



# MPUMALANGA

Province Swimming / Provinsie Swem  
Non-Profit Organization No. 031-811-NPO



## GALA RULES

1. Competitors must be registered, paid in full and in good standing with Mpumalanga Province Swimming (MPS) and Swimming South Africa (SSA) fourteen (14) days prior to a gala in order to participate.
2. At least one parent per family must be trained and registered as an official with MPS. **Registered and trained parent must be available for galas to officiate. If not, then both parents must be registered and trained.**
3. All gala entries must be submitted via the swimmer's club/school to the district / provincial secretary on or before the due date and time specified on the gala invite. All gala entries must be submitted on Team Manager and no swimmer may forward a gala entry directly to the provincial secretary. **Entries submitted must be accompanied with a proof of payment (POP). No entries will be accepted without a POP.**
4. No late entries will be accepted for any MPS Galas. A late entry means a swimmer not entered for the gala before the cut-off date for entries.
5. Competitors already entered for an Age Group Gala may scratch events or submit a late entry for an event or events not later than 30min prior to commencement of the **morning session** and in the event of a Friday evening session, 30min. prior to commencement of the Friday evening session. The decision to allow late entries will depend on lane availability and the swimmer will be entered with a **NO TIME**. Entry fee for late entries will be **R50.00** per additional event. Fee for late scratchings will be R50.00 and R100.00 per event for No-Shows.
6. Competitors, clubs and schools will not be allowed to swim unless all outstanding entry fees have been paid in full. Entry fees are non-refundable.



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## 7. Gala Entry Fees 2023/2024: (Gala Entry Fees to be adjusted and approved annually)

Gala Entry Fees:	Per Event
Winter Gala	R30.00
MP Sprint	R35.00
Age Group	R30.00
MP Champs	R35.00
Top Schools	R25.00
Program Fees	R10.00
Gate Entry Fees (Adults)	R20.00
Open Water Entry fees:	Per Event
100m	R30.00
400m	R50.00
750m	R50.00
1km	R75.00
1,5km	R75.00
3km	R120.00
5km	R170.00
7,5km	R170.00
10km	R170.00

8. Competitors not affiliated with MPS will pay a R20.00 gala registration fee in addition to event entry fees.
9. All events will be seeded according to the latest available times on the MPS database.
10. Disability and Masters competitors will be entered in their own heat separate from able bodied competitors for events predetermined by the gala/event invitation.
11. World Aquatics rules and the one-start rule will apply at all MPS galas.
12. **Officials:** Each club must provide 1 official per 2 competitors for the entire gala. Each club must provide officials as per the invite. The names of officials must be submitted with competitors entities by the closing date set in the invite. The gala organizer will allocate officials for the gala and a list of officials on duty for each session will be available at the Officials Desk at least 30 minutes prior to commencement of a gala. Should an official not be available for duty on the day of the gala, it is the responsibility of the club / school to find a qualified replacement. If a club/school cannot find a qualified replacement, a fine of R250 per official who could not be replaced will be imposed and payable before any entries for the next gala is allowed. A club/school will NOT be allowed to swim if the number of required officials has not been submitted by the due date indicated in the invite. The Executive - or District secretary will provide the list of officials allocation from the Gala Organiser by the Thursday prior to commencement of the gala.



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13. Competitors must be ready to report to the Call Room 15 min before his/her race or at least 7 heats before his/her race. No swimmer will be permitted to swim a race if he/she has not reported to the Call Room.
14. All competitors who have completed a race must leave the officials area immediately and no swimmer/parent/coach/manager will be allowed to enquire about race times at the data processor. The results of all races will be posted on the "results board" at the officials building once the data processor has processed the results.
15. **Disqualifications:** Any swimmer/parent/coach/manager aggrieved by the disqualification of a competitor may lodge an Appeal against the decision with the Gala Organizer, through the club manager or coach. All appeals must be lodged within 30min after the results have been issued on a form to be provided by the Gala Organizer. All appeals must be accompanied by an R250.00 appeal fee, which will be refunded should the appeal be upheld.

If conditions causing a potential appeal are noted prior to the race or competition, an appeal must be lodged directly with the Referee before the starting signal is given for the specific race or before commencement of a gala session.

**NO SWIMMER/PARENT/COACH** may query or discuss any disqualification directly with the Referee or any technical official during or after the event.

16. **Clearance:** Written clearance must be obtained from MPS through the club in order for any swimmer to compete outside the province. Clearance will only be given if MPS has no official gala scheduled for the same day or the swimmer has a valid reason/motivation for not being able to attend the scheduled MPS gala. Each application will be considered on merit.
17. All events at MPS galas will be swum as timed finals, unless otherwise stipulated in the gala invitation.
18. Competitors will be seeded in all Age Group galas according to times on the MPS database and results issued according to the official SSA Age Group classification. Girls & Boys events may be combined.
19. **Gala Starting Times:**

- All MPS age group galas:	09h00
- MP Sprint Gala:	09h00
- MP Championships:	08h00
- MP Schools' Trials:	08h00
- MP Top Schools:	08h00
- All Evening Sessions:	17h00

**Warm-up** lanes will be available one (1) hour before commencement of any gala and all competitors must vacate the pool **20 min.** prior to commencement of any gala session.



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20. **Records:** Only MPS registered competitors will be awarded Mpumalanga Age Group Records from 1 June 2009. Existing Mpumalanga Age Group Records already awarded to out of province competitors will remain the official record until such time the record is improved by a MPS registered swimmer. Mpumalanga Age Group records can be improved by a MPS registered competitors, swimming out of province at any SSA sanctioned gala.

Mpumalanga Province Championships Records are meet records and will be accredited to any swimmer participating at the Mpumalanga Province Championships.

21. Any venue used by MPS for the hosting of a gala is regarded as a "Smoke Free Zone". Smoking and Vaping inside the pool area is strictly prohibited. Smoking, Vaping and Alcohol by MPS members at invitational competitions/events are also prohibited when representing the province.

22. **Camera Zones:** Meet Management and/or Gala Organizer and/or Gala Referee shall designate and inform the public of "Camera Zones" at each swim meet where both still photography and video photography of a race or a competitor in a race may be taken. Acceptable "Camera Zones" may include, but are not limited to the side courses of the pool, team gathering areas, concession areas, turn-end of competition course when not in use as a "start-end", etc. Meet Management shall also designate "Non-Camera Zones". Under NO circumstances will Camera Zones include the area immediately behind the starting blocks at either end of the racing course while they are in use for "race starting purposes" during competition and warm-ups, locker rooms, rest rooms, or any other dressing area. Any individual failing to abide by this rule could be subject to a violation of the MPS Constitution and be removed from the swimming premises with immediate effect. Meet Management and/or Gala Organizer and/or Referee has the right and authority to confiscate or remove any photographic material or video footage deemed inappropriate from any recording device (camera, video recording device or any other device including cell phones) at any swim event or training event hosted under the jurisdiction of MPS.

All training or competition venues under the jurisdiction of MPS will be a restricted flying zone. No airborne device may be used for photographic, video or any other purposes without the prior written approval of the MPS Executive and relevant aviation authorities.