



# **WORLD PARA SWIMMING ATHLETE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING REGULATIONS**

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**World Para Swimming**

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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 his/her career and will be included on all athlete documentation.

Athletes with an intellectual impairment (S/SB/SM14), who hold New "N" or Review "R" 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, in order to complete athlete registration and be eligible for licensing.

Athletes with a physical or vision impairment (PI and VI), who hold New "N", Review "R" or Review 2021 (including any Fixed Review Date before 2021) 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.

To be eligible to be licensed, or relicensed, to participate in IPC Competitions and World Para Swimming Sanctioned Competitions, all athletes are required to agree to the terms outlined in the IPC Athlete Eligibility Agreement (version two). Those athletes who signed version one, however, are not required to sign version two (but certainly may do so if desired). Instead, these athletes' respective NPCs will be required to supply such athletes with a copy of version two and ensure those athletes accept the terms of version two. NPCs will be required to confirm that these steps have been completed as provided in SDMS. Any athlete who does not agree to the terms of version two will not be relicensed.

Athletes must be licensed in the SDMS prior to a competition for his/her results to be recognised for official rankings and records

An athlete will be considered licensed once their NPC/NSF has applied for a season licence and the licence package fee payment has been confirmed by the IPC. All licensed athletes will be assigned a season licence number.

Should an athlete retire from competition, it is the responsibility of his/her NPC/NSF to officially declare their retirement by cancelling the athlete registration in the SDMS and notifying the IPC in writing.

The 2021 athlete registration process will follow the same steps as in 2020. A specific licensing guide is available online [here](#). The detailed SDMS manual is available on <https://db.ipc-services.org/sdms>. In the following instructions guides are also considered as athletes.

## 2 ATHLETE PARTICIPATION

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

At some specific World Para Sport Recognised Competitions, where a license is necessary to compete, this requirement will be included in the qualification guides of these competitions. Further requirements for eligibility to compete, such as an additional licensing deadline, will be outlined in these guides, 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 for official rankings and records.

## 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	R, C
Official Regional Rankings List (Jan - Dec)	Yes	R, C
Annual Recorded Best Performances (Jan - Dec)	Yes	N, R, C
Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) Lists by relevant competition Start Date - End Date of Qualification Period	Yes	(N), R, C

If a licensed athlete with a New "N" sport class status is internationally classified and receives a Review "R" 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.

If a licensed athlete with a New "N" sport class status is internationally classified and receives a Review "R" or Confirmed "C" 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 and have a Confirmed "C" or Review "R" fixed review date (FRD) 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 (R)
Official Regional Record	Yes	C (R)
Official Paralympic Record	Yes	C (R)
Official World Championships Record	Yes	C (R)
Official Regional Championships Record	Yes	C (R)
Official Regional Games Record	Yes	C (R)

(R): Review "R" fixed date (which is after the date when the record was achieved) sport class status.

If a record-breaking performance is set by an athlete with a New "N" or Review "R" sport class status at a World Para Sport 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 he/she is allocated a Confirmed "C" or Review "R" fixed date (FRD) 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, international classification sport status, athletes licensing requirements, etc.