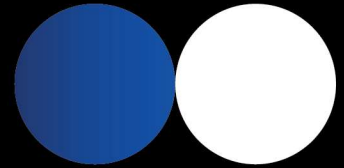
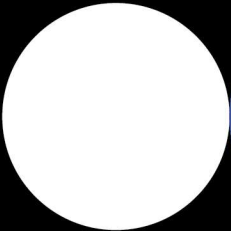
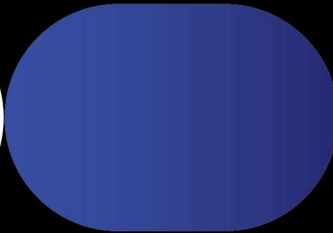


WORLD  
AQUATICS



# ALL SPORTS

COMPETITION  
REGULATIONS





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## PART ONE: RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL AQUATIC SPORTS

### 1 GENERAL RULES FOR OLYMPIC GAMES, WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND WORLD AQUATICS COMPETITIONS

- 1.1** World Aquatics alone shall have the right to organise World Championships and other World Aquatics competitions for Swimming, Diving, High Diving, Water Polo, Artistic Swimming, and Open Water Swimming. The words World and World Aquatics may not be used in connection with any Swimming, Diving, High Diving, Water Polo, Artistic Swimming, or Open Water Swimming event without the consent of World Aquatics.
- 1.2** The World Aquatics Bureau is competent to establish any rules and regulations pertaining to the conduct of the Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships. It will notably establish the qualification period and system.
- 1.3** The Management Committee for the Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships shall be the members of the Bureau, who shall act as the Jury of Appeal.
- 1.4** For World Aquatics Championships and Olympic Games Technical Officials selections shall be determined by the appropriate Technical Committee, subject to approval by the Bureau or the Executive.
- 1.5** For each sport in the Olympic Games and World Championships a Commission shall be appointed consisting of the respective Technical Delegate (Bureau Representative) and Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary of each respective Technical Committee.
- 1.6** Subject to the supervision of the World Aquatics Bureau, the Commissions shall be responsible for:
- the conduct of the competition in the respective sport;
  - the control of all technical equipment and installations prior to and during the event;
  - making rosters for officials; and
  - investigating cases of protest as preparation for the Jury of Appeal.
- 1.7** **Political Action**
- No political action shall take place inside or in the immediate vicinity of event's venue(s). The promotion or announcement, by any means, of political messages or any other political actions inside or in the immediate vicinity of the venue(s) is strictly prohibited before, during and after the championships/competition.
- 1.8** **Provocative Action, Racism**
- The Organisers of championships/competitions shall prevent any provocative action being taken by spectators inside or in the immediate vicinity of the event venue(s) (unacceptable levels of verbal provocation from spectators towards competitors or opposing fans, racist behaviour, provocative banners or flags etc.). Should such action arise, the Organisers of championships/competitions shall intervene over the public address system or remove any offensive material, if necessary, with assistance of the police. Stewards shall draw attention of the police to serious acts of misbehaviour, including racist insults; so that offenders may be removed from the venue should the police decide.

### 2 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND WORLD AQUATICS CALENDAR

- 2.1** An International Competition shall refer to any competition organised or sanctioned by World Aquatics, any Continental or Regional Organisation or any Member in which other World Aquatics-recognised Federations, clubs or individuals participate.
- 2.2** **International Competitions**
- 2.2.1** **International Competitions are divided into the following tiers:**
- Tier 1.** Major Aquatics Competitions - the Olympic Games, World Aquatics Championships, World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m);
- Tier 2.** Other World Aquatics Competitions - World Junior and Youth Championships in each sport, World Cups, World Leagues, and other World Aquatics competitions;



**Tier 3.** Continental and Regional Competitions - Continental or Regional Multi-Sport Games, Competitions organised by Continental or Regional Organisations;

**Tier 4.** Member Federation International Competitions - Events organised or sanctioned by a Member Federation in which other World Aquatics Member Federations, clubs or individuals participate:

**Tier 5.** Other competitions of major international importance as defined by World Aquatics.

**2.2.2** All Continental Organisations, Member Federations, and/or members of World Aquatics (including clubs), as well as independent organizers shall seek approval from World Aquatics before announcing dates and place for championships or events which they organize or sanction within their jurisdiction. Approval is, however, not necessary for national competitions in which foreign clubs or individuals not representing their Member Federation participate. The application for approval shall be submitted to World Aquatics at least six months prior to the proposed date of the championships or events.

**2.2.3** Any approval of the International Competition from World Aquatics shall be subject to all conditions and requirements in accordance with the World Aquatics Rules, notably Article 26 of the Constitution. All athletes must comply with World Aquatics eligibility rules.

### **2.3 World Aquatic Calendar**

**2.3.1** World Aquatics shall compile and publish on its website the World Aquatics Calendar in which all International Competitions approved by World Aquatics shall be listed. When a new application for approval of an International Competition is received, World Aquatics will compare the proposed dates of the new International Competition with the World Aquatics calendar to determine if the new dates conflict with a previously approved International Competition. If a conflict is deemed to exist by World Aquatics (or any other issue arises in connection with the proposed International Competition) after considering the aquatic sport, geographic region of the International Competition and/or age group of the Competitors and/or any other matter which World Aquatics may in its discretion take into consideration, World Aquatics will contact the new applicant and advise them that a conflict exists, and request that the dates be changed or competition is postponed to avoid the conflict. Applicants are advised to check the World Aquatics Calendar for potential conflict in dates prior to applying for approval of a new International Competition. It is the policy of World Aquatics that no International Competition of major international importance, with the exception of Masters competitions, should be held within 30 days prior to any Tier 1 Event, without World Aquatics' prior consent.

**2.3.2** Any cancellation or rescheduling of an International Competition that has been approved by World Aquatics and published on the World Aquatic Calendar shall be reported to World Aquatics as soon as practicable prior to the commencement of that competition.

### **2.4 Competition Programme**

**2.4.1** For Tier 3 Continental or Regional Multi-Sport Competitions or Multi-Sport Games, the Competition Programme should include all aquatic sports where possible. Any Tier 3 International Competition should include at a minimum the Competition Programme for the relevant sport at the prior Olympic Games. For Tier 4 and Tier 5 International Competitions, applicants are asked to state in the application for approval the competition programme to be adopted and any deviation from the Competition Programme for the relevant sport at the prior Olympic Games.

**2.4.2** Any application for approval of any International Competition shall indicate the modifications (if any) of the World Aquatics Rules and Regulations applicable to the event.

**2.4.3** Failure to comply with this Section 2 may lead to possible sanctions in accordance with the World Aquatics Constitution.

## **3 SPORT NATIONALITY**

**3.1** Affiliation and Eligibility to represent a World Aquatics Member.

**3.1.1** An Athlete shall be eligible to compete at an International Competition representing a World Aquatics Member if he/she is affiliated to a sole World Aquatics Member and is a citizen of the Country that the Athlete represents by virtue of:

a) being a citizen of the Country by birth; or

b) being a citizen of the Country through naturalization and having uninterrupted residence in the Country for



**3.1.2** In the event an Athlete is a citizen of a country or Sport Country, but does not meet the requisites mentioned under Part One, Article 3.1.1, he/she shall be eligible to compete at International Competitions for a World Aquatics Member by requesting World Aquatics' approval, which will be granted under the following conditions:

- a) the Athlete shall observe a waiting period of three years during which he/she shall not be entitled to represent a World Aquatics Member at International Competition(s); and
- b) the Athlete shall be able to demonstrate by the end of the waiting period at the latest, that he/she has a genuine, close and established link to the country or Sport Country he/she will represent.

### **3.2 Election of a Sport Nationality**

**3.2.1** The Sport Nationality of an Athlete, if aged of more than sixteen years old or if aged of less than sixteen years old, but that no declaration is formulated as per Part One, Article 3.2.2 under, is established at the occasion of the first International Competition that the Athlete is competing on behalf of a World Aquatics Member. If an Athlete is eligible to compete at International Competitions for more than one World Aquatics Member, he/she may choose which World Aquatics Member to represent, being specified that this choice is exercised by competing on behalf of the World Aquatics Member in an International Competition. Thereafter, an Athlete may only represent that World Aquatics Member in International Competitions.

**3.2.2** An Athlete aged of less than sixteen years-old and who is eligible to compete at International Competitions for more than one World Aquatics Member has the possibility to declare to World Aquatics that his/her choice of sport nationality is under consideration. If he/she participates to an International Competition after having made his/her declaration to World Aquatics, his/her sport nationality will not be established by such participation.

**3.2.3** In derogation of Part One, Article 3.2.2 above, a representation at the World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games determines in all cases a Sport Nationality, no matter the age of the Athlete.

### **3.3 Change of Sport Nationality**

**3.3.1** Any Athlete that intends to change his/her Sport Nationality from one World Aquatics Member to another ("New World Aquatics Member") shall request World Aquatics' approval, which will be granted under the following requisites:

- the Athlete shall observe a waiting period of three years between the last representation for the Member and the first representation for the New World Aquatics Member. The Athlete shall not be entitled to represent any World Aquatics Member at International Competitions during this waiting period;
- the Athlete shall be a citizen by birth or naturalization of the country or Sport Country he/she will represent; and
- the Athlete shall have uninterrupted residence in the country or Sport Country of the New World Aquatics Member for at least three years prior to his/her first International Competitions or shall be able to demonstrate by the end of the waiting period at the latest, that he/she has a genuine, close and established link to the country or Sport Country he/she will represent.

**3.3.2** If an Athlete intends to represent a New World Aquatics Member at any International Competitions, but has previously represented another Member at age categories only (i.e. U16, U18, U20, Youth or Junior), he/she must observe, in derogation of Part One, Article 3.3.1 above, a waiting period of one year between the last representation at age category for the Member and the first representation for the New World Aquatics Member.

### **3.4 Bureau Consultation**

In a case of eligibility or Sport Nationality possessing exceptional and unforeseen circumstances, the Executive Director may consult the Bureau on the application of these rules to an Athlete's particular case. The Executive Director's decision to not consult the Bureau is not appealable.

### **3.5 Possible Breach of the present Rules**

**3.5.1** Any possible breach of the present rules on eligibility and Sport Nationality may be referred to the Aquatics Integrity Unit for investigation and possible proceedings according to the World Aquatics Constitution or other World Aquatics Regulations.



**3.5.2** Without prejudice to any of its other sanctioning powers under the Integrity Code, the Aquatics Integrity Unit may disqualify an Athlete from the International Competitions in question, with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of all titles, awards, medals, points and prize and appearance money, if such Athlete represented a World Aquatics Member at any International Competitions in violation of the present rules on eligibility and Sport Nationality. In the event the Athlete competed as a member of a relay team or a team, the relay team or the team may similarly be disqualified with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of all titles, awards, medals, points and prize and appearance money.

**3.6 Enforcement**

The present rules will come into force immediately on 21 February 2023 and will not have retroactive effect. They will apply to all eligibility and change of sport nationality matters filed with World Aquatics as from 21 February 2023. The World Aquatics Office may apply the previously enforced rules on sport nationality during a transitory period until 31 December 2023 at the latest, if the World Aquatics Member and/or Athlete demonstrates that the Athlete had initiated his/her process of eligibility or change of sport nationality before the entry into force of these new rules and that he/she relied upon the old rules on eligibility and sport nationality to organize his/her career. Such evidence may notably consist of correspondence related to an Athlete's change of sport nationality exchanged between the World Aquatics Member and World Aquatics before the entry into force of these new rules.

**4 POLICY ON ELIGIBILITY FOR THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S COMPETITION CATEGORIES**

World Aquatics is committed to providing safe, fair, inclusive, and non-discriminatory opportunities for all Aquatics Athletes wishing to compete in World Aquatics Competitions. World Aquatics Bureau has thus adopted a Policy on Eligibility for the men's and women's competition categories and fully refers to it. Such Policy and its annexes are a standalone regulation, being noted that some of its provisions are nonetheless included in the present Competitions Regulations regarding eligibility per category (Competitions Regulations Part One, Article 5.2 - 5.6).

**5 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETITION AND FOR SETTING WORLD AQUATICS RECORDS**

**5.1 Affiliation**

Any Athlete shall be affiliated to a World Aquatics Member for being eligible to compete in World Aquatics Competitions and to set World Aquatics World Records in World Aquatics Competitions and other Aquatics events recognised by World Aquatics.

**5.2 Eligibility per category**

**5.2.1** Subject to the requirements set forth below, all Athletes are eligible to compete in the men's category or in the women's category in World Aquatics Competitions and to set World Aquatics World Records in World Aquatics competitions and other events recognised by World Aquatics, whatever their legal gender, gender identity, or gender expression. No Athlete is excluded from a World Aquatics Competition or from setting World Aquatics World Records based on their legal gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

**5.2.2** All issues relating to the eligibility of an Athlete under this Regulations to compete in a particular sex category will be determined by World Aquatics following consultation, as necessary, with one or more independent scientific and medical experts appointed by the World Aquatics Executive. It is an important part of this Regulations that the experts can assess whether a given Athlete meets the eligibility criteria set out below. To that end, World Aquatics may ask the Athlete to provide further information and documents and/or to submit to one or more medical examinations. All costs associated with this assessment will be borne by World Aquatics.

**5.3 Certification**

**5.3.1** Athletes must certify their chromosomal sex with their World Aquatics Member in order to be eligible for World Aquatics Competitions. Failure to do so, or provision of a false certification, will render the Athlete ineligible.

**5.3.2** World Aquatics Member must confirm their Athletes' certifications of chromosomal sex when registering their Athletes to compete in World Aquatics Competitions.



**5.3.3** World Aquatics reserves the right to include a chromosomal sex screen in its anti-doping protocol to confirm such certification.

#### **5.4 Eligibility for the Men's Category**

**5.4.1** All male athletes, including athletes with 46 XY DSD, are eligible to compete in World Aquatics competitions and to set World Aquatics World Records in the men's category, regardless of their legal gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

**5.4.2** Female-to-male transgender athletes (transgender men) are eligible to compete in World Aquatics competitions and to set World Aquatics World Records in the men's category, except that:

**5.4.2.1** For the sports of Water Polo and High Diving, the athlete must provide to World Aquatics an assumption of risk form (in the form set out in Appendix One to this Policy) signed and dated by the athlete or, if the athlete is a minor, by their legal proxy.

*[Comment to Part One, Article 5.4.2.1: It is strongly recommended that the athlete speaks with a qualified medical specialist prior to competition to ensure their physical ability to participate in the event in the men's category and to ensure that they understand the attendant risks.]*

**5.4.2.2** All athletes who are undergoing treatment involving testosterone or other anabolic substances as part of female-to-male gender-affirming hormone treatment are required to obtain a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) for that treatment in accordance with the World Aquatics Doping Control Rules (DCR).

#### **5.5 Eligibility for the Women's Category**

**5.5.1** All female athletes are eligible to compete in World Aquatics competitions and set World Aquatics World Records in the women's category, regardless of their legal gender, gender identity, or gender expression, under the following conditions:

**5.5.1.1** Athletes who have previously used testosterone as part of female-to-male gender-affirming hormone treatment (with or without a TUE) but are no longer following that treatment are eligible to compete in the women's category in World Aquatics competitions and to set World Aquatics World Records in the women's category in World Aquatics competitions and in other events recognised by World Aquatics if they can establish to World Aquatics's comfortable satisfaction that (a) the testosterone use was for less than a year in total (i.e., from the date of first use to the date of last use) and did not take place during pubertal growth and development, and (b) their testosterone levels in serum (or plasma) are back to pre-treatment normal and any associated anabolic effects have been eliminated.

**5.5.1.2** Female athletes who have used testosterone in violation of the World Anti-Doping Code or World Aquatics DCR (or any other applicable anti-doping rules) may return to competition after they have served their period of ineligibility.

**5.5.2** Male-to-female transgender athletes (transgender women) and athletes with 46 XY DSD whose legal gender and/or gender identity is female are eligible to compete in the women's category in World Aquatics competitions and to set World Aquatics World Records in the women's category in World Aquatics competitions and in other events recognised by World Aquatics if they can establish to World Aquatics's comfortable satisfaction that they have not experienced any part of male puberty beyond Tanner Stage 2 or before age 12, whichever is later. Specifically, the athlete must produce evidence establishing that:

**5.5.2.1** They have complete androgen insensitivity and therefore could not experience male puberty; or

**5.5.2.2** They are androgen sensitive but had male puberty suppressed beginning at Tanner Stage 2 or before age 12, whichever is later, and they have since continuously maintained their testosterone levels in serum (or plasma) below 2.5 nmol/L.

**5.5.2.3** An unintentional deviation from the below 2.5 nmol/L requirement may result in retrospective disqualification of results and/or a prospective period of ineligibility.

**5.5.2.4** An intentional deviation from the below 2.5 nmol/L requirement may result in retrospective disqualification of results and a prospective period of ineligibility equal or commensurate in length to periods imposed under the World Aquatics DCR for intentional anti-doping rule violations involving anabolic steroids.

*[Comment to Part One, Article 5.5.2.4: For purposes of the Policy, all measurements of serum testosterone must be conducted by means of liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry.]*



## **5.6 Process for Application**

The process for applications for eligibility is set forth in the Operational Requirements (see Appendix Two to this Policy).

# **6 REGISTRATIONS AND SPORTS ENTRIES**

## **6.1 General - Registration and Sport Entries**

### **6.1.1 For World Aquatics Events**

**6.1.1.1** Each National Federation concerned must confirm its desire to take part in the World Championships by completing the preliminary entries in the World Aquatics General Management System ('GMS') by the defined "preliminary entries" deadline.

All entries must be fully submitted in the GMS before the date determined by World Aquatics as published in the respective summons for the Championships. World Aquatics shall verify all registrations according to appropriate eligibility rules for participation and competitor entry for each competition.

**6.1.1.2** Each National Federation must confirm the final number of male and female competitors that will attend the Championships by completing their nomination in the GMS by the defined "nomination deadline".

### **6.1.2 For Olympic Games**

Sport entries shall be made on official forms signed by the Secretary of the respective National Olympic Committee and delivered to the Organising Committee of the Country holding the Games, on or before the date determined by the International Olympic Committee. The World Aquatics Office shall claim these entries at least seven (7) days before the start of the first competition.

### **6.1.3 Substitution**

Any entered competitor may be substituted by another entered competitor at the Team Leaders' Meeting. It is mandatory for one representative of each Federation to take part in the Team Leaders' Meeting. Failing to do so will result in a fine of one-hundred (100) Swiss Francs.

### **6.1.4 Withdrawal**

In all competitions except water polo, a competitor or team not wishing to take part in a semi-final or final in which qualification was earned shall withdraw within thirty (30) minutes following the preliminaries or the semi-finals of the event in which the qualification took place. The Member Federation of any competitor who withdraws from the heats/preliminary rounds after the Team Leaders' Meeting or from a semi-final or final more than thirty (30) minutes after the preliminaries or semi-finals of the event in which qualification was earned, shall pay without excuse to the World Aquatics the sum of one-hundred (100) Swiss francs; in case of a relay, duet, team or combination, the sum shall be two-hundred (200) Swiss francs.

If a team withdraws from a World Aquatics Water Polo event any time after the draw has been concluded, and without the approval of the Management Committee, then that team will be sanctioned by the Bureau with an economic sanction of eight-thousand (8,000) Swiss Francs, from which six-thousand (6,000) Swiss Francs goes to the Organiser, and suspension from all competitions for a minimum period of three months up to a maximum period of two years.

### **6.1.5 Disqualification**

In Swimming, Diving, and Artistic Swimming, where a competitor who competed in the semi-finals or final is disqualified for any reason, including medical control, the position he/she would have held shall be awarded to the competitor who finished next and all the lower placing competitors in the semi-finals or final shall be advanced one place. If the disqualification occurs after the presentation of awards, the awards shall be returned and given to the appropriate competitors applying the foregoing provisions.

### **6.1.6 Specific cases**

**6.1.6.1** Competitors entered for Diving, High Diving, Water Polo, and Artistic Swimming cannot swim relay events, and those entered for Swimming, Open Water Swimming, Diving, High Diving and Artistic Swimming cannot be used as Water Polo reserves, with the provision that one and the same swimmer could compete in Water Polo as well as other Swimming competitions, if officially entered for such competitions.





**6.1.6.2** If an error by an official follows a fault by a competitor, the fault by the competitor may be expunged. If an official's call on deck leads to a review of an athlete's potential infraction, and it is deemed that the athlete made no error, the athlete will be cleared of the inquiry. Additionally, if an error by a competitor follows a fault by an official, the fault of the competitor shall be expunged.

## **6.2 Swimming - Registration and Sport Entries**

### **6.2.1 Standard Entry Times A and B**

For each individual event at the World Aquatics Championships, the World Aquatics Bureau will establish Standard Entry Times in two levels: "A" and "B", of which "B" shall be easier to achieve.

- Standard Entry Times can only be achieved in competitions approved for that purpose by World Aquatics.
- For each individual event at the World Aquatics Championships, each National Federation may enter a maximum of two (2) competitors. To enter two (2) swimmers in the same event, both of them must have achieved the "A" Standard Entry Time.
- To enter one (1) swimmer in an event, the competitor must have achieved at least the "B" Standard Entry Time.
- Swimmers having achieved only one (1) "A" or one "B" entry time are entitled to enter one (1) additional event. The additional individual event must be in an event where no other swimmer from the National Federation has been entered.

#### **6.2.1.1 Sport Entry with no Standard Times**

At the World Aquatics Championships, National Federations may enter swimmers who have not achieved either Standard Entry Time as follows:

- With no swimmers who have achieved the "A" or "B" Standard Entry Time: National Federations may enter up to four (4) swimmers, two (2) men and two (2) women.
- With one (1) or two (2) swimmers who has achieved the "A" or "B" Standard Entry Time: National Federations may enter up to a maximum of four (4) swimmers (two (2) men and two (2) women), and with three (3) swimmers who have achieved the "A" or "B" Standard Entry Time, one (1) additional swimmer provided that both genders are represented.
- The swimmers who have not achieved a Standard Entry Time will only be permitted to enter up to two (2) individual events each.
- An individual entry for a swimmer without an "A" or "B" Standard Entry Time must be in an event where no other swimmer from the National Federation has been entered.

#### **6.2.2 Entry of Relays**

At the World Aquatics Championships, each National Federation may enter only one (1) team in each relay. The members of such entered team(s) shall comprise:

- Any swimmers entered in individual events even if they have not achieved a "A" or "B" Standard Entry Time for the corresponding stroke and distance of the relay in which they are entered;

Additional swimmers as relay-only competitors, provided that they have achieved the "B" Standard Entry Time for the corresponding stroke and distance of the relay in which they are entered. Any additional swimmers must be within the maximum quota of swimmers for the event.

#### **The following formula shall apply:**

- One (1) Relay: two (2) additional swimmers
- Two (2) Relays: four (4) additional swimmers
- Three (3) Relays: six (6) additional swimmers
- Four (4) Relays: eight (8) additional swimmers
- Five (5) Relays: ten (10) additional swimmers
- Six (6) or more Relays: twelve (12) additional swimmers

**6.2.2.1** The names of swimmers actually swimming on a relay must be submitted at least one hour before the start of the session in which the event is to take place, in the order in which they are to swim. The names of swimmers in medley relay events must be listed for their respective strokes.

#### **6.2.3 Swimming Qualifying Times**



- World Aquatics will maintain a listing of Swimming Qualifying Times achieved during the qualification period, called the World Aquatics Rankings.
- National Federations will enter swimmers and relay teams using the World Aquatics Rankings as the entry time for seeding purposes. Where no valid time information is recorded in the World Aquatics Rankings, the swimmer or relay team will be entered with no time.
- Only valid times included in the World Aquatics Rankings at the date of the deadline for entries and achieved within the qualification period can be accepted as entry times.
- The National Federation must fully submit all sports entries via the GMS in accordance with the established entry deadlines in order to be accepted for the competition.
- The heats, semi-finals and finals shall be arranged in accordance with Part II, under the supervision of the Technical Swimming Committee.

**6.2.4 Maximum number of swimmers**

Each Member Federation may enter a maximum number of twenty-six (26) men and twenty-six (26) women swimmers.

**6.2.5 Publication of Sport Entry List**

The entry list shall be published at least four (4) days before the first day of competition.

**6.2.6 Qualification system**

The World Aquatics Bureau is competent to develop and define the Swimming qualification principles/system related to World Aquatics Championships and World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m).

For the Olympic Games, it will be done in collaboration with the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

**6.3 Open Water Swimming - Registration and Sport Entries****6.3.1 Sports Entries for the Olympic Games and the World Aquatics Championships**

Each Member Federation may enter a maximum of two (2) male and two (2) female competitors per individual event.

For team events in the World Championships, the Member Federation can enter only one (1) team per event comprised of two male and two female Competitors. Athletes may only swim in one team event. Withdrawals can be made up to and including the Teams Leaders' Meeting.

**6.3.2 Sport Entry for World Aquatics Junior Open Water Swimming Championships**

Each Member Federation may enter a maximum of two (2) male and two (2) female competitors per individual event.

For team events in the World Aquatics Junior Open Water Championships, the Member Federation can enter only one (1) team per event comprised of two male and two female Competitors. Athletes may only swim in one team event.

Teams events in 14-15-16; & U/19. Swimmers may only swim one team event.

**6.3.3 Qualification system**

The World Aquatics Bureau is competent to develop and define the qualification principles/system related to World Aquatics Championships.

For the Olympic Games, qualifying criteria will be determined in collaboration with the IOC.

**6.4 Diving - Registration and Sport Entries****6.4.1 Sports Entry for the World Aquatics Championships**

Each Member may enter a maximum of two (2) competitors, regardless of standards, for each individual event and one (1) team of two (2) competitors for each synchronised diving event.

**6.4.2 Qualification system**

The World Aquatics Bureau is competent to develop and define the Diving qualification principles/system related to World Aquatics Championships.

For the Olympic Games, it will be done in collaboration with the IOC.

**6.5 Artistic Swimming - Registration and Sport Entries****6.5.1 Sports Entries for the Olympic Games and the World Aquatics Championships**

For Olympic Games, Team routines shall consist of eight (8) athletes. The total number of athletes entered by each Member Federation (unless otherwise specified) may not exceed nine (9) athletes, one as reserve. The total number of athletes may include a maximum of two (2) male athletes.

For World Aquatics Championships and World Aquatics competitions, team routines shall consist of eight (8) competitors and ten (10) for Free Combination.

For Artistic Swimming World Aquatics competitions the total number of competitors entered by each Member Federation (unless otherwise specified) may not exceed fourteen (14) competitors including maximum two male competitors only if the Federation enters Mixed Duets/Teams.

**6.5.2 Sports Entries World Aquatics Junior Artistic Swimming Championships**

Each Member Federation shall be entitled to enter one Technical Solo, one Free Solo, one Technical Duet, one Free Duet, one Technical Mixed Duet, one Free Mixed Duet, one Technical Team, one Free Team, and one Acrobatic routine.

**6.5.3 Qualification system**

The World Aquatics Bureau is competent to develop and define the qualification principles/system related to World Aquatics Championships.

For the Olympic Games, it will be done in collaboration with the IOC.

**6.6 Water Polo****6.6.1 Sports Entries For Water Polo**, an entry of a maximum of thirteen (13) players per game may be accepted.

For the World Aquatics Championships thirteen (13) players and two (2) reserved players can be registered, but thirteen (13) players are in the actual playing squad. For the other World Aquatics Water Polo Events, the number of registered players may vary, but there are maximum of thirteen (13) players on a game.

For the Olympic Games, an entry of a maximum of thirteen (13) players may be accepted.

**6.6.2 Number of Teams for World Aquatics Championships****6.6.2.1 Men****6.6.2.1.1 The competition shall be between a maximum of sixteen (16) teams selected in the following manner:****6.6.2.1.2** The four (4) highest ranking teams from the preceding World Aquatics Championships, or Olympic Games, two (2) highest ranking teams from the preceding year's World Cup (formerly World League), one (1) team from the host country and nine (9) teams from the five (5) continents to be selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental championships. The nine (9) teams from the continents shall be selected according to the following formula: Europe - 3; Americas - 2; Asia - 2; Africa - 1; and Oceania - 1.**6.6.2.1.3** If any one of the teams qualified from the preceding year's World Cup (formerly World League) are in the first four (4) from the preceding World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games, the next ranked team from that World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games qualifies.**6.6.2.1.4** The highest qualifying team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships shall be entitled to represent that continent; if any team does not accept, then the next highest ranking team willing to accept and participate in the World Aquatics Championships shall qualify.**6.6.2.1.5** If the host country is already included in the four (4) highest ranking teams from the preceding World Aquatics Championships, World Cup or Olympic Games, then that entry position shall be filled by the next highest placed team from that World Aquatics Championships Olympic Games.**6.6.2.1.6** If another of the four (4) highest ranking teams from the preceding World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games or one (1) of the two (2) highest ranking teams from the preceding year's World Cup does not enter, then that position shall be filled from the next highest placed team from that World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games.



- 6.6.2.1.7** If no team enters from a continent or if there is an unfilled vacancy from among the teams qualifying from the preceding World Aquatics Championships, Olympic Games or preceding year's World Cup, then each vacancy for that World Championship shall be filled by the next highest placed team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships with the following rotation: Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania and Africa.
- 6.6.2.2 Women**
- 6.6.2.2.1 The competition shall be between a maximum of sixteen (16) teams selected in the following manner:**
- 6.6.2.2.2** The four (4) highest ranking teams from the preceding World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games, two (2) highest ranking teams from the preceding year's World Cup (formerly World League), one (1) team from the host country and nine (9) teams from the five (5) continents to be selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental championships. The nine (9) teams from the continents shall be selected according to the following formula: Europe - 3; Americas - 2; Asia - 2; Africa - 1; and Oceania - 1.
- 6.6.2.2.3** If any one of the teams qualified from the preceding year's World Cup are in the first four (4) from the preceding World Aquatics Championships, World Cup or Olympic Games, the next ranked team from that World Championships or Olympic Games qualifies.
- 6.6.2.2.4** The highest qualifying team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships shall be entitled to represent that continent; if any team does not accept, then the next highest ranking team willing to accept and participate in the World Championships shall qualify.
- 6.6.2.2.5** If the host country is already included in the four (4) highest ranking teams from the preceding World Aquatics Championships, World Cup or Olympic Games, then that entry position shall be filled by the next highest placed team from that World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games.
- 6.6.2.2.6** If another of the four (4) highest ranking teams from the preceding World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games or one (1) of the two (2) highest ranking teams from the preceding year's World Cup does not enter, then that position shall be filled from the next highest placed team from that World Championships or Olympic Games.
- 6.6.2.2.7** If no team enters from a continent or if there is an unfilled vacancy from among the teams qualifying from the preceding World Aquatics Championships or Olympic Games or preceding year's World Cup, then each vacancy for that World Championship shall be filled by the next highest placed team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championship with the following rotation: Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania and Africa.
- 6.6.3 Number of Teams for Olympic Games**
- 6.6.3.1 Men**
- The competition shall be between twelve (12) teams
- 6.6.3.2 Women**
- The competition shall be for ten (10) teams.
- 6.6.3.3 Qualification system**
- In collaboration with IOC, the World Aquatics Bureau is competent to develop and define the qualification principles/system related to the Olympic Games
- 6.6.4 Number of Teams for World Aquatics Water Polo Championships U20**
- 6.6.4.1 Men**
- 6.6.4.1.1** The competition may be between twenty (20) teams.
- 6.6.4.1.2** For the twenty (20) team competition, the competition may occur at two (2) sites in one country. The host country will be responsible for the transportation of the teams from one site to another as required. This transportation will be at the expense of the host country.
- 6.6.4.1.3** In the case of a maximum twenty (20) team competition, the teams shall include the highest-ranking team from the preceding U20 World Aquatics Championships with the remaining teams selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental qualification tournaments or continental championships according to the following formula: Europe - 7; Americas - 5; Asia - 4; Africa - 2; and Oceania - 2. The host to be included in the Continental quota. The highest ranking team from the preceding U20 World Aquatics Championships will be considered to be a representative of that continent for the purpose of the formula.



- 6.6.4.1.4** The highest qualifying team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships shall be entitled to represent that continent; if any team does not accept, then the next highest-ranking team willing to accept and participate in the World Junior Championships shall qualify.
- 6.6.4.2 Women**
- 6.6.4.2.1** The competition may be between twenty (20) teams.
- 6.6.4.2.2** For the twenty (20) team competition, the competition may occur at two (2) sites in one country. The host country will be responsible for the transportation of the teams from one site to another as required. This transportation will be at the expense of the host country.
- 6.6.4.2.3** In the case of a maximum twenty (20) team competition, the teams shall include the highest-ranking team from the preceding U20 World Aquatics Championships with the remaining teams selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental qualification tournaments or continental championships according to the following formula: Europe - 7; Americas - 5; Asia - 4; Africa - 2; and Oceania - 2. The host to be included in the Continental quota. The highest-ranking team from the preceding U20 World Aquatics Championships will be considered to be a representative of that continent for the purpose of the formula.
- 6.6.4.2.4** The highest qualifying team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships shall be entitled to represent that continent; if any team does not accept, then the next highest-ranking team willing to accept and participate in the World Junior Championships shall qualify.
- 6.6.4.2.5** For a maximum of twenty (20) team competition, if there is an unfilled vacancy from a continent, then that vacancy shall be filled by the next highest placed team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championship with the following rotation: Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania and Africa.
- 6.6.5 Number of Teams for World Aquatics Water Polo Championships U18**
- 6.6.5.1 Men**
- 6.6.5.1.1** The competition may be between twenty (20) teams.
- 6.6.5.1.2** For a twenty (20) team competition, the competition may occur at two (2) sites in one country. The host country will be responsible for the transportation of the teams from one site to another as required. This transportation will be at the expense of the host country.
- 6.6.5.1.3** In the case of twenty (20) team competition, the teams shall include the highest-ranking team from the preceding World Youth Championships with the remaining teams selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental championships according to the following formula: Host - 1; Europe - 7; Americas - 5; Asia - 3; Africa 2; and Oceania - 2. The highest-ranking team from the preceding World Youth 3 Championships will be considered to be a representative of that continent for the purpose of the formula.
- 6.6.5.1.4** The highest qualifying team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships shall be entitled to represent that continent; if any team does not accept, then the next highest ranking team willing to accept and participate in the World Youth Championships shall qualify.
- 6.6.5.1.5** For a maximum twenty (20) team competition, if there is an unfilled vacancy from a continent, then that vacancy shall be filled by the next highest-placed team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championship with the following rotation: Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania and Africa.
- 6.6.5.2 Women**
- 6.6.5.2.1** The competition may be between twenty (20) teams.
- 6.6.5.2.2** In the case of a maximum twenty (20) team competition, the teams shall include the highest-ranking team from the preceding U20 World Aquatics Championships with the remaining teams selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental qualification tournaments or continental championships according to the following formula: Europe - 7; Americas - 5; Asia - 4; Africa - 2; and Oceania - 2. The host to be included in the Continental quota. The highest-ranking team from the preceding U20 World Aquatics Championships will be considered to be a representative of that continent for the purpose of the formula.
- 6.6.5.2.3** The highest qualifying team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships shall be entitled to represent that continent; if any team does not accept, then the next highest ranking team from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships shall be entitled to represent that continent.



**6.6.5.2.4** If there is an unfilled vacancy from a continent, then that vacancy shall be filled by the next highest placed team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championships with the following rotation: Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania and Africa.

**6.6.6 Number of Teams for World Aquatics Water Polo Championships U16**

The competition may be between a maximum of thirty two (32) men teams and a maximum of twenty four (24) women teams. The list of teams is upon Continental invitations. The teams shall include the highest ranking team from the preceding World U16 Championships with remaining teams selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental championships and finally on Continental recommendation.

**6.6.7 Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Men**

The competition shall be between a maximum of twelve (12) teams selected through continental qualification tournaments or continental championships in the following manner:

The twelve (12) teams from the continents shall be selected according to the following formula: Europe - 5; Americas - 3; Asia - 2; Africa - 1; and Oceania - 1. The Host Country will be considered to be a representative from that Continent.

The highest qualifying team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championship (except the team who has already qualified) shall be entitled to represent that continent; if any teams do not accept, then the next highest ranking team willing to accept and participate in the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament shall qualify.

If there is an unfilled vacancy from a continent, then that vacancy shall be filled by the next highest placed team(s) from the continental qualification tournament or continental championship with the following rotation: host continent of the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament, Americas, Asia, Europe, Oceania and Africa.

**6.6.8 Qualification for Olympic Games - Women**

The competition shall be for a maximum of ten (10) teams selected in the following manner:

The first team from the preceding year's World Cup.

The first team from the preceding World Championships. If this team has already qualified from the preceding year's World Cup, the next ranked team from the World Championships qualifies.

The Host Country will automatically qualify.

Automatically, one (1) team from the Continental Championships of the five (5) continents. If it is qualified at the preceding year's World Cup, or at the preceding FINA World Championships, then the next ranked team from the continental championships will qualify.

The other two (2) teams qualify from the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Women.

If for any reason, qualified teams do not wish to participate in the Olympic Games, the next ranking team(s) will then be taken in order from their placing at the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Women.

AQUA has authority to amend the rule and list in chronological order to reflect the qualification of teams in accordance with the timing of AQUA Events.

## **7 SWIMWEAR AND WEARABLES**

**7.1 Swimwear for all Aquatics sports**

Swimwear to be used in World Aquatics Competitions, World Aquatics Sanctioned Competitions, qualifying events for World Aquatics Competitions or Olympic Games shall meet the requirements provided in this section. The Rules in this Section are also complemented by Swimwear Rules per Aquatics sports (Part One, Articles 3 – 9) and Technical & Approval Implementing Rules for Swimwear (Part One, Article 7.5).

The Athlete's safety and health are to be taken into consideration and all matters regarding Swimwear shall be treated with due regard to fair play and a sound development of the Sports.

Athletes' Swimwear shall be in good moral taste and suitable for the individual Aquatics sports and not to carry any symbols which may be considered offensive.



These rules do not regulate directly issues on markings (team, emblems, manufacturer markings, sponsor markings), which are described under Part One, Article 8. However, they address markings (including also technical markings) in connection with their potential relevance from the point of view of the approval criteria (notably thickness and permeability).

## **7.2 Swimwear Approval Procedure for Swimming and Open Water**

**7.2.1** Swimwear to be used in World Aquatics Competitions, World Aquatics Sanctioned Competitions, qualifying events for World Aquatics Competitions or Olympic Games in Swimming and Open Water shall be approved by World Aquatics.

**7.2.2** The Technical & Approval Implementing Rules for Swimwear (Part One, Article 7.5) define the requirements linked to design, composition, colour, material, flexibility, construction and others related to Swimsuit, Wetsuit, Caps and Goggles.

**7.2.3** The Approval Procedure of Swimwear is conducted by the World Aquatics Office and supervised by an independent swimwear expert.

### **7.2.4 The Independent Swimwear Expert – Appointment**

The Independent Swimwear Expert is appointed and removed by the World Aquatics Bureau. He/she shall be independent from the manufacturers. In particular, he/she shall not have any relationship with a Swimwear manufacturer (whether of contractual nature or as a shareholder direct or indirect) nor have had such during the five (5) preceding years.

### **7.2.5 The Independent Swimwear Expert – Role**

The Independent Swimwear Expert shall develop and propose uniform principles and directions for the approval of new advancements in the field of competition equipment.

The Independent Swimwear Expert will have the following responsibilities and authority:

- to check if the swimwear complies with the technical requirements of these Regulations, and the Technical & Approval Implementing Rules for Swimwear, in cooperation with the testing laboratory;
- to approve or reject the application submitted by the manufacturers;
- to provide expertise to the World Aquatics Office; and
- any other matter related to Swimwear.

**7.2.6** Implementing rules regarding the Approval Procedure, notably as such as the submission, the examination of a submission, the notification of the results of a submission, or re-submission, are defined under the Technical & Approval Implementing Rules for Swimwear.

**7.2.7** To be approved, the Swimwear shall be available on the market (available for purchase by World Aquatics Member Federations and Athletes) at the latest by 1<sup>st</sup> January following the publication of the List of Approved Swimwear as per Part One, Article 7.4 and 7.5.

## **7.3 Testing**

Testing standards applicable to the examination, in particular thickness and permeability measurements, are determined under the Technical & Approval Implementing Rules for Swimwear (Part One, Article 7.5).

## **7.4 List of Approved Swimwear**

World Aquatics will annually publish by 1st September at the latest a List of Approved Swimwear that may be used by Athletes at World Aquatics Competitions, World Aquatics Sanctioned Competitions, qualifying events for World Aquatics Competitions or Olympic Games in Swimming and Open Water. The List of Approved Swimwear will include the Swimwear approved the previous years (subject to a change in the implementing rules regarding the Approval Procedure) and the Swimwear approved during the last Approval Procedure.

In order to present an accurately updated publication of the List of Approved Swimwear, Applicants shall notify to World Aquatics, by 15th July of each year at the latest, about (i) formerly approved Swimwear which are to be discontinued by the next 1st January, and (ii) newly approved Swimwear which will not be available by the next 1st January. The discontinued and non-available Products will be removed or will not be included in the List of Approved Swimwear for the subsequent year.

## **7.5 Technical and Approval Implementing Rules for Swimwear**



Before any swimwear with a new design, Construction or Material is used in competition, the manufacturer of such swimwear must submit the swimwear to World Aquatics and obtain approval of World Aquatics.

The Swimwear and/or Material used must not put the health of the athletes at risk.

## **7.5.1 Swimsuits**

This section is related to Swimsuits used in Swimming and in Open Water Swimming Sports with a water temperature 18°C and above.

### **7.5.1.1 Design**

#### **7.5.1.1.1 Decency**

The wearing of the swimsuit shall not offend morality and good taste (in particular, but not exclusively, because of the cut of the suit and body parts exposure whether covered or not).

#### **7.5.1.1.2 Shape (Surface covered)**

For swimsuits used in pool Swimming competitions:

Women's swimsuits shall not cover the neck or extend past the shoulders, or below the knee.

Men's swimsuits shall not extend above the navel or below the knee.

For swimsuits used in Open Water Swimming competitions:

Men's and Women's swimsuits shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, or extend below the ankle.

Swimsuits fulfilling shape requirements for pool competitions comply a fortiori with shape requirements for Open Water Swimming competitions.

Please contact the World Aquatics Office with any cultural or religious concerns with the application of this rule.

### **7.5.1.2 Structure / Composition / Other items**

Men's swimsuits are in one (1) piece.

Subject to observance of the decency rule and limitations of the body surface covered, women's swimsuits may be in one (1) or two (2) pieces.

Other items covering the body that are not part of the swimsuit are prohibited.

### **7.5.1.3 Colours**

To avoid any doubt, colours will not be considered as part of the design. Colours can vary freely.

However, colour variations shall not affect compliance with any requirements and tested values.

### **7.5.1.4 Material (general)**

#### **7.5.1.4.1 Type of Material**

The Material used for swimsuits can be only "textile Fabric(s)".

For the purpose of these rules, this is defined as Material consisting of, natural and/or synthetic, individual and non-consolidated yarns used to constitute a fabric by weaving, knitting, and/or braiding.

#### **7.5.1.4.1.1 Non-textile Material/elements/applications**

Non-textile Material/elements/applications can be used on seams in the following cases:

In "edge seams" including in particular "grippers", to ensure holding functions, e.g. through silicone strips and/or elastic cord(s).

In waistbands and straps (e.g. elastic cord inside folded Material)

Use of glue to fix the seam or the corresponding reinforcement tapes on (e.g. to hold welded seams or to cover seams in merging areas)

#### **7.5.1.4.2 Surface treatment of the textile fabric**





Any Material added on to the surface of the textile fabric (any part thereof) or processing of the same (e.g. coating, printing, impregnation, heating, calendaring etc.) shall not close the overall open mesh structure of the base textile fabric.

The treated Material shall further comply with all requirements specified in these rules and particularly in regard to thickness, permeability and flexibility which must be and remain compliant, both at production stage until finished product stage and when the swimsuits are in actual use.

The rules regarding surface treatment do not apply to seams (sawn, welded, taped, glued, etc.), markings (manufacturer and/or sponsor logos as permitted by the applicable competition rules; printed or affixed on the base Material) or labels (homologation or technical labels as permitted by the rules).

**7.5.1.4.3 Flexibility**

The Material shall be flexible and soft folding.

**7.5.1.4.4 Regular flat Material**

The Material shall be regular and flat.

The Material shall not form outstanding shapes or structures, such as scales.

A thickness variation of the Material is permitted provided the thinnest point should not be less than 50% of the thickest point.

The overall thickness limitation (0.8 mm) shall in any event be respected at the thickest point(s).

**7.5.1.4.5 Variation of Material colours**

Variation of colours (or country-colours design) of the same Material is possible as long as the colouring does not affect compliance with tested value limits. Manufacturers are fully responsible to ensure that requirements in respect of all tested values (permeability, thickness, etc.) are respected in any colour variation.

Accordingly, the applicants may, but are not obliged, to submit Material samples for all colours variations they may intend to use for a particular model. However, the Material samples provided must be consistent with the submitted swimsuit sample.

**This implies:**

- The Materials samples provided must be provided in the same colour as used in the corresponding submitted swimsuit sample;
- If a submitted swimsuit sample is made of patches of the same Material in different colours, then corresponding Material samples shall be provided for each of the colours actually used in the submitted swimsuit sample.

**7.5.1.4.6 Outside treatment**

No outside treatment shall be added on the Material.

**7.5.1.4.7 Variety of Materials**

Different materials may be used in one swimsuit provided that all materials are textile fabrics as defined above and that the swimsuit complies with all other criteria.

**7.5.1.4.8 Combination/inside layer**

A combination of maximum two (2) layers of Materials is permitted.

The combination of layers shall not create outstanding shape(s) or structure(s). An inside layer of Material can be used notably for comfort, protection of sensitive parts or decency.

Permeability and thickness of layered Materials shall be measured on both layers as combined together and the combination of layers must thus comply with thickness and permeability requirements as set forth in these rules in all parts of the swimsuit.

For the testing, applicants must provide unbound sample of each Material. The fabric samples submitted for approval shall be cut in the principle direction of the yarns/fabric (in the direction of the roll of Material).

**7.5.1.5 Measurements of the Material**

**7.5.1.5.1 Thickness**

The total thickness of Material(s) used shall have a maximum value of 0.8 mm.

The thickness of layered Materials is the total thickness of both layers measured together.

It is clarified that this maximum thickness does not apply to seams as far as the seams are functional, and their thickness and width are the result of their natural functions.

The measurement procedure for thickness is described in the Testing Section (Part One, Article 7.5.6.1).

**7.5.1.5.2 Permeability**

Material(s) used must have at any point (except on seams, logos or labels) a permeability value of more than 80 liters/m<sup>2</sup>/second.

Permeability values are measured on Material with a standard multidirectional stretch of 25%.

However, measures on Material which cannot be significantly stretched will be carried out on unstretched, flattened Material.

Permeability of layered Materials is the permeability of both layers measured together.

The measurement procedure for permeability is described in the Testing Section (Part One, Article 7.5.6.2).

Permeability will not be tested on seams, provided they are considered as legitimate and functional seams. Seams must remain limited to functional purposes. The use of seams shall not affect compliance with requirements. However, the seams themselves are exempted from the application of the thickness rule and the permeability is not measured on seams.

**7.5.1.6 Construction**

No zippers or other fastening system is allowed.

Seams shall be limited to functional systems and shall not create outside shapes.

Use of seams (notably number, overall length, and disposition) shall not affect compliance with the requirements set forth herein.

External stimulation or influence: swimsuits which include any system providing external stimulation or has an influence of any type (including pain reduction, chemical/medical substance release, electro stimulation etc.) are prohibited.

**7.5.1.6.1 Seams**

Swimsuits include various elements which have a joining, binding and/or finishing function (seams).

**These seams include:**

- Seams in the narrow meaning of the word (i.e. the element binding different parts of continuous Material).
- Edge Seams at the edges of the swimsuits.
- Grippers, i.e. edge seams which hold the legs of the swimsuits in place and.
- Waistbands holding jammers or briefs.
- Further Straps may be used to hold the upper part of women bodysuits.

All these elements have a specific construction (i.e. sewn or welded seams, use of folded Material, use of elastic bands or silicone or similar strips) which is different from the sole use of textile Material. In each case, the functionality of the seams will be evaluated according to the above definition including grippers, waistbands and straps. Without prejudice to decisions in specific cases regarding these elements, the following principles will be taken into consideration.

**7.5.1.6.1.1 General principles**

The below is provided for guidance only and without prejudice. The decision will be based on an overall evaluation of the individual swimsuits. The purposes of the seams are:

- To join together the elements of the swimsuit = seams
- To finish properly the swimsuit at its edges = edge seams
- To prevent the swimsuit legs to roll back = grippers
- To hold a jammer or brief = waistband



- To maintain the upper part of a women's bodysuit = straps

The seams must be fit for the above purposes and shall have no other function.

The elements described in Part One, Article 7.5.1.6.1.2 and Part One, Article 7.5.1.6.1.3 will be considered in this respect:

#### 7.5.1.6.1.2 Width

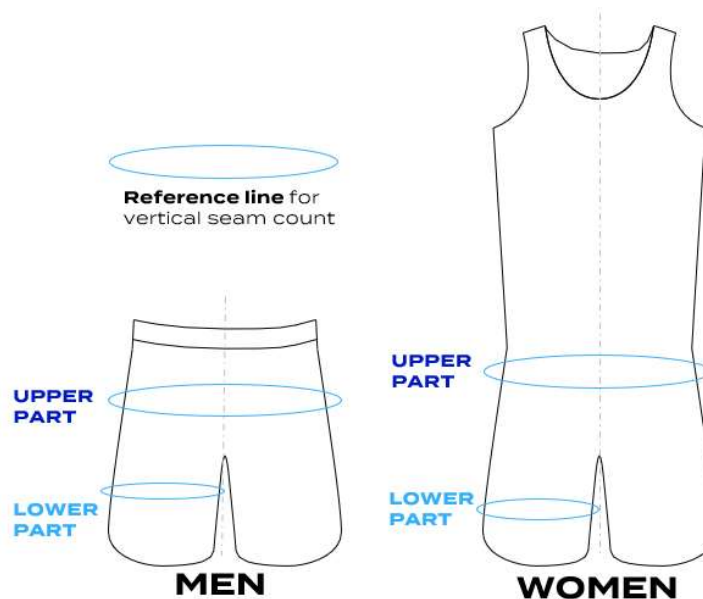
- Joining seams shall not exceed **5 mm**.
- Reinforcement/protection tapes such as those used to form or cover welded seams shall not exceed **20 mm**.
- Edge seams and grippers shall not exceed **20 mm**.
- Waistbands shall not exceed **25.4 mm (= one inch)**.
- Straps, or combination of straps, shall not exceed **50 mm**.

In case of seams based on a technique using glue and a covering tape (notably to take into account overspill or irregularities in the treatment), the glued area is part of the seam (bounding area) and must remain within the maximum width.

#### 7.5.1.6.1.3 Number of seams

Excessive number of seams is prohibited.

Development in regard of seams will be carefully observed. The Independent Swimwear Expert reserves the possibility to intervene against excessive or non-functional seams.



The authorised number of seams are:

For the upper part (above the crotch area):

- 9 seams for Men swimsuits,
- 11 seams for Women swimsuits.

For the lower part (below the crotch area):

- 4 on each leg for both Men and Women suits.

When two (2) or more seams are combined or merged, they count as two or more different seams in any area where their combined width is above the maximum width of a seam.

The reference line is always horizontal.

The total number of seams is the sum of the full circumflex.

**7.5.2 Wetsuits**

This section is related to wetsuit used in Open Water Swimming competitions with water temperature below 18°C.

**7.5.2.1 Design**

Wetsuits shall completely cover torso, back, shoulders and knees. They shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists and ankles.

The body parts, after the elbow and/or below the knee, does not necessarily to be covered.

**7.5.2.2 Composition**

Wetsuits for both men and women shall be in one (1) piece.

**7.5.2.3 Type of Material**

Material used for wetsuits must have thermal insulation properties (for example foam of polychloroprene (Neoprene) or of polyurethane or other Material with similar insulating properties).

*Note: The thermal insulation properties are not controlled nor tested in the approval procedure. The approval does not constitute any warranty or confirmation by World Aquatics and/or the Independent Swimwear Expert, of the capacity of the approved wetsuits models, when used, to effectively protect the swimmers from low temperature.*

The Material can be multilayered, with non-water permeable layers.

The Material cannot contain injected gas.

Material without insulating properties cannot be used.

**7.5.2.4 Measurement of Material****7.5.2.4.1 Thickness**

The thickness of Materials used shall be minimum 3 mm and maximum 5 mm.

Provided the insulating functions are not prejudiced, the Applicant may apply for lowering of the minimum thickness value in limited specific areas, if such is functionally justified to allow free swimmer's movements. A decision in this respect is made at the Independent Swimwear Expert' s discretion and cannot be challenged.

**7.5.2.4.2 Permeability**

Permeability is not measured.

**7.5.2.5 Construction**

Zippers or other fastening systems are allowed without specific limitations.

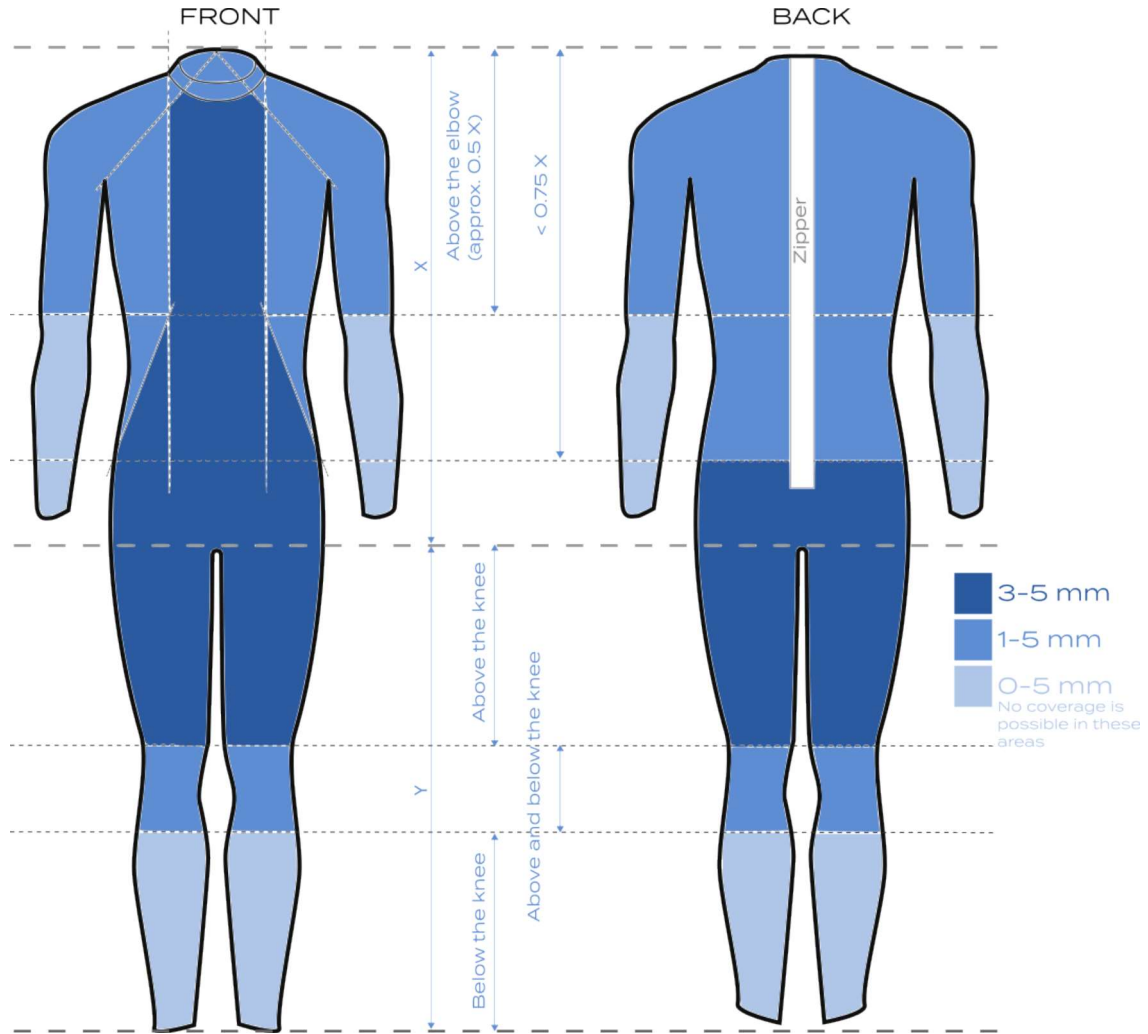
They must be functional.

**7.5.2.6 Guidelines for coverage and measures**

Vast majority of wetsuits are failing because of thickness of Materials (not the design).

Maximum/minimum values for approval remain unchanged:

- 5.0 mm Max thickness OK
- 3.0 mm Min thickness OK
- 1.2 mm Min thickness OK



The table below gives a guideline to the manufacturers with regards to Material (total thickness) ensuring that the final thickness on finished garments is compliant:



Chosen Nominal Material Thickness (mm)	Fabrication tolerances (+/- %)	Upper / Lower bound (mm)	Measurements tolerances (+/- mm)	Upper-Upper / Lower-Lower bound (mm)	Rounded limit values (mm)	Reached limits
	10		0.20			
<b>For max. 5.00 mm</b>						
		Upper Bound	4.40	Upper/Upper bound	4.60	5.00 Max. thickness OK
				Upper/Lower bound		
		Lower bound	3.60	Lower/Upper bound	3.80	
				Lower/Lower bound	3.40	
<b>For min 3.00 mm</b>						
		Upper Bound	3.85	Upper/Upper bound	4.05	
				Upper/Lower bound	3.65	
		Lower bound	3.15	Lower/Upper bound	3.35	
				Lower/Lower bound	2.95	3.00 Min. thickness OK
<b>For min 1.00 mm</b>						
		Upper Bound	1.65	Upper/Upper bound	1.85	
				Upper/Lower bound	1.45	
		Lower bound	1.35	Lower/Upper bound	1.55	
				Lower/Lower bound	1.15	1.20 Min. thickness OK

**7.5.3 Caps**

This section is related to swimming cap used in Swimming and in Open Water Swimming Sports.

**7.5.3.1 Design**

The cap is an Independent item.

The cap shall not be attached to the swimsuit, wetsuit or goggles nor be in continuity therewith (i.e.no "hood" or "mask" effect).

**7.5.3.1.1 Shape**

The shape shall follow the natural form of the head.

**7.5.3.1.2 Surface**

The outer surface shall not include outside artificial shaping such as rigs or spoilers and similar.

**7.5.3.2 Material**

**7.5.3.2.1 Hardness**

No hard Material (Material can have some rigidity but shall be able to follow the shape of the head: no hard helmets).

**7.5.3.2.2 Type of Material**

Different types of Materials may be used on the same cap.

The Materials can be of different thicknesses, subject to respect of the maximum thickness (see below). However, differences in the thickness shall not be used to form shapes in the outer surface.

*Thickness:* The maximum thickness in all points shall be lower or equal to 2 mm.

**7.5.3.3 Construction**

Seams, if any, shall be functional and shall not create outside shapes.

**7.5.3.4 Colours**



To avoid any doubt, colours will not be considered as part of the design. Colours can vary freely. However, colour variations of the cap shall not affect compliance with the above requirements.

#### **7.5.4 Goggles**

##### **7.5.4.1 Design**

The goggles are an independent item.

The goggles shall not be attached to the cap nor be in continuity therewith (no "mask" effect).

##### **7.5.4.2 Material/construction**

##### **7.5.4.2.1 Safety standards and functionality**

The goggles shall comply with prevailing safety standards for eyewear. Goggles have the function to protect the eyes against water and ensure visibility. Their design or construction shall serve these functions and especially shall not seek to obtain aquadynamic advantages (e.g. through extended shapes not related to the above functions).

##### **7.5.4.3 Colours**

To avoid any doubt, colours will not be considered as part of the design. Colours can vary freely. However, colour variations of the goggles shall not affect compliance with the above requirements.

#### **7.5.5 Approval Procedure**

##### **7.5.5.1 Submission**

##### **7.5.5.1.1 The Applicant**

The Applicant shall be the company which actually markets the corresponding Swimwear to its end-users through customary sales channels (wholesalers/retailers/direct sales), respectively sells and/or supplies the same to competitors and teams.

Manufacturers acting as subcontractors for one or more other companies cannot apply for approval of the swimwear supplied to other companies.

If a specific model is manufactured and supplied to different companies which then market or supply it, an approval shall be requested by each of these different companies, irrespective of the fact that the models marketed or supplied by these companies may have the same manufacturing sources.

If the same company or companies belonging to a unique group of companies, market or supply the same swimwear product under different trademarks, a single application can be submitted on behalf of the company and/or on behalf of the group.

##### **7.5.5.1.2 Products to be submitted**

Please refer to the Part One, Articles 7.1 and 7.2.

##### **7.5.5.1.3 Application**

The Application Protocol is described on World Aquatics' website [HERE](#).

##### **7.5.5.1.4 Submission Dates**

The submission dates (submission deadline) applicable at the time of the entry into force of the present regulations are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> of February
- 1<sup>st</sup> of May and
- 15<sup>th</sup> of September

##### **Explanatory Note**

- Swimwear approved during the submission of 1<sup>st</sup> of February will be included in the Approved List published on the 1<sup>st</sup> September of the same year.
- (1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 → 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023).
- Swimwear approved during the submission of 1<sup>st</sup> of May will be included in the Approved List published on the 1<sup>st</sup> September of the same year.



- (1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 → 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023).
- Swimwear approved during the submission of 15<sup>th</sup> September will be included in the Approved List published on the 1<sup>st</sup> September of the following year.
- (15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 → 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024).

Applications received at the World Aquatics office after the Submission Date will not be considered. However, World Aquatics has the discretion (but no obligation whatsoever) to grant the Applicant a short deadline to complete its application.

#### **7.5.5.1.5 Contribution to Administrative and Expert / Testing Costs**

A contribution to the administrative and expert/testing costs will be charged to the Applicants for each application, including resubmission.

The applicable contribution will be based on the number of Products and Materials submitted with each application and will include the fees:

- for each Swimwear submitted (swimsuit, wetsuit, goggles, caps);
- for each Material submitted (for the same Material used in different models the fee is calculated only once);
- for each combination of Materials/double layer (for the same combination used in different models the fee is calculated only once); and
- for resubmission of a Product and/or Material.

Applications effected without corresponding fee payment will not be considered.

Any additional costs associated with the application (e.g customs clearance fees charged to World Aquatics, etc.) will be re-charged to the applicants.

#### **7.5.5.1.6 Examination by the Independent Swimwear Expert**

The Independent Swimwear Expert examines the applications and notifies her/his decision to World Aquatics normally within 6 weeks from the submission date.

However, the approval procedure for the submitted swimwear, or part thereof, may be subject to delays resulting from the time necessary for the examination process.

#### **7.5.5.1.7 Technical Testing**

Technical testing and examination, as needed, is conducted under direction of the Independent Swimwear Expert and the professionals appointed by World Aquatics.

Information related to the test results of specific Samples are communicated to the Applicant concerned, upon request. No results are communicated to any other third party.

The only results relevant for the approval procedure of Swimwear are those obtained by the Independent Swimwear Expert, from the samples submitted with the application, or from additional Samples specifically requested by the Independent Swimwear Expert.

Measurements taken outside of that procedure on the same samples, or others, are not relevant for the Approval Procedure, irrespective of the equipment used.

#### **7.5.5.1.8 Results of the submission**

The decision is reported in writing by World Aquatics to Applicants within ten (10) working days from the date of the determination issued by the Independent Swimwear Expert.

In the case of a decision not to approve a submission, the Independent Swimwear Expert identifies the ground(s) for non-approval.

#### **7.5.5.2 Resubmission**

##### **7.5.5.2.1 Resubmission of Products**

In the event that an application for a Product is not approved, the applicant shall re-submit the Product/Sample at the next submission available (see Part One, Article 7.5.5.1.4)

The Sample resubmitted shall be the same Sample as the previously submitted Sample, save for the modifications linked with the Independent Swimwear Expert's requirements. Resubmission cannot serve for new Products to be presented that are different from the ones initially submitted





Applications received after the set deadline will not be considered.

#### **7.5.5.2.2 Resubmission process**

The resubmission process shall be conducted in the same way as for the original submission process and the above provisions regarding submission apply *mutatis mutandis*.

An application shall be resubmitted for each concerned Product as per rule 7.5.5.1 and shall include reconfigured Samples with the changes as required by the Independent Swimwear Expert.

#### **7.5.5.2.3 Resubmission fees**

The fees remains the same than for a regular submission.

#### **7.5.5.2.4 Special case**

In the event that an application for a Product is not approved and the cause of rejection can be easily corrected (e.g seams number, seams/straps design on swimsuit, sharp edge on goggles), the Applicant concerned may resubmit the same Product with the required corrections as soon as possible.

In the case the correction only requires minor examination, World Aquatics, at its own discretion, may not impose any fee.

If the re-submitted Product is considered compliant and approved by the Independent Swimwear Expert, the Product may be included in the Approved List based on the time-line of the initial submission date (please refer to the explanatory note of Part One, Article 7.5.5.1.4).

#### Important

The Clause in Part One, Article 7.5.5.2.4 does not apply to non-compliances related to permeability or thickness, or to major Construction issues.

### **7.5.6 Testing**

#### **7.5.6.1 Thickness Measurement**

##### **7.5.6.1.1 Value**

Maximum value: equal or less than 0.8 mm

Minimum value: equal or superior to 50 % of maximum value

Tolerance: +/- 0.1 mm

##### **7.5.6.1.2 Equipment**

The equipment consists of a reference plate, a disk (parallel to the plate) together with a test gauge capable of measuring the distance between disk and plate with an accuracy of at least 0.01 mm.

##### **7.5.6.1.3 Specifications**

According to ISO 5084:

disk size 100 mm<sup>2</sup> +/- 1 mm<sup>2</sup>

(diameter 11.28 mm +/- 0.05 mm)

pressure 1 kPa +/- 0.01 kPa

#### **7.5.6.2 Permeability**

##### **7.5.6.2.1 Value**

Minimum Value:

Equal or higher than 80 litres/square meter/seconds (l/m<sup>2</sup>/s)

Tolerance: +/- 5 % (in the range of Minimum Value)

##### **7.5.6.2.2 Measurement of air permeability**

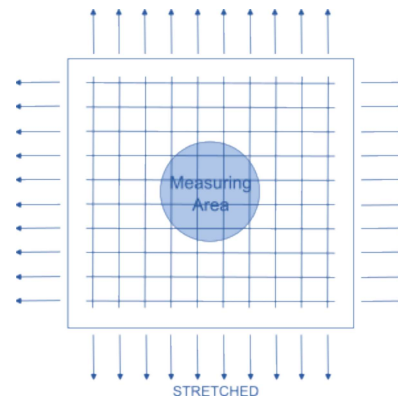
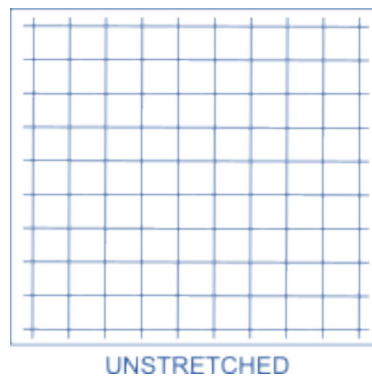


A flow of air is sucked through the fabric specimen, a tube system and differential pressure transducer. The unit measures the resultant differential pressure (proportional to volumetric flow), the absolute pressure and the medium temperature. The air permeability of the measured specimen is established based on those values.

The value of permeability is given in litres/m<sup>2</sup>/seconds (l/m<sup>2</sup>/s) for a given material.

### 7.5.6.2.3 Measurement characteristics

- Measuring area: Diameter 25 mm.
- Differential pressure: 20 Pa
- Measuring range: 0-400 l/m<sup>2</sup>/s (high accuracy around Minimum Value)
- Definition of stretch: Uniform bidirectional and perpendicular stretch of 25% applied to the fabric (see sketch below)



### 7.5.6.2.4 Conditions

The swimsuit material is tested new and dry.

For accuracy purpose, repeatable tests will be done if the test value is close to the limit.

### 7.5.7 Approval

#### 7.5.7.1 Validity of Approval

##### 7.5.7.1.1 Approval

An approval is valid upon its notification to the Applicant.

However, notwithstanding the above, approvals will be only effective, i.e. the corresponding swimwear may be used in World Aquatics' competitions and in any other Competitions and at the Olympic Games, from the date of publication of the current valid List of Approved Swimwear (Part One, Article 7.4).

The effective date is published on the World Aquatics' website [HERE](#).

##### 7.5.7.1.2 Availability / Commercialisation

##### 7.5.7.1.2.1 Availability

The validity of the approval is further subject to the condition that the swimwear on the list has to be available on the market (available for purchase by federations and competitors) at the latest by 1<sup>st</sup> January following the publication.

#### Examples

- A newly approved product included in the List of Approved Swimwear published on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 shall be commercialised no later than 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.
- A newly approved product included in the List of Approved Swimwear published on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 shall be commercialised no later than 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.



Upon request, Manufacturers shall provide evidence of date of market availability. If a Product is not available on 1<sup>st</sup> January of the year in which the approval was to become effective, the corresponding Approval shall be withdrawn from the List of Approved Swimwear. The concerned Applicant may submit an application for relisting on the next yearly List of Approved Swimwear. Such application shall be supported by clear and positive evidence of availability.

#### **7.5.7.1.2.2 Commercialisation**

For practical reasons, a product newly included in the yearly Swimwear Approved List could be commercialised and available for purchase 30 days before the publication of the new List of Approved Swimwear.

However the swimwear can only be used in competition from the date of publication of the new List of Approved Swimwear.

#### **7.5.7.1.3 Approval Changes**

Approvals granted remain valid until the relevant criteria for a category of swimwear is changed.

Irrespective of change in the criteria, which will impact on approval as they come into force, the validity of the approvals may however be subject to a maximum period of validity.

If a maximal period of validity is implemented, the concerned swimwear may be resubmitted for re-approval. The rules will provide for a simplified re-approval process.

In the event of introduction of new or amended criteria, all swimwear affected by the application of these changed criteria are subject to re-approval. The Independent Swimwear Expert may however exempt certain types or categories of already approved swimwear from a re-approval. The conditions of such exemption will be decided by the Independent Swimwear Expert. These conditions decided are not subject to any review or challenge.

#### **7.5.7.2 Homologation**

##### **7.5.7.2.1 World Aquatics Homologation Label**

The athletes attending World Aquatics-sanctioned competitions must wear the World Aquatics Approved Swimsuits or Wetsuits. The Swimsuits and Wetsuits are subject to be checked by the officials at the occasion of an event.

The Applicant must use the World Aquatics' Homologation Label in order to indicate that the Product in use has been approved. The Homologation Label shall be placed in a position allowing easy control when worn.

All Swimsuits of the models-shapes and Wetsuits approved by World Aquatics shall bear appropriate Homologation Label.

If the swimsuit is in two pieces, each piece shall bear a label. The labels should be printed or affixed to the swimsuits in a manner ensuring that they cannot be removed without destroying the label (to prevent transfers).

World Aquatics will provide Applicants with a World Aquatics Homologation Label for each approved Product<sup>1</sup> (currently it applies to Swimsuit and Wetsuit, but may be extended to other swimwear in the future). The Homologation Label carries a unique identification number.

Applicants must accept and certify to apply the Homologation Label strictly and only on Products identical to, and fully consistent with, the actual Samples submitted to obtain the approval.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that the World Aquatics Homologation Label is different from the World Aquatics logo and/or other trademarks of World Aquatics. The World Aquatics logo or other trademarks of World Aquatics cannot be used to confirm approval as their usage is exclusively reserved to the World Aquatics Partners for commercial/promotional activities and subject to a specific authorization, thus no other company is entitled to use

**Clarifications related to the homologation label**

It is clarified that wetsuits which fulfil the shape requirement can be accepted even if they do not bear a valid World Aquatics Homologation Label provided they effectively and evidently fulfil the requirements of the present Technical & Approval Implementing Rules. This is notably the case for swimsuits made of traditional permeable textile (i.e. open mesh) Material (such as cotton, Nylon, Lycra and the like) with no application of surface treatment closing the open mesh structure and Wetsuits which expressly fulfil the thickness requirement.

Each Homologation Label corresponds to particular model-shape of the Swimsuit or Wetsuit approved by World Aquatics.

The Applicant is entitled to produce the Homologation Label according to the specifications provided by World Aquatics.

Each Swimsuit / Wetsuit of an approved model-shape shall bear a corresponding World Aquatics Homologation Label.

The label has to be produced with high contrast (in white on dark colours, in black on light colours or in blue on light colours).

The size of the label shall respect the reference size of 35 mm x 27 mm (H x W) with a tolerance.

The Homologation Label shall be printed/tightly affixed (non-removable) on the outside of each piece of the Swimwear.

The Homologation Label should be printed or affixed in manner ensuring that they cannot be removed without destroying the label (to prevent transfers).

The Homologation Label can be located on the front or on the back of the Swimwear.

**7.5.7.2.2 World Aquatics Approved Package Tag**

The general World Aquatics Approved Package Tag can be used on packaging and in product documentation (in a non-prominent manner). Such application shall always be clearly and specifically related to approved Product only. The "World Aquatics Approved Package tag" can only be used in relation with a World Aquatics approved swimwear (Swimsuit, Wetsuit, Goggles, Cap).

The World Aquatics Approved Package Tag is aimed to be printed on hang tags or packages, and not on the product itself. The tag can also be used on the internet/social media and in the product catalogues. However, it always has to clearly and specifically refer to approved swimwear only.

Size and colour of the "World Aquatics approved" tag:

The printing of the tag should always be done in black and white colours (see examples below).

The size of the tag cannot dominate on the overall area it is used.

Minimum dimension (H x W):

10.8 mm x 25 mm (with tolerance)

Maximum dimension (H x W):

20.3 mm x 47 mm (with tolerance)

62 pixels x 145 pixels (for webpage)

Please note that the "World Aquatics approved package tag" has to be used only as a proof of the conformity for the Swimwear. It shall not be in any case used as a means of promotion or association with World Aquatics.

**7.5.7.3 Consistency and Compliance****7.5.7.3.1 Consistency**

The Products that are manufactured and used shall fully correspond to, and be consistent with, the Samples submitted to the Independent Swimwear Expert for obtaining the necessary approvals. Inconsistency found in the Products may lead to withdrawal of the approval (see Part One, Article 7.5.7.4).



All the parameters measured and recorded during the Approval Procedure notably values for permeability and thickness, are applicable to the Material(s) used in the finished Products and must remain in any event within the limits set under the requirements set in these Technical & Approval Implementing Rules.

The Applicants shall certify and be responsible for the fact that the Swimwear they manufacture and bring on the market as approved Swimwear (and bearing Homologation Label), are fully consistent with the Products and the actual Samples submitted for approval.

Approved Swimwear shall not be modified, treated or processed in any way after their production. Any modification before use such as and including impregnation is prohibited.

#### **Clarifications related to the modification**

If a swimsuit or a wetsuit is modified or repaired by the athlete or any other person (e.g. by adding a new piece of fabric, or by repairing a seam, etc), the amended swimsuit/wetsuit will no longer be approved swimwear and will lose its approval/homologation. As a consequence, the athlete will not be allowed to use it during a competition listed in Rule I.7.1

#### **7.5.7.3.1.1**

Clarification regarding consistency and minor modifications of Approved Swimsuits models.

The principle that swimsuits which are effectively manufactured and used shall be and remain fully consistent with the corresponding approved model is an essential element of the approval system under the current regulations.

- **Modifications of approved models are as a rule excluded.**

However, minor modifications done by the Manufacturer of the model which do not affect essential features may be exceptionally allowed by the independent swimwear expert, based on a reasoned application of the Manufacturer and when the modification(s) appear(s) to be needed.

The minor modification is to address issues, which had not been identified prior to full manufacturing stage and actual use of the swimsuits (e.g. swimsuits breaking due to too weak seams, material transparent when worn, necessity to protect sensitive parts with lining, discontinued Materials, etc.).

It is clarified that the exceptional acceptance of modifications shall not be used to submit improvements of approved swimsuits models,

Material improvements of existing models are normally to be submitted through new applications in the course of the normal approval process.

- **The decision to allow the modification(s) or not is at the entire discretion of the Independent Swimwear Expert, and is not subject to any challenge.**

The above applies *mutatis mutandis* in relation with wetsuits, caps and goggles.

The Applicant must expressly confirm that the modification(s) has (have) not been implemented yet in regard to swimsuits already in use and must also confirm that, in case the modification(s) is (are) approved, only the modified models will be henceforth manufactured and distributed.

The applicable limits in regard of tested values and all other requirements and criteria must be observed in any event. If tests have to be performed (for example, use of a different lining), the Manufacturer will have to bear the corresponding costs. Advanced payment of the costs may be required as a condition to handle the application.

In the event, modification(s) of an approved swimsuit model is (are) accepted, the corresponding samples will be kept as new reference for the concerned approval number. If swimsuits consistent with the initial submission are in use, the initial samples will be kept as well.

#### **7.5.7.3.2**

#### **Compliance**

Compliance checks can be done by World Aquatics at any time on swimwear presented as approved in competition or otherwise.



Upon request of World Aquatics, the Applicant shall deliver additional Samples of approved Products as brought on the market for compliance checks.

### **7.5.7.3.3 Control during Competitions**

#### **7.5.7.3.3.1 Before the race starts**

The referee may check the compliance of the swimwear in the call-room.

If the swimwear is not compliant, the swimmer may not be allowed to take part in the race, or may be offered the opportunity to use another Approved Swimwear (at the swimmer's charge).

In addition, at the request of World Aquatics' designee, swimmers may be requested to submit their swimsuits for out-of-competition testing.

#### **7.5.7.3.3.2 After the race**

Swimwear may be inspected following the completion of a race by the World Aquatics' designee.

The competition results achieved with non-compliant Swimwear, and in particular with tested values (thickness or Permeability) non-compliant with the values mentioned in these Rules are subject to disqualification.

The disqualification of results applies to the results achieved at the race (refer to Specific Definitions) after which the control was conducted or otherwise determined. The decision regarding a potential disqualification may be issued by the World Aquatics based on a technical report issued by the World Aquatics Technical Officials, World Aquatics' designee or the Independent Swimwear Expert.

The concerned competitor and the concerned Applicant shall be heard prior to issuance of the decision.

The application of the Article 7.5.7.4 in Part One is reserved.

### **7.5.7.4 Withdrawal of Approval**

The validity of an approval is based on the fact that any and all the products brought on the market as World Aquatics approved swimwear, are fully consistent with the models and the actual Samples submitted to obtain the approval.

Upon request of World Aquatics, the Applicant shall deliver additional Samples of approved Products as brought on the market for compliance checks.

If swimwear presented as an Approved Product are found, during competitions or otherwise, to be not fully consistent with the Products and the actual Samples submitted for their approval (and this is not linked with modifications made outside the control of the Applicant), the approval may be withdrawn.

The decision to withdraw the approval will be issued by World Aquatics after having heard the Applicant concerned.

In case of necessity (e.g. major event in course), the Executive of World Aquatics may provisionally suspend an approval before hearing the concerned Applicant.

#### **7.5.7.4.1 Withdrawal fee**

A withdrawal fee of ten-thousands (10'000) USD - per product will be due by the concerned Applicant.

The payment for withdrawal should include the Withdrawal fee as well as all related costs beard by World Aquatics, including but not limited with cost of purchased samples, cost of expertise, laboratory tests and required consultancy.

Furthermore, any new or pending application(s) by an Applicant will not be considered until the resolution of the case.

#### **7.5.7.4.2 Re-approval**

Application for re-approval for a withdrawn Product is to be effected through the normal process for approval and the application will be held as a new submission and handled accordingly.

As a condition for re-approval, the concerned Applicant shall bring evidence supporting the fact that it will guarantee consistency between Samples and Products effectively on the market.

### **7.5.7.5 Customisation**



No customisation of a standard Product is permitted.

Individual body fitting (tailor-made Products) is authorized:

- a) if the service is accessible on the market to any athletes;
- b) Materials, Construction and Configuration of the tailor-made product are identical to the standard Product;
- c) the adjustment can only be done by the Manufacturer at the time of the production of the Swimwear (e.g. a standard Product cannot be untucked to be adjusted).

#### 7.5.7.6 Exemption of formal Approval

The Independent Swimwear Expert may issue an exemption from formal approval in respect to swimwear which can be determined as obviously compliant following general and easily checked objective criteria.

Conditions of such exemption will be published by World Aquatics. They are not subject to any review or challenge.

#### 7.5.8 Exclusion of Liability / Indemnity

##### 7.5.8.1 Exclusion of liability

To the full extent permitted by law, the Applicant expressly waives any claim against World Aquatics, its officers, employees, Independent Swimwear Expert and/or any Committee Members arising out or in connection with the approval process set forth in these provisions.

##### 7.5.8.2 Indemnity

The Applicant shall indemnify and keep World Aquatics, its employees, and/or the Committee Members harmless against claims, damages or costs (including reasonable attorney's fees) arising out of or linked with claims by third parties based on the approval of Applicant's Product(s) and/or use by the Applicant of the approval notice.

#### 7.5.9 Arbitration

Any dispute (including i.e. challenge of the decisions of the Independent Swimwear Expert and/or of the World Aquatics Executive, decision or disputes in connection with payments or other disputes) in connection with an approval procedure or otherwise in connection with approvals pursuant to these rules shall be exclusively submitted to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne in accordance with the CAS arbitration rules.

Disputes over payments of less than hundred-thousands (100'000) USD - shall be submitted to a single arbitrator. Swiss law shall apply as substantive law.

For the avoidance of doubt, criteria set forth in these rules shall not be subject to review. The same apply to conditions for exemptions.

#### 7.5.10 Specific Definitions

**Construction:** the act or result of putting different things together

**Configuration:** an arrangement of elements in a particular form, figure, or combination

**Independent Swimwear Expert:** Means a biomechanical or other suitably qualified independent expert

**Material:** all physical material/fabric used to produce every element of the swimwear.

**Product:** Piece of swimwear of a certain design/shape/material (to give examples: men classic, women closedback, goggles, cap, etc...). The end result of the manufacturing process, to be offered to the marketplace to satisfy a need or want. Considering that the product is the end result of the manufacturing process it can consist of one or many elements. All the elements of the product have to be fixed, attached to each other and have to have practical meaning according to the product functionality.

**Product Line:** The number of products that have similar construction and only vary in colours, sizes and shapes. Any variation in colours, shapes and sizes should not lead to any change of physical/technical parameters of the material the product consists of.

**Examples:** One Product Line of the swimsuits can include number of products of different shapes such as: Classic (Men), Pants-Short (Men), Pants-Long (Men), Full-Knee (Men), Full- Long-Leg (Men), Classic (Women), Full-Knee (Women), Full-Long-Leg (Women) as well as any possible modifications of the basic shapes (Open/Closed back)



**Race:** a single race in Swimming (50m Freestyle, 4x100m Freestyle Relay, etc.) or in Open Water Swimming (10km, Team Relay)

**Sample:** A particular Product and/or a piece of material used in Product construction of Swimwear being submitted for the approval process.

**Submission Date:** The last date by which an application for approval shall be received by World Aquatics in order to be accepted for approval process.

**Swimwear:** a swimsuit, a wetsuit, a swim cap or goggles.

## 8 ADVERTISING IDENTIFICATION

**8.1** Advertising identification appearing on swimwear, pool deck equipment and official's uniforms at World Aquatics Championships and World Aquatics Competitions, with exception for World Aquatics Masters Championships, is permitted as mentioned under in this Section.

### 8.2 Swimsuits

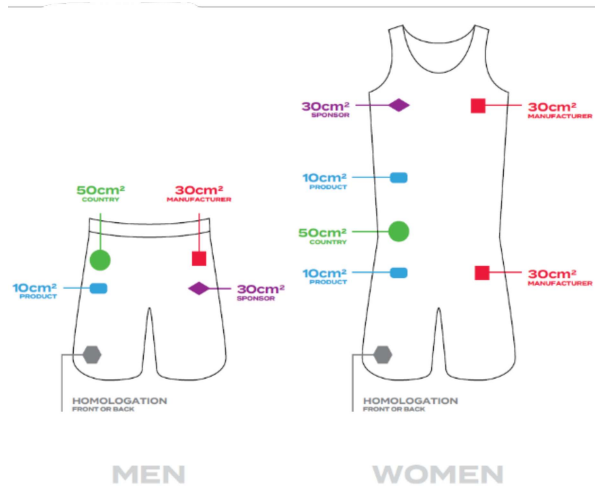
One (1) manufacturer's logo of a maximum size of 30cm<sup>2</sup> when worn. Where one-piece suits are used, two (2) logos of the manufacturer shall be permitted, one above the waist and one below the waist of a maximum size of 30cm<sup>2</sup> each when worn. These two (2) logos of the manufacturer shall not be placed immediately adjacent to each other. Where two-piece suits are used, the two (2) logos of the manufacturer shall be placed on one piece each. The manufacturer's logo has to be calculated taking into consideration the entire surface of the logo, as shown below:



One (1) sponsor's logo of a maximum of 30cm<sup>2</sup> when worn.

One (1) flag and one (1) country name or code of a maximum size of 50cm<sup>2</sup> when worn. Repetitions of the national flag, elements thereof or, the colours of the national flag, included as a design element of the swimsuit, shall not be considered under this rule.




**VISUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE**


	<b>MANUFACTURER LOGO IDENTIFICATION</b>		<b>COUNTRY FLAG AND/OR COUNTRY NAME OR CODE</b>
	<b>PRODUCT TECHNOLOGY LOGO IDENTIFICATION</b>		
	<b>SPONSOR LOGO IDENTIFICATION</b>		

**HOMOLOGATION**

REFERENCE SIZES:  
a) 35x20mm (Height X Width)  
b) 35x27mm (Height X Width)



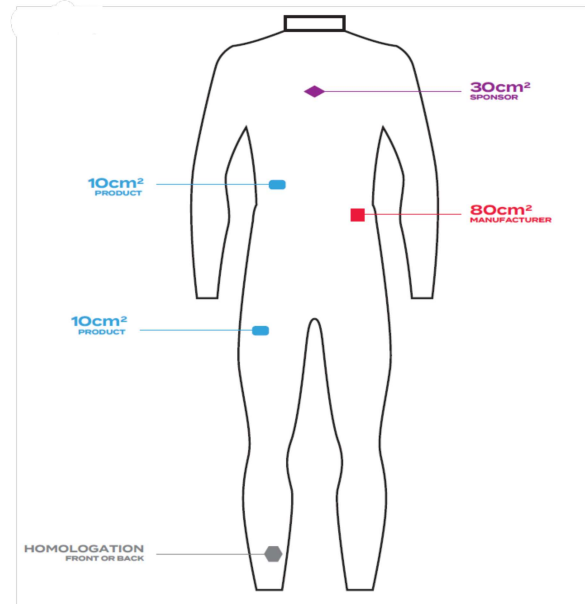
**8.3 Wetsuits**

The manufacturer's logo may appear on the front, and/or back, and/or sides of the wetsuit, of a maximum combined size of 80cm<sup>2</sup> when being worn. This manufacturer's logo space is allowed both on the inside and outside of the wetsuit. If the manufacturer wishes to have two or more logos on the front, back or sides, the combined total area must not exceed 80cm<sup>2</sup>. The size of the logo(s) shall be calculated taking into consideration the entire surface of the logo(s), as shown in the examples below:



One (1) sponsor's logo (may appear on the front of the wetsuit) of a maximum of 30cm<sup>2</sup> when being worn.

There must be a minimum clearance space of 1.5cm around all marks on the wetsuits, including any manufacturer's logo(s) and/or sponsor logo. There shall be no marks or design/graphic elements on the upper arm or shoulder articulation area of the wetsuits, to allow for the clear application of the competitor race number.


**VISUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE**


 <b>MANUFACTURER LOGO IDENTIFICATION</b>	 <b>COUNTRY FLAG AND/OR COUNTRY NAME OR CODE</b>
 <b>PRODUCT TECHNOLOGY LOGO IDENTIFICATION</b>	
 <b>SPONSOR LOGO IDENTIFICATION</b>	

 <b>HOMOLOGATION</b>	 <b>A)</b>	 <b>B)</b>
REFERENCE SIZES: a) 35x20mm (Height X Width) b) 35x27mm (Height X Width)	35mm 20mm	35mm 27mm

### 8.4 Product Technology Identification

Where one-piece suits (swimsuits or wetsuits) are used in competition, two (2) Product Technology Identifications shall be permitted, one above the waist and one below the waist, of a maximum size of 10 cm<sup>2</sup> each when worn, however these identifications shall not be placed immediately adjacent to each other, nor immediately adjacent to any manufacturer's logo. Where two-piece suits are used, one Product Technology Identification may be placed on each piece.

Other clothing: One additional identification allowed on clothing, limited to Product Technology Identifications, with a maximum size of 10 cm<sup>2</sup>.

Product Technology Identifications means the technical identification (which shall not include any identification of the manufacturer, or any part thereof) used on clothing to identify any fabric technology.

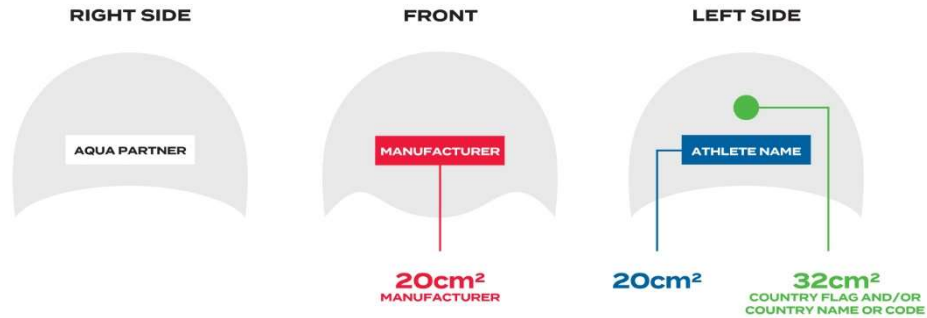
### 8.5 Swimming Caps

One (1) manufacturer's logo of a maximum size of 20cm<sup>2</sup> on the front.

One (1) flag and/or country name (code) of a maximum size of 32cm<sup>2</sup>. The side on which the flag and country name (code) shall be printed will be advised by World Aquatics.

For World Aquatics Championships one (1) World Aquatics Partner's logo on the right side of the size decided by World Aquatics on a case-by-case basis.

Note: Caps for Open Water Swimming are defined under Part One, Article 8.6.

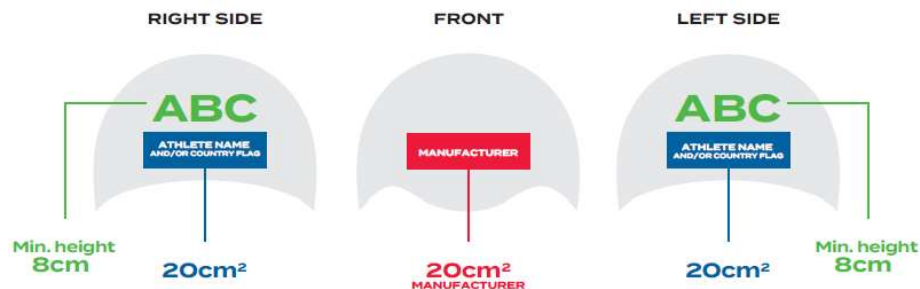

**VISUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE**


For World Aquatics competition, one (1) flag and/or country name (code) of a maximum size of 32cm<sup>2</sup> can be printed twice (meaning that the flag and country name can appear on both sides of the cap). This to be advised by World Aquatics whenever applicable. Competitor's name of a maximum size of 20cm<sup>2</sup>. The competitor's name shall be printed on the same side as the flag and country name (code). Printing the competitors' name isn't compulsory.

It is permissible to wear two (2) caps. Both caps must comply with the advertising rules.

**8.6 Open Water Swimming Caps**

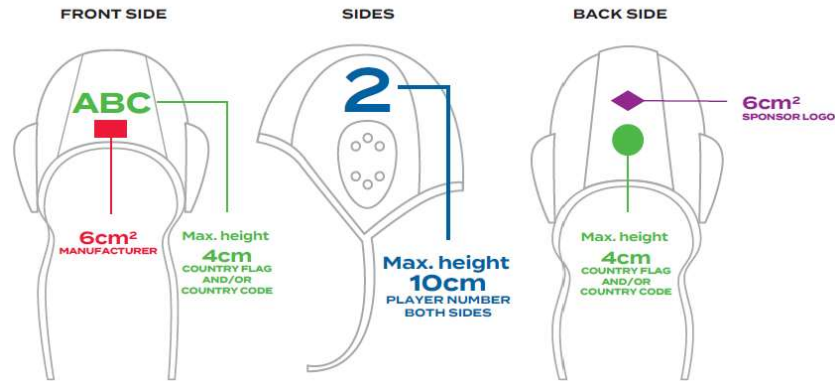
In all Open Water events it is mandatory for the cap to display on each side the "national-three letter code" and may display the swimmer's national flag or the swimmer's name. The country code shall be a minimum of 8cm in height. Caps meeting the specifications of I.8.5 are not acceptable except for one (1) manufacturer's logo of a maximum size of 20cm<sup>2</sup> on the front.

**VISUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE**


Athlete's name of a maximum size of 20cm<sup>2</sup>: The competitor's name shall be printed under the country name (three letter code). Displaying the competitor's name is not compulsory.

**8.7 Water Polo Caps**

- One (1) country code of a maximum height of 4cm on the front side of the cap.
- One (1) manufacturer's logo of a maximum size of 6cm<sup>2</sup> on the front, back or side.
- One (1) player number of a maximum height of 10cm on both sides of the cap.
- One (1) country flag of a maximum height of 4cm on the back side of the cap.
- One (1) sponsor logo (at the discretion of the National Federation) of a maximum size of 6cm<sup>2</sup> on the back side.


**VISUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE**


In addition to the above, please refer to Part Six, APPENDIX B.4.

**8.8 Goggles**

Two (2) manufacturer logos of a maximum size of 6cm<sup>2</sup> each are allowed on goggles but only on the spectacle frame or band.

**8.9 Competitors Bibs**

- The maximum size of the Bibs shall be 24cm (width) x 20cm (height).
- The height of the digits on the Bibs shall be no less than 6cm and no more than 10cm.
- The maximum height of the identification above the digits shall be 6cm.
- The identification may display the name/ World Aquatics Partner's logo.
- The maximum height of the identification below the digits shall be 4cm.
- The identification may display the name/logo of the Host City and the year.
- The Bibs shall be printed in suitable colours in order to ensure maximum visibility of the digits.
- The Bibs must be worn fully visible during Competitors' introduction and award ceremonies.

A Competitor removing the Bib before being presented at the start of an event or before completion of the medal ceremony may be disqualified.

Only one World Aquatics Sponsor may be displayed on Bibs. However, there may be one sponsor for men and another for women at the same Championships.

**VISUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE**


Bib	Presentation Semi-Final	Presenta tion Final	Award
SW	Yes	Yes (+ Relay)	Yes
DV	Yes	Yes	Yes
HD	Yes	Yes	Yes
AS	Yes	Yes	Yes
WP	N/A	N/A	Yes
OWS	N/A	N/A	Yes



Each competitor at World Aquatics Championships and World Aquatics competitions must wear on the chest over their tracksuit such advertising as supplied by World Aquatics when being introduced prior to the start of each event and during the medal ceremony.

### 8.10 Pool deck equipment

A maximum of three (3) advertising identifications (including manufacturer logo) with a maximum size of 40cm<sup>2</sup> each when worn for any of the clothing items listed below, and a maximum of two (2) advertising identifications (including manufacturer logo) with a maximum size of 6cm<sup>2</sup> each for any of the accessories and equipment items listed below:

Clothing items:

- Windbreaker
- T-shirt
- Polo shirt
- Casual shirt
- Sweat shirt
- Bath robe

Accessories:

- Towels
- Baseball caps
- Hats
- Headphones
- Facemasks
- Jewellery

Bags:

- Not greater than 10% of the surface area of the item to a maximum of 60 cm<sup>2</sup>.

Additionally, one (1) National Federation or NOC logo identification per item with a maximum size of 40 cm<sup>2</sup> for clothing items and 6 cm<sup>2</sup> for accessories may be displayed.

The placement of advertising identification on clothing and accessories is at National Federation's discretion, except for the designated bib area specified below and subject to World Aquatics' approval.

### VISUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE





**8.12** Advertising for hard alcohol (greater than 15% alcohol), tobacco-based products, vapor-based smoking and sport gambling is prohibited. However, advertising for soft alcohol (less than 15% alcohol) and games of chance (e.g. state-sponsored lotteries) are allowed.

**8.13** Any advertising identifications which are not indicated in these regulations are not permitted. In the event that any clothing or other items of equipment contravenes these regulations, the competitor must immediately remove the offending item(s) and replace it/them with clothing that complies with World Aquatics Regulations. In the event that the breach is not immediately remedied the competitor may be requested to wear attire provided by the event organizer.

**8.14** World Aquatics reserves the right to request National Federations taking part in World Aquatics Championships and World Aquatics Competitions to present any advertising identification in this rule for examination and approval of World Aquatics prior to the event in question.

## **9 MEDICAL RULES**

**9.1** World Aquatics adopted the Olympic Movement Medical Code in 2008. All World Aquatics medical regulations, guidelines or protocols, follows the general principles of the Olympic Movement Medical Code.

The latest versions of the Olympic Movement Medical Code can be found on the IOC Medical and Scientific Commission website [HERE](#)

The Olympic Movement Medical Code applies to all athletes in the sports activities governed by World Aquatics, in competition as well as out of competition.

World Aquatics is free to grant wider protection to their athletes.

The Olympic Movement Medical Code applies without prejudice to the national and international ethical, legal and regulatory requirements that are more favourable to the protection of the health, rights and interests of the athletes.

### **9.2 Medical Requirement for World Aquatics Events**

#### Scope of Medical Coverage

The Organising Committee (OC) shall organise the medical care to cover any emergency issues, acute injury and illnesses of athletes and World Aquatics Family that may occur during the period of the World Aquatics Event and to respond to injuries and illness that arise to any one at the competition and non-competition venues.

#### Limits

This document describes planning and operational requirements for the OC Medical Services, and explains the obligations, responsibilities and planning processes.

However, it does not address how such medical services will be delivered during the period of the Event. This limitation recognises the variability of regulatory governance and clinician roles existing across the global medical community.

Chronic injury and illness are not covered by the OC Medical Services and World Aquatics is not responsible for any failure to diagnose or treat any chronic injury or illness.

#### Date of Operations

Athlete medical services must be provided on all days of official training and competition, beginning one hour before training or competition begins.

#### References

These requirements contain numerous elements, information, and references from:

- IOC Manual of Emergency Sport Medicine, 2015, McDonagh D. and Zideman. D.
- ASOIF Health Care Guidelines for International Federations, 2020

### **9.2.1 Background information**



World Aquatics is responsible for the aquatic sports of Swimming, Artistic Swimming, Diving, High Diving, Water Polo and Open Water Swimming.

- While aquatic sports are generally quite safe from a medical perspective, there is obvious potential for drowning in all water-based sport. Each World Aquatics sport also carries potential for injury unique to that sport, as summarised in the following section. Knowledge of aquatic sports medicine enables hosts of World Aquatics' events to consider the provision of appropriate clinical support in their planning.
- World Aquatics places the physical and mental health of athlete stakeholders as its top priority.

### 9.2.1.1 **A guide to common injuries**

<b>Swimming:</b>	overuse injuries
<b>Artistic Swimming:</b>	traumatic (contact) injuries, fainting (hypoxia) from breath-holding
<b>Water Polo:</b>	contact injuries
<b>Diving &amp; High Diving:</b>	high velocity traumatic injuries
<b>Open Water Swimming:</b>	cold and heat stress, skin irritation from UVL exposure or bites

### 9.2.1.2 **Injury Profile**

The literature on injuries to aquatic athletes characterise overuse injury as predominant, with the shoulder, knee and lower back as the most common injury sites. This mechanism of trauma is most common in swimming, secondary to repetitive use.

In terms of impact or contact injury, the head and face are the most vulnerable body sites in water polo and artistic swimming, while injuries to the digits (particularly fingers) are also possible.

Although relatively rare, high-velocity impact injuries are most common in Diving, particularly High Diving.

### 9.2.1.3 **Essential skills required from the Medical Team**

Given the above information, the medical team should have an understanding of aquatic sports medicine, with obvious proficiency in water rescue procedures.

### 9.2.1.4 **Overview of Competition Planning**

Effective planning for athlete health care must be based on a clear understanding of the size and scope of the World Aquatics Event. From a pure logistical standpoint the medical plan must consider:

- The duration of the event
- The spread of venues (training + competition)
- Environmental conditions (outdoor – indoor)
- Number of participants

### 9.2.2 **The Sports Medicine Committee**

The Sports Medicine Committee (SMC) is responsible for advising on various medical aspects across each aquatic sports. The SMC comprises physicians with specialist expertise and wide clinical experience in all aspects of aquatic sports medicine.

The specified duties of the SMC are as follows:

- to provide specialist expertise to the Bureau in the form of recommendations on all matters relating to aquatic sport science, medicine and athlete participation following a medical incident
- to ensure World Aquatics rules relating to athlete physical and mental health and well-being reflect current clinical best practice.
- to advise on venue suitability, where applicable, in relation to sanitation and water quality, submitting as necessary, timely updates to the Bureau,
- to ensure safety in all aquatic sport, recognising the unique characteristics of each sport.
- to advise OC in the provision of appropriate medical care for World Aquatics athletes and Officials at World Aquatics Competitions.

### 9.2.2.1 **Roles and Duties**

**9.2.2.1.1 Prior to World Aquatics Events**

The SMC or its representative will liaise with the OC Medical Team to ensure adequate planning for the delivery of Medical Coverage.

The World Aquatics Medical Delegate appointed to an event may be briefed on the points to be checked during a World Aquatics Event.

**9.2.2.1.2 During the World Aquatics Events**

The World Aquatics Medical Delegate is responsible for oversight of all the medical aspects of the event ensuring the health, safety and well-being of athletes and officials. World Aquatics Medical Delegate(s) does not practise medicine during World Aquatics Events. They only have a consultative and expertise role.

The local Chief Medical Officer is responsible for delivering a medical plan as outlined in these World Aquatics Medical Requirements and the relevant regulations for World Aquatics events.

Important note: Checks carried out by the World Aquatics Medical Delegate are limited to the compliance with the World Aquatics regulations and do not shift the responsibility for the medical services from the organizer to World Aquatics.

Findings of non-compliance shall be notified to the LOC who shall take appropriate measures and remain exclusively responsible for the safety at the event under the World Aquatics rules and the terms of the organization agreement.

The World Aquatics Medical Delegate (or its designee) will:

- Liaise with the Chief Medical Officer before the event to ensure that an appropriate medical plan is in place in keeping with the World Aquatics Medical Requirements.
- Provide aquatic-specific knowledge and advice to the host medical teams as needed.
- Ensure, with the Chief Medical Officer, that the venue is free of significant risks or hazards.
- Ensure, with the Chief Medical Officer, that emergency transport, an emergency secondary care facility and After-Hours care are available.
- Ensure, with the Chief Medical Officer, that any public health requirements regarding communicable diseases are followed.
- Confirm that the Medical Treatment Area is suitably staffed and equipped
- Confirm that lifeguards are in place while athletes are in the water
- Liaise with the Chief Medical Officer on a daily basis to receive an overview of injuries and illness encountered.
- Confirm availability of water and snacks and, where appropriate, nutritious meals for the athletes
- Support the presentation of the medical plan at the World Aquatics Technical Meeting
- Be a person of contact for medical issues, pertinent to World Aquatics, for attending teams.
- Visit athletes (if authorised) who have been evacuated to medical care centres/hospitals
- Coordinate on-site research projects initiated by the SMC and World Aquatics.

At Open Water Swimming events

If present at Open Water Swimming events, the World Aquatics Medical Delegate will:

Liaise with the World Aquatics Safety Delegate, World Aquatics TOWSC Delegate and the local Chief Medical Officer regarding all aspects of participant safety at the competition venue.

Review the water quality results prior to arrival at the competition site, as well as subsequently from the day of competition (if available).

Ensure, with the local Chief Medical Officer and World Aquatics Safety Officer, that the environmental conditions are acceptable for the competition, water quality and temperature in keeping with current published World Aquatics standards.

Ensure, with the local Chief Medical Officer and World Aquatics Safety Officer, that there are sufficient Medical Boat with medical staff (place in the water with emergency equipment and supplies, including radio for communications), with a defined evacuation point/s to emergency medical support personnel and ambulance evacuation if necessary.

At High Diving events





If present at High Diving events, the World Aquatics Medical Delegate will:

Liaise with the World Aquatics High Diving Delegates and the local Chief Medical Officer regarding all aspects of participant safety at the competition venue.

If applicable, review the water quality results prior to arrival at the competition site, as well as subsequently from the day of competition.

#### **9.2.2.1.3 After the Event**

The World Aquatics Medical Delegate will submit a post-event report on all medical aspects of the event, together with recommendations for future improvement.

### **9.2.3 Specific Medical and Safety Regulations**

#### **9.2.3.1 Concussion Protocol for any World Aquatics sport**

In the event of concussion or suspicion of concussion, the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT5) must be used to evaluate concussions. The SCAT5 is a standardized tool for evaluating concussions designed for use by physicians and licensed healthcare professionals. The SCAT5 cannot be performed correctly in less than 10 minutes. SCAT5 is to be used for evaluating athletes aged 13 years and older.

The latest version of SCAT and Consensus Statement on concussion in sport can be found here.

<https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/bjsports/early/2017/04/26/bjsports-2017-097506SCAT5.full.pdf>

<https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/bjsports/early/2017/04/26/bjsports-2017-097699.full.pdf>

#### **9.2.3.2 Decision-making on return to the competition following injury or other medical reasons**

Based on the recommendation of the Sports Medicine Committee and/or the OC Medical Team/local medical authorities, and in conjunction with the athlete and NF Medical Team, the Bureau, as per Constitution Rule IV.17.1, may remove an Athlete from an aquatics competition and/or take any other appropriate measure if such participation poses a risk for the health and safety of such Athlete or any competitors.

### **9.2.4 Medical Plan and Health Care**

#### **9.2.4.1 Medical Plan**

The OC shall submit a Medical Plan to World Aquatics for approval before the Event. The deadline to submit the Medical Plan will be defined in the Operational Requirements. The plan shall comply with all requirements of these Regulations.

Each Medical Plan shall be reviewed by Sports Medicine Committee, who shall approve, modify, or reject the submitted Medical plan.

#### Implementation of the Medical Plan at the Event

The World Aquatics Medical Delegate (MD) shall inspect the competition venue with the OC Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or Venue Medical Officer (VMO) prior to the first day of training to ensure adequacy of the medical/safety plan.

The World Aquatics Medical Delegate (MD), in cooperation with the Technical Delegate (TD) and the OC CMO or VMO, may modify, postpone, or cancel the competition whenever the approved safety plan is inadequate to protect the safety of athletes.

#### **9.2.4.2 OC Chief Medical Officer (CMO) and OC Medical Team**

The OC shall designate an appropriately qualified physician as a Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for the World Aquatics' event as soon as the Event is confirmed by World Aquatics.

For World Aquatics Championships and World Aquatics Swimming Championships, the CMO shall be nominated twelve (12) months before the beginning of the Event.

She/He should have experience with Aquatic Sports preferably.

She/He must speak English.

This individual will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Organization of the complete medical care system



- Coordination of medical care personnel
- Ensuring the quality of the medical services and equipment
- Establishing an emergency care pathway
- Communication between the Chief Medical Officer and World Aquatics (Medical Department or SMC) is essential prior to the event to ensure adequate and appropriate planning for the medical needs of the competitive event.

The CMO is responsible to ensure that an adequate number of appropriately qualified health care personnel are available and hired for the training and competitive sessions of the World Aquatics' event. Depending on the size of the Event, she/he may appoint Deputy Medical Officer(s) and/or Medical Venue Manager(s) who can help the CMO in the duties.

### 9.2.4.3 Health Care Personnel (HCP)

For all training and competitive sessions, health care personnel should be available on site whenever athletes have access to the venue. They should have some sport medicine skills or experience.

The numbers and type of HCPs will depend on the size of the event but shall include:

- Primary care / Sports Medicine Doctor
- Lifeguards
- Paramedics

In addition to the above, HCPs may also include:

- Nurses
- First aid responders
- Physiotherapists
- Massage therapists
- Athletic trainers

All World Aquatics Events should have trained and qualified lifeguards poolside for all training and competitive sessions. They will be responsible for any in-water retrieval of an athlete in difficulty.

At the World Aquatics Championships, it is recommended to have at least one English-speaking doctor assigned to each venue.

No training nor competitions could start without the presence of HCPs.

#### 9.2.4.3.1 Summary Table of recommended HCP

The recommended numbers hereafter only represent the staff that must be present on-site. To organise efficient shifts/turn-over, the total pool of recruited HCPs shall be larger, especially for long Events.

##### 9.2.4.3.1.1 Lifeguards

A minimum of two (2) lifeguards per swimming pool (competition pool or training pool) is required. Specific requirements are described in the medical section of each Sport Chapter.

The number of lifeguards should be increased proportionally to the number of athletes to cover multiple casualties at the same time.

Daily practice of water retrieval is recommended.

##### 9.2.4.3.1.2 HCPs - Single Sport Event

<b>Venue</b>	
Primary care / Sports Medicine Doctor:	1-2
Paramedics:	2
Nurse(s):	1
Physiotherapists:	1
Massage therapists:	1-2



Training Venue (if applicable)

Paramedics:	1
Nurse(s):	1

#### 9.2.4.3.1.3 HCPs - Single Sport World Championships

##### Venue

Primary care / Sports Medicine Doctor:	2
Emergency physician:	1
Paramedics:	6-8
Nurse(s):	2-3
Physiotherapists:	1
Massage therapists:	1-2

##### Training Venue (if applicable)

Primary care / Sports Medicine Doctor:	1
Paramedics:	1
Nurse(s):	1-2

#### 9.2.4.3.1.4 HCPs for Multiple Sports Event

##### Venue

Primary care / Sports Medicine Doctor:	4-5
Emergency physician:	2
Paramedics:	8-10
Nurse(s):	6-8
Physiotherapists	3-4
Massage therapists	3-4

##### Training Venue (if applicable)

Primary care / Sports Medicine Doctor:	1
Paramedics:	1
Nurse(s):	1-2

#### 9.2.4.3.1.5 Psychologists

The OC is strongly recommended to organise the availability of psychologist(s) on call if there is a demand from athletes or any participant.

#### 9.2.4.4 Roles and Duties of the LOC Medical Team

##### 9.2.4.4.1 Prior to the event

The Medical Team collaborates with World Aquatics in the planning of the medical program and provides the different medical plans.

They shall undertake a sport & sport-specific medical risk assessment of all training and competition sites.

They shall provide a timeline and budget for the organisation of the medical program to the OC.

They should organise the medical training of the HCP. In addition, the CMO and/or the Medical Team may pilot the medical plan at local test events and evaluate and revise the plan as required.



The Medical Team will Liaise with public health authorities to plan event risk mitigation strategies. It shall publish and circulate the public health event risk mitigation strategies. The Medical Team shall ensure that all evacuation and fire procedures for the spectators and the athletes are in place as per local regulations.

The Medical Team will provide a list of common medications available/not available in the country and will assist the NF Medical Personnel with the drug and equipment importation regulations.

The Medical Team will assist the NF Team Doctor with their registration and licensing in the host country to provide medical services of their delegation during the World Aquatics Event. This could also be the occasion for the Team Doctor to inform the OC medical team (in confidence) of any pre-existing medical conditions for their athletes/personnel that may occur during training and/or competition and organise (in confidence) any specific/unique medical treatment that an athlete may require in the event of injury or illness.

It shall develop and test an electronic medical encounter system to be used during the Event. Train all members of the OC medical team to use the system.

#### **9.2.4.4.2 During the event**

The Medical Team shall:

- Implement the medical care program in collaboration with World Aquatics for all areas in venues.
  - Field of Play (FoP)
  - Athlete Medical Room
  - Spectator Medical Room
  - Athlete hotels/villages
- Undertake scenario-based practice of the FoP extractions and/or parts of the medical action plan on a daily basis.
- Undertake FoP initial assessment, treatment and evacuation from FoP and appropriate nationally/internationally recognised standards.
- Undertake medical care for athletes who do not have their own medical team healthcare professionals.
- Complete the required documentation for World Aquatics in a daily medical report.
- In collaboration with the World Aquatics Medical Manager, help facilitate the logistics and participate in the venue medical meeting.
- Support the NF medical teams in the provision of medical care for their athletes.
- Implement the World Aquatics safeguarding policies and procedures as applicable.
- Provide the relevant data for World Aquatics injury and illness surveillance/ audit, and/or other research projects.
- Ensure all relevant staff are familiar with the WADA Prohibited List and the requirements for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and Needle Policy (as applicable)
- Maintain medical confidentiality throughout the event.
- Implement the World Aquatics communication policy related to arising athlete health issues (as applicable)

#### **9.2.4.4.3 After the event**

The CMO and the Medical Team shall provide a detailed report to World Aquatics reviewing all aspects of the delivery of the medical care program in venues or at hotels/Athletes Village (if applicable).

They shall provide recommendations for improvements for future World Aquatics events and future organisers.

#### **9.2.4.5 Communication and Information**

##### **9.2.4.5.1 Between the LOC Medical Team**

During the World Aquatics Event, a reliable and confidential communication mechanism is essential to ensure clear and prompt communication between the members of the OC Medical Team.

The emergency transport vehicles shall be able to communicate directly with FoP Medical Team.

The communication system should have a dedicated, secure channel for the sole use of the medical team. A separated channel shall be dedicated for the medical team in charge of the spectators and the media.

##### **9.2.4.5.2 Between World Aquatics and LOC Medical Team**

During the Event, daily meetings shall be organised between the OC Chief Medical Officer and the World Aquatics Chief Medical Officer /Medical Delegate. It is the occasion to:



- Review reports from NFs, OC Medical Team and SMC members
- Review medical incidents and advise on appropriate action
- Provide expert advice regarding potential cancellation or rescheduling of an event in case of athlete health risk/safety (e.g., inclement weather)
- Provide expert advice and assistance to the OC medical team as required/requested

#### **9.2.4.5.3 Team Leaders Meeting for each sport**

Before each World Aquatics' Event, a Team Leaders Meeting (TLM) is organised.

The Chief Medical Officer and the World Aquatics Medical Delegate shall be present to present the different aspects of the Medical Plan and Health Care. The safety topics to be included are for instance:

- explanation of the venue layout
- anticipated weather conditions (for outdoor venue)
- water temperature
- description of onsite medical support and availability of hospital care
- outline of evacuation plan

This meeting could be the occasion for World Aquatics Medical Team to present any scientific research or initiatives organised by World Aquatics during the competition such as:

- Injury and illness surveillance/audit research project
- Other athlete health-related research projects
- The academic program (educational seminars) as learners or lecturers
- Safeguarding (harassment and abuse) rules and regulations

Procedure related to the Athlete withdrawals and substitutions for medical reasons shall be reminded during the Team Leaders Meeting.

#### **9.2.4.5.4 Special meetings**

Dedicated meeting(s) could be organised to address specific issues (e.g status of an epidemic during the Event).

#### **9.2.4.5.5 Medical Care Guide**

Information about the Medical Services should be included in the Event Summons, Information Bulletin and/or Team Leaders Guide.

#### **9.2.4.6 Athletes with no Team Physician**

The LOC Chief Medical Officer should provide medical care for those competitors whose teams do not have team physicians.

#### **9.2.4.7 Clear Identification and attire of the Health Care Personnel**

It is important that the HCP could be immediately identified on the FoP and at the venue.

It is understood in some countries the HCP may belong to different corporations and shall wear their official attire/uniform. However, when possible and in cooperation with the LOC, a distinctive uniform (e.g a polo shirt, a jacket, a bib) with a "lively" colour shall be provided to the OC Medical Team and HCPs.

#### **9.2.5 Venue Medical Services**

Any individual, if physically present at the venue, should be served by the OC Medical Programme. There should be separate medical stations and medical response teams for the athletes due to restricted access to athlete preparation and competition areas. The following section only deals with the Medical Services for Athletes, Coaches, visiting Physicians, Team Managers and the Team Aqua. Medical Services for spectators, media, marketing partners, and workforce will be described in the Part One, Article 9.21.

Venue medical care should be implemented at the international standards of '*Good Clinical Practice*'. For example, venue medical personnel should be competent in the latest *Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)* and *Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)* guidelines. For the assessment and treatment of sport injuries, the *IOC Manual of Emergency Sports Medicine* may be used as a reference tool.



Determination of the requirements for venue medical services for each training and competition venue medical station and Field of Play medical station is contingent upon the sport-specific requirements. These requirements are developed following an analysis (Risk Assessment) of the following factors:

- Sport medical risk assessment
- Expected number of athlete participants
- Duration of event

The number and location of the Venue Medical Station may vary as per the size of the event and of the Venue. Sometimes there could be a main Venue Medical Station and a FoP Medical Station or Treatment Area.

Athlete medical services must be provided on all days of official training and competition, beginning at minimum one hour before training or competition begins.

### **9.2.5.1 Venue Medical Station**

#### **9.2.5.1.1 Location**

The Medical Station is to be designated at each competitive venue (e.g for the six sports venues in the case of the World Aquatics Championships). The area should be clearly identified and be within easy access from the FoP. Access to ambulance transport should also be easily reached from the treatment area.

#### **9.2.5.1.2 Size**

The Medical Treatment Area should be adequate in size to accommodate the expected volume of athletes and medical personnel as designated for the specific World Aquatics' event.

For example, at World Aquatics Championships, the facility should be large enough to examine and treat 3 – 4 athletes at any given time.

#### **9.2.5.1.3 Equipment & Staff**

The station should be at minimum staffed by a physician and nurse and may include other support staff.

In addition to the provision of medical care, staff duties will include documentation of care; operational and clinical reporting; management of equipment and supplies; communication; and base of operations for the venue's FoP medical teams.

Staffing numbers should support the volume of anticipated medical encounters based on review of previous World Aquatics Events.

The equipment and supply requirements should include at minimum:

- Basic and Advanced Life support equipment. BLS and ALS equipment should include defibrillators, strategically located for quick response
- Evacuation equipment for immobilization of the athlete, transport from the FoP, and transport from the venue
- Orthopaedic soft goods, splinting materials, bandaging, suture kits, etc. that may be required on-site so the athlete can be treated and allowed to return to competition, if clinically appropriate
- First aid supplies
- Ice
- Sealed nutritious beverages, water and snacks.

#### **9.2.5.1.4 Privacy**

Provision for adequate privacy to protect that athlete's right to confidential health care is important.

#### **9.2.5.1.5 Security & Access**

Access to the Medical Treatment Area should be limited to medical staff, athletes, coaches, visiting physicians, team managers and the World Aquatics Family. For privacy reasons, access to the media and the public should not be allowed.

#### **9.2.5.1.6 Health Care Personnel**

When possible, a secure lounge or lunch/relaxation area for healthcare professional should be organised.

#### **9.2.5.1.7 Pharmacy**



The OC Medical Team shall ensure secure storage for medications, including controlled drugs as per the law of the host country.

### 9.2.5.2 **Field of Play Treatment Area**

#### 9.2.5.2.1 **Location**

In regard to the location adjacent to the FoP, the following shall be taken into consideration:

- Ease of access to the FoP (i.e on the pool deck, next to the pontoon in Open Water)
- Ease of access to the venue medical station and/or emergency evacuation pathway
- Ability for the FoP healthcare professionals to clearly see the sport activity
- Location protected from media scrutiny as feasible.

#### 9.2.5.2.2 **Minimum Equipment**

- BLS and ALS equipment
- Evacuation equipment for immobilization of the athlete, transport from the FoP, and transport from the venue

### 9.2.5.3 **Physiotherapy and Massage Services**

With the occasion of the World Aquatics Events, the OC generally provides at free of charge physiotherapy and massages for the athletes.

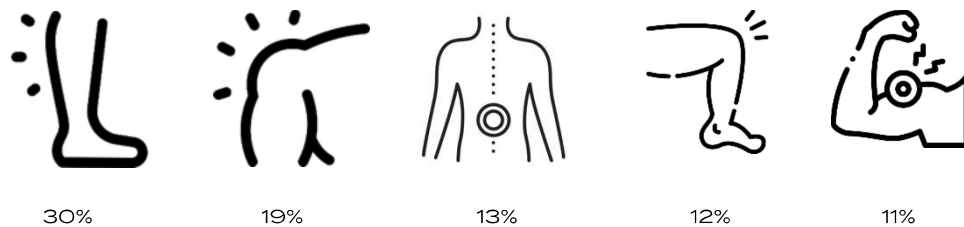
Physiotherapists and masseurs will be allowed to perform massages on those athletes who do not have a medical team to support them.

The massages that are normally offered are:

- Warm-up
- Recovery
- Unload
- Manual therapy
- Stretches
- Osteopathic adjustments
- Functional bandaging
- Kinesis taping

The necessary physiotherapy equipment (e.g. laser, cryo-laser, ultrasound, etc.) will depend on the space allocated for that purpose in each venue.

Examples of treatment location :



### 9.2.5.4 **Ice-baths**

For recovery, it is recommended to offer two (2) Ice baths (minimum width 0.8 m, length 1.2 m, depth 1.0 m) or 14° C water tubs. Alternatively, ice-machines shall be available to teams and athletes for their own tub, or to ice an injury.

## 9.2.6 **Emergency Action Plan and Medical Response Protocol**

### 9.2.6.1 **Emergency Action Plan**

The Emergency Action Plan should be clearly defined according to the sport-specific risk. It should include:

Procedures for how and when to access the FoP; and



Emergency treatment and evacuation procedures from the FoP:

- Include educational videos
- Daily medical scenario training/practice
- Emergency medical protocol for athlete medical stations

Clearly defined protocols for the FoP for dealing with:

- Cardiac arrest
- Life-threatening injury
- Death

The exit pathway from the FoP to either the athlete venue medical station or the ambulance

Location of ambulance transportation

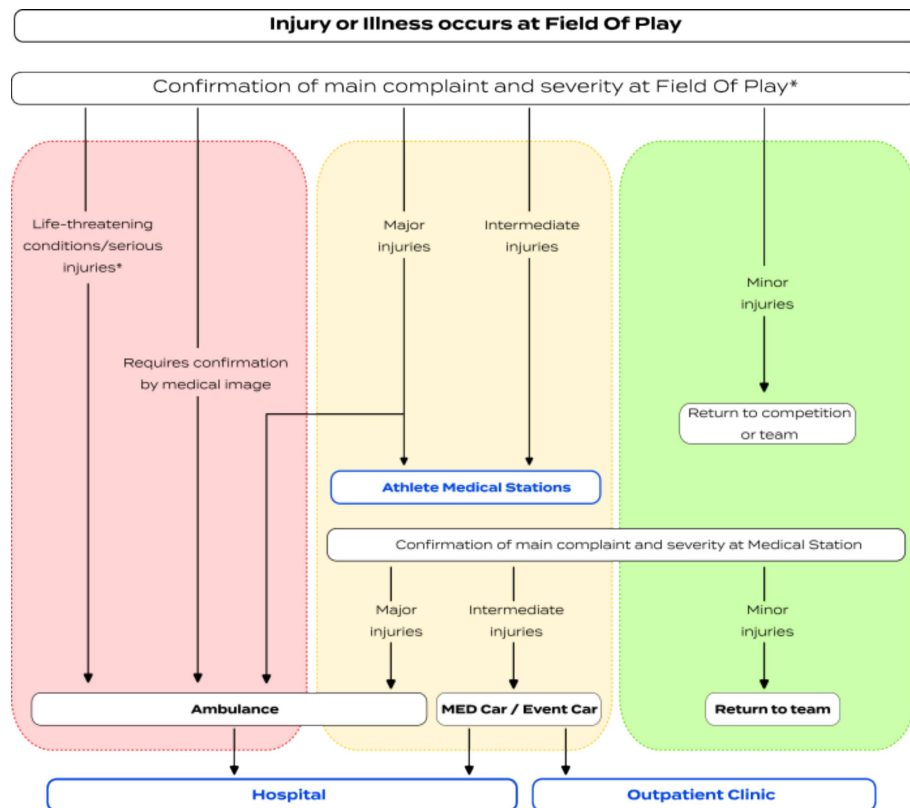
Location of automatic external defibrillators

Completion of medical records, including the maintenance of confidentiality

Communication procedures (who, how and when) for communicating with the:

- Ambulance/emergency medical service
- Venue medical manager
- Designated hospital
- Members of the OC medical team
- SMC Chairperson
- Media

The diagram hereafter is an example of an Emergency Action Plan.



*Source: ASOIF Health Care Guidelines for IFs, 2020*

*(\*initial life-saving interventions to occur immediately prior to transportation as applicable: e.g., emergency heat stroke should receive immediate intervention at the venue prior to transfer by ambulance)*





Each event is different. When possible, a test event is recommended to evaluate the competition planning, including the medical response and patient evacuation. This must also include safety provisions at training sessions and warm-up.

Past medical experiences from previous events should be shared in advance with the OC Medical Team to assist preparation.

Team physicians should also contact the CMO in advance with concerns for any athletes requiring special medical attention or specific treatment.

#### **9.2.6.2.1 Contact details**

Before competition, the following contact persons must be clearly identified, and their contact details made available:

OC Chief Medical Officer (CMO)

OC Sport Manager

World Aquatics Technical Delegate (TD)

World Aquatics Medical Delegate (MD)

World Aquatics Sport Manager

World Aquatics Medical Manager

Each participating Team Leader

#### **9.2.6.2.2 Water Rescue**

Clearly identified Lifeguards will be present at all competition and training sessions. They must be experienced in deep water rescue and familiar with water retrieval covering a range of potential medical incidents. Daily practice and rehearsal of athlete extraction is a requirement.

#### **9.2.6.2.3 Competition Medical Response**

A direct and permanent supervision of the FoP shall be maintained during the athlete's competition.

If the medical team is reduced due to evacuation of an injured athletes from the FoP to the Medical Treatment Area. A HCP from the warm-up pool could be called to temporary replace the medical staff dealing with the casualty.

A full complement of medical staff should always be maintained at the venue and different swimming pool.

#### **9.2.6.2.4 Preparation**

All medical planning should be undertaken well in advance of any scheduled event. During the event, (training and competition), the OC CMO or VMO must ensure the following:

- A trained, identifiable, and fully accredited Medical Team.
- A well-equipped, fully-staffed on site medical room.
- A fully-operational communication system linking key personnel.
- A well-rehearsed athlete extraction protocol from pool to medical room.
- Adequate training for all emergency procedures.
- Attention to athlete dignity and confidentiality at all times.
- Availability of emergency transport to identified hospital services.

#### **9.2.6.2.5 The Medical Team Response**

The initial response depends on the nature of the injury or incident and whether it occurs in the water or on the ground/pool deck.

For any incident in a pool, and the athlete is conscious, he/she can hold onto a flotation device and be towed to the side with lifeguard support.

If unconscious, the athlete must be stabilized on a flotation device. At this point consider need for CPR and cervical stabilisation. A well-rehearsed extraction protocol of the unconscious or injured athlete from the water requires practised teamwork. A primary survey, conducted on the poolside, will identify life-threatening conditions warranting immediate intervention.



When stable, the athlete can be transported to the medical room for a more definitive assessment including potential for closed head injury. Here, the decision for hospital transfer, via ambulance, is made. At all times public and media attention should be managed judiciously and team support personnel must be alerted.

Clearly, the medical team response for a fully conscious, mobile athlete is modified accordingly. The primary assessment on the pool deck will determine the need for urgency and transfer to the medical room. Accompanying NF medical support, where present, may be engaged in this process. Their knowledge of the athlete may be of inestimable value to local medical staff. However, the NF team support should not interfere with the medical response. In all circumstances, the ultimate management plan for the athlete will derive from consultation between the CMO and NF team support staff as available. Consultation with the appropriate SMC Member is a courtesy and will not influence the management plan or decision to refer the athlete for hospital care.

### **9.2.7 Emergency Transport Plan**

The venue pathways to emergency transport to hospital for medical care that cannot be provided in the venue should be delineated to ensure adequate planning and preparation prior to the event.

*Assurance of appropriate accreditation access is required for all medical personnel to accompany the injured/ill athlete from the FoP or Venue Medical Station to the emergency transport location.*

Security and protocol personnel should be aware of the Emergency Transport Venue Pathway and compliant to allow access as required.

The Emergency Transport Plan should include:

- Number of ambulances:
  - Athlete ambulance(s)
  - Spectator ambulance(s)
  - Back-up/support ambulance(s)
- Minimum level of ambulance equipment
- Minimum skill level of ambulance crew (e.g., emergency medical transport/paramedic, ATLS, ACLS etc.)
- Location of ambulances
- Non-emergency medical transport:

In non-emergency situations, the process/means for transportation from the venue to either an outpatient clinic or designated event hospital should be identified (e.g., car, taxi, event transport)

Where the travel time by ambulance between the venue and the nearest hospital with emergency room facilities is longer than one (1) hour, then the safety plan shall require provision for helicopter transport.

#### **9.2.7.1 Sports Requirements**

##### **9.2.7.1.1 Swimming / Water Polo / Artistic Swimming**

It is recommended that the ambulance be located on site at the competitive venue during training and competitive sessions. If emergency response times can be guaranteed to within a few minutes than use of off-site ambulances is acceptable (option to be approved in advance by World Aquatics Sports Medicine Committee).

##### **9.2.7.1.2 Open Water Swimming**

A medical boat capable of medically stabilizing an athlete and providing emergency transport must be on the course throughout the competition with reserve available in the event of the original medical boat having to leave the competition site. In addition, a land-based ambulance must also be on site.

##### **9.2.7.1.3 Diving / High Diving**

An ambulance must be on-site throughout all training and competition periods. A reserve unit must be available in the advent of a transport by the first ambulance team. (if necessary for High Diving, a medical boat like for Open Water).

#### **9.2.8 Venue Pharmacy Formulary**

##### **9.2.8.1 General**



World Aquatics does not have specific requirements related to the medications for the Venue Medical Station and the Field of Play Treatment Area.

Systems for secure storage and medication management must be in place for the event according to the law of the host country.

A pharmacist may be appointed to set up and manage the pharmacy service provision for the event.

Controlled drugs (such as morphine for strong analgesia) may require special storage requirements and records to be kept, according to the laws of the host country.

All medications must be recorded for each individual patient.

### **9.2.8.2 Anti-Doping Requirements**

All LOC Medical Personnel must be familiar with the substances and methods that are prohibited in sport ([WADA Prohibited List and Methods](#)).

The [WADA Therapeutic Use Exemption International Standard](#), along with World Aquatics-specific protocols for Therapeutic Use Exemption applications, should also be referenced:

All medications at the World Aquatics Events that are also on the WADA Prohibited List should be clearly marked (e.g. coloured stickers, etc.) for easy identification as a warning to prescribing clinicians for the need for a Therapeutic Use Exemption.

If a prohibited drug is required to be prescribed, both the prescribing physician and the athlete who is receiving the medication must sign the prescription form to confirm that they are both aware of the status of the substance and that the athlete consents to receiving the drug. The dispensing pharmacist should sign the prescription to verify that they have informed the physician and the athlete that the substance is prohibited. A duplicate copy should be given to the athlete in case of notification for doping control, so the athlete has a record in writing of recent medication intake and to aid in potential results management of an adverse analytical finding.

It is also recommended that all OC Medical Personnel (including the CMO) complete the *ADEL Medical Professional's Education Program* on [WADA's ADeL](#) (anti-doping e-learning platform).

### **9.2.9 Hospitals and Isolation Facilities**

#### **9.2.9.1 Hospitals**

Hospital allocation for the World Aquatics Events should take into consideration:

- Anticipated health concerns
- Available hospital services (e.g., major trauma/ medical preparedness as in major trauma centres)
- Proximity to venues
- Insurance/financial requirements

The designated hospital(s) shall be communicated to World Aquatics in advance.

Few months before the World Aquatics Event, the Chief Medical Officer should develop a plan for the referral and potential transport of injured and/or ill athletes. A link with a nearby medical facility / hospital capable of providing continuing emergency care, access to laboratory investigations, imaging, and specialist opinions, including dental, should be established.

#### **9.2.9.2 Isolation facilities in case of pandemic**

Experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic during World Aquatics Events demonstrate the need to anticipate an isolation facility(ies), which could include in-room services.

#### **9.2.10 Public Health Requirements**

For major events, adherence to local public health legislation and regulations is important. Contact should be made in advance to ensure appropriate planning. The key considerations for public health at World Aquatics Events are to:

- Reduce and manage the risk of individuals acquiring an infectious illness
- Encourage health-promoting behaviours in athletes, officials and visitors
- Food and water safety

**9.2.10.1 Prevention of infectious diseases**

The recent years have shown that organising mass gathering events could represent a public health challenge.

The OC Medical Team shall consider about management policy about infectious/communicable disease. This may include:

- Required immunisations for visiting athletes and World Aquatics Family and guests (e.g COVID-19, Measles, etc.)
- Geographical risks of host location (Dengue, Malaria)
- Protocols for isolation of athletes/teams with communicable diseases (COVID-19 Protocol)
- Criteria for sport participation for ill and recovering athletes
- Essential medications required for treatment of an infectious outbreak
- Safe and secure food supply
- The food supply channels may be at increased risk. The OC and Public health authorities should work with local law enforcement and security agencies to ensure safety of the food supply at the venues (training/competition/staff catering) and at the accredited participants accommodation (hotels/village).
- The safety includes food and water hygiene as well as protection against inadvertent ingestion of substances included on the WADA Prohibited List from contaminated foods or sports products.

**9.2.11 Environmental considerations****9.2.11.1 General**

The OC Medical Team should consider the Environmental issues and evaluate them based on historical records. A risk mitigation strategy may need to be developed to address environmental risks.

Environmental risks depend on the following factors at the geographic location of the event:

- Climate: heat/cold, other extreme weather conditions
- Elevation/altitude
- Air quality
- Water quality

The other factors to be considered by OC Medical Team and World Aquatics are the:

- Duration of the sport event
- Physiological requirements of the sport/discipline
- Time of day of the competition and training sessions
- Time of year of the event

**9.2.11.2 Water Quality**

Water quality is a fundamental element of our sports.

For water quality, the OC medical team should share with World Aquatics and NFs, the records and archives from previous years.

Should there be environmental risks, consultation with sport science environmental specialists is recommended and some strategies and corrective actions be implemented.

Specific information about Water Quality may be found in the sportspecific Part.

**9.2.11.2.1 Tap Water Quality**

OC shall indicate whether the tap water is drinkable without risk of infection.

**9.2.11.3 Risk Mitigation Strategy**

The Aquatic Sports Venues could be indoor or outdoor.

Sports like open water and high diving are outdoor and exposed to weather conditions.

Therefore, before any event, the OC shall provide information on the actual environmental conditions and their expected evolution. It should help the NF to organise suitable travel and acclimation arrangement to their athletes.

**At the competition venue:**



- World Aquatics should consider the implementation of specific protocols: early departure, event cancellation, additional break for officials and athlete, appropriate clothing for officials, etc.
- OC should aim to minimise environmental exposure by adapting scheduling, providing cooled/warmed team tent and waiting areas, etc.
- OC should provide mitigation measures for spectators and official (educate on behavior to adopt, provide hydration and shade, distribute goodies such as paper fans and caps if necessary).

**The LOC Medical Team should:**

- Organise appropriate training for the medical staff in recognition and emergency treatment protocols.
- Provide of specialist medical equipment such as ice baths for full body immersion.
- Give access to essential medication which reflect the environmental risks.
- Have clear algorithms displayed in the medical venue (e.g., exertional heat stroke algorithms).
- Planning for any specific medical equipment related to the environmental conditions (e.g. cooling bath, warm baths, rectal thermometer, sodium tester, etc.).

World Aquatics and OC should also have a communication strategy to deal with the environmental factors that may impact the organisation of a competition (race, match).

**9.2.12 Safety and security**

It is important for the OC medical team to have strategised with local safety and security departments for the event, safety and security as well as for disaster planning.

Details to be addressed include:

**Liaison with:**

- Police services in case of emergency to provide additional security.
- Fire department services in case of fire emergency.
- Emergency transportation services.
- Tertiary care health services.
- Supply source of essential medications.
- Blood banks.
- Emergency mental health services for psychological support as required.
- Public health services.

**Policies and procedures for major incidences/disasters:**

- Terrorist attacks.
- Environmental disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, fire, weathers, etc.
- Venues malfunction.

**9.2.13 Nutrition Requirements**

World Aquatics and OC medical teams should ensure adequate and appropriate nutrition at international sporting events. Nutritional requirements should include:

At the training and competition venues, provision of:

- Water and carbohydrate electrolyte replacement ('sports drink') as applicable.
- A variety of food options to aid athlete recovery.

At athlete lodging, delivery of a catering plan that achieves:

- Sufficient menu variety within and between meals to manage food boredom and to provide ample choices for the needs of the athletes.
- Attention to the food culture of the athletic population including special cultural practices (e.g., halal, kosher)
- Food/menu options that meet the health and specific sports nutrition considerations of the athletic population (e.g., carbohydrate loading).
- Support for special dietary needs (e.g., food intolerances and allergies) or choices (e.g., vegan/vegetarian) of the athletes.
- Point of choice labelling of menu items to identify nutritional characteristics and other key information (e.g., presence or absence of allergens).
- (Ideally) provision of additional education resources around sports nutrition guidelines.



- Sufficient accessibility to support the overall nutritional needs of the athletes and the logistics around training and competition schedules, including flexibility to meet special needs.

Ideally, information about the catering plan should be provided ahead of the World Aquatics Event for distribution to the NFs to assist in their preparations and specific plans. Such information should include:

- Specific information on key issues that might arise around the specific competition or location (e.g., food and water hygiene, control of potential contamination of food supplies).
- Specific details of how special nutritional or cultural needs will be met, including key contacts to discuss/arrange additional needs.
- Specific information regarding the importing of additional food supplies to the location (e.g., local custom or quarantine regulations) to assist teams or individuals with plans to supplement the catering plan.
- Protocols and procedures for the management of any declared outbreak of food-related illness.

#### **9.2.13.1 Hotel Requirements and Flexible Serving Times**

Meal times must be flexible. For instance, the hotel must be able to serve breakfast before early morning practices and dinner after late evening competitions.

#### **9.2.14 Athlete Safeguarding (Harassment and Abuse) Requirements**

##### **9.2.14.1 Policies and Procedures**

The World Aquatics Athlete Safeguarding Policy can be found on Aquatics Integrity Unit' website:

<https://aquaticsiintegrity.com/>

Any issue shall be reported to the Aquatic Integrity Unit.

#### **9.2.15 Athlete Mental Health Support**

Evidence shows that athletes at the elite level have a higher prevalence of mental health symptoms and disorders than non-athletes.

As such, World Aquatics aims to ensure the provision of adequate and effective mental health support for athletes at World Aquatics Events.

Hence, the following considerations to address athlete mental health issues should be assessed by World Aquatics and/or OC:

- Opportune timing of competition events
- Appropriate timing of training/competitions sessions to allow adequate recovery and sleep
- Provision of time for recovery post training and competition
- Efficient transport system and close distance between venue and accommodation
- Allocation of quiet spaces of low stimulation
- If possible, inclusion of a licensed/registered mental health professional with experience in elite sport on the OC medical team
- Availability of a referral network of licensed/ registered mental health professionals.

#### **9.2.16 Host Country Government Regulations**

Host countries may have specific requirements relevant to the provision of athlete health care delivery that need to be considered in the planning and delivery of the health care program at World Aquatics Events. These regulations fall under three categories:

- Medical licensing of visiting medical physicians
- Drug and medical equipment importation
- Mass event policies and procedures

##### **9.2.16.1 Medical Licensing**

The OC shall outline the legal requirements for medical licensing of foreign physicians in the country of the event as required. Links to regulations on official government websites should be provided.

##### **9.2.16.2 Drug and Medical Equipment Importation**



The OC medical team shall publish the national legal requirements for drug and medical equipment importation in sufficient time in advance of the World Aquatics Events for the visiting NF medical personnel. Such guidance should cover the following scenarios:

- Importation of medication supplies by team physicians for team use
- Importation of personal medication by individual athletes
- Importation of controlled drugs
- Importation of medical equipment
- Provision of medical care offered to an athlete (e.g., use of opiates in a pre-hospital environment).

#### **9.2.17 After-hours Medical Care**

After-hours emergency medical care for the athletes, visiting team officials, judges, referees and the World Aquatics Family should be arranged with easy access through the official Event hotels. This includes:

- After hours (out of venue) urgent care
- Medical services at hotels
- Athlete village health services (if applicable)

Processes and contact details should be provided with the Team Leader information packs.

##### **9.2.17.1 Language Services**

The OC should provide adequate and timely language services to facilitate the delivery of medical care at the training and competition venues. This should include:

- Contact information for access to the event language translation services
- Designation of medical translation services (if applicable)
- Languages included
- A statement about medical information confidentiality when using language services.

##### **9.2.17.2 Glasses/Lenses Services**

This is not a World Aquatics' requirement, but the experience shows that during our Events it may happen that some participants lose or break their glasses or lenses. When you have 5'000 accredited participants, it becomes a significant number of persons.

It would be appreciated if the LOC could find few reliable partners/shops that will be able to respond to any urgent situation and to replace within few hours to few days the glasses or lenses.

Such a service will be at the participant's costs.

#### **9.2.18 Insurance & Liability**

##### **9.2.18.1 Insurance**

Each accredited participant shall have their own personal medical insurance.

Athletes, Officials and World Aquatics Family members are covered by World Aquatics Insurance which can be utilised to support healthcare provision as required. However, as World Aquatics Insurance does not cover all the situations, a personal insurance is necessary.

The OC has the responsibility to provide at minimum the first aid medical care during training and competitions. The World Aquatics Insurance may take the relay as soon as a participant is transferred to an hospital.

##### **9.2.18.2 Medical Personnel Malpractice Insurance & Liability**

World Aquatics and OC assume no responsibility for any healthcare provided by NF healthcare personnel to NF team members and delegates.

The OC should ensure that all members of the Medical Team are covered by professional liability insurance. The amount of coverage must be commensurate with the risks associated in providing the Medical Programme as described herein.

It is recommended that NF healthcare professionals inform their insurance company that they are travelling abroad with a sports team, and check whether their professional liability insurance covers this activity. Each NF should make its own arrangements for professional liability insurance.

##### **9.2.19 Non-smoking Policy**



The entire Venue is strictly non-smoking.

Appropriate signage shall be in place around the venues.

#### **9.2.20 Medical Communication Strategy**

World Aquatics Communication Policies regarding communication about health-related information should be reviewed in cooperation with the OC and the OC Medical Team.

Any question from Media related to medical issues shall be addressed to World Aquatics Communication Department. The Medical Team shall not communicate directly with Media.

#### **9.2.21 Media, Marketing Partners, Workforce & Spectators Medical Services**

The OC shall make provisions for the health care of spectators, media, marketing partners, and workforce that are distinct from athlete health care.

The spectators, media, marketing partners, and workforce should include:

Designation of Health Care Personnel that are completely different from the athlete medical personnel

Allocation of a venue medical station for spectators, media, marketing partners, and workforce

Delineation of a medical action plan outlining:

- Location of automatic external defibrillators
- Removal from spectator area
- Triage procedures
- Medical protocols for trauma and illness
- Transfer procedures from spectator venue medical station to ambulance
- Ambulance designation
- Hospital designation
- Spectator medical briefing
- Scenario training

Communication network

Medical record system

Public health requirements:

Environmental planning and protocols

Major incident planning and training

Provision of medical care for VIPs (if applicable)

#### **9.2.22 Medical Ethical Guidelines**

Athletes have the right to high-quality, ethical medical care. In elite sporting events, there may be external pressures or influences on athlete health care and return to sport from media, agents, coaches, NF presidents etc. who wish to sway an athlete's decision to participate.

As such, it is important to emphasise the principles of ethical, athlete-centred health care delivery to all members of the OC's medical team at World Aquatics Events.

This includes the athlete's right to:

- Confidentiality of health information
- Informed consent
- A second medical opinion
- The latest evidence-based medical care
- Safe and ethical medical practices

## **10 FACILITIES**

### **10.1 General**





The present Section related to Facilities is intended to provide the best possible environment for competitive use and training. This section does not intend to govern issues related to the general public. It is the responsibility of the owner or controller of a facility to provide supervision for activities undertaken by the general public.

## **10.2 Pools**

### **10.2.1 World Aquatics Olympic Standard Pools**

All World Championships (except the Masters World Championships) and Olympic Games must be held in pools that comply with the Facility Rules of each Sport (see Parts Two to Seven of these Competition Regulations).

### **10.2.2 World Aquatics General Standard Pools**

Other World Aquatics events should be held in World Aquatics Olympic Standard Pools, but the Bureau may waive certain standards for existing pools if they do not materially interfere with the competitions.

### **10.2.3 World Aquatics Minimum Standard Pools**

All other events held under World Aquatics Rules should be conducted in pools that comply with all of the minimum standards contained within this section.

## **10.3 Automatic Officiating Equipment**

At Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships, the approved Automatic Officiating Equipment, including Video Judging Equipment shall be provided and used. The approved Video Judging Equipment shall be used to initiate stroke infraction calls, confirm stroke infraction calls or assist the Referee to overturn calls made on the pool deck.

## **10.4 Availability of Venues**

For the World Aquatics Championships all venues shall be available for use at least five (5) days before the opening ceremony.

For all other World Aquatics events all pools shall be available for use by entered competitors before the competition begins. Swimming, Open Water Swimming, Water Polo, Artistic Swimming - five (5) days prior, Diving, High Diving - eight (8) days prior.

### **10.4.1 Training**

During the competition days, the pools shall be available for training when competitions are not in progress.

## **10.5 Seating**

Seating positions along the side of the pool shall be provided for all competitors, team officials and unassigned technical officials, from which they may properly observe training and competitions.

**10.6** New competition equipment (e.g. Starting blocks, lane-ropes, etc.) must be available by 1st January in the year of the Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships.

**10.7** At the Olympic Games, World Aquatics Championships, World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m) and World Aquatics Junior Swimming Championships, it shall be the responsibility of the Chairperson of the World Aquatics Technical Swimming Committee (or his/her designee) to determine if a Competitor may receive an additional opportunity to compete in the situation when there is a mechanical or technical malfunction that affects the Competitor.

*Example: if the lane-line on either side of a competitor snaps during the first 20m of a 100m race, the Technical Swimming Committee Chairperson may grant the allowance to re-swim the race.*

At all other competitions, in the event of an equipment malfunction during a swimming race, the Referee may offer all competitors affected by such malfunction the opportunity to compete again.

**10.8** In order to protect the health and safety of persons using swimming facilities for the purposes of recreation, training and competition, owners of public pools or pools restricted only to training and competition must comply with the requirements established by law and the health authorities in the country where the pool is situated.

## **11 TECHNICAL OFFICIALS**

### **11.1 General**



The Judges nominated must be of the same nationality as the World Aquatics Member proposing them and fully certified by the respective Technical Committee. A naturalised Judge would be eligible to represent the World Aquatics Member that proposed him/her, if he/she will have lived in the territory of that Member for at least one year prior to that competition. A three- year transition period is required between the international representation of two different Members.

The World Aquatics Technical Committees will propose Technical Officials (Judges and Referees) to act at the Olympic Games or World Championships from the current World Aquatics Officials Lists in the respective sport, for approval by the World Aquatics Bureau or World Aquatics Executive.

For no show of nominated Officials, the respective Federation will be fined 2'000 Swiss Francs.

## **11.2 Age**

The maximum age of Technical Officials when officiating at World Aquatics Championships or World Aquatics Competitions, except Masters and Water Polo, shall be sixty-five (65) years when application is made for the respective World Aquatics List.

For Water Polo, the age limit shall be sixty (60) years during the year of competition.

## **11.3 Technical Lists**

Technical Officials must be on current World Aquatics Lists approved by the respective Technical Committee for the Aquatics sport in order to officiate at Olympic Games, World Aquatics Championships or World Aquatics Competitions. Nominated officials must be members of the nominating Federation and certified by the Member Federation in submitting their nomination.

# **12 SCORES, MEDALS AND TROPHIES**

## **12.1 Scores and awards at the World Aquatics Championships & World Aquatics World Swimming Championships (25m)**

In all World Aquatics Championships, points and awards are distributed as follows:

### **12.1.1 Swimming**

#### **12.1.1.1 Medals**

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the first three places in individual and relay final competitions. In swimming relays when preliminaries are swum, medals shall be awarded to those swimmers who have participated in the heats and/or the final.

In Swimming, in case of equal times, medals shall be awarded as follows:

1st place: 2 Gold – no Silver, 1 Bronze

2nd place: 1 Gold, 2 Silver – no Bronze

3rd place: 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze

In case of 3 equal times medals shall be awarded as follows:

1st place: 3 Gold – no Silver, no Bronze

2nd place: 1 Gold, 3 Silver – no Bronze

3rd place: 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 3 Bronze

#### **12.1.1.2 Diplomas**

Using 8 lanes in Swimming, diplomas shall be awarded to all eight finalists in individual events and to the top eight finalists in relay competitions.

In swimming relays when preliminaries are swum, diplomas shall be awarded to those swimmers who have participated in the heats and/or the final.


**12.1.1.3 Trophies**
**12.1.1.3.1 Team Trophy**

World Aquatics Team Trophy for the top scoring team based on the following points:

8 Individual using 8 lanes:

Places 1 – 16:

18, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 points

9 Relays using 8 lanes:

Places 1 – 8:

36, 32, 30, 28, 26, 24, 22, 20 points.

**12.1.1.3.2 Individual Trophies**

World Aquatics Individual Trophies for the top scoring male and female based upon the following points:

<b>First Place</b>	5 points
<b>Second Place</b>	3 points
<b>Third Place</b>	2 points
<b>Fourth Place</b>	1 point
<b>Individual World Record</b>	2 points for each record broken

If there is a tie, the World Aquatics Points Table shall be used, and a decision made by the World Aquatics.

**12.1.2 Open Water Swimming**
**12.1.2.1 Medals**

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the first three places in each individual and team events.

In Open Water Swimming, in case of equal places, medals shall be awarded as follows:

1st place: 2 Gold – no Silver, 1 Bronze

2nd place: 1 Gold, 2 Silver – no Bronze

3rd place: 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze

In case of 3 equal places medals shall be awarded as follows:

1st place: 3 Gold – no Silver, no Bronze

2nd place: 1 Gold, 3 Silver – no Bronze

3rd place: 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 3 Bronze

**12.1.2.2 Diplomas**

Diplomas shall be awarded to all eight finalists in each individual events and to the first eight finalists in team events.

**12.1.2.3 Trophy**

A special Team Trophy shall be given based upon the following points added from the two individual events (5 and 10 km) and mixed team events. Double points shall be awarded for the mixed team event.

18 (1st place), 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 points

**12.1.3 Diving**
**12.1.3.1 Medals**

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the first three places in individual, synchronised and team events.

**12.1.3.2 Diplomas**



Diplomas shall be awarded to all eight finalists in each individual events and to the first six finalists in each synchronised and team events.

**12.1.3.3 Trophies**

A Team Trophy shall be given to the top scoring team based on the following points:

Individual diving events:

18-16-14-12-10-8-6-5-4-3-2-1 points

Synchronised diving events (12 finalists):

27-24-21-18-15-12-9-7,5-6-4,5-3-1,5 points.

Team Event

27-24-21-18-15-12-9-7,5-6-4,5-3-1,5 points

**12.1.4 High Diving****12.1.4.1 Medals**

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the first three ranked Competitors in each event.

**12.1.4.2 Diplomas**

Diplomas shall be awarded to first eight finalists in each event.

**12.1.5 Water Polo****12.1.5.1 Medals**

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to all the players of the first three teams.

**12.1.5.2 Diplomas**

Diplomas shall be awarded to all the players of the first six teams.

**12.1.5.3 Trophies**

A trophy shall be given to the best scorer (men and women) and goalkeeper (men and women) of the championships.

**12.1.6 Artistic Swimming****12.1.6.1 Medals**

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to first three Competitors or teams in each individual, solo, duet, mixed duet and team events.

**12.1.6.2 Diplomas**

Diplomas shall be awarded to the first eight finalists in solo and duet events and to the first six finalists in team and free combination events.

**12.1.6.3 Trophy**

A Team Trophy shall be given to the best team of the championships based on the following points:

Solo, Technical Routine:

12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 points

Solo, Free Routine:

12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 points

Duet, Technical Routine:

18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7 points

Duet, Free Routine:

18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7 points



Mixed Duet Technical Routine

18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7 points

Mixed Duet Free Routine

18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7 points

Team Technical Routine:

24, 22, 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 points

Team Free Routine:

24, 22, 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 points

Free Combination:

24, 22, 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 points

Acrobatic Routine:

24, 22, 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 points

**12.1.7** In case of a tie, the highest points shall be awarded to each competitor or relay team.

**12.1.8 Commemorative Medals:**

Commemorative medals may be given to all those connected officially with the World Aquatics Championships.

**12.2 World Aquatics Junior Swimming Championships**

Points and awards at the World Aquatics Junior Swimming Championships shall be distributed as per Part One, Article 12.1.1.

**12.3 World Aquatics Junior Open Water Swimming Championships**

**12.3.1 Awards**

**12.3.1.1 Medals**

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the first three places in each individual and team events. Where equal places occur the award of medals shall be as described in Part One, Article 12.1.2.1.

**12.3.1.2 Trophy**

A special Team Trophy shall be given based upon the following points added from the three individual events (5, 7.5 and 10km) and mixed team events. Double points shall be awarded for the mixed team event.

18 (1st place), 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 points

**12.4 World Aquatics Junior Artistic Swimming Championships**

The Junior Worlds over all Championship Title will be awarded to the Member Federation with the over- all highest raw score determined by combining results for all events.

**13 PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

**13.1 Protests**

**13.1.1 Protests are possible**

if the rules and regulations for the conduct of the competition are not observed,  
if other conditions endanger the competitions and/or competitors, or  
against decisions of the referee; however, no protest shall be allowed against decisions of fact.

**13.1.2 Protest must be submitted**

to the Referee'  
in writing on World Aquatics Forms'



by the responsible Team Leader;

together with a deposit of five-hundred (500) Swiss Francs or its equivalent; and

within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective event or match.

If conditions causing a potential protest are noted prior to the event a protest must be lodged before the signal to start is given.

**13.1.3** All protests shall be considered by the referee. If the referee rejects the protest, the referee must state the reasons for her/his decision. The team leader may appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeal whose decision shall be final. In Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships, the Commission in each sport shall consider the protest and give recommendations to the Jury of Appeal.

**13.1.4** If the protest is rejected, the deposit will be forfeited to the management body of the competition. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be returned.

**13.1.5** In Diving, an oral complaint may be made by the competitor or a responsible team official immediately after the execution of a dive, a round of dives, or a section of the contest. If the complaint is not accepted, a formal protest may be made as in the above Part One, Article 13.1.2.

**13.2** **Jury of Appeal**

**13.2.1** For Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships, the Jury of Appeal shall be composed of the Bureau Members and Honorary Members present with the President or in his absence a Vice President, as Chairman. For all other World Aquatics competitions, the Jury of Appeal shall be the World Aquatics Delegate together with any Bureau Members or members of the appropriate Technical Committee present, with the Delegate as Chairman. Each member shall have one vote, except as provided hereunder, and in case of equality of voting, the Chairman has a casting vote.

**13.2.2** A jury member is allowed to speak, but not to vote, on a case in which the interest of her/his own Federation is involved. A jury member having acted as an official is not allowed to vote on a case if there is a protest against her/his decision or on her/his interpretation of a Rule. In case of urgency, the jury may vote on a matter even if it has not been possible to call all the members. The decision of the jury is final.