

China _China _

SWIMMING CRITERIA FOR 2026 WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS (25m)

BEIJING, CHINA 1 – 6 DECEMBER 2026

1. Eligibility

- 1.1. Only athletes registered with and in good standing with SSA will be considered for selection.
- 1.2. Selected athletes must be in possession of a valid South African passport valid until July 2027 and have chosen South Africa as their Sport Nationality
- 1.3. Athletes 18 years and under must be in possession of an unabridged birth certificate.
- 1.4. Members selected to the team must abide by the SSA Code of Conduct as appended to the SSA Constitution and agree to and sign the SSA Athlete / Official Agreement for the event. NB Point 10 of the SSA Athlete Agreement
- 1.5. Athletes must be available to travel to and compete at the **WORLD AQUATICS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS (25M) 2026 in Beijing, China, from 1 – 6 December 2026.**
- 1.6. To be eligible for selection a swimmer must participate at the SSA National Short Course Swimming Championships (Official South African World Short Course Championships 2026 Swimming Trials) that will take place at GJ Joliffe Swimming Pool in Pietermaritzburg from 24 to 27 September 2026.
- 1.7. Exception to this requirement will be granted, on application, to athletes not based in South Africa, due to education or coaching commitments, provided they had participated at the 2026 S A National Aquatic Championships held in Newton Park, Gqeberha in April 2026.
- 1.8. Athletes who achieve the World Aquatics 'A' Qualification Time Standard, at the 2026 South African Short Course Swimming Championships Swimming, may be considered for selection. These qualifying athletes will take precedence over athletes who have applied for participation exemption as per point 1.7.

- 1.9. Subject to point 1.6 and 1.7, athletes who have qualifying times within the World Aquatics qualifying period obtained at a World Aquatics approved events may be considered.
- 1.10. The fastest two World Aquatic ranked swimmers with “A” QT (25m and 50m as per highest Points) on 30 September 2026, will be eligible for selection. In events where there are no “A” qualifiers, a swimmer with a “B” QT may be considered, to address transformation, youth development or relay considerations subject to clause 1.14 and 1.15.
- 1.11. Selection will be finalized on 30 September 2026.
- 1.12. Further selection for events, not already finalized by 30 September, will be based on results from the World Aquatics Swimming World Cups and other world Aquatics approved events, this will conclude on the 18th October 2026.
- 1.13. Selection will be done in accordance with the athlete’s work ethic, physical readiness and suitability in regard to team dynamics and compatibility.
- 1.14. All athletes must be available for relay selection.
- 1.15. Team selection will be in accordance with the SSA Transformation Policy in relation to youth, demographic and gender equity where applicable.
- 1.16. The SSA Executive Committee reserves the right to amend these criteria and circulate such amended criteria.
- 1.17. The final team selection is subject to approval by the SSA Executive Committee.

2. Age Group and Team Size

2.1. Team Size

2.1.1. Maximum number of athletes that may be selected is 52:

26 female and 26 male athletes.

2.2 Age Group:

2.2.1 Swimmers (Male and Female), only one age group: 14 years and older

3. Individual Events

- 3.1. Athletes who have participated in a Qualifying Event at the 2026 South African National Short Course Championships (25m) or a World Aquatics Approved Event, may be considered for selection.

4. Relays

- 4.1. All Athletes who have participated in the 50m & 100m individual events and 200m freestyle individual event may be considered for relay selection.
- 4.2. The final team will only be selected after intensive training with regard to take-over reaction times and matters relating to team-spirit build up.

5. Funding

This will be a self funded tour.

6. World Aquatics Qualifying Times

2026 World Aquatics Short Course Championships qualifying times (25m) and (50m) as published.

2026 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS**WORLD AQUATICS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS (25m) “A” and “B” Times**

	Women's Standard		Men's Standard	
B – 1 Entry	A– 2 Entries		A – 2 Entries	B – 1 Entry
25.18	24.33	50m Freestyle	21.19	21.93
54.88	53.02	100m Freestyle	46.90	48.53
1:59.65	1:55.60	200m Freestyle	1:43.48	1:47.10
4:14.89	4:06.27	400m Freestyle	3:42.18	3:49.96
8:44.98	8:27.23	800m Freestyle	7:42.39	7:58.57
16:37.32	16:03.59	1500m Freestyle	14:49.29	15:20.42
27.47	26.54	50m Backstroke	23.37	24.19
59.53	57.52	100m Backstroke	50.81	52.59
2:09.93	2:05.54	200m Backstroke	1:52.11	1:56.03
31.27	30.21	50m Breaststroke	26.25	27.17
1:07.24	1:04.97	100m Breaststroke	57.38	59.39
2:26.88	2:21.91	200m Breaststroke	2:06.23	2:10.65
26.62	25.72	50m Butterfly	22.43	23.22
59.41	57.40	100m Butterfly	50.15	51.91
2:13.36	2:08.85	200m Butterfly	1:53.19	1:57.15
1:01.74	59.65	100m Ind. Medley	52.98	54.83
2:13.90	2:09.37	200m Ind. Medley	1:55.25	1:59.28
4:47.17	4:37.46	400m Ind. Medley	4:08.87	4:17.58

2026 QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS**WORLD AQUATICS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS (50m) “A” and “B” Times**

	Men's Standard		Women's Standard	
B – 1 Entry	A – 2 Entries		A – 2 Entries	B – 1 Entry
22.82	22.05	50m Freestyle	24.86	25.73
50.03	48.34	100m Freestyle	54.25	56.15
1:50.43	1:46.70	200m Freestyle	1:58.23	2:02.37
3:56.14	3:48.15	400m Freestyle	4:10.23	4:18.99
8:05.06	7:48.66	800m Freestyle	8:34.62	8:52.63
15:33.46	15:01.89	1500m Freestyle	16:24.56	16:59.02
25.99	25.11	50m Backstroke	28.22	29.21
55.83	53.94	100m Backstroke	1:00.46	1:02.58
2:02.20	1:58.07	200m Backstroke	2:11.08	2:15.67
28.29	27.33	50m Breaststroke	30.75	31.83
1:01.84	59.75	100m Breaststroke	1:06.87	1:09.21
2:14.88	2:10.32	200m Breaststroke	2:25.91	2:31.02
24.18	23.36	50m Butterfly	26.23	27.15
53.58	51.77	100m Butterfly	58.33	1:00.37
2:00.59	1:56.51	200m Butterfly	2:09.21	2:13.73
2:03.22	1:59.05	200m Ind. Medley	2:12.83	2:17.48
4:26.49	4:17.48	400m Ind. Medley	4:43.06	4:52.97