WPS COMPETITION APPROVAL GUIDELINES

Version January 2026

World Para Swimming reserves the right at its sole discretion to update this document from time-to-time as required.

The following are required for the conduct of World Para Swimming Approved competition.

Criteria for World Para Swimming Competition Approval:

- World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations must be adhered to. Can be found on the WPS Website HERE
- Pools used for Approved Plus competitions must be 50 metres in length for Long Course events, 25m in length for Short Course events (pool certificate required. If the venue has a movable bulkhead, measurements must be taken the day prior to start of competition. See WPS Pool Survey Guidelines HERE for more information).
- The minimum depth of water at the starting end of the pool shall be at least 1.35m.
- Individual events must be swum as separate male and female events.
- Events must be open to S/SB/SM 1-14 Classes
- Relays may only be swum as individual events
- The events should be as listed in the WPS Rules and Regulations under WPS Rule 10.4
- If electronic timing is to be used, then a backup of two manual timing devices must be used.
- If no electronic timing is to be used, then three timing officials per lane must be used to determine the official time of the swimmer.
- Results must be processed using competition management software capable of producing a results file in excel and PDF format.
- Results must be sent both as official output file (PDF) as well as in WPS excel results template format to info@worldparaswimming.org no later than 15 days after the competition concludes. The template can be found on the WPS website HERE
    - As per the WPS Rules and Regulations, failure to provide the above information in the required time frame will result in the times not being recognised.

- All national technical officials must have current accreditation from a recognised swimming governing body for the duties in which they are utilised.
- Anti-turbulence lane ropes, starting platforms and backstroke turn indicators as per the WPS Facilities rules must be provided.
- Only World Para Swimming licensed athletes who hold an International Classification will be eligible for inclusion in the World Para Swimming Official Rankings. Athletes with New status will have their times included in the Annual Best Performance Rankings.
- All information provided to World Para Swimming must be translated to English.

Application process and required information:

- Applications for competition approval must be made via the IPC Sport Data Management System (SDMS). Applications have to be processed by the National Paralympic Committee or National Federation with user rights.
- The application must be submitted to the World Para Swimming Office a **minimum of 6 weeks prior to the date of the competition**
- Should an application be requested between 6 weeks and 2 weeks prior to the date of the competition, a late fee of 50 EUR to be added to the approval fee automatically on SDMS.
- Approval application must include:
    - Completed entry package (in English Language for the purpose of submission)
    - Pool survey certificate
    - confirmation of timing system
- The NPC must pay the competition approval application fee of 100 EUR (all bank fees to be covered by the NPC) to the following account before the application for competition approval will be processed by World Para Swimming.

Account name: IPC

Account holder's address: Dahlmannstraße 2, 53113 Bonn, Germany

Bank: Deutsche Bank AG

Bank address: Kaiserplatz 7-9, D-53113 Bonn, Germany

National Bank code: 380 700 59

Account number for EUR: 0290 122 00

SWIFT Address: DEUTDEDK380

IBAN: DE75380700590029012200

Please add the competition name and date as purpose in order to enable the identification of the payment.

It is in the responsibility of the competition organiser to ensure that the application and relevant fees are received and acknowledged by World Para Swimming in the time frame required.

In case of any questions relating to Approved Competitions or Applications, please contact World Para Swimming at info@worldparaswimming.org