

ASSOCIATION SANS BUT LUCRATIF
NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION
FONDÉE EN 1902 – FOUNDED IN 1902

AFFILIATED to 'World Aquatics', 'European Aquatics' and the C.O.I.B.
AFFILIATED to World Aquatics – European Aquatics and the B.O.I.C.

COMPANY NO. 0409.395.428 / 0409.395.428 Company No.

Welcome!

1

The 2026 Belgian Open Short Course Championships are the major national event of the 2026–2027 short course season.

The 2026 edition will take place from **18 to 20 December 2026** at the De Watermolen Swimming Pool (Sint-Niklaas). The event is organised by the **Royal Belgian Swimming Federation**, in collaboration with the Flemish Swimming Federation.

In this booklet, you will find all the practical and regulatory information regarding the 2026 Belgian Open Short Course Championships. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us at info@belswim.be.

The Royal Belgian Swimming Federation (KBZB) warmly welcomes all swimmers, coaches, clubs, officials and supporters and looks forward to exciting competitions and outstanding performances.



ASSOCIATION SANS BUT LUCRATIF
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
FONDÉE EN 1902 – FOUNDED IN 1902

AFFILIATED TO 'World Aquatics' – 'European Aquatics' and the B.O.I.C.
AFFILIATED TO World Aquatics – European Aquatics AND the B.O.I.C.
COMPANY REGISTRATION NO. 0409.395.428

2

The venue: Sportoase De Watermolen

The Sportoase De Watermolen swimming pool boasts no fewer than 10 50-metre lanes, making it the perfect venue for the 2026 OBK Short Course Championships. Thanks to the movable partition, the pool can be flexibly configured: one section will be set up as the official competition arena, whilst the other section will remain available for cooling down between races. Competitions will take place in 8 lanes. The site also has a large, accessible car park.

Address: [Watermolenstraat 106, 9100 Sint-Niklaas](#)



Programme for the 2026 Belgian Open Short Course Championships

3

Start times*

- Warm-up AM: 07:30 – 08:45
- Start of competition: 09:00
- Afternoon warm-up: 15:00 – 16:15
- Start of competition: 16:30

*These times are indicative and are subject to change.

Competition numbers

Individual

In addition to all the Olympic distances, the 100m medley will also feature on the programme for the 2026 OBK Short Course Championships.

Programme

Friday 18 December 2026

AM					PM				
1.	400m	freestyle	women	4 heats	F 1	400m	free-style	women	A + B*
2.	400m	medley	men	4 heats	F 2	400m	medley	men	A + B ^{>}
3.	50m	<u>backstroke</u>	women	10 heats	F 3	50m	<u>backstroke</u>	women	A + B*
4.	50m	freestyle	men	10 heats	F 4	50m	freestyle	men	A + B*
5.	200m	<u>breaststroke</u>	women's	6 sets	F5	200m	<u>breaststroke</u>	women	A + B ²
6.	100m	breaststroke	men	10 heats	F 6	100m	breaststroke	men	A + B
7.	100m	medley	women	10 heats	F 7	100m	medley	women	A + B
8.	200m	backstroke	men	6 heats	F 8	200m	backstroke	men	A + B ²
9	200m	butterfly	women	6 heats	F 9	200m	butterfly	women	A + B ⁺
10	100m	butterfly	men	10 heats	F 10	100m	butterfly	men	A + B ²
11	50m	freestyle	women	10 heats	F 11	50m	freestyle	women	A + B*
12	1500m	freestyle	men	1 heat	12	1500m	freestyle	men	Fastest heat

ASSOCIATION SANS BUT LUCRATIF
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
FONDÉE EN 1902 – FOUNDED IN 1902

AFFILIATED with 'World Aquatics', 'European Aquatics' and the B.O.I.C.
AFFILIATED with World Aquatics, European Aquatics and the B.O.I.C.
COMPANY REGISTRATION NO. 0409.395.428

Saturday 19 December 2026

AM					PM				
13	400m	freestyle	men	4 heats	F 13	400m	freestyle	men	A + B*
14	400m	medley	women	4 heats	F 14	400m	medley	women	A + B ^{>}
15	50m	<u>backstroke</u>	Men	10 heats	F 15	50m	<u>backstroke</u>	men	A + B*
16	100m	<u>backstroke</u>	women	10 heats	F 16	100m	<u>backstroke</u>	women	A + B*
17	200m	<u>butterfly</u>	men	6 heats	F 17	200m	<u>butterfly</u>	men	A + B*
18	200m	freestyle	women	6 heats	F 18	200m	freestyle	women	A + B*
19	50m	breaststroke	men	10 heats	F 19	50m	breaststroke	men	A + B
20	100m	breaststroke	women	10 heats	F 20	100m	breaststroke	women	A + B ²
21	200m	medley	men	6 heats	F 21	200m	medley	Men	A + B ²
22	50m	butterfly	Women	10 heats	F 22	50m	butterfly	women	A + B ²
23	100m	freestyle	men	10 heats	F 23	100m	freestyle	men	A + B ²
24	1500m	freestyle	women	1 heat	24	1500m	freestyle	women	Fastest series

Sunday 20 December 2026

AM					PM				
25	100m	butterfly	women	4 heats	35	800m	freestyle	women	Fastest heat
26	100m	<u>backstroke</u>	men	4 heats	36	800m	freestyle	men	Fastest heat
27	50m	<u>breaststroke</u>	women	10 heats	F25	100m	<u>butterfly</u>	women	A + B*
28	200m	freestyle	men	6 heats	F26	100m	<u>backstroke</u>	men	A + B*
29	200m	<u>backstroke</u>	women	6 heats	F27	50m	breaststroke	women	A + B*
30	50m	butterfly	men	10 heats	F28	200m	freestyle	men	A + B*
31	200m	medley	women	6 heats	F29	200m	backstroke	women	A + B ²
32	200m	breaststroke	men	6 heats	F30	50m	butterfly	men	A + B*
33	100m	freestyle	Women	10 heats	F31	200m	medley	women	A + B*
34	100m	medley	Men	10 heats	F32	200m	breaststroke	men	A + B*
35	800m	freestyle	women	1 heat	F33	100m	freestyle	women	A + B*
36	800m	freestyle	men	1 heat	F34	100m	medley	men	A + B

Conditions of Participation

General

Only athletes who, by the registration deadline, hold a licence from one of the regional federations or from a federation recognised by World Aquatics may take part in the 2026 OBK Short Course Championships.

Individual events

Participation in the 2026 OBK Short Course is possible provided the qualifying times are met.

The period during which these qualifying times must be met runs from 1 January 2025 to 29 November 2026 inclusive.

Swimmers who meet the A qualifying time for an event may enter that event and are guaranteed a place. Swimmers aged 17 and over may register if they have achieved the B qualifying time.

Swimmers aged 16 and under (born in 2010 or later) who are members of one of the regional federations (Zwemfed/FFBN) may only compete in an event if they have achieved the A qualifying time,

Swimmers from foreign clubs may only compete in an event if they have achieved the A qualifying time, regardless of age.

To compete in the 2026 OBK Short Course Championships, only verifiable, registered times swum in a 50m or 25m pool are valid.

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
FOUNDED IN 1902

AFFILIATED TO 'World Aquatics', 'European Aquatics' and the C.O.I.B.
AFFILIATED with World Aquatics – European Aquatics and the B.O.I.C.

COMPANY NO. 040909325.428 Company No.

Qualifying times

Distance	Men		Women	
	A	B	A	B
50m freestyle	00:24.33	00:24.93	00:27.59	00:28.22
100m freestyle	00:53.25	00:54.36	00:59.60	01:00.88
200m freestyle	01:55.59	01:58.26	02:09.10	2:10.89
400m freestyle	04:09.72	04:13.87	04:29.28	04:34.95
800m freestyle	08:41.54	08:52.14	09:08.59	09:21.47
1500m freestyle	16:19.17	16:39.84	17:52.05	18:28.77
50m backstroke	00:28.44	00:29.32	00:31.79	00:32.50
100m backstroke	01:01.23	01:03.09	01:07.70	01:09.39
200m backstroke	02:12.43	02:16.41	02:24.96	02:28.07
50m breaststroke	00:31.02	00:32.00	00:35.31	00:36.39
100m breaststroke	01:08.11	01:10.72	1:16.97	1:18.91
200m breaststroke	02:28.08	02:32.64	02:44.16	02:48.59
50m butterfly	00:26.22	00:26.95	00:29.76	00:30.47
100m butterfly	00:58.88	01:00.56	01:07.00	01:09.26
200m butterfly	02:14.65	02:18.89	02:30.97	02:35.86
100m medley	01:01.50	01:03.13	01:08.62	01:10.34
200m medley	02:11.66	02:14.77	02:26.78	02:28.92
400m medley	04:44.80	04:50.08	05:12.06	05:18.23

A and B qualifying times

The qualifying times from the 2025 edition have been retained for the 2026 edition.

Competition regulations

The 2026 OBK Short Course Championships will be held in accordance with the regulations of World Aquatics.

The international anti-doping rules (World Aquatics, WADA) apply. Upon request, swimmers must cooperate with representatives of the Flemish/French-speaking official anti-doping authority and be available for testing.

Registrations and cancellations

- Entries must be submitted exclusively by email to entriesswimming@belswim.be, no later than **30 November 2026 by 23:59**.
- Swimmers must be entered with their **absolute** personal best times, achieved between **1 January 2025 and 29 November 2026 inclusive**.
- All entry times must be from an official competition, swum in a 25m or 50m pool, and will be verified **via Swimrankings**. If any entry times cannot be verified via Swimrankings, the link to the international database must be provided (e.g. SwimCloud).
- **Split times** will not be accepted as entry times, with the exception of the time recorded by the first swimmer in a relay team.
- **Entries** must be made via the **TeamManager (Splash)** programme.
- Entries that do not meet the above conditions will not be accepted.

Important notes:

- Lenex entry files must be named as follows: "BK-25M-name of the club".
- Clubs will receive a 'confirmation of receipt' (the sole proof of receipt of their entries) via the official email address within five days of submitting their entries. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that this confirmation of receipt is received within five days and to check that the entries submitted are correct. Clubs with entries that do not comply with the regulations will receive a message detailing the incorrect entries.
- Clubs registering swimmers with dual nationality (BEL/other) must email a copy of the relevant swimmers' identity cards to entriesswimming@belswim.be, together with the registration.
- Once entries have been submitted, any changes must be made by emailing entriesswimming@belswim.be. A new Lenex file may be sent if necessary, but please always include an explanation of the changes by email.
- Late entries received after the registration deadline will not be accepted.
- The provisional start lists will be published on the KBZB website on Thursday 3 December 2026.
- To avoid additional administrative costs, clubs are given the option to **cancel** one or more 'races/entries' up to and including **Sunday 6 December 2026 at 23:59** by sending an email to entriesswimming@belswim.be.
- The final programme will be published on Monday 7 December 2026.

**ASSOCIATION SANS BUT LUCRATIF
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
FONDÉE EN 1902 – FOUNDED IN 1902**

AFFILIATED TO 'World Aquatics' – 'European Aquatics' and the B.O.I.C.
AFFILIATED TO World Aquatics – European Aquatics AND the B.O.I.C.
COMPANY REGISTRATION NO. 0409.395.428

Financial provisions

Entry fee

The entry fee is:

- Individual entry (Belgian club): 12 euros
- Individual entry (foreign club): 17 euros

The total amount due will be invoiced to the club (club invoice) after the OBK.

Administrative costs

- For cancellations submitted in good time within the specified period, clubs will not be charged any additional administrative costs, only the entry fee.
- Clubs will, however, be charged administrative fees:
 - if a withdrawal is made late or if a forfeit is declared.
 - for failing to nominate or provide the required number of officials

For specific amounts, please refer to the document: Fees, administrative charges and registration fees.

Finals, Medals and Ceremonies

Individual events (excluding the 800m and 1500m)

These events are contested in heats and finals.

There are 2 finals:

- An Open A final: the 8 fastest times from the heats, of which a maximum of 4 swimmers may be from foreign clubs.
- B Final: reserved for swimmers who hold a competition licence with a Belgian club
- A B final will only be organised if, after the final line-ups have been drawn up and any withdrawals have been processed, at least 3 swimmers have confirmed their participation in the B final.

The 800m and 1500m freestyle

For the long-distance 800m and 1500m freestyle events, the rankings will be determined on the basis of the times achieved (ranking by time).

Results

The results displayed at the swimming pool are the only valid official results. It is the responsibility of the club representative to familiarise themselves with these official results. These results will always state the deadline for complaints, comments and withdrawals from finals.

Medals

The top three Belgian athletes in each individual event will receive a medal. Athletes of foreign nationality will only receive a medal if they finish in the top three of the individual event. The title of 'Belgian Champion' is awarded to the first Belgian swimmer in the final. Medals will only be awarded if the swimmers have met the qualifying time and are present in good time for the medal ceremony, unless they have a valid reason for their absence. This must be reported before the medals are awarded. The competition organisers shall determine, without appeal, what constitutes a valid reason.

Call-up room

Each participant must report to the call-up room in good time before the start and remain there until instructed by the official in charge to proceed to the starting platform. Failure to report to or pass through the call-up room may result in disqualification.

The call-up room is accessible only to the participants who are expected there. Coaches may accompany swimmers as far as the call-out room. Once the swimmer has checked in, he or she may no longer be accompanied by the coach or anyone else, unless the swimmer is a G-swimmer with an exemption code 'A' (assistance permitted), 'Y' (use of device) or 'T' (tapper).

Accreditations

Clubs are required to submit the name of the 'delegate' (ONE) and the name(s) of the 'coach(es)' via TeamManager. (See table below).

The programmes and results will be available in PDF format via [the KBZB's live timing page](#) and that of [the organising club](#).

Each participating club is entitled to the following number of free admission tickets for the coaches and club representatives:

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
FOUNDED IN 1902

AFFILIATED to 'World Aquatics', 'European Aquatics' and the COIB
AFFILIATED with World Aquatics – European Aquatics and the B.O.I.C.
COMPANY REGISTRATION 0409395428 Company No.

Number of swimmers	Representative	Coaches
1 to 9	1	1
10 to 19	1	2
20 to 29	1	3
30 to 39	1	4
...	...	...

10

Delegates must report to the jury table every day (or in the event of a replacement). This must take place whilst the swimmers from their club are warming up.

Officials

A jury, selected and announced in advance, will be in place. This jury will be selected by the National Swimming Operations Committee (CNWZW).

Officials must be registered for each full day in TeamManager (**not via email**) under – “Competitions” – “Export entries” – “Splash/Lenex file” – “Officials”.

An administrative charge will be applied for any shortfall in the required number of officials (see BK-CB SWI 2026 Rates).

Officials must report to the entrance by 08:00 at the latest (jury meeting at 08:15):

Number of swimmers	Officials
< 3 swimmers	0
3 to 9 swimmers	1
10 to 19 swimmers	2
20 to 29 swimmers	3
...	...

The organising club is exempt from this requirement.