

blocks.

ELIGIBILITY

This meet is open to all athletes **AGES 19 AND UNDER** who:

1. Are currently registered Premium or Outreach members of USA Swimming. **There will be no on-deck USA Swimming registration.**
2. **This is a closed meet and open only to athletes currently registered within the LSCs of the Western Zone as of the date entries close.**
There will be no on-deck transfers at this meet, into either an eligible club or LSC.
3. Have qualifying entry times achieved at USA Swimming sanctioned, approved, or observed competitions **between October 1, 2024, and the close of entries.** Times achieved from block party meets will be accepted. Qualifying times for this meet will be the 2026 Short Course Senior Zone Qualifying standards and Bonus standards for individual events. These are attached to this meet announcement on p. 10 - 11.
4. **There will be NO relay-only athletes allowed at this meet** – see Entries > Relay Event Limits, p. 6 for additional information.
5. There are no de-qualification time standards for this meet.
6. Entry times not in the SWIMS database must be proven to the Administrative Referee or designated representative prior to the scratch deadline for the event. Failure to provide such proof of time prior to that deadline will result in the athlete being removed from the event. It is the responsibility of the entering club, or individual if entering unattached, to verify that entry times are in SWIMS.
7. There are no relay time standards, and proof of relay entry times is not required.
8. Athletes with a disability who have achieved the USA Swimming Zone Para qualifying time standards during the qualifying period for this meet may enter individual events for which the standard has been achieved. These standards are attached to this meet announcement on p. 12.
 - Contact the admin referee for information on how to enter athletes with disabilities into the meet.
 - Athletes with disabilities may also participate in SCY Time Trials on the same basis as other entered athletes – see **Time Trials**, p.8 for additional information.
9. In accordance with USA Swimming Rules, the Meet Referee has the authority to accommodate swimmers with disabilities. The coach or person in charge of team entries must notify the meet referee and meet entry contact of accommodations requests at the time of entry submission.

ENTRIES

All entries must be submitted online through USA Swimming's Online Meet Entry system – www.usaswimming.org/ome beginning 10:00 AM Mountain Time, Monday, January 7th, 2026.

Regular Entries **CLOSE** at 11:59 PM MDT, Monday, March 9, 2026. * **Qualifying Time Period: October 1, 2024 through close of entries.**

- **OME ENTRY FILE NAME: 2026 WESTERN ZONE SHORT COURSE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS - MESA AZ**
- With the submission of entries, the coach/team representative attests that all athletes entered are registered with USA Swimming.
- **OME will NOT be used for payment; teams must bring checks, cash, or credit card to the meet or have sent them to MESA AQUATICS 1225 W. Main St., #101-500 Mesa, AZ 85201. All payments must be received before athletes will be allowed to compete.**
- Once you complete your online entry, you will be sent a confirmation email. Bring it and all communications with you to the meet in case of any entry problems. When entering an individual time not yet in SWIMS, please try to ensure that the missing data is downloaded into SWIMS as soon as possible.
- Please note that OME will not update entry times as new results are entered into SWIMS. You can return to your entry after you have checked out to modify entry times should they improve during the entry period or to add events to your entry, but you cannot delete events after you have paid for them. **All entry modifications must be made before the entry deadline.**
- NOTE re Mixed Gender Relays: OME only permits entering five (5) relays for mixed gender events. Teams needing to add an "F" relay to the mixed gender relays must email Admin Referee to enter the additional relay. See additional information on p. 6, Relay Event Limits.
- Check all entries before paying for them! Enter each one with an accurate time achieved in the proper course; converted times will not be accepted.
- If you have **trouble using OME**, please contact **Katie Trace** at USASwimming: ktrace@usaswimming.org
- Direct Meet Entry questions to the Meet Entry Chair.

Proof of Times

- **SWIMS:** If a time for a swimmer is visible in the public search feature on the USA Swimming website (Times > Individual Times Search) and it was swum in the appropriate qualifying period, it is considered a proven official time.
- **Official Meet Results:** If a time for a swimmer is listed in the official meet results of a USA Swimming sanctioned, approved, or observed competition, or a recognized foreign competition, and it was swum in the appropriate qualifying period, it is considered a proven official time.
- Meet Mobile is NOT acceptable as verification for "Proof of Times"

Entry Fees

Meet Surcharge	\$45.00 surcharge per athlete
Meet Entry Fees	\$20.00 per individual event entry
	\$40.00 per relay entry

Late Entries

Late entries for athletes who had qualifying times **prior** to the entry deadline may be submitted using the **USA Swimming Online Meet Entry system** until 11:59 pm Mountain Time, Monday, March 16, 2026. OME ENTRY FILE NAME is **2026 WESTERN ZONE SHORT COURSE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS - MESA AZ LATE ENTRIES**

⊕	Late Entry Fine	\$100.00 per athlete or relay team
⊕	Late Entry Surcharge	\$90.00 surcharge per athlete (if adding a new athlete to meet)
⊕	Late Entry Fees	\$40.00 per individual event \$80.00 per relay

First-Time Individual Event Qualifiers

Athletes who achieve a **first-time individual qualifying standard** from Tuesday, March 10, 2026, through Sunday, March 16, 2026, may enter the meet using the **USA Swimming Online Meet Entry system**. The file name is **2026 WESTERN ZONE SHORT COURSE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS - MESA AZ NEW ENTRIES AFTER DEADLINE**

- ⊕ New qualifying individual entries will be accepted via the OME Entry Platform until 11:59 pm Mountain Time, Monday, March 16, 2026, and may not be used to improve the seed time of a previously submitted entry.
- ⊕ Updating bonus swim entry times after the regular entry deadline on March 9th will not be permitted. However, an athlete who achieves a first-time qualifying time in an event he/she had previously entered as a bonus swim may treat the bonus swim as a qualifying swim to allow for an additional bonus swim.
- ⊕ To update a previously entered bonus event to new a new qualifying swim, and to add a new bonus event, **contact the admin referee**.

Individual Event Limits

Athletes may enter up to nine (9) individual events but may only compete in a maximum of seven (7) individual events total (including Bonus events, but *not* including Time Trials).

- ⊕ Athletes may not compete in more than three (3) individual events per day, *including* Time Trials.
- ⊕ Athletes may enter any number of time trials during the course of the meet but may not exceed the limit of three (3) individual events per day with a combination of time trials and individual meet events. See **Time Trials** p. 8 for additional information.

Bonus Event Limits

Athletes entered in the meet with at least one qualified individual event will be eligible to enter up to a maximum of two (2) Bonus events in which the Bonus standard has been achieved.

- ⊕ Bonus events are limited to distances of 200Y or less.
- ⊕ **Bonus times must appear in SWIMS within the qualifying time period: October 1, 2024 through close of entries. NT entries will not be accepted.**

Relay Event Limits

There will be NO relay-only athletes. Athletes must be entered in the meet in an individual event to swim on a relay.

- There are *no* relay time standards, and proof of relay entry times is *not* required.
- Athletes may compete in one relay per day, and up to four (4) relays total for the meet.
- **Single-gender Relays:** Maximum of THREE (3) relay entries per team, per gender (A-B-C)
 - ⊕ All single-gender C relays will be swum in Preliminary Heats; teams will have the option to swim A-D in prelims
- **Mixed-gender Relays:** Maximum of SIX (6) relay entries per team (A – F)
 - ⊕ Mixed-gender relays must be comprised of two female athletes and two male athletes.
 - ⊕ All mixed-gender E & F relays will be swum in Preliminary Heats; teams will have the option to swim A-D in prelims
 - ⊕ OME NOTE: OME only permits entering five (5) relays for mixed gender events. Teams needing to add an "F" relay to the mixed gender relays must email the admin referee to enter the additional relay.

SCY Time Trials - Summary * Confirmed details will be sent out following the close of entries

- SCY Time Trials will be held under a separate sanction of Arizona Swimming, Inc.
- SCY Time Trials will be conducted on a time-available basis and are limited to approximately one hour.
- Events offered will be limited to those offered in the meet
- The 1650 Freestyle will only be offered on one day; specific day will be announced at the general meeting.
- Entries for SCY Time Trials –will be conducted at the meet.
- Athletes must be entered in the meet and have paid the athlete surcharge to swim in Time Trials.
- Athletes may enter any number of time trials during the course of the meet but may not exceed the limit of three (3) individual events per day with a combination of time trials and individual meet events.
- **SCY Time Trial Entry Fees: \$20.00 per individual event \$40.00 per relay event**

Timers & Counters

- Timers will be provided for individual Finals events, including the 500 Freestyle and 400 Individual Medley events.
- Participating teams may be assigned lanes for assisting with timing for all Preliminary events including relays.
- Athletes will need to provide their own timers for Time Trials and the 1650Y Freestyles – details will be announced following the close of entries.
- Athletes wishing to have a counter for distance events, including the 500 Freestyle, will need to provide a person for this purpose. Lap counting devices will be provided.

Hospitality

Hospitality will be provided for Coaches and Officials. Athletes may not be present in the Hospitality Room.

Meet Information & Results

Meet Information and post-meet results will be posted to the websites listed on p.1 of this Announcement.

Parking at the Facility

Free Parking is available on the North side of the facility. Any parking spaces designated for Skyline High School personnel is strictly off limits. Any vehicle found parking in these spots will be subject to towing.

Concessions & Other Meet Vendors

Concessions & other meet vendors may be available at this event. Additional details will be provided as soon as they are available.

OFFICIALS

Officials interested in attending this event are invited to apply to officiate by completing the online application, below. Applicants must be a current member of USA Swimming and an LSC-certified official.

- **Officials Online Application link: <https://forms.gle/eru19wmjUB5T5G6a8>**

Application Deadline for Assigned Positions: 2/2/2026

- **Application Deadline to receive an Officials Polo & Name Tag: 2/15/2026**

This meet has been designated as a training meet for N2 and N3 Officials Certification. OQM # PENDING

Officials wishing to renew this level of certification must apply using the online application form (link above) and notify the Meet Referee upon arrival at the meet. Instructions for certification will be provided during Officials' Meetings.

Officials Uniform

The uniform for officials for the meet is White polo shirt * khaki long skirt or long pants (shorts only during Prelims please),* white, closed toe shoes with white socks

Officials Meetings

Officials' Meetings will be one hour before each day's sessions; location and exact times TBA

Officials Assistance Fund

Information about the officials' assistance fund for this meet will be provided no later than February 2, 2026. For more information, please contact Judi Creech, the Western Zone Officials Coordinator, jjjcreech@comcast.net

SAFE SPORT

The Safe Sport program is USA Swimming's comprehensive abuse prevention program dedicated to reducing the risk of sexual, emotional and physical abuse to athletes. Components of the program include, but are not limited to, providing education and training, enforcing policies, rules and best practice guidelines, promoting healthy boundaries and mandated reporting of violations.