



WORLD PARA SWIMMING ATHLETE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING REGULATIONS

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1 ATHLETE REGISTRATION AND LICENCE

Athletes must be registered in the Sport Data Management System (“SDMS”) to be eligible to be licensed and internationally classified.

There is no cost to register an athlete in the SDMS. All registered athletes will be assigned a unique identification code, the SDMS ID, which will remain with the athlete for the duration of their career and will be included on all athlete documentation.

Athletes with an intellectual impairment (S14/SB14/SM14), who hold ‘New’ or ‘Review’ Sport Class Status, MUST have a completed Training History and Sport Activity Limitation Questionnaire (TSAL-Q) not older than 12 months, uploaded to their SDMS profile, and must have met the Virtus (formally INAS) Eligibility Criteria, checked through the Virtus eligibility master list ([here](#)), in order to complete athlete registration and be eligible for licensing.

Athletes with a physical or vision impairment (PI and VI), who hold ‘New’, ‘Review’ or ‘Review’ with a ‘Fixed Review Date’ of 2023 or earlier Sport Class Status, MUST have a completed Medical Diagnostic Form (“MDF”) and applicable supporting medical documents uploaded to their SDMS profile in order to complete athlete registration and be eligible for licensing. The MDF for athletes with vision impairment must not be older than 12 months at the time of licensing.

On 1 July 2021, version three of the IPC Athlete Eligibility Agreement was published. To be eligible to be licensed (or relicensed) it is a mandatory requirement for each athlete to enter into the newest version of the Agreement. Consequently, all athletes who wish to obtain a licence for summer season 2023 will need to acknowledge and agree to version three of the Agreement if not already done. Any athlete who does not agree to the terms of version three will not be relicensed.

An athlete will only be considered licensed once World Para Swimming has approved the athlete for (re)-licensing, receipt of the licence package fee payment has been confirmed by World Para Swimming and the athlete's NPC (or National Federation if such responsibility has been delegated by the NPC, in either case the NPC being a member in good standing of the IPC), has applied for a season licence. All licensed athletes will be assigned a season licence number.

Should an athlete retire from competition, it is the responsibility of their NPC/NF to officially declare their retirement by cancelling the athlete registration in the SDMS and notifying World Para Swimming in writing.

The 2023 athlete registration process will follow the same steps as in 2022. A specific NPCs/NFs licensing guide is available online [here](#). The detailed SDMS manual is available on <https://db.ipc-services.org/sdms>.

2 ATHLETE PARTICIPATION

In accordance with Regulation 4.2.1 of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations, to be entered and participate in IPC Competitions and World Para Swimming Sanctioned Competitions an athlete must hold a valid Athlete Licence and meet the other Eligibility Requirements set out in that Regulation.

At some other specific World Para Sport Recognised Competitions, where a licence is necessary to compete, this requirement will be included in the qualification documents of these competitions. Further requirements for eligibility to compete, such as an additional licensing deadline, may be outlined in those documents, if applicable.

At all World Para Swimming Recognised Competitions, only athletes who are licensed prior to the start of competition may have their results recognised by World Para Swimming for official rankings and records. An earlier deadline for athletes to be licensed may be provided in the relevant competition documentation.

3 RANKINGS

The following matrix outlines by ranking type the licensing and Sport Class Status requirements:

List Name	Licence Required	Sport Class Status Required
Official World Rankings List (Jan - Dec)	Yes	N*, R, FRD, C
Official Regional Rankings List (Jan - Dec)	Yes	N*, R, FRD, C
Annual Recorded Best Performances (Jan - Dec)	Yes	N, R, FRD, C
Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) Lists by relevant competition Start Date - End Date of Qualification Period	Yes	N*, R, FRD, C

N*: Subject to the details of the relevant competition documentation:

- if a licensed athlete with a 'New' (N) Sport Class Status is internationally classified and receives a 'Review' (R) (including 'Review' with a 'Fixed Review Date' (FRD) or 'Confirmed' (C) Sport Class Status prior to the end of the season, the athlete's performances during that season will be included in the official rankings; and

- if a licensed athlete with a 'New' Sport Class Status is internationally classified and receives a 'Review' (including 'Review' with a 'Fixed Review Date') or 'Confirmed' Sport Class Status prior to the end of the qualification period, the athlete's performances during that qualification period will be included in the Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) List for the relevant competition.

Rule 10.13 of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations sets out the status of an athlete's results achieved in their First Appearance in the event that their Sport Class changes in Competition as a result of Observation in Competition or Protest.

4 RECORDS

In accordance with Rule 10.17.10 of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations, Athletes must have a licence the following Sport Class Status to be eligible for recognition of a record-breaking performance:

List Name	Licence Required	Sport Class Status Required
Official World Record	Yes	C, FRD*
Official Regional Record	Yes	C, FRD*
Official Paralympic Record	Yes	C, FRD*
Official World Championships Record	Yes	C, FRD*
Official Regional Championships Record	Yes	C, FRD*
Official Regional Games Record	Yes	C, FRD*

FRD*: 'Review' with a 'Fixed Review Date' which is after the date when the record was achieved.

If a record-breaking performance is set by an athlete with a 'New' or 'Review' Sport Class Status at a World Para Swimming Recognised Competition, the NPC has six (6) weeks after the end of the competition to present the athlete for an international classification assessment. The record-breaking performance will be recognised if the outcome of the athlete's classification assessment validates the original Sport Class and they are allocated a 'Confirmed' or 'Review' with a 'Fixed Review Date' Sport Class Status.

5 CLASSIFICATION

In any World Para Swimming Recognised Competition where international classification is available, athletes must be licensed to be considered for inclusion on the Classification schedule.

6 QUALIFICATION

For each World Para Swimming Recognised Competition with qualification criteria, World Para Swimming will outline the specific eligibility conditions that athletes are required to meet in order to participate in that competition, including nationality, Minimum Qualification Standards, Sport Class Status, athletes licensing requirements, etc.