

# **Para Swimming Championships Expression of Interest**



## 1 Introduction

World Para Swimming, under the International Paralympic Committee, acts as the international federation for the sport and is based in Bonn, Germany.

Para swimming is practiced internationally by athletes in around 100 countries and has featured in every edition of the Paralympic Games, growing into one of the biggest and most attractive sports. There is a major championship held every year, either World Championships or European Championships, in alternating years. Local Organising Committees work directly with World Para Swimming to ensure the best possible Championships are offered.

The purpose of the Expression of Interest Application is to initiate the bidding process for the 2026 and 2028 Para Swimming European Championships. By completing this application your organisation will have expressed their formal interest in the bid application process. The application requires your organisation to provide general information necessary for World Para Swimming:

- to create a single register of applicant organisations, thus ensuring a transparent exchange of information between the parties;
- to capture comparable information and data required to assess the initial feasibility of the potential bid applicant to meet the requirements; and
- to assess the preliminary guarantees identifying the level of support given by the various partners.

Following completion of the Expression of Interest Application, please submit the document to Nicole Burns via e-mail: [nicole.burns@worldparaswimming.org](mailto:nicole.burns@worldparaswimming.org)

Please answer all questions in detail and attach the relevant documents as requested.

If you have any questions please contact either Nicole Burns World Para Swimming Manager at [nicole.burn@worldparaswimming.org](mailto:nicole.burn@worldparaswimming.org) or Craig Nicholson, Head of World Para Swimming, at [craig.nicholson@worldparaswimming.org](mailto:craig.nicholson@worldparaswimming.org)

Call date to return the Expression of Interest document: **31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**

## 2 Benefits of hosting

### 2.1 Some benefits for the host nation:

- The Championships draws athletes, team officials, and supporters from all over the region into the city, therefore it is an excellent opportunity to promote not only the host city but also the country.
- Hosting a premier Para Sport event of this size bring accessibility to the foreground, not only for the venue but for the city as well.
- The Championships are a perfect opportunity to create a legacy. Through initiatives like come try sessions, water safety programmes, talent ID events, seminars and social impact initiatives, hosting the Championships can have a lasting effect on development of young athletes and the future of the sport in the host country.
- Capitalising on the Championships, nations can also improve their para swimming national technical official pool.

### 2.2 Social Media Engagement

Over the last two European Championships the social media channels have generated over 350,000 engagement and over 1.15 million impressions across all platforms. The livestream views were over 105,000 on Facebook and over 55,000 on Youtube.

## 3 Para Swimming Championships Information

### 3.1 Estimated Championships Participation Numbers

	European Championships
Athletes	350-450
NPC Team Officials	300-400
<b>Total participants</b>	<b>750- 850- from approx 40 nations</b>
Wheelchair Users	120 (approx.)
International WPS Championships Officials	Max. 20 (including TD, ATD, Referees) Max 15 Classifiers subject to WPS confirmation
National Championship Officials	Max. 30 Officials for each session
Medal Events	140 -170 events

### 3.2 Championships Schedule

Activity	Scheduling
<b>Arrivals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teams</li> <li>Technical Officials</li> </ul>	Start 3-4 days prior to Opening Ceremony (OC) until 1 day prior to OC  Start 2 days prior to OC in order to have two (2) full days of operations.
<b>Official Training period</b>	Start a minimum of 3 days prior to OC
<b>Classification</b>	Start a minimum of 3 days prior to the OC
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	Scheduled to maximise spectator attendance and media coverage. It can be the day before or in between sessions on the first day of competition.
<b>Competition Days</b>	5 days
<b>Training Days</b>	3 days (minimum)
<b>Full duration of Championships</b>	8-9 days
<b>Closing Ceremony</b>	Held on last day of competition
<b>Departure</b>	Day after Closing Ceremony

### 3.3 Minimum Venue Standards

Type	World Championships
<b>Indoor</b>	1 x Swimming Pool - 50m – min. 10 lane pool. Min. depth being 1.35 meters
<b>Indoor</b>	1 x Swimming Pool – 50m (warm-up and warm down during competition) – min. 8 lane pool

#### 3.3.1 Training Venues

The LOC must provide two (2) training pools (one of them can be the competition pool):

Type	World Championships
<b>Pool 1</b>	1 x min. 10 lane 50m pool
<b>Pool 2</b>	1 x min. 8 lane 50m pool

For more information about the competition and training venue as well as equipment requirements please refer to the World Para Swimming Championships Technical Requirements (available on request) as well as the current [World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations](#).

## 4 Next Steps

The first step is putting together an expression of interest application, which includes information such as when and where the proposed competition will take place, a brief description of why you are bidding for the World Championships.

Then, after the deadline, World Para Swimming will review the applications. In case there are follow up questions, World Para Swimming will follow up with the LOCs.

World Para Swimming will then indicate which expressions of interests to pursue, and detailed Bid applications will then need to be submitted. World Para Swimming may choose a preferred bidder to continue further discussions with at this stage. If the bid is accepted contract talks will follow, which include a detailed schedule of work.

Once all parties are in agreement the contract is signed, and the Championships planning will begin. The aim is to finalise all these steps and announce the championships by the second quarter of 2025. World Para Swimming is there every step of the way to help the Organising Committee.

## Appendix 1- Expression of Interest Application

### What needs to be included

- 1 Bidding Organisation Information
- 2 Motivation
- 3 City, Championships Dates, and proposed venue
- 4 Guarantees and Endorsements
- 5 Signature of Host Expression of Interest Application

## 1 Bidding Organisation Information

Please indicate whether you are expressing interest for YEAR, YEAR or either Championships (please tick the appropriate box, tick both if interested in either year)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	2026	<input type="checkbox"/>	2028

<b>1.1 Please provide the name, title and contact details for the responsible person from the applicant organisation.</b>	
Name of Applicant Organisation	
Contact Person	
Name:	Title:
Address	
Postal Code	
City	
Country/Territory	
Telephone	
Email	

**1.2 Please provide a description of the mission and objectives of the applicant organisation.**

**1.3 Please detail the scope and level of experience that the applicant organisation has with organizing international sporting events and in particular sport for athletes with an impairment.**

## **2 Motivation**

**2.1 Please provide a statement outlining the motivation for which the applicant organisation is seeking to host a European Championships**

### 3 City and Championships

**3.1 Please indicate the proposed Host City & Country.**

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**3.2 Please indicate the proposed dates for the World Para Swimming Competition.**

\*Please note that the 2026/28 European championships ideally would be held June/July

Activity	Start Date	Finish Date
Training Dates		
Competition Dates		

**3.3 Please explain the rationale of why these dates have been selected and if there is any flexibility to change the proposed dates.**

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**3.4 Please list any other major event occurring during this time period in the Host City.**

\* no elite level domestic competition (especially one for athletes with an impairment) should take place in the city hosting the Championships at least one (1) month prior or during the dates scheduled for the Championships.

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**3.5 Please provide general information on the proposed competition and training venue(s), including a brief description of the facilities and services available**

Venue Name:

Venue Address:

Facilities to note:



## 4 GUARANTEES AND ENDORSEMENTS

**4.1 Please provide a letter from the host country/territory National Paralympic Committee endorsing the Host Expression of Interest Application for the European Championships**

Attached

**4.2 The approximate budget for European Championships is 1.0 to 1.5 million €. Please provide a letter of confirmation of minimum financial commitment.**

Attached

**4.3 Please provide letters from governmental, private and/or other organisations/individuals financially supporting the hosting of the European Championships. In addition state the main funding contributors below.**

Attached

## 5 SIGNATURE OF HOST BID APPLICATION

5.1 The applicant organisation hereby certifies that this Host Expression of interest Application has been completed truly and accurately, to the best of its knowledge.

<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Title:</b>
<b>Print Name:</b>	<b>Organisation Name:</b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b>Date:</b>