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. All athletes who wish to obtain a licence will need to submit a valid form of photo identification which is within its expiration date (e.g. passport, ID card,). Any athlete who does not submit an up to date (i.e. current, non-expired), valid form of ID will not be licensed.

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.

NPCs (or National Federations if such responsibility has been delegated by the NPC) are reminded that each athlete should only have **one** SDMS profile throughout their career in Para swimming.

It is the responsibility of each NPC/NF to check whether an athlete has been previously registered and/or licensed, put forward for classification and/or competed in any World Para Sport (and therefore already has an SDMS profile). If so, the NPC **must** use the athlete's existing SDMS profile for all purposes relating to licensing, classification and/or competitions. This includes circumstances in which the athlete's SDMS profile has been changed to "retired" and or "historic" status. NPCs/NFs should contact World Para Swimming where they require an athlete's "historic" profile to be re-activated.

NPCs/NFs must not create a new SDMS profile for athletes who have previously been registered and/or licensed, put forward for classification and/or competed for that NPC/NF (including in circumstances where the athlete's name or other details may have changed).

Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment (S14/SB14/SM14), with Sport Class Status 'New', 'Review' or 'Review' with a 'Fixed Review Date' of 2027 or earlier, MUST have a completed Training History and Sport Activity Limitation Questionnaire (TSAL-Q) not older than 12 months at the time of licensing, 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 Impairment (**"PI"**) or Vision Impairment (**"VI"**), with Sport Class Status 'New', 'Review' or 'Review' with a 'Fixed Review Date' of 2027 or earlier, 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 VI must not be older than 12 months at the time of licensing.

On 04 November 2025, version four of the IPC Athlete Eligibility Agreement was published. To be eligible to be licensed (or relicensed) for the 2027 season, it is a mandatory requirement for each athlete to enter into the newest version of the Athlete Eligibility Agreement. Consequently, all athletes who wish to obtain a licence for summer season 2027 will need to acknowledge and agree to version four of the Athlete Eligibility Agreement if not already done. Any athlete who does not agree to the terms of version four will not be licensed (or 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.

2 ATHLETE PARTICIPATION

In accordance with Regulation 4.2.1 of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations, to be entered and participate in World Para Swimming Championships 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 Swimming 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 Word 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 Qualifying 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 as outlined in Rule 10.17.6 of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations.

4 RECORDS

In accordance with Rule 10.18.2 of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations, Athletes must have a valid licence and Sport Class Status (shown in below table) 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, Rule 10.18.3 of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations shall be followed.

5 CLASSIFICATION

In any World Para Swimming Recognised Competition where international classification is available, athletes must be licensed prior to the Classification entry deadline as stated in the relevant event's Teams Guide to be considered for inclusion on the Classification schedule.

6 QUALIFICATION

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