



NDAL Beacon Programme 2026 - 2027

The Northumberland and Durham Aquatics Limited (NDAL) Beacon Programme.....

A Swimming performance programme for athletes and coaches within Northumberland and Durham, funded and supported by the County.

The programme was established over 15 years ago as part of Swim England's 'Beacon' programme. The squad trains at the Sunderland Aquatic centre, the County's only 50m facility.

The main aim of The NDAL Beacon programme.....

To enable the highest performing athletes to access regular long course training under the guidance of County performance coaches, and is in addition to their home programme.

NDAL Beacon Programme Athlete selection process:

- Selections onto the programme are made in August, at the conclusions of the Summer Championships and prior to the start of the new season.
- The program has a capacity of c40 spaces available.
- There is no obligation to fill all available spaces.
- All swimmers must be registered with affiliated clubs in Northumberland and Durham County.
- Selections to be based on Olympic events
- Selections to be based on World Aquatic Points (WAP) for 2026/27 season
- Consideration will be given to swimmers who have met the minimum WAP (Age Dependent) below, during the 2025/2026 season. Achieving the minimum WAP does not automatically guarantee selection
- Athletes will be considered from the following Age Groups 12/13 years, 14 years, 15 years, 16 years, 17 years, 18 Years, 19 & Over
- Athletes, Clubs and Home coaches will be notified of their athlete's selection early September.
- A review will take place following the end of the 'National Qualifying Window' in 2027 and additional swimmers may be considered and added at this time.
- Para swimmers from the World Class Programme (subject to approval by the GB Para Swimming Head Coach) are also eligible to attend with their coach.
- The NDAL Beacon program management working party reserves the right to add additional athletes if the maximum number of spaces are not filled after initial selections, maintaining quality.

Minimum World Aquatics Points Table (minimum consideration for selection)

Age Group (31st December 2026)	Female	Male/Open
12/13 Years	550	450
14 years	600	550
15 years	615	575
16 Years	640	605
17 Years	655	630
18 Years	665	650
19 & Over	675	675

NDAL Beacon programme coach selection:

The programme will be led by an appointed Head Coach & managed by the Beacon program management working party

Beacon sessions:

Wednesday 1400-1600, Thursday 0530-0730 and Saturday 0730-1000

Terms & Expectations:

Coaches / clubs with athletes on the programme are requested to support the delivery of the programme. le to include a commitment to coaching on a Saturday morning session, and another weekday session, especially where athletes from their club regularly attend.

- All athletes participating in the NDAL Beacon program must be a member of a Swim England affiliated NDAL club and eligible to represent Home Nations or Great Britain at International level.
- Athletes must train the majority of the year at an N&D club to be eligible for the program.
- Quarterly attendance will be monitored as full commitment is required. Regular non- attendance, non-commitment, will result in the athlete being withdrawn from the program, by the Beacon working party.
- Athletes selected for the programme are expected to prioritise Beacon training, in place of their 'home club training' sessions, on these days/times. (extenuating circumstance permitted)
- Selected athletes are required to maintain full commitment to their overall home training programme.
- Training standards and behaviour will also be monitored and reviewed by the NDSA Beacon working party.
- Athletes will be advised by the Head coach to follow an agreed, identified, performance competition programme. This will be detailed upon confirmed selection.
- The maximum term of selection will be up until the end of July 2027. Membership of the program is however subject to regular review.
- An annual, non refundable fee, for all selected athletes is to be paid as a contribution towards the ongoing funding of the programme.