in the same age category for the ISF World School Games in the same event, and appear top five nationally in that event, then these swimmers will be taken into consideration, even if they have been unable to compete at the ESSA National Championships as they were not selected for their Division (provided they have competed in an ESSA divisional competition).
- 1.5 Swimmers on National team duty on the weekend of the ESSA Inter-Divisional Championships who have completed an availability form may also be considered for selection for the World School Games team.
- 1.6 Level 1/2 Licensed Meets in the 12-month period prior to the commencement of the selection process will be used also to finalise the events of the swimmer.
- 1.7 Para swimmers will be selected based on British Disability points within classifications from 1-14 who hold a current Swim England classification on the database. (Please note para swimmers do not need international classification to swim at this competition).

- 1.8 This selection policy allows for swimmers to be selected for the team. Event selection is at the absolute discretion of the Head Coach.
- 1.9 Coaches and team managers that wish to be considered to be members of the ESSA team, need to complete the [coach's](#) / [team managers'](#) expression of interest form available on the website and return it to the ESSA International Organiser by midnight on 15th December 2024.

2 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- 2.1 Ages eligible for selection:
Boys born 2010/2011/2012
Girls born 2010/2011/2012
- 2.2 A maximum of 30 able-bodied swimmers (15 boys and 15 girls) will be selected.
- 2.3 A maximum of 12 para swimmers (6 boys and 6 girls) will be selected.
- 2.4 Swimmers must be 'available' and eligible to swim for ESSA.
- 2.5 The events at the ISF World School Games 2025 are as follows:

Able-bodied Swimmers	
50m	Freestyle
100m	Freestyle
200m	Freestyle
400m	Freestyle
50m	Backstroke
100m	Backstroke
200m	Backstroke
50m	Breaststroke
100m	Breaststroke
200m	Breaststroke
50m	Butterfly
100m	Butterfly
200m	Butterfly
200m	Individual Medley
400m	Individual Medley

Para Swimmers	
50m	Freestyle
200m	Freestyle
50m	Backstroke
50m	Breaststroke
50m	Butterfly
200m	Individual Medley

3 RELAY TEAMS

- 3.1 Existing team members selected for individual events will be considered for selection for the relay teams at the discretion of the Head Coach in consultation with the Team Director.
- 3.2 No swimmer will be taken solely for the purpose of swimming relays.

4 TEAM STAFF

- 4.1 The ESSA International Organiser will assume the position of Team Director.
- 4.2 The Head Coach position will be selected at the discretion of the Team Director.
- 4.3 Team Coaches and Team Managers will be considered for selection by the International Selection Committee, in consultation with the Team Director / Head Coach and Swim England. A minimum ratio of one coach to fifteen swimmers will be selected.
- 4.4 Coaches must have been involved in ESSA / Schools' swimming events over the last 3 years and must hold a relevant Coaches Certificate.

4.5 Subject to funding, additional coaches will be selected who have been selected for the Swim England Pathway and / or Coach development programs.

5 GENERAL

- 5.1 Only swimmers in fulltime education in England (which includes home schooling registered with a recognised educational establishment) at the commencement of the selection process (being 20th December 2024) and that are eligible to represent ESSA at the ISF World School Games 2025 will be selected.
- 5.2 In the event of equal times (or points in the case of para swimmers), the most recent performance will be taken into consideration by the International Selection Committee. Split times or relay performances will not be considered.
- 5.3 All team members' selection need to be ratified by their ESSA Divisional Representative.
- 5.4 All selected team members will be expected to submit a training plan to show relevant training for the competition. This needs to be submitted to the ESSA International Committee, for a period following selection until departure for the ISF World School Games 2025.
- 5.5 Swimmers, coaches and team managers are required to conform to ESSA/ISF rules and guidance, including the ability to demonstrate a current vaccination in accordance with ISF rules.
- 5.6 Swimmers and coaches must have a valid passport and satisfy the conditions for entry to Serbia. Your passport must be valid for a minimum of 90 days after the date you plan to leave Serbia.
- 5.7 Swimmers will be notified of selection as soon as possible after the selection in December 2024. Subject to finances and sponsorship, swimmers will be required to contribute towards the cost of the competition. Swimmers should contact the Team Director if difficulties arise.
- 5.8 Swimmers becoming ill (Physical or Mental) or injured at any time between their selection and the ISF World School Games may be required to undertake a full medical examination which may result in the swimmer being released from the team.
- 5.9 Where a swimmer is withdrawn from the team as a result of 5.8 they may be replaced by the next fastest eligible swimmer from rankings who has competed at an ESSA event. The swimmer's current fitness must be to the satisfaction of the ESSA International Selection Committee.
- 5.10 Other than substitution via 5.9, there is a no replacement policy for swimmers.
- 5.11 Any swimmer who withdraws from the team following acceptance for any other reason other than illness or injury, as confirmed by a Doctors Medical Certificate, may be liable to the ESSA for reimbursement of any costs incurred.
- 5.12 All team members will be required to sign and comply with the ESSA Code of Conduct.
- 5.13 Any appeals against selections in relation to this ESSA International Selection Committee selection policy must be made in writing to the ESSA International Organiser (international@essa-mail.uk) by **18:00 Friday 8th January 2025**, which will be reviewed by an ESSA Jury of Appeal.

ESSA International Selection Committee, 12th November 2024