



Competition Format and Rules

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Competition Format

The GC2018 swimming competition will consist of a total of 50 medal events, including 12 Para-sport medal events:

Men's medal events: 25	Women's medal events: 25
50m freestyle	50m freestyle
S7 50m freestyle (S6 eligible)	
	S8 50m freestyle (S7 eligible)
100m freestyle	100m freestyle
S9 100m freestyle (S8 eligible)	S9 100m freestyle (S8 eligible)
200m freestyle	200m freestyle
S14 200m freestyle	
400m freestyle	400m freestyle
	800m freestyle
1500m freestyle	
50m backstroke	50m backstroke
100m backstroke	100m backstroke
S9 100m backstroke (S8 eligible)	S9 100m backstroke (S8 eligible)
200m backstroke	200m backstroke
50m breaststroke	50m breaststroke
100m breaststroke	100m breaststroke
SB8 100m breaststroke (SB7 eligible)	
	SB9 100m breaststroke (S8 eligible)
200m breaststroke	200m breaststroke
50m butterfly	50m butterfly
	S7 50m butterfly (S6 eligible)
100m butterfly	100m butterfly
200m butterfly	200m butterfly
200m individual medley	200m individual medley
SM8 200m individual medley (SM7 eligible)	
	SM10 200m individual medley (SM9 eligible)
400m individual medley	400m individual medley
4x100m freestyle relay	4x100m freestyle relay
4x200m freestyle relay	4x200m freestyle relay
4x100m medley relay	4x100m medley relay

The competition format for swimming will be conducted in a heats, semifinals and finals format for all 50m and 100m events (except Para swimming). Heats will be conducted during each morning session and semifinals and finals during each evening session.

A heats and finals format will be conducted for all other events. If a relay event attracts eight or fewer entries, they will be conducted as straight finals.

Para-sport events:

Para-swimming events will be contested as heats and finals, dependent on the number of entries. Para-swimming events that attract eight or fewer entries will be conducted as straight finals.



Competition progression:

<p>Individual events of 100m or less (excluding Para-sport events)</p>	<p>Heats, semifinals and final</p> <p>The fastest 16 swimmers in the heats qualify to the semifinals</p> <p>The fastest eight swimmers in the semifinals qualify to the final</p>
<p>Individual events of more than 100m (excluding Para-sport events)</p>	<p>Heats and final</p> <p>The fastest eight swimmers in the heats qualify to the final</p>
<p>All Para-sport events</p>	<p>Heats and final</p> <p>The fastest eight swimmers in the heats qualify to the final</p> <p>If there are fewer than eight entries in an event, a straight final will be held</p>
<p>Relay events</p>	<p>Heats and final</p> <p>The fastest eight teams in the heats qualify to the final</p> <p>If there are fewer than eight entries in an event, a straight final will be held</p>

Tiebreak rules:

Ties for the last qualification or reserve position (from heats and semifinals) may be broken by swim-off(s). Otherwise, there are no tiebreaking rules for ranking.

Award of medals:

In the normal case when there are more than five contestants in an event, gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded. In the unlikely case where there are fewer than five competitors in an event, rule SPT38 of the *CGF Sport Manual* will be invoked which dictates that for both individual and team events, medals will be awarded according to the following scale:

- Events with four (contestants) – only gold and silver medals will be awarded.
- Events with three or two contestants – only gold medals will be awarded.

Competition rules

Seeding:

All start lists will be seeded according to FINA rules, based on the swimmers in the final entry list. For all events, except the 400m, 800m, 1500m events; the fastest 24 swimmers entered in each will be distributed in the last three heats according to FINA rules, with the remaining swimmers then placed in successive heats according to their entry times.



In the 400m, 800m and 1500m events, the fastest 16 swimmers entered in each will be distributed in the last two heats according to FINA rules, with the remaining swimmers then placed in successive heats according to their entry times.

Para-swimming classification:

Para-sport events at the Games will be open to specified sport classes only. Athletes must comply with classification rules in order to qualify, enter and compete in these events.

Classification*	Description
S6	Swimmers with short stature; have an amputation of both arms or one leg and arm on the same side; exhibit significant coordination issues down one side of the body (i.e. cerebral palsy); or full use of their arms, coupled with moderate trunk control and no functional leg muscles.
S7/SM7	Swimmers with one leg and one arm amputation on opposite sides (i.e. left leg and right arm or vice versa), double leg amputation, paralysis or restricted movement of one arm and one leg on the same side of the body (i.e. cerebral palsy), or full control of their arms and trunk with limited leg function.
S8/SM8/SB7	Swimmers with an amputation or limb deficiency of both hands or one arm, or major restrictions across the hip, knee and ankle joints. This classification typically uses a regular start, stroke and turns.
S9/SM9/SB8	Swimmers with joint restrictions or movement difficulties in either one arm or one leg, a double below the knee amputation, or single leg amputation.
SB9/SM10	Swimmers with minimal physical impairments, such as the absence of one hand, one foot, both feet, or a joint restriction in one hip.
S14	Swimmers with an intellectual impairment as indicated by an IQ of 75 or lower on standard tests, diagnosed before the age of 18.

*Prefixes – **S**: freestyle, butterfly, backstroke **SB**: breaststroke **SM** individual medley