

TO: IPC Swimming NPCs / IOSDs

FROM: David Grevemberg
IPC Sports Director

Bonn, 6 September 2007
DG/IPC/530

Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games Swimming Qualification Criteria Update

Dear NPC President/Secretary General,

Following an extensive review of the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games Swimming Qualification Criteria, initially published in March 2007, and amidst some concerns expressed by NPCs with regard to the selection of medal events and the establishment of Minimum Qualification Standards, please find attached an update to the criteria. Please note the following summary of changes that are reflected in the document:

a) Medal Events and Minimum Qualification Standards (MQS)

Based on the already established criteria for the inclusion of swimming medal events for the Paralympic Games as outlined in attachment 1, IPC Swimming has conducted a comprehensive review of the previously published medal events programme cross-referencing supporting documentation (i.e. the IPC Swimming - Long Course - World Ranking lists closing 31 December 2006). It was discovered that some medal events did not meet the requisite criteria to be maintained on the programme, while others that met the criteria were not included in the original edition. Therefore, IPC Swimming has now updated the medal events programme making the following modifications to the previous version:

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MENS MEDAL EVENTS	WOMENS MEDAL EVENTS
INCLUDED	
o 400m Freestyle – S11	o 400m Freestyle – S6
o 50m Backstroke – S1	o 50m Backstroke – S2
o 4x50m Medley Relay – 20pts	o 150m Individual Medley – SM4
	o 200m Individual Medley – SM10
	o 100m Butterfly – S13
REMOVED	
o 50m Freestyle – S1	o 100m Freestyle – S3
o 200m Individual Medley – SM11	o 50m Backstroke – S4
	o 100m Backstroke – S11
	o 100m Backstroke – S12
	o 50m Breaststroke – SB3
	o 100m Breaststroke – SB13

Additionally, IPC Swimming conducted a comprehensive review of the MQS's as previously published in comparison with the established criteria as also outlined in attachment 1. The results were corrections to the requisite MQS's for each medal event as now presented in the updated criteria.

b) Athlete Eligibility

Clarification in the text of the qualification criteria has been made specifying that "IPC Swimming must receive from the respective NPC the official results for the respective event from the *IPC Swimming approved* competition at which the athlete's MQS was attained."

c) Maximum Entry per NPC

Clarification in the text of the qualification criteria has been made specifying that "NPCs may enter a maximum of three (3) qualified athletes per event provided that the athletes have met the MQS or *have received a Bipartite Commission Invitation.*"

d) Qualification Methods

Clarification in the text of the qualification criteria has been made specifying that those qualification slot allocation methods that use the IPC Swimming World Ranking list as a component will *exclude those athletes that the NPC has already notified IPC Swimming of their retirement from international competition.* Furthermore, it has been clarified in the IPC Swimming World Ranking List Allocation Method that a maximum of three (3) athletes per NPC per event will be considered in the calculation). In other words, if an NPC has four (4) athletes ranked top 10 in the 100m Freestyle – S13 medal

event, then only the top 3 meeting the MQS from the respective NPC will be considered in the calculation.

e) Timelines

The following dates have been adjusted from the previous version:

From 30 March 2007 **to** 1 September 2007

IPC Swimming distributes to the NPCs the complete medal events list for the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games IPC Swimming distributes to the NPCs the Minimum Qualification Standards by event.

From 4 May 2007 **to** 1 October 2007

IPC Swimming distributes to the NPCs the qualification slot quota allocation per gender from the 2006 IPC Swimming World Championships allocation method.

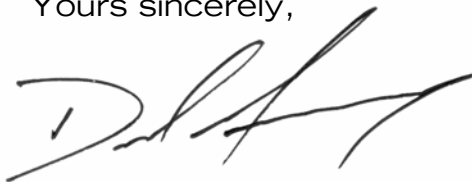
From 31 January 2008 **to** 28 February 2008 (no later than)

IPC Swimming distributes to the NPCs the qualification slot quota allocation per gender from the IPC Swimming World Ranking List allocation method.

The updated document is also now available on the IPC Website Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games section at http://www.paralympic.org/release/Main_Sections_Menu/Paralympic_Games/Beijing_2008/Beijing_2008_Qualification_Criteria.html

Should your NPC have any questions regarding the above, please contact IPC Swimming via email at ipcswimming@paralympic.org or via facsimile at +49 228 2097 209.

Yours sincerely,



David Grevemberg
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International Paralympic Committee

Cc: Tim Reddish, IPC Swimming Chairperson
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