Organized By: 中國香港游泳總會 Hong Kong China Swimming Association

Subvented By: 政府資助計劃 Government-funded programme; 康樂及文化事務署 Leisure and Cultural Services Department

2026/27 Hong Kong Open Water Swimming Competition Series (Part 3)

Date: 3rd January 2027 (Sunday)
Time: ~ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Venue: Open Water Swimming along the Dam of the Plover Cove Reservoir, Tai Mei Tuk, Tai Po, Hong Kong

Category & Event:

Event No.	Group	Distance (approx.)	Age
1	Open Group - Male	5 km	Age 14 or above
2	Open Group - Female		
3	Open Group - Male	3.3 km	Age 13 or above
4	Open Group - Female		
5	Open Group - Male	1500m	Age 14 or above
6	Open Group - Female		

*Age shall be determined as of December 31 of the year of competition

5 km Event (Event No. 1-2) Entry Eligibilities:

1) 2026/27 HKGSA Registered Swimmer (SW or MS)
2) Age 14 or above (Age shall be determined as of December 31 of the year of competition); and
3) Physically Fit; and
4) Provide qualified records obtained from any 800m or 1500m swimming competitions organized or sanctioned by HKGSA in swimming pool setting from 15th Dec 2024 to 14th Dec 2026, with the result achieving a minimum of 70 points in LC/SC Swimming Point Score; and
5) Participated in open water swimming competition or open water swimming training before; and
6) Able to swim over the required distance of the proposed event; and
7) Declaration of Responsibility is required for all swimmers

3.3 km Event (Event No. 3-4) Entry Eligibilities:

1) 2026/27 HKGSA Registered Swimmer (SW or MS)
2) Age 13 or above (Age shall be determined as of December 31 of the year of competition); and
3) Physically Fit; and
4) Provide qualified records obtained from any 800m or 1500m swimming competitions organized or sanctioned by HKGSA in swimming pool setting from 15th Dec 2024 to 14th Dec 2026, with the result met Div.1 qualifying standard; and
5) Participated in open water swimming competition or open water swimming training before; and
6) Able to swim over the required distance of the proposed event; and
7) Declaration of Responsibility is required for all swimmers

1500m Event (Event No. 5-6) Entry Eligibilities:

1) Ranked first half of Event 1 & 2 will advance to Event 5 & 6 (For example, total of 29 entries in Event 1, swimmers who ranked 1 to 15 will advance to Event 5, **NO** substitution will be allowed if swimmers withdrawn.)

Format:

Timed-final shall apply. Ranking will be determined by the positions and time that swimmers achieve.

Entry Fee:

5 km & 3.3 km Event (Event No. 1-4): HK$150.00 / Entry

1500m Event (Event No. 5-6): Free of Charge

Entry & Registration Deadline:

14th December 2026 (Monday) at 5:00 p.m.

- Entries later than 14th December 2026 **will not be accepted**.

Awards:

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be awarded to the first 3 places of male and female swimmers in each group (Event No. 1-6).

NEW ARRANGEMENT

*** Competitors of 5km Events will be categorized as Aged 14-17 and Open Group (Aged 14 or above), first 3 places of both categories will be awarded. Swimmers Aged 14-17 can compete for medals in both categories simultaneously.**

**** For 3.3km Events, all practices will be remains unchanged.**

Regulations:

1) World Aquatics ("WA") rules and HKGSA rules will apply.
2) Swimmers MUST wear swimming caps provided by the HKGSA during the competition.
3) Swimmer MUST present a valid Race Card issued by the HKGSA at the Registration Counter / Area at the Competition Venue.
4) Swimmers who cannot show the Race Card will not be allowed to race.
5) Swimmers MUST report to the Finishing Centre immediately after the race.
6) Official may request swimmers to **leave water** if swimmers are unable to finish the race within the times as follows:

   For 5 km event: 10 minutes from the finish time of the first swimmer.
   For 3.3 km event: 10 minutes from the finish time of the first swimmer.
   For 1500m event: 5 minutes from the finish time of the first swimmer.

   These swimmers MUST also report to the Finishing Center as soon as possible.
7) Swimmers are prohibited from using any devices that may be an aid to their speed or endurance.
8) HKGSA has its sole discretion to reject any entries.
9) In case of Swimmer Club transfer, the 'HKGSA Transfer Rule' will apply.
10) HKGSA has the final decision over all matters not assigned by the rules.
11) For the Swimwear requirements, please refer to WA Open Water Rules (OW 10).

*** With water temperature below 18°C, an Athlete must wear a wetsuit. If the water temperature is between 18.0°C and 20.0°C, the Chief Referee may require all Athletes to compete in wetsuits.

Reporting Time & Competition Route:
Please refer to the HKGSA website for details.

Race Card & Swim Cap:
1) Race Card will be issued after completion of application procedure. Club Representatives can pick up the Race Card at HKGSA office about 1 week before the competition day.
2) Swimmer must bring the Race Card to the Registration Counter on the competition day.
3) Swim cap will be given after reporting on the competition day and swimmers must report to the Finishing Centre after the race.

Belongings:
Swimmers may store their belongings at the "Personal Belongings" in the venue. However, HKGSA will not be responsible for any loss whatsoever incurred at the venue or during the competition.

Safety:
1) Safety boats and/or canoes shall patrol along the competition route.
2) If participants feel exhausted or are affected by cramp during the race, **please raise hand and call for help immediately**.

Responsibility:
HKGSA shall try its best to ensure the safety of all swimmers during the competition. However, HKGSA and its officials will not be responsible for any injuries and accidents incurred during the competition for whatsoever reasons.

Adverse Weather Arrangements:
To ensure the safety of all swimmers and officials, HKGSA will closely monitor the weather and sea conditions on the competition day. Arrangements regarding competition postponement or cancellation are as follows:
1) Pre-Competition Announcement (Assessment at 6:00 a.m. on Competition Day)
   If the Hong Kong Observatory or relevant government departments have issued, hoisted, or implemented any of the following warnings at 6:00 a.m. sharp on the competition day, the competition will be cancelled immediately:
   (i) Regional (New Territories East) Thunderstorm Warning Signal; or
   (ii) Typhoon Signal **No. 3** or above; or
   (iii) Red or Black Rainstorm Warning Signal; or
   (iv) Yellow Rainstorm Warning Signal and Territory-wide Thunderstorm Warning Signal in force simultaneously; or
   (v) Shark Flag, Red Flag hoisted, or Red Tide observed at the venue

2) Emergency Arrangements During the Event:
If any of the above adverse weather warnings, extreme sea conditions, or safety hazards occur while the event is in progress, HKGSA will prioritize swimmer safety:
(i) HKGSA reserves the right to suspend, shorten, postpone, or cancel the event at any time.
(ii) Swimmers must follow the instructions of lifeguards and officials, and immediately return to shore or proceed to a safe area.
(iii) Relevant decisions will be announced immediately via on-site broadcasts.

All latest updates regarding the competition will be announced exclusively on the HKGSA website. Swimmers are advised to pay close attention to official announcements.

Remarks:

1) Should the Event be cancelled due to weather, 50% of the paid entry fee (i.e. HK$75) will be refunded to the swimmers' affiliated account in HKGSA within two months after the scheduled conclusion of the Competition. Apart from the aforementioned refund, HKGSA shall have no other responsibilities and / or liabilities in relation to cancellation of the Event.
2) Hong Kong China Swimming Association would disclose participants' age in all materials, including but not limited to Competition Programme and Results issued from time to time.
3) Hong Kong China Swimming Association reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions.

Entry Procedures:

Through HKGSA Affiliated Clubs

1) Clubs may submit the Master Entry Forms as usual, together with duly signed Declaration Form by each participant.
2) Incomplete form and Declaration will not be accepted and fee paid is not refundable.
3) Entry fee in crossed-cheque made payable to "HKGSA", with club's name and contact telephone no. at the back of the cheque. **Cash will not be accepted.**
4) Application Forms can be downloaded at the HKGSA website: **www.hkgswimming.org.hk**

HKGSA Office Address:

Address: Unit L, 9/F, MG Tower, 133 Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon
Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; 1:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.
Enquiry Telephone No.: 2572 8594 **E-mail: info@hkgswimming.org.hk**

~ HKGSA reserves the rights to amend the above information with or without notification and the authority for final interpretation ~