



2025 SPEEDO GRAND CHALLENGE
Presented by FMC Aquatic and Hinsdale Swim Club
2025 SPEEDO CLASSIC
Presented by Hinsdale Swim Club and FMC Aquatic
November 21-23, 2025



WELCOME STATEMENT FROM BOTH TEAMS

Thank you for considering attending one, or both of these meets, the Speedo Grand Challenge and the Speedo Classic. We are very excited to bring both these successful meets together this year! We as FMC Aquatic (FMC) and Hinsdale Swim Club (HSC) pride ourselves in running quality events. Our coaches and parent's organizations care about the athletes, and hope to provide a positive experience for all. The level of competitiveness and enthusiasm should be elevated due to interest from quality teams in-and-out of state. Head Coaches Dave Krotiak (FMC) and Scott Erdman (HSC) have known each other for many years and share a connecting passion to elevate swimming through competition in Illinois and USA Swimming.

ABOUT BOTH MEETS

There are two separate Meet Packets/Files, Qualifying Times, Sanctions, and Entry Processes for the Speedo Grand Challenge and the Speedo Classic. We have created two separate meets to reduce confusion. Please find detailed descriptions of each of the meets below:

The Speedo Grand Challenge

- Meet Packet/File are located on the FMC Aquatic website ([link here](#)).
- Entries open on Tuesday, 10/14 @ 10 am (Chicago time).
- This event is a full 3-day Senior-level meet in a Prelims/Finals format with Qualifying Times. The Time Standards for the meet are based on modified 2024-28 National Motivational Time Standards. The Qualifying Times are detailed in the Meet Packet.
- Bonus Events & Entry Process: Bonus events are permitted if a swimmer has at least one individual qualifying standard. Please make sure you **"click the bonus entry box when submitting a bonus event"**.
- For Prelim/Finals events there will be A, B, C, and D Finals (9 swimmers each heat). The D Final will be 16 & U only.
- All events for this meet will be swum at the FMC Natatorium.
- Warm-Up Time and prelims: 6:45AM (doors open at 6:30 AM).
- Some of the Qualifying Times were adjusted slightly from previous years. Any times adjusted were made slightly faster. The Qualifying Time updates were decided upon to ensure Session Timelines would remain at a reasonable level to allow all athletes to have the best competitive experience possible.



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The Speedo Classic

- Meet Packet/File is located on the Hinsdale Swim Club website ([link here](#)).
- Entries open on Wednesday, 10/15 @ 10 am (Chicago time). Note this is one day AFTER the Speedo Grand Challenge entries opening. This is a change to make it easier for coaches attending both meets to submit entries.
- This event is a 2.25-day meet in a Prelims/Finals format for 10 & Under, 11-12, and 13-14 swimmers and a Timed Finals format for 8 & Under and Open swimmers.
- There are Qualifying Times for the meet that are detailed in the Meet Packet.
- The 10 & Under, 11-12, 13-14 Qualifying Times are based on modified 2024-28 National Motivational "BB" Time Standards.
- The Open Qualifying Times are based on modified 2024-28 National Motivational Time Standards "B" Time Standards, giving swimmers that could not make the Speedo Grand Challenge a chance to compete.
- There are no Qualifying Times for the 8 & Under swimmers.
- Bonus Events & Entry Process: Bonus events are permitted if a swimmer has at least one individual qualifying standard. Please make sure you **"click the bonus entry box when submitting a bonus event"**.
- For Prelim/Finals events there will be an A Final for 10 & Unders and an A and B Final for 11-12 and 13-14 swimmers (10 swimmers each heat).
- All events will be swum at the Don Watson Aquatic Center at HCHS.
- The Warm-Up and Session Start Times were slightly adjusted based on the Session Timelines the past few years.
- We have changed the 13-14 500 Free, which is still a Timed Final Event, to have the Top 10 seeded swimmers compete in Finals. This was done to relieve some pressure on the Sunday AM Timelines, but also so the Top 13-14 500 Free athletes have the best chance for a great swim in Finals. All other 13-14 athletes will still compete in the Prelims.
- As with the Speedo Grand Challenge, some of the Qualifying Times, mainly in events 200 and above, have been updated to be slightly faster. This was done to make sure we maintain the best competitive environment for all of the athletes.
- We have added in a "buy back in" optional payment of \$100 for swimmers if they have missed an event (even a Final). For swimmers traveling from far, we wanted to give them the option to swim their next event(s) even if they missed one. This has been adopted at meets like Futures and Summer Junior Nationals, and we are trying it.



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ENTRIES AND INTEGRITY

FMC and HSC have elected not to use Online Meet Entry (OME) by USA Swimming for these meets, so we all are on the honor system. Please be conscientious when doing entries to do the right thing, this is deeply appreciated! Both meets are expected to close well before the deadline dates. We will notify teams immediately if you are closed out of one or both events. If you have questions please ask, no early entries will be accepted.

WARM-UPS

Speedo Grand Challenge: Currently, warm-ups for all sessions at the FMC Natatorium are expected to be open (not team assigned) with the last 25 minutes being specific warm-ups. More details are included in the Meet Packet and will be provided prior to and at the Coaches Meeting, Tuesday, 11/18. There will only be assigned warm-ups if deemed necessary and all attending teams will be notified. The Training Pool will be open all weekend for warm up and cool down.

Speedo Classic: Warm-ups for the Speedo Classic will be open (not team assigned) for the Saturday/Sunday evening Finals. The rest of the weekend, warm-ups will be assigned based on the number of swimmers for each team in each Session. The warm-up time for the Friday evening and Saturday/Sunday evening Finals is not that long (in order to get swimmers home and resting as soon as possible), so please plan accordingly. Warm-up times have been slightly adjusted in the Meet Packet in accordance with the Session Timelines from the past few years. Note that the 5 shallow-end lanes at the Don Watson Aquatic Center will be available for warm-up and cool-down for the majority of the time the meet is running in the competition course. More details will be provided prior to and at the Coaches Meeting, Wednesday, 11/19. (Note there are separate Coaches Meetings for each meet one day apart.)



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VENUES & LOCATIONS

FMC Natatorium, 275 Plaza Drive, Westmont, IL

Don Watson Aquatic Center (Hinsdale Central High School), 5500 S Grant Street, Hinsdale, IL

Both the FMC Natatorium and the Don Watson Aquatic Center are newer facilities built in the last 5 years. Both were well thought-out in their designs, displaying in-depth consideration of the total experience in respect towards swimmers, coaches, officials, and spectators as a priority. The facilities both offer deep, fast pools; state-of-the-art air handling systems; bright lighting; excellent sound; and plenty of space on deck and balcony areas. FMC Natatorium has been host to several USA Swimming TYR Pro-Series Meets and the 2023 USA Swimming Winter Junior Nationals, and will continue to host high-level National and International Level meets (including the World Aquatics Swimming World Cup this October). The Don Watson Aquatic Center is located in historic Hinsdale Central High School. Less than 5 miles separate the two facilities, 10 minutes travel time. A variety of hotels, restaurants, shopping, movie theaters, etc. are all in the immediate area. If you're flying in, we're only 30 minutes away from both O'Hare and Midway Airports.

OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS

FMC Aquatic and Hinsdale Swim Club parents will have a great presence as we are looking forward towards these events. That being said, covering two separate locations with three pools may require additional help with Officiating and timing. Details on how to sign-up for timing will be posted shortly after entries are accepted. If you're an Official, please contact the Meet Referee for the meet your swimmer is participating in. The Speedo Grand Challenge Meet Referee (Amber Pareja) will be responsible for organizing all Officials at the FMC Natatorium. The Speedo Classic Meet Referee (Sonny Tran) will be responsible for organizing all Sessions conducted at the Don Watson Aquatic Center.



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HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

There are many great options for hotels in Westmont, Oakbrook, Lombard, and the surrounding areas. There are 2 we would like to recommend: Hilton Chicago/Oakbrook Hills Resort (1 mile from FMC Natatorium/5 miles from HCHS) and the Oakbrook Marriott (across from Oakbrook Mall, only 7-10 minutes away from FMC/HCHS. Rates and information will be posted soon.

Please let us know if you have any questions about either of these meets.

All the best life has to offer!

FMC Aquatic/Hinsdale Swim Club