



Fees Policy

Date: July 2024

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1. Introduction

Membership of Gloucester City Swimming Club (GCSC) requires payment of fees, split into two elements:

- An annual Swim England (SE) registration fee
- Monthly training fees

Competition fees are not included in the SE registration or training fees and are paid separately during competition registration.

The following are links to resources or contacts referenced from this Policy:

GCSC Membership Secretary	Membership@Gloucestercityswimmingclub.co.uk
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2. Annual Swim England Registration Fee

GCSC is affiliated to Swim England (SE) and all swimmers must be registered with SE to train and compete. Swim England supports 3 categories of registration for swimmers and supporters as shown in the following table:

New Name	Description
Club Train	Non-competing Swimmers. For swimmers who are learning to swim only.
Club Compete	Competing Swimmers. For swimmers who are part of a club and looking to compete in open competitions.
Club Support	For anyone involved in a club who volunteers or is employed by the club, including committee members, officers, Teachers, and Coaches as well as any parent members.

GCSC registers all its swimmers with SE in the Club Compete category.

Swimmers under the age of eighteen must also have a parent / guardian registered, and these are registered in the Club Support category.

The SE registration fee includes the swimmer's SE registration, plus one parent / guardian SE registration. The fee also includes the county (Gloucestershire) and regional (South West) affiliation fees, plus a nominal contribution towards annual administration costs.

New members are charged a slightly higher fee for initial SE registration plus administration costs.

The SE registration covers a single calendar year period (from 1st January to 31st December).

GCSC supports swimmers registered with other clubs and offers a dual membership option at a nominal contribution towards administration costs.

For 2024, the annual SE Registration fees are as follows:

Existing members, up to and including 17 years of age (includes parent/guardian registration)	£54
Existing members, 18 years and over	£39
New club members (initial SE registration)	£59
Dual club membership	£12
Club volunteer without a child (Club Support registration)	No charge

Unless otherwise communicated, the annual registration fee is payable by 31st October in the year prior to the registration year. Late payments will incur a £5 surcharge at the discretion of the club.

The club covers the cost of SE registration (Club Support) for volunteers that do not have a child registered at the club.

SE does not usually support pro-rata fees for swimmers joining part-way through a year, and regardless of joining date, the 'initial SE registration' fee will cover SE membership for the remainder of that year. Members will still be required to pay the 'Existing member' annual fee for the following year. GCSC will follow SE if any pro-rata discount is made available and offer the same pro-rata benefit.

3. Training Fees

Training fees are calculated based on the costs involved in providing the facilities required, including pool hire, and provision of services such as coaching, and are spread over 12 months. Payments are due by 1st of each month in advance. Missed payments will be considered a breach in code of conduct and can result in the swimmer's suspension from training until full payment is received.

The training fees are set per squad, based on the number of hours of training offered, including land training where appropriate. Acceptance of a place in that squad confirms acceptance of the fees applicable. Adjustment of individual fees based on external factors affecting attendance is not possible, since the squad place is reserved, potentially preventing another swimmer taking that place.

The calculation of fees takes account of non-swimming times, such as competitions, bank holidays and seasonal breaks. For some squads, the fees may include occasional long course training (50m pool), in lieu of regular training at appropriate

times in the calendar. Where long course training is provided in addition to regular training hours, a small contribution to the additional training costs will be requested.

The monthly squad fees for 2024/2025 are set out in the following table. If a member joins part way through a month, the fee for that month will be pro-rated.

Squad	Fees
National & Regional Performance	£130
Regional Development	£128
County Performance	£123
County Development	£115
Competitive Development	£94
Development	£64
SSK 3	£92
SSK 2	£82
SSK 1	£64
SEND	£53

(SEND = Special Educational Needs and Disability, SSK = Swim Skills)

Please note that since the SEND squad covers a range of progression, fees may vary depending on the individual training hours agreed with the SEND Coach.

At times, due to unforeseen circumstances, sessions may be cancelled at short notice. GCSC will make all attempts to replace missed sessions, but this may not be feasible. At the end of each season the Committee will review the training season in its entirety and will endeavour to provide refunds where a refund has been given by the venue and/or service providers and if the finances of the club allow it.

4. Competition Fees

Training fees do not include entries to competitions. Competition fees are charged separately and must be paid in advance of attending the competition. The competition calendar is set at the start of the season and may vary throughout the year.

Competition entry fees are set by the hosting clubs, and for away meets GCSC will include a fixed surcharge of £3.50 per swimmer, irrespective of the number of events entered.

Parents are required to pay the relevant entry fees via the Active Website, or alternatively BACS when this not available. All competition fees are due by the published GCSC deadline.

Unpaid entry fees will be considered a breach to the code of conduct and can result in the swimmer's suspension from training and further competition until full payment is received.

5. Membership Termination

It is necessary to give one month's written notice to the Membership Secretary if a swimmer decides to leave GCSC. Fees are non-refundable.

In the case of membership termination by the Club (e.g. due to contraventions of club policies), this shall be with immediate effect, and no pro-rata refund of any monthly training fees or Swim England registration fees will be refunded by the club.

6. Fee Adjustment

Under certain circumstances, training fees may be adjusted.

6.1. Medical Absence

In the event of long-term absence for medical reasons, fees will be waived for each entire month that the swimmer is unable to train and a £5 retainer fee will be charged instead. Please liaise with the Membership Secretary to advise if this becomes necessary.

6.2. Sibling Discount

Recognising the financial burden of multiple swimmers from a family training within the club, a sibling discount is available. For each family with 2 swimmers training, a discount of 10% of total training fees is applicable and for each family with 3 or more swimmers training, a discount of 15% of total training fees is applicable. The sibling discount also includes a reduction of the Annual Membership fee for the 2nd, 3rd, and subsequent swimmers to £39, to reflect that the parent / guardian Category 3 membership is already covered.

The sibling discount is only applicable where 2 siblings (in the case of a 10% fee reduction) or 3 siblings (in the case of a 15% fee reduction) are all full fee-paying swimmers, i.e. their fees are not currently reduced through any other reduction such as Medical Absence or University Membership.

6.3. Social Inclusion

GCSC operate a policy of social inclusion and it may be possible to make temporary arrangements in the event of financial hardship. Please liaise with the Membership Secretary, who will co-ordinate individual assessment with the Committee. GCSC also have a selection of equipment that can be borrowed or purchased at a reduced cost.

6.4. University Membership

Fee adjustments for university membership falls into two categories – GCSC Swimmers studying away and on reduced swimming hours, or GCSC Swimmers studying locally. Details for each case are described below.

GCSC encourages students attending local universities and further education establishments to train as an integral part of the club swim programme and offers opportunities for volunteering and coaching in support of their educational programme.

The club have established relationships with Gloucestershire University and Hartpury College and have dedicated training sessions for these groups.

1. GCSC Swimmers studying away

This category is applicable to GCSC Swimmers studying away at university during term-time, but who wish to retain their home-club membership, and train with GCSC during holidays.

This membership is obtained, subject to available squad capacity, through payment of a monthly retainer fee of £5.50 to cover the swimmer's SE registration.

In addition to the monthly retainer fee, a charge of £5.50 is applicable for each swimming session attended, payable a week in advance. If the swimmer would like to attend land training a further £3.50 per session is payable a week in advance.

The total swimming and land training session fees payable in any one month will be capped at the normal monthly fee paid by the squad with whom the swimmer is training.

For competitions, specific Coach attendance will not be allocated for these student members competing in meets, unless a Coach is planned to be in attendance anyway to support full-time club swimmers.

Parents must contact the Membership Secretary a week before attending a session to ensure availability. The Membership Secretary will liaise with the Head Coach and confirm the training sessions available.

Failure to agree sessions ahead of attendance will result in the GCSC Coach refusing a university swimmer access to the session.

2. GCSC Swimmers studying locally

This category is applicable to GCSC Swimmers studying at local universities, and who train in regular GCSC squad sessions. In this case, the annual SE registration fees as described in section 2. are still applicable, but the club offers swimmers a 10% reduction in the monthly training fee.

Requests for this membership are to be submitted to the Membership Secretary.

7. Late Payment or Non-payment of Fees

Unpaid fees will be considered a breach in code of conduct and can result in the swimmer's suspension from training and further competition until full payment is received.