

Non-profit organisation
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION
FOUNDED IN 1902

Affiliated to 'World Aquatics', 'European Aquatics' and the COIB
AFFILIATED to World Aquatics – European Aquatics and the B.O.I.C.
Company No. 0409.395.428

Welcome!

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The Open Belgian Masters Short Course Championships are the first major national event on the masters' swimming calendar for the 2026–2027 season.

The 2026 edition will take place from **28 to 29 November 2026** at the **Lago Kortrijk Swimming Pool (Nelson Mandelaplein 19, 8500 Kortrijk)**. The event is organised by the **Royal Belgian Swimming Federation**, in collaboration with **KZK Spurs**.

In this booklet, you will find all the practical and regulatory information about this competition. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us at info@belswim.be.

The Royal Belgian Swimming Federation (KBZB) and KZK warmly welcome all swimmers, coaches, clubs and supporters and look forward to exciting races and outstanding performances.



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The venue: LAGO swimming pool in Kortrijk Weide

The swimming pool features no fewer than 8 50-metre lanes, making it the perfect venue for the 2026 OBKM 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 and warming up between races.

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Programme for the 2026 Open Belgian Masters Short Course Championships

Start times*

- Warm-up AM: 07:45 – 08:45
- Start of competition: 09:00
- Warm-up (afternoon): 12.45 – 13.45
- Start of competition: 14:00

*These times are approximate and are subject to change.

Competition numbers

Individual

The following distances are on the programme

- Freestyle: 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m
- Backstroke: 50m, 100m, 200m
- Breaststroke: 50m, 100m, 200m
- Butterfly: 50m, 100m, 200m
- Medley: 100m, 200m, 400m

Relays

The programme features five relay distances: 4 x 50m freestyle, 4 x 50m medley, 4 x 100m freestyle, 4 x 100m medley and 4 x 200m freestyle. Clubs may enter a men's team, a women's team and/or a mixed team for each distance. Each swimmer may only compete in one team per relay event (i.e. not in a 'men's' or 'women's team' and

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also in a 'mixed team').

Composition of the heats

All age groups, women and men, swim together, and the heats are organised according to the entry times provided.

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Programme

Saturday 28 November 2026

AM				PM			
1.	800m	freestyle	women/men	5.	400m	freestyle	women/men
2.	100m	butterfly	women/men	6	100m	breaststroke	women/men
3.	200m	breaststroke	women/men	7	200m	backstroke	women/men
break				8	50m	freestyle	women/men
4.	4 x 100m	freestyle	women/men/mixed	9	200m	medley	Women/men
break				break			
				10	4 x 50m	medley	Women/Men/Mixed

Sunday 29 November 2026

AM				PM			
11	1500m	freestyle	women/men	17	200m	freestyle	women/men
12	50m	backstroke	women/men	18	50m	breaststroke	women/men
13	100m	medley	women/men	19	400m	freestyle	women's/men's
14	200m	butterfly	women/men	20	100m	backstroke	women's/men's
15	100m	freestyle	women/men	21	50m	butterfly	women/men
break				break			
16.	4 x 100m	medley	women/men/mixed	22	4 x 50m	freestyle	women's/men's/mixed
				23	4 x 200m	freestyle	women's/men's/mixed

Entry requirements

General

Only athletes who, by the closing date for registration, hold a licence from one of the regional federations or from a federation recognised by World Aquatics, and who are at least 20 years old by 31 December 2026, may take part in the 2026 OBKM Short Course.

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Competition Regulations

Entries and Withdrawals

- Entries must be submitted exclusively by email to sportsecretariaat@kzk.be, no later than **23:59 on 18 November 2026**.
- Swimmers must be entered with their absolute personal best times, swum between **1 January 2025 and 18 November 2026 inclusive**.
- **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 cannot be made without a time. All swimmers must be entered with a time. If no official time is available within the period from 1 January 2025 to 18 November 2026, a realistic training time must be provided. If it transpires that a session would last longer than 4 hours, swimmers without an official time may be withdrawn.

Important notes:

- Lenex registration files must be named as follows: "BK-masters-25m-name of the club".
- Clubs will receive a "confirmation of receipt" via the official email address within five days of submitting their entries (the only proof of receipt of your 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 entering swimmers with dual nationality (BEL/other) must email a copy of the relevant swimmers' identity cards to sportsecretariaat@kzk.be, cc'ing info@belswim.be, together with the entry form.
- Once the entries have been submitted, any changes must be made by email to sportsecretariaat@kzk.be, cc'd to info@belswim.be.
A new Lenex file may be sent if necessary, but must be accompanied by an explanation of the changes via

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email.

- Late registrations received after the registration deadline will not be accepted.
- The final programme will be published on Monday 23 November 2026.

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Financial provisions

The registration fee

The registration fee for **foreign clubs** is:

- Individual races 50m – 100m – 200m – 400m: 17 euros
- Individual start: 800m – 1500m: 23 euros
- Relay: 22 euros.

The total amount due will be invoiced to the club AFTER the Belgian Championships (club invoice). We do not accept cash.

Withdrawals and administrative costs

- To avoid administrative charges, clubs are given the option to cancel one or more entries or races up to 48 hours before the start of the first race (Thursday 26 November – 09:00) by sending an email to the person responsible for entries at sportsecretariaat@kzk.be, copying info@belswim.be.
- For cancellations submitted in good time within the specified period, clubs will not be charged any administrative fees, only the entry fee.
- Clubs will, however, be charged an administrative fee:
 - if a late cancellation is made 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 entry fees](#).

Rankings/medals

Rankings/categories for individual competitions

The rankings are drawn up by category.

The categories are:

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| ▪ Pre-masters | 20–24 years – 2006–2002 | ▪ Seniors C | 35–39 years – 1991–1987 |
| ▪ Seniors A | 25–29 years – 2001–1997 | ▪ Seniors D | 40–44 years – 1986–1982 |
| ▪ Seniors B | 30–34 years – 1996/1992 | ▪ Seniors E | 45–49 years – 1981–1977 |

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- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| ▪ Seniors F | 50–54 years – 1976/1972 | ▪ Seniors M | 85–89 years – 1941–1937 |
| ▪ Seniors G | 55–59 years – 1971–1967 | | |
| ▪ Seniors H | 60–64 years – 1966/1962 | ▪ Seniors N | 90–94 years – 1936–1932 |
| ▪ Seniors I | 65–69 years – 1961–1957 | ▪ Seniors O | 95/99 years – 1931/1927 |
| ▪ Seniors J | 70–74 years – 1956–1952 | | |
| ▪ Seniors K | 75–79 years – 1951–1947 | | |
| ▪ Seniors L | 80–84 years – 1946–1942 | | |

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Medals/titles in individual events

- The top three Belgian athletes in each category 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 each category.

Standings/categories for relay events

You must specify the category in which you will be swimming.

The combined age of the four swimmers in a team must be at least 100 years for the team to be eligible to take part.

Premasters category: 80–99 years

- 100–119 years category
- 120–159 years category
- 160–199 years category
- 200–239 years category
- Category 240–279 years
- Category 280–319 years
- Category 320–359 years

Medals/titles for relay races

- For each relay race, the KBZB provides the necessary medals. The medals are awarded only to Belgian clubs (only the podium places for the top three relays are for 'Belgian clubs').
- The title of 'Belgian Champion' is awarded to the first Belgian team in each category.
- If a team enters the relay competition with a prémaster, that team is no longer eligible for a medal.
- Belgian records cannot be set by pré-masters

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Call-up room

All participants must report to the call room in good time 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 room may result in disqualification. The call-up room is accessible only to those competitors who are due to be there. Coaches may accompany swimmers as far as the call-up room. Once the swimmer has checked in, they may no longer be accompanied by the coach or anyone else, unless they are a G-swimmer with an exemption code 'A' (assistance permitted), 'Y' (use of device) or 'T' (tapper).

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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 as PDF files via the KBZB and the organising club's websites.

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

Number of swimmers	Delegate	Coaches
1 to 10	1	1
11 to 20	1	2
21 to 30	1	4
31 to 40	1	5
...	...	...

Delegates must report to the judges' table every day (or when acting as a substitute). This must be done no later than when the swimmers from their club are warming up.

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Officials

A jury, selected and announced in advance, will be in place. This jury will be selected by the National Masters Committee (CNWMAS).

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

An administrative fee will be charged for any shortfall in the required number of officials.

For specific amounts, please refer to the document: [Fees, administrative charges and entry fees](#)

Officials must report to the entrance by 08:00 at the latest (judges' 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
...	...

*Please note: if a club has even one swimmer competing in the long-distance events (800m freestyle and/or 1500m freestyle), it is necessary to provide an official for that session.

From September 2026, all officials at the Belgian Championships must wear black long trousers. The KBZB will provide a polo shirt (for officials who have not yet received a KBZB polo shirt from the sponsor, Arena).