



***SWIMMING RULES***

***2005 - 2008***

## **IPC SWIMMING SWIM RULES INDEX**

<b>CHAPTER 1</b>	<b>RU Rules</b>	<b>Pages</b>
	RU 1 Name	3
	RU 2 Discrimination	3
	RU 3 Objectives	3
	RU 4 Language	3
	RU 5 Swimming Sports Assembly	3
	RU 6 Duties of the IPC Swimming Executive	4
	RU 7 Printing of Rules	5
<b>CHAPTER 2</b>	<b>GN General Rules</b>	
	GN 1 Eligibility	6
	GN 2 Costumes	6
	GN 3 Advertising	6
	GN 4 Disqualification	6
	GN 5 Smoking Ban	7
	GN 6 Support Staff	7
	GN 7 Paralympic Games, IPC Swimming Championships and General Rules for IPC Swimming	
	GN 7.1 Organisation	8
	GN 7.2 Withdrawals	8
	GN 7.3 Change of Classification	8
	GN 7.4 Protests	9
	GN 7.5 Jury of Appeal	9
	GN 7.6 Organisation Committee	10
	GN 7.7 Programme of Events	10
	GN 7.8 Awards	13
<b>CHAPTER 3</b>	<b>BL By Laws</b>	
	BL 1 Facilities	14
	BL 2 Entries	14
	BL 3 Qualifying Standards	15
	BL 4 Swimming	15
	BL 5 Combining of Events	15
<b>CHAPTER 4</b>	<b>SM Swimming</b>	
	SM 1 Management of Competition	18
	SM 2 Officials	
	SM 2.1 Meet Director	18
	SM 2.2 Referee	18
	SM 2.3 Starter	19
	SM 2.4 Clerk of Course	19
	SM 2.5 Chief Inspector of Turns	19
	SM 2.6 Inspector of Turns	20
	SM 2.7 Judge of Stroke	20
	SM 2.8 Chief Timekeeper	21
	SM 2.9 Timekeepers	21
	SM 2.10 Chief Finish Judge	21
	SM 2.11 Finish Judge	21
	SM2.12 Desk Control	21
	SM 2.13 Technical Advisers	22
	SM2.14 Presentation Officer	22
	SM 3 Seeding of Heats & Finals	22
	SM 4 The Start	23
	SM 5 Freestyle	25
	SM 6 Backstroke	25
	SM 7 Breaststroke	26
	SM 8 Butterfly	27

SM 9	Medley Swimming	28
	- 1 -	
SM 10	The Race	28
SM 11	Timing	30
SM 12	World & Regional Records	31
SM 13	Automatic Officiating Procedure	34

**CHAPTER 5 POW Open Water**

POW 1	Definition	35
POW 2	Open Water Schedule	35
POW 3	Course	35
POW 4	Event Structure	35
POW 5	Officials	
	Referee	36
	Assistant Referee	36
	Technical Delegate	37
	Starter	37
	Chief Timekeeper	37
	Timekeepers	37
	Chief Judge	37
	Finish Judges	38
	Each Race Judges	38
	Turn Judges	38
	Safety Officer	38
	Medical Officer	39
	Course Officer	39
	The Clerk of Course	39
	Recorder	40
	Stickman	40
POW 6	Escort Safety Craft	40
POW 7	The Start	40
POW 8	The Venue	41
POW 9	The Race	41
POW 10	The Finish of the Race	42

40

**CHAPTER 6 WY World Youth Championships**

WY 1.1	Age Groups	43
WY 1.2	Events	43
WY 1.3	Awards	43
WY 1.4	World Records	44
WY 1.5	World Youth Relays	44

**CHAPTER 7 FA Facilities Rules**

FA 1	Facilities Rules	45
FA 2	Swimming Pools	45
FA 3	Automatic Officiating Equipment	47

**CHAPTER 8 MCL Medical**

MCL 1	Medical Care during Competition	49
MCL 2	Pool Sanitation	49
MCL 3	Doping Control	50
MCL 4	Banned Substances & Procedures	50

**APPENDIX**

	World Records Application Form	
	Guidelines Including Multidisability Events	

- 2 -  
**CHAPTER 1**

**RULES**

**RU 1 NAME**

The name of the committee shall be the International Paralympic Committee [IPC] Sports Assembly Executive Committee [SAEC] for Swimming and shall be known as IPC Swimming. IPC Swimming shall incorporate, with amendments, the Rules and Laws of the Federation International de Natation Amateur [FINA].

**RU 2 DISCRIMINATION**

IPC Swimming shall not allow any discrimination against national federations or individuals [competitors, officials, judges, delegates, etc] on the grounds of race, gender, disability, religion, or political affiliations.

**RU 3 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of IPC Swimming are as follows:

**RU 3.1** To promote and encourage the development of Swimming in all possible manifestations throughout the world,

**RU 3.2** To adopt necessary uniform rules, regulations and classifications to hold competitions in Swimming,

**RU 3.3** To grant approval/sanctioning of competitions.

**RU 3.4** To promote drug free sport

**RU 3.5** To promote and encourage the development of international relations.

**RU 4 LANGUAGE**

The official language of IPC Swimming shall be English. Any other language may be used in correspondence or debate providing that adequate translation is provided.

**RU 5 SWIMMING SPORTS ASSEMBLY**

**RU 5.1** IPC Swimming shall be elected every four years, at the World Championships by the Swimming Sports Assembly [SSA]. See IPC Handbook By-Laws Technical Department.

**RU 5.2** The Chairman has the flexibility and power to make any necessary decisions in order to expediate the business of the Assembly in an efficient and practical manner, so long as the democratic process is not undermined.

**RU 5.3** Each IPC financial member shall have the right to one delegate to vote at the SSA.

**RU 5.4** Nominees for IPC Swimming shall have written authorisation by the relevant financial member and be submitted on the official IPC nomination form. The nominations shall include the position

the candidate is running for, and shall be received sixty [60] days prior to the start of the World Championships.

- RU 5.5** IPC Swimming shall be comprised of the following members and each member shall have one vote:  
Chairman  
Five members at large  
Swimmers Representative - elected by the swimmers. Nominations follow RU5.4.

- 3 -

The IPC Swimming Executive Committee may appoint the following positions:

Medical Officer - Doping ,etc  
Classification Officer  
Technical Officer  
Records Officer  
Secretary – appointed by the Executive Committee

These positions and such other positions as shall be determined by the IPC Executive Committee and/or the IPC Swimming Executive Committee may be filled from the elected IPC Swimming Executive or appointed by the IPC Executive Committee or the IPC Swimming Executive Committee.

Any member appointed by the Executive from outside of the elected members shall be non voting. All IPC Swimming Committee members are required to sign the IPC Code of Conduct and Ethics form. Signed forms are to be maintained at IPC Headquarters.

- RU 5.6** The members shall serve until after the next relevant World Championships following their election. Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the committee at the next meeting of IPC Swimming after the vacancy has been declared. The person appointed shall serve the balance of the vacated term.

- RU 5.7** The methods of voting which may be adopted by the Assembly are  
i] show of hands/voting cards  
ii] by calling the roll  
iii] by a secret ballot, proposed and seconded.

- RU 5.8** If the correctness of a vote is questioned, the Chairman of the Assembly shall decide the validity of the complaint, taking care that this correctness will not be a reopening of a motion already voted. If someone asks to reopen the question, it shall be necessary to have two-thirds majority in favour. If not, this motion shall be rejected.

- RU 5.9** Minutes of the Assembly

**RU 5.9.1** At each Assembly, a full record of the minutes of the proceedings shall be kept. The minutes must be available to all member nations within a period of four months following the Assembly.

**RU 5.9.2** If no objections arise within a period of an additional two [2] months, the minutes stand approved as circulated.

- RU 5.10** Motions for amendment of the sports rules and classification shall be sent to IPC Swimming six [6] weeks prior to the SSA.

## **RU 6 DUTIES OF THE IPC SWIMMING**

- RU 6.1** To hold the authority of the conducting of all official IPC Swimming competitions,  
**RU 6.2** To discuss and make decisions on all matters assigned to them by the SSA,  
**RU 6.3** To interpret and enforce the Rules of IPC Swimming,  
**RU 6.4** To decide and take action on any matters pertaining to the affairs of IPC Swimming,

- RU 6.5** To approve the title of the Technical Delegate [TD], Assistant Technical Delegate [ATD], the relevant Classifiers and Technical Advisers [TA],
- RU 6.6** To appoint Technical Delegates [TD], Assistant Technical Delegate [ATD], Technical Advisers [TA], relevant Head of Classification, the relevant authorised Classifiers and any other necessary positions required for the management of the competition as required for Paralympic Games, World Championships, Regional Championships and other relevant IPC competitions. These individuals shall be properly accredited and invited at the expense of the Organising Committee.

- 4 -

**Definition of Technical Delegate:**

The technical delegate is someone who has the understanding and knowledge of all aspects of the conducting of a swimming competition eg entries, pre competition, during competition and post competition.

The technical delegate requires an understanding of the FCS, IBSA and INAS-FID classification requirements necessary for the testing of athletes at competition.

The technical delegate requires a thorough knowledge of FINA and IPC Swimming rules for FCS, IBSA and INAS-FID.

**RU 6.6.1** Paralympic Games and World Championships require:

- 1 Technical Delegate
- 1 Assistant Technical Delegate
- 2 Technical Advisers
- 1 Head of FCS Classification
- 8 FCS Authorised Classifiers
- 1 IBSA Classifier
- Operator of the management and result system software for World Championships and other relevant major championships

- RU 6.7** To appoint and/or approve the list of senior swimming officials [referee, judges of strokes, starters, chief inspector of turns and announcer].
- RU 6.8** To inspect the competition site prior to approval for competition for Paralympic Games, World Championships, Regional Championships and other relevant international competitions. The appointed Technical Delegate or a representative of IPC Swimming shall conduct the inspection. The Organising Committee must guarantee to incur the cost of the on site inspection. The official bid check list for swimming must be completed. See IPC Swimming Handbook.
- RU 6.9** To appoint sub committees, if required, to investigate, study and recommend to IPC Swimming any matters referred to such sub committees. The members of a sub committee may be persons selected from outside the IPC Swimming Executive.
- RU 6.10** Where a member of any committee has been absent from two consecutive meetings or has not responded to correspondence for a six [6] month period without reasons acceptable to the Chairman or respective sub committee Officer, the Chair shall have the right to declare that such a member has forfeited their position. The vacancy shall be filled by the Executive according to RU 5.6.
- RU 6.11** IPC Swimming will for Paralympic Games, World Championships and other IPC designated competitions establish:
- i] Qualifying times per class per event
  - ii] Allocation system for the number of competitor positions per country
  - iii] Set medal qualifying standards for relevant competitions
- RU 6.12** All voting of IPC Swimming shall be decided by a simple majority. In the case of a tied vote the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

**RU 7 PRINTING OF RULES**

All rules of IPC Swimming may be reprinted or translated by Members under their responsibility, with the understanding that in all cases where the translated text differs in interpretation, the English version shall be accepted.

- 5 -  
**CHAPTER 2**

**GENERAL RULES**

**GN 1 ELIGIBILITY**

**GN 1.1** A competitor is eligible to compete if they have met the classification requirements laid down by IPC Swimming. Reference to all classification procedure and requirements are contained in the IPC Swimming Classification Manual.

**GN 1.2** For a swimmer to be eligible to compete in an IPC Swimming competition ie Regional, Worlds, Paralympic Games, all associated medical conditions must be declared. The swimmer's declaration should include the condition and the management plan for the condition. The conditions included but are not limited to asthma, seizures, epilepsy, diabetes, low blood pressure, cardiac abnormalities and a tendency to hyperventilate.

The declaration is made in an attempt to ensure that adequate safety procedures and protocols are observed for medical conditions, to ensure the safety of the swimmer, and manage the possible impact on other swimmers in the competition.

Failure to declare a known existing condition and outline the necessary management of the condition, resulting in the performance of a rescue, will result in the swimmer being deemed ineligible to compete in the competition.

If a condition becomes evident for the first time during competition and is diagnosed at the time [eg dehydration], the swimmer will still be eligible to compete so long as the swimmer observes the recommended management for the condition.

The swimmer and their personal or team physician shall completed the declaration form. The content of the form is confidential.

**GN 1.3** If a swimmer is deemed unclassifiable the status allocated is unclassifiable permanent status and will take effect immediately. The swimmer will be withdrawn from all further events in the competition. Swimmers with an unclassifiable classification will not be allowed to enter any future IPC Swimming competitions and/or events conducted under IPC Swimming rules ie national championships.

**GN 2 COSTUMES**

**GN 2.1** The costumes of all competitors shall be in good moral taste and suitable for the sport.

**GN 2.2** All costumes shall be non transparent.

**GN 2.3** The referee of a competition has the authority to exclude any competitor whose costume does not comply with this rule.

**GN 2.4** Costumes are not to be altered and/or modified to aid or enhance the swimmers performance.

**GN 3 ADVERTISING**

- GN 3.1** Technical equipment worn in the water:  
 The competitor is not permitted to wear any visible form of advertising exceeding twenty [20] square centimetres in area each.  
 Identification in the form of the logo of the manufacturer not exceeding twenty [20] square centimetres on each swimwear and cap are permitted.  
 A two-piece swimsuit shall be regarded as one swimwear. In addition to the foregoing only one and the same logo of a sponsor is permitted on the swimwear. The name and the flag of the country of the competitor or the country code shall not be regarded as advertisement.  
**Interpretation:** The manufacturer's logo is allowed on goggles but not on the spectacle frame or band.
- GN 3.2** Pool deck equipment:  
 Towels and bags may carry two advertisements. Track suits and Officials' support staff and tappers' uniforms may carry two [2] advertisements on the top and two on the trousers or skirt. The logo of the manufacturer or sponsor may be repeated, but the same name may be used only once on each article or garment.
- GN 3.3** Body advertisement is not allowed in any way whatsoever.
- GN 3.4** Advertising for tobacco is not allowed.

- 6 -

#### **GN 4 DISQUALIFICATION**

- GN 4.1** Where a competitor who competed in the finals is disqualified for any reason, including medical control or a classification decision [a disqualification for classification shall be an individual who has been deemed to be unclassifiable], the position they would have held shall be awarded to the competitor who finished next and all the lower placing competitors in the finals shall be advanced one place. If the disqualification occurs after the presentation of awards, the awards shall be returned and given to the appropriate competitors applying the foregoing provisions.
- GN 4.2** If a competitor does not attend classification and/or a classification protest when requested they may be disqualified from the competition or competing further.
- GN 4.3** S11 swimmers with the exception of those with prosthetics in both eyes shall be required to wear opaque [blackened in] goggles for competition. S11 SB11 SM11 swimmers whose facial structure will not support goggles shall be required to cover the eyes with an opaque covering. The goggles of the S11 SB11 SM11 swimmers shall be checked at the finish of the relevant event. S11 SB11 SM11 swimmers found to be competing without opaque goggles or covering shall be disqualified, from the S11 SB11 SM11 class events.
- GN 4.3.1** In the event that the goggles accidentally fall off during the dive, the swimmer shall not be disqualified.
- GN 4.4** Tappers deemed to be coaching will result in the disqualification of the competitor. During the relay events, tappers may inform the swimmer[s] of the team position and inform the swimmer of the start of their leg of the relay, but shall not coach. Refer to GN 6 and GN 6.2.
- GN 4.5** A swimmer who competes with an open wound and has not received prior clearance from the IPC Swimming Medical Officer for the competition, may result in the competitor being disqualified and disallowed from competing in further nominated events in the competition.
- GN 4.6** A swimmer who wishes to compete with an injury that requires taping/strapping must receive clearance for the taping/strapping from the IPC Swimming Medical Officer for the competition prior to the start of each session. A swimmer competing with taping/strapping who has not received prior clearance will result in the competitor being disqualified from the event that are competing in.
- GN 4.7** If an error by an official or classifier, either technical or in classification, follows a fault by a competitor, the fault by the competitor shall be expunged.

## **GN 5 SMOKING BAN**

At all international competitions, no smoking shall be permitted in any area designated for competitors, either prior to or during competitions.

## **GN 6 SUPPORT STAFF**

### **Definition of Support Staff:**

Support staff is any person[s] designated by a country to assist a swimmer.

Support staff shall not coach the competitor while assisting or tapping. If such coaching occurs, the competitor shall be disqualified.

- 7 -

**GN 6.1** FCS swimmers may require support staff on pool deck during competition to assist with entering and exiting the water and during the start. Support staff are in place solely to assist the swimmer on entry, exit and the start and shall not verbally communicate with the swimmer. Deck access for support staff shall be applied for and authorised by the technical delegate or assistant technical delegate one [1] hour prior to the start of the relevant session.

**GN 6.2** A person may be required to indicate to the visually impaired swimmer that they are approaching the end of the pool in both individual and relay events. Also where necessary, a swimmer may have a touch by a person to indicate the start of their leg of the relay. This procedure is called tapping and the person is referred to as a 'tapper'.

For S11, SB11 & SM11 competitors tapping is compulsory.

**GN 6.2.1** The tapping device must be deemed safe.

**GN 6.2.2** When tapping is required during competition, each competitor shall have two tappers, positioning themselves at each end of the pool.

**GN 6.3** In the case of a blind and deaf swimmer, the person tapping shall be permitted to convey the starting signal to the competitor by the use of a non verbal instruction.

**GN 6.4** A FCS swimmer who requires tapping shall be required to obtain a medical certificate. This information is to be presented to the technical delegate or assistant technical delegate prior to the start of the competition.

## **GN 7 PARALYMPIC GAMES, WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, IPC SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS AND GENERAL RULES FOR IPC SWIMMING**

### **GN 7.1 Organisation**

**GN 7.1.1** IPC Swimming is empowered to formulate all rules and regulations for the conduct of such competitions. All regulations set by IPC Swimming must be announced and published three months prior to the opening day of the competition.

**GN 7.1.2** The national flags of the countries of the competitors placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd shall be raised and the national anthem [abbreviated version] of the country of the champion in the individual and team competitions shall be played.

### **GN 7.2 Withdrawals**

**GN 7.2.1** A medical withdrawal is the only withdrawal possible at IPC Swimming championships ie Regionals, World Championships and Paralympic Games.

**GN 7.2.2** Medical withdrawals from heats shall be reported thirty [30] minutes prior to the start of the session. A medical withdrawal shall be submitted on the IPC

Swimming official form certified by a medical doctor or a physiotherapist. A medical withdrawal from a final shall be reported thirty [30] minutes following the conclusion of the heats of the respective event or in the case of certain circumstances within one hour prior to the commencement of a final.

**GN 7.2.3** Infringement of GN 7.2.1 shall be penalised with a fee of fifty [50] US dollars or the fee agreed upon by the IPC Swimming and the Organising Committee of the relevant Championship. Withdrawals as a result of GN 7.3.3 shall not incur this fee.

### **GN 7.3 Change of Classification**

**GN 7.3.1** Change in classification is possible if the swimmer is:  
i] reclassified prior to the commencement of competition  
ii] reclassified during competition

- 8 -

**GN 7.3.2** In the case of a visually impaired or a FCS swimmer if the reclassification results in less than the necessary six entries in the relevant event, the event shall not be deleted. The event shall be conducted.

**GN 7.3.3** If the reclassification of a visually impaired or FCS swimmer results in the maximum number of three competitors per event per class being exceeded, the team leader of the country concerned shall be required to withdraw the necessary number of swimmers to meet the requirements of rule BL 2.

**GN 7.3.4** A reclassified swimmer shall not be penalised or forfeit the opportunity of competing if they do not meet the qualifying standard of the new class.

**GN 7.3.5** The change of a swimmers class following a protest presented during competition, shall take effect on the following day of the protest being presented and the procedure being completed. Medals won by the swimmer will remain with the swimmer however World, Paralympic and/or Regional records will not be valid.

### **GN 7.4 Protests**

**GN 7.4.1** Protests are possible

- a] if the rules and regulations for the conducting of the competition are not observed,
- b] if other conditions endanger the competition and/or competitors,
- c] against decisions of the classification team,
- d] if the head of classification believes the swimmer did not perform to their true potential during classification, or
- e] against decisions of the referee; however, no protest shall be allowed against decisions of fact.

**GN 7.4.2** Protests must be submitted

- a] to the referee for technical protests or to the head of classification for classification protests
- b] in writing on the IPC Swimming official forms. The Organising Committee will make these forms available, on site.
- c] by the responsible team leader only
- d] together with a deposit of one hundred US dollars [\$100] or the fee agreed upon by IPC Swimming and the Organising Committee.
- e] within thirty [30] minutes following the conclusion of the respective event,
- f] in case of a classification protest prior to the first day of competition the protest shall be submitted six [6] hours after the completion of the classification of the country's swimmers. If this time expires between 2200

and 0800 hours, the classification protest will be delivered by 0800 hours on the following day.

If conditions causing a potential protest are noted prior to the competition, a protest must be lodged before the signal to start is given.

**GN 7.4.3** The referee and/or the head of classification shall consider all protests. If they reject the protest, they must state the reasons for their decision. The team leader may appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeal whose decision shall be final. The final decision shall be in writing on the IPC Swimming official form. A copy for the team leader concerned shall be distributed. For a technical protest the relevant technical adviser shall be included and report at the protest procedures. The head of classification may be required to report to the protest panel on appropriate disability information of the swimmer concerned.

**GN 7.4.4** A FCS classification protest panel at IPC Swimming competitions shall consist of three [3] authorised classifiers appointed by the head of classification. The  
- 9 -  
protest panel must consist of at least one medical and one technical classifier who has not previously classified the swimmer within an eighteen [18] month period.

**GN 7.4.5** If a technical or classification protest is rejected, the fee shall be forfeited to IPC Swimming. If the protest is upheld the deposit shall be returned. Protest fees become the property of IPC Swimming. At international competitions where a technical or classification protest is rejected the fee shall be forfeited to IPC Swimming. If the protest is upheld the deposit shall be returned to the NPC that lodged the protest. Protest fees are the property of IPC Swimming. For classification protests presented at national competitions or when a swimmer is unclassifiable where IPC Swimming is conducting classifications the fee is the property of IPCC Swimming regardless of the outcome.

**GN 7.4.6** For FCS classification and reclassification procedures refer to the classification manual.

## **GN 7.5 Jury of Appeal**

**GN 7.5.1** The decision of the Jury is final.

**GN 7.5.2** A technical Jury will consist of the technical delegate/assistant technical delegate, technical adviser and referee. The head of classification and shall be required to report to the Jury on disability specific information. The official who reported the infringement may also be requested to report to the Jury.

**GN 7.5.3** A classification Jury for the FCS will consist of the technical delegate, head of classification and at least three [3] authorised classifiers appointed by the head of classification. The Jury must consist of at least one medical and one technical classifier.

**GN 7.5.4** A classification Jury for the visually impaired will be appointed by the Chief IBSA Ophthalmologist.

**GN 7.5.5** A classification Jury for swimmers with an intellectual disability will be conducted according to the INAS-FID ruling.

## **GN 7.6 Organising Committee**

**GN 7.6.1** The actual management of the Paralympic Games and World Championships, and other relevant international competition contests shall be under the control of IPC Swimming.

**GN 7.6.2** For Paralympic Games, World Championships and other relevant international competitions an Organising Committee shall be appointed by the responsible body for the competition in question.

**GN 7.6.3** The Organising Committee, in conjunction with the appointed technical delegate and the assistant technical delegate, shall be responsible for the entire management of the contest, including the arrangement of the programme of events, arrangement for the classification of swimmers, all technical equipment and installation prior to and during competition, appointment of officials and adjudication of protests.

## **GN 7.7 Programme of Events**

**GN 7.7.1** The following events are conducted at Paralympic Games, World Championships and other relevant international events at this present time. A minimum number of seven individual events and two relay events will be offered for all the classes of the three recognised groups. For the offering of an event at a Paralympic Games the event must have been conducted at the previous Paralympic Games or the previous World Championship according to

- 10 -

the IPC ruling, ie ten [10] competitors of Paralympic standard from four [4] nations, per event.

In order to ensure six [6] viable entries per event in the Paralympic Games, quantifiable individual events must demonstrate on the official ranking list a minimum of ten [10] athletes from a minimum of four [4] countries attaining an approved performance standard.

The events programme for Paralympic Games is subject to approval by the IPC Executive Committee.

**GN 7.7.2** Events offered for class S14 swimmers with an intellectual disability, men and women.

### **Individual**

Freestyle	50m	100m	400m
Backstroke		100m	
Breaststroke		100m	
Butterfly		100m	
Individual Medley		200m	

### **Relays:**

Freestyle	4 x 100m
Medley	4 x 100m

**GN 7.7.3** Events offered for class S11, S12 & S13 swimmers with a visual impairment, men and women.

### **Individual**

Freestyle	50m	100m	400m
Backstroke		100m	
Breaststroke		100m	
Butterfly		100m	
Individual Medley			200m

### **Relays:**

4 x 100m Freestyle	Maximum 49 points
4 x 100m Medley	Maximum 49 points

**GN 7.7.4** Events offered for class S1 – S10 swimmers, men and women.

### **Individual**

50m	Freestyle	S1 - S10
100m	Freestyle	S1 - S10
200m	Freestyle	S1 - S5
400m	Freestyle	S6 - S10
50m	Backstroke	S1 - S5
100m	Backstroke	S6 - S10

50m	Breaststroke	SB1 - SB3	
100m	Breaststroke	SB4 – SB9	
50m	Butterfly	S1 - S7	
100m	Butterfly	S8 - S10	
150m	Ind. Medley	SM1 - SM4	[without butterfly]
200m	Ind. Medley	SM5 - SM10	

**Relays:**

4 x 50m	Freestyle	Maximum 20 points
4 x 100m	Freestyle	Maximum 34 points
4 x 50m	Medley	Maximum 20 points
4 x 100m	Medley	Maximum 34 points

**GN 7.7.5** IPC Swimming order of Events for Paralympic Games.

<b>Day 1</b>	200m	Freestyle	S1 – S2
	100m	Butterfly	S13
	100m	Freestyle	S3 – S5
	200m	Ind Medley	SM6 – SM7
	100m	Butterfly	S8 – S9
	400m	Freestyle	S11 – S12

- 11 -

<b>Day 2</b>	100m	Butterfly	S10
	400m	Freestyle	S13
	100m	Freestyle	S14
	50m	Backstroke	S4 – S5
	100m	Breaststroke	SB11 – SB12

<b>Day 3</b>	100m	Freestyle	S9 – S6
	100m	Freestyle	S1 – S2
	100m	Backstroke	S6
	100m	Freestyle	S10
	100m	Butterfly	S11 – S12
	200m	Freestyle	S3 – S5

<b>Day 4</b>	100m	Breaststroke	SB7 – SB8
	4x100m	Freestyle Relay	S14
	100m	Breaststroke	SB9
	100m	Freestyle	S13
	400m	Freestyle	S14
	100m	Backstroke	S7
	200m	Freestyle	S1 – S2
	200m	Ind Medley	SM11 – SM12

<b>Day 5</b>	50m	Butterfly	S3 – S5
	4x100m	Freestyle Relay	34 points
	400m	Freestyle	S7
	50m	Breaststroke	SB1 – SB3
	200m	Ind Medley	SM5
	100m	Butterfly	S14

<b>Day 6</b>	200m	Ind Medley	SM8 – SM10
	4x100m	Freestyle Relay	49 points
	100m	Breaststroke	Sb4 – SB6
	100m	Freestyle	S11 – S12
	200m	Ind Medley	SM13
	200m	Ind Medley	SM14

<b>Day 7</b>	400m	Freestyle	S8 – S10
	4x50m	Freestyle Relay	20 points
	100m	Backstroke	S11 – S12
	50m	Butterfly	S6 – S7
	100m	Backstroke	S8 – S10
	100m	Breaststroke	SB13
	100m	Breaststroke	SB14

50m	Freestyle	S1 – S3
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<b>Day 8</b>	50m	Freestyle	S11 – S12
	150m	Ind Medley	SM1 – SM4
	400m	Freestyle	S6
	100m	Backstroke	S13
	100m	Backstroke	S14
<b>Day 9</b>	50m	Freestyle	S7 – S10
	50m	Backstroke	S1 – S3
	50m	Freestyle	S4 – S6
	50m	Freestyle	S14
	50m	Freestyle	S13
	4x100m	Medley Relay	Max 34 points
	4x50m	Medley Relay	Max 20 points
	4x100m	Medley Relay	S14
4x100m	Medley Relay	Max 49 points	

**GN 7.7.5.1** IPC Swimming order of events for World Championships or other relevant IPC competitions [ie 6 or 7 days competitions].

<b>Day 1</b>	100m	Freestyle	S8
	100m	Freestyle	S11 – S12
	200m	Ind Medley	SM5
	100m	Butterfly	S9 – S10
	200m	Ind Medley	SM13
	100m	Backstroke	S6 – S8
- 12 -			
<b>Day 2</b>	200m	Ind Medley	SM14
	50m	Freestyle	S1 – S5
	4x100m	Freestyle Relay	49 points
	4x100m	Freestyle Relay	34 points
	100m	Freestyle	S6 – S7
	400m	Freestyle	S11 – S12
	100m	Backstroke	S9 – S10
	100m	Butterfly	S8
	100m	Freestyle	S13
	100m	Freestyle	S14
	150m	Ind Medley	SM1 – SM4
<b>Day 3</b>	100m	Breaststroke	SB5
	100m	Backstroke	S11 – S12
	100m	Breaststroke	SB6 – SB7
	100m	Freestyle	S9 – S10
	400m	Freestyle	S13
	400m	Freestyle	S14
	200m	Ind Medley	SM8
	200m	Freestyle	S3 – S5
	100m	Butterfly	S11 – S12
	100m	Breaststroke	SB14
	100m	Breaststroke	SB13
	100m	Freestyle	S1 – S2
	4x100m	Medley Relay	34 points
	4x50m	Freestyle Relay	20 points
<b>Day 4</b>	100m	Breaststroke	SB4
	200m	Ind Medley	SM9 – SM10
	50m	Backstroke	S1 – S3
	400m	Freestyle	S6 – S7
	100m	Breaststroke	SB11 – SB12
	100m	Butterfly	S13
	100m	Butterfly	S14
	100m	Breaststroke	SB8 – SB9
	50m	Butterfly	S1 – S5
	4x100m	Medley Relay	49 points
	4x100m	Free Relay	S14

<b>Day 5</b>	50m	Backstroke	S4 – S5
	400m	Freestyle	S8 – S10
	200m	Ind Medley	SM11 – SM12
	50m	Breaststroke	SB1 – SB3
	50m	Freestyle	S13
	50m	Freestyle	S14
	200m	Ind Medley	SM6 – SM7
<b>Day 6</b>	50m	Freestyle	S6 - S10
	100m	Freestyle	S1 - S5
	100m	Backstroke	S14
	50m	Butterfly	S6 – S7
	100m	Backstroke	S13
	50m	Freestyle	S11 – S12
	4x100m	Medley Relay	S14
4x50m	Medley Relay	Max 20 points	

**Day 7 [optional]**

Open Water Event – 5km for Men and Women      Open class

**GN 7.7.6**      The day to day programme shall be published and distributed to participating countries, the technical delegate, assistant delegate, technical advisers, head of classification, authorised classifiers working for the organising committee and the international organisation.

**GN 7.7.7**      Following the collation of final entries, the Organising Committee will publish a provisional starting list and the events order for finals both of which shall include the start times for each heat and/or final and distribute this to the

- 13 -

competing countries, technical delegate, assistant technical delegate, technical advisers, head of classification, authorised classifiers and international disability organisations. The latest information regarding the organisation of the competition shall also be included.

**GN 7.7.8**      After the classification process of all swimmers has been completed the correct starting list shall be published for heats and the event order for finals prior to the commencement of competition.

**GN 7.7.9**      Once fixed, only the technical delegate and only then under exceptional circumstances, may alter the standard daily programme of events. Notice of any alterations must be posted at least twenty four [24] hours before the alteration is to come into effect.

**GN 7.7.10**      A 4-year-cycle for Championships will be adopted as follows:  
year 1: Regional Championships  
year 2: World Championships  
year 3: Regional Championships  
year 4: Paralympics Games

**GN 7.8      Awards**

**GN 7.8.1**      Medals: Gold, Silver and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the first three placegetters respectively in individual and team final events.

**GN 7.8.2**      For team events [relays] medals shall be awarded to the swimmers who competed in both the heats and/or final race/s. Medals for team members competing in the heat race only will be delivered to the nations Chef de Mission or team leader.

**GN 7.8.3**      Medal presentation shall be in the following order: bronze, silver, gold.

**GN 7.8.4**      At Paralympic Games diplomas are awarded to all swimmers competing in the Games.

- 14 -  
**CHAPTER 3**

**BY -LAWS**

**BL 1 FACILITIES**

- BL 1.1** At Paralympic Games Rules FA3 shall apply.
- BL 1.2** At Paralympics Games and World Championships approved Automatic Officiating Equipment shall be provided and used.
- BL 1.3** All pools shall be available for use by the competitors for a minimum of two [2] days prior to the start of the competition. The pool shall be available to the competitors for a minimum of two [2]/ three [3] hours prior to the start of each session of the competition.
- BL 1.4** All pools and the facilities shall be accessible for wheelchair users.
- BL 1.5** During competition days the pools shall be available for training when competition is not in progress.
- BL 1.6** Mats shall be placed on the deck besides the outside lanes, within one metre of each end of the pool.

**BL 2 ENTRIES**

- BL 2.1** The maximum number of competitors are as follows:  
Swimmers with an intellectual disability, three [3] competitors per country, per event.  
Swimmers with visual impairment, three [3] competitors per nation, per event, per class.  
FCS swimmers, three [3] competitors per nation, per event, per class.
- BL 2.2** For Paralympic Games a minimum number of six [6] competitors from four [4] nations is necessary to conduct an event. For World and Regional Championships the minimum number

of five [5] competitors from two [2] nations is necessary to conduct an event. In the case of the visually impaired and FCS competitors when there are less than the required number of entries in a class then these swimmers shall have the option of entering a higher class if medal standard events are not offered.

- BL 2.3** A minimum number of four [4] teams for relay events are necessary to conduct the event.
- BL 2.4** If an event has too few entrants following the second entry, the competitors from a lower class may be combined with the next higher class. The qualifying standard of the competitors' own class must be reached.
- BL 2.5** If after final entries classes must be combined due to too few entrants, the full number of competitors per country, per class, per event will be allowed, as long as a minimum of at least three countries are represented.
- BL 2.6** After final entry deletion of events shall not be allowed for the visually impaired or the FCS.
- BL 2.7** When an event is not offered in the swimmer's classification, a swimmer may choose to enter an event in the higher class. The swimmer must meet the qualifying standard for that class to be eligible. A swimmer's classification does not alter for this event and must appear on the entry grid and the preliminary sheet with the authorised international classification of the swimmer.
- BL 2.8** Any competitor swimming breaststroke in a freestyle individual or relay event shall note the following:
- i] When the SB class [ie SB7] is lower or the same as the S class [ie S7 or S8] the swimmer may swim breaststroke in the freestyle event but the swimmer shall maintain the S class.
- 15 -
- ii] If the SB class [ie SB7] is higher than the S class [ie S6] the swimmer may only swim in the equivalent higher S class [ie S7] for the freestyle individual and relay events.
- BL 2.9** At IPC World Championships, Regional Championships and other relevant IPC Swimming international championships, an entry fee per entered event per swimmer shall be levied per country and made payable to IPC Swimming.

### **BL 3 QUALIFYING STANDARDS**

- BL 3.1** Qualifying standards will be laid down by IPC Swimming for each official competition.
- BL 3.2** All swimmers are required to reach the qualifying standard set to be eligible to compete, with the exception of entries approved by the technical delegate. The exceptions are to be known as wild card entries.
- BL 3.3** Participants not reaching the qualifying standards will be fined with the exception of the country entries approved by the technical delegate. The fine at Paralympic Games, World Championships and other relevant IPC Swimming events will be twenty [20] US dollars or the fee agreed upon by the technical delegate and the Organising Committee. Payment of the fine is required prior to any competitor from the offending nation being able to compete in further events. All fines are the property of the IPC Swimming.
- BL 3.4** Entry times must be verified by the technical delegate. To be considered verified, countries must submit a copy of the competition results to IPC Swimming office or designate. Entry times submitted that are not verified will not be accepted.
- BL 3.4.1** To qualify to compete at the Paralympic Games, a swimmer must have achieved the qualifying standard set in a recognised 50m length pool [Long Course].

**BL 3.4.1** To qualify to compete at an IPC Swimming World and Regional Championships a swimmer may submit a qualifying standard achieved in a recognised 25m length pool [Short Course] or Long Course pool.

**BL 3.5** Countries who conduct IPC Swimming approved competitions that submit results that include times performed for swimmers who are internationally classified will have their times recorded in the IPC Swimming ranking database, providing the times reach the ranking cut-off standard for the relevant event. The results must be submitted within six [6] weeks after the competition.

#### **BL 4 SWIMMING**

**BL 4.1** For each relay event, each country may enter only one team. All swimmers entered per the classification system can be used in the relevant relay event.

**BL 4.2** The composition of a relay team may be changed between heats and finals of an event. When heats are swum, medals shall be awarded to those swimmers who swam in the heats and/or the final race.

**BL 4.3** The names of the swimmers and their classification must be submitted on the IPC Swimming official form at least one hour before the start of the session in which the event is to take place, in the order in which they are to swim. The names of the swimmers in medley relay events must be listed for their respective strokes.

**BL 4.4** The heats and finals shall be arranged in accordance with Rule SM 3, under the supervision of the technical delegate, assistant technical delegate and technical advisers.

**BL 4.5** For swimmers with an intellectual disability [class S14] there shall be no exceptions to the IPC Swimming rules when competing.

- 16 -

**BL 4.6** For swimmers with a visual impairment [class S11, S12 & S13], the intent is to perform all strokes as described by IPC Swimming, but consideration may be required due to the lack of, or limited amount of sight.

**BL 4.7** Where a swimmer who wishes to compete with an injury that requires taping/strapping, the swimmer is required to receive clearance for the taping/strapping from the IPC Swimming Medical Officer for the competition prior to the start of each session. A swimmer competing with taping/strapping who has not received prior clearance will result in the competitor being disqualified from the event that they were competing in.

**BL 4.8** A swimmer with an open wound shall not be permitted to compete unless they have received prior clearance from the IPC Swimming Medical Officer for the competition. The written clearance shall be submitted to the technical delegate prior to competing. Failing to obtain permission may result in disqualification from all further events in the competition.

#### **BL 5 COMBINING OF EVENTS**

**BL 5.1** No events, where entries have been received, shall be deleted at an IPC Swimming World and/or Regional Championships. Where there is insufficient competitors for a class the event will be combined but for the presentation of medals for the classes will be separated.

**BL 5.2** When the number of swimmers, for a combined event, is insufficient for the conducting of heats and a final event, only a final event will be offered.

**BL 5.3** When the number of swimmers, for a combined event, is sufficient for the conducting of heats and a final event, heats and a final event will be offered. Exception being the 800m & 1500m freestyle events where time final events will be conducted.

**BL 5.4** When the entry numbers for a class is insufficient and the event is required to be combined only those swimmers per class who equal or better the medal qualifying standard shall be eligible to

gain a medal. The exception to this rule is where a class has sufficient numbers to have presented an event but due to insufficient number of entries of the lower class the event has been required to be combined, medals will be presented to the three [3] fastest swimmers in the final event of the higher class regardless of the medal qualifying standards.

- BL 5.5** Medals will be presented to the fastest swimmer per class per event only when the swimmer's times equal or better the medal qualifying standards.
- BL 5.6** When a combined final event only has been offered, the fastest times for the swimmers per class will be eligible for a medal.
- BL 5.7** When combined heats and a final event is offered, the swimmer's time from the final event shall be the time taken and be required to equal or better the medal qualifying standard. For swimmers of the lower class who do not reach the finals their time will be considered for a medal. These swimmers are required to reach the relevant medal qualifying standard.
- BL 5.8** For IPC World Championships the medal qualifying standard shall be equal to or better than **Gold Medal** is based on the 4<sup>th</sup> place time taken from IPC Swimming World rankings, three [3] per nation, corrected with the removal of the top two [2] times, taken over the past 24 months [2 year period], prior to the IPC Swimming World Championships; **Silver Medal** is based on the 5<sup>th</sup> place time taken from the IPC Swimming World rankings, three [3] per nation, corrected with the removal of the top two [2] times, taken over the past 24 months [2 year period], prior to the IPC Swimming World Championships; **Bronze Medal** is based on the 6<sup>th</sup> place time taken from the IPC Swimming World rankings, three [3] per nation, corrected with the removal of the top two [2] times, taken over the past 24 months [2 year period], prior to the IPC Swimming World Championships.
- BL 5.9** For IPC Swimming Regional Championships the medal qualifying standard shall be equal to or better than:  
**Gold Medal** is based on 8<sup>th</sup> place time taken from the IPC Swimming Regional rankings, based on three [3] per nation, corrected with the removal of the top three [3] times, taken over  
- 17 -  
the past 24 months [2 year period], prior to the IPC Swimming Regional Championships; **Silver Medal** is based on 9<sup>th</sup> place time taken from the IPC Swimming Regional rankings, based on three [3] per nation, corrected with the removal of the top three [3] times, taken over the past 24 months [2 year period], prior to the IPC Swimming Regional Championships; **Bronze Medal** is based on 10<sup>th</sup> place time taken from the IPC Swimming Regional rankings, based on three [3] per nation, corrected with the removal of the top three [3] times, taken over the past 24 months [2 year period], prior to the IPC Swimming Regional Championships.
- BL 5.10** For events with Medal Qualifying Standards, medals will be presented during the medal ceremonies only if the first place finisher meets the gold medal standard. If the first place finisher does not meet the gold medal standard and the second and/or third place finisher meets the respective medal standard for the order of finish, then these medals will be delivered to the nations Chef de Mission or Team Leader.
- BL 5.11** For classes where there are insufficient swimmers times, for the relevant combined event, recorded in the IPC Swimming rankings, taken over the past 24 months [2 year period], the medal qualifying standard will be based on a percentage determined by the average of the above qualifying places for the relevant championships, from all events and classes in the IPC Swimming rankings.
- BL 5.12** Medal qualifying standards shall be distributed to nations at least six [6] months prior to the relevant championships.
- BL 5.13** Following the collation of final entries IPC Swimming shall publish an up to date list of events that will use the medal qualifying standards for awarding gold, silver and bronze medals and distribute this to the nations.
- BL 5.14** After the classification process of all the swimmers has been completed and it has been determined the events that are to be combined an up dated list of the medal qualifying standards

shall be published and distributed to the nations prior to the commencement of the first day of the competition.

- 18 -

## CHAPTER 4

### SWIMMING

#### SM 1 MANAGEMENT OF COMPETITION

**SM 1.1** At the Paralympic Games, World Championships and Regional Championships the technical delegate, in consultation with the Organising Committee shall appoint the following number of officials for the control of the competition:

meet director [1]

referee [1]

judges of stroke [4]

starters [2]

chief inspector of turns [4, 2 at each end of the pool]

inspector of turns [16, 1 at each end of pool & for each lane]

chief recorder [1]

clerk of courses [2]

recorder [1]

announcer [1]

technical advisers [2]

presentation officer [1]

3 timekeepers per lane, total of 24 timekeepers, where a video back up system is not available

For all other international competitions the Organising Committee shall appoint the same or fewer number of officials, subject to the approval of the technical delegate. Where Automatic Officiating Equipment is not available,

such equipment must be replaced by chief timekeeper, three timekeepers per lane, and two additional timekeepers.

- SM 1.2** Senior swimming officials ie referee [1], judges of stroke [4], starters [2] and chief inspector of turns [4] to be appointed by IPC Swimming.
- SM 1.3** For World Championships and other relevant major championships, IPC Swimming shall provide the result software system and an IPC Swimming appointed person to operate the system throughout the championships. The appointed person is also responsible to enter all the entry information prior to the start of the competition. The management and result software system is the sole property of IPC Swimming.
- SM 1.4** The swimming pool and the technical equipment for Paralympic Games, World and Regional Championships and other relevant championships shall be inspected and approved prior to the Swimming competitions by the appointed technical delegate or IPC Swimming designate.

## **SM 2 OFFICIALS**

### **SM 2.1 Meet Director**

- SM 2.1.1** A Meet Director shall be appointed by the Organising Committee responsible for the conduct of the meet, and as its representative in control of the meet. The Meet Director shall ensure the decisions of the controlling body, which do not come within the jurisdiction of the Referee, are carried out and performed.

### **SM 2.2 Referee**

- SM 2.2.1** The referee shall have full control and authority over all officials, approve their assignments, and instruct them regarding all special features or regulations related to the competition. The referee shall enforce all rules of IPC Swimming decisions and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the meet, and event or the competition, the final settlement of which is not otherwise covered in the rules but he shall not make a decision relating to disability specific rules without the consultation of

- 19 -

the technical advisers.

- SM 2.2.2** The referee may intervene in the competition at any stage to ensure that the IPC Swimming rules are observed, and shall adjudicate all technical protests with consultation with the technical delegate and/or adviser related to the competition in progress.
- SM 2.2.3** Where using finish judges without three [3] digital watches, the referee shall determine placings where necessary. Automatic Officiating Equipment, if available, shall be consulted as stated in SM 13.
- SM 2.2.4** The referee shall ensure that all necessary officials are in their respective posts for the conduct of the competition. The referee may appoint substitutes for any officials who are absent, incapable of acting or found to be inefficient. The referee may appoint additional officials if considered necessary.
- SM 2.2.5** At the commencement of each event, the referee shall signal to the swimmers by a short series of whistles inviting them to remove all clothing except swimwear, followed by a long whistle indicating that they should take positions on the starting platform [or for backstroke swimming and medley relays to immediately enter the water]. A second long whistle shall bring the backstroke and medley relay swimmer immediately to the starting platform. When the swimmers and officials are prepared for the start, the referee shall gesture to the starter with a stretched out arm, indicating that the swimmers are under the starter's control.

**SM 2.2.6** At the completion of each event, the referee shall signal to the swimmers by way of a whistle indicating that they are required to clear the water.

**SM 2.2.7** The referee, after consultation with the Technical Adviser, shall disqualify any swimmer for any violation of the rules that the referee personally observes or which is reported to them by other authorised officials.

**SM 2.3 Starter**

**SM 2.3.1** The starter shall have full control of the swimmers from the time the referee turns the swimmers over to him [SM 2.2.5] until the race has commenced. The start shall be given in accordance with SM 4.

**SM 2.3.2** The starter shall report a swimmer to the referee for delaying the start, for wilfully disobeying an order or for any other misconduct taking place at the start, but only the referee may disqualify a swimmer for such delay, wilful disobedience or misconduct. Such disqualification shall not be counted as a false start.

**SM 2.3.3** The starter shall have power to decide whether the start is fair, subject only to the decision of the referee. If the starter believes the start is unfair, the starter shall follow the rules pertaining to a false start as per SM 4.6.

**SM 2.3.4** When starting an event, the starter shall stand on the side of the pool within approximately five metres of the starting edge of the pool where the timekeepers can see and/or hear the starting signal and the swimmers can see and/or hear the signal.

**SM 2.4 Clerk of Course**

**SM 2.4.1** The clerk of course shall assemble swimmers prior to each event, inform the chief recorder and announcer of any withdrawals and notify the referee, technical delegate/assistant technical delegate and/or technical adviser of any withdrawals which could result in the reseeding of an event.

- 20 -

**SM 2.5 Chief Inspector of Turns**

**SM 2.5.1** The chief inspector of turns shall ensure that inspectors of turns fulfill their duties during the competition.

**SM 2.5.2** The chief inspector of turns shall receive the reports from the inspectors of turns if any infringement occurs, after consultation with the technical adviser, the report shall be presented to the referee immediately.

**SM 2.6 Inspector of Turns**

**SM 2.6.1** One inspector of turns shall be assigned to each lane at each end of the pool.

**SM 2.6.2** Each inspector of turns shall ensure that swimmers comply with the relevant rules for turning, commencing from the beginning of the last arm stroke before touching and ending with the completion of the first arm stroke after turning. The inspector of turns at the starting end of the pool, shall ensure that the swimmers comply with the relevant rules from the start and ending with completion of the first arm stroke. The inspectors of turns at the finish end shall also ensure that the swimmers finish their race according to the current rules.

**SM 2.6.3** In individual events of 800 and 1500 metres, each inspector of turns at the turning end of the pool shall record the number of laps completed by the swimmer in their lane and keep the swimmer informed of the remaining number of laps to be competed by displaying 'lap cards'.

**SM 2.6.4** Each inspector at the starting end shall give a warning signal when the swimmer in his/her lane has two lengths plus five metres to swim to finish in individual events of 800 and 1500 metres. The warning signal may be by whistle or bell.

**SM 2.6.4.1** For swimmers who are deaf or hearing impaired the inspector of turns shall use a visual cue to indicate to the swimmer that they have two lengths to swim to finish in individual events of 800 and 1500 metres.

**SM 2.6.4.2** For swimmers who are deaf and visually impaired, the inspector of turns shall notify the tapper 15 metres and two lengths before the completion of the race in the 800 and 1500 metres events. It shall be the responsibility of the tapper to indicate to the swimmer that they are commencing their final two [2] lengths.

**SM 2.6.5** Each inspector at the starting end shall determine, in relay events, whether the starting swimmer is in contact with the starting platform when the preceding swimmer touches the starting wall. When Automatic Equipment which judges relay take-offs is available, it shall be used in accordance with SM 13.1.

**SM 2.6.6** Inspectors of turns shall report any violations, after consultation with the technical adviser, on signed cards detailing the event, lane number, the swimmer's name and the infringement delivered to the chief inspector of turns who shall immediately convey the report to the referee.

## **SM 2.7 Judges of Stroke**

**SM 2.7.1** Judges of stroke shall be allocated on each side of the pool.

**SM 2.7.2** Each judge of stroke shall ensure that the rules related to the style of swimming designated for the event are being observed, and shall observe the turns to assist the inspectors of turns.

**SM 2.7.3** Judges of stroke shall report any violation, after consultation with the technical adviser, to the referee on signed cards detailing the event, lane number, the swimmer's name and the infringement.

- 21 -

## **SM 2.8 Chief Timekeeper**

**SM 2.8.1** The chief timekeeper shall assign the seating positions for all timekeepers and the lanes for which they are responsible. There shall be three [3] timekeepers for each lane. There shall be two additional timekeepers designated, either of whom shall be directed to replace a timekeeper whose watch did not start or stopped during an event, or who for any other reason is not able to record the time. When using three [3] digital watches per lane, final times and placings are determined by time.

**SM 2.8.2** The chief timekeeper shall collect from each timekeeper a card showing the time recorded and if necessary inspect their watches.

**SM 2.8.3** The chief timekeeper shall record or examine the official time on the card for each lane.

## **SM 2.9 Timekeepers**

**SM 2.9.1** Each timekeeper shall take the time of the swimmer in the lane assigned to them in accordance with SM 11.3. The watches shall be certified correct to the satisfaction of the competition Organising Committee.

**SM 2.9.2** Each timekeeper shall start his watch at the starting signal, and shall stop it when the swimmer in their lane has completed the race. Timekeepers may be instructed by the chief timekeeper to record times at intermediate distances in races longer than 100 metres.

**SM 2.9.3** Promptly after the race, the timekeepers in each lane shall record the time on their watch on the card, give it to the chief timekeeper, and if requested present their watch for inspection. They shall not clear their watch until they receive the 'clear watches' signal from the chief timekeeper or the referee.

**SM 2.9.4** Unless a video backup system is used, it shall be necessary to use the full complement of timekeepers even when Automatic Officiating Equipment is used.

#### **SM 2.10 Chief Finish Judge**

**SM 2.10.1** The chief finish judge shall assign each finish judge their position and the placing to be determined.

**SM 2.10.2** After the race, the chief finish judge shall collect signed results sheets from each finish judge and establish the result and placings which will be sent directly to the referee.

**SM 2.10.3** Where Automatic Officiating Equipment is used to judge the finish of a race, the chief finish judge must report the order of finish recorded by the Equipment after each race.

#### **SM 2.11 Finish Judge**

**SM 2.11.1** Finish judges shall be positioned in elevated stands in line with the finish where they have at all times a clear view of the course and the finish line, unless they operate an Automatic Officiating device in their respective assigned lanes by depressing the 'push-button' at the completion of the race.

**SM 2.11.2** After each event the finish judges shall decide and report the placing of the swimmers according to the assignments given to them. Finish judges other than push-button operators shall not act as timekeepers in the same event.

- 22 -

#### **SM 2.12 Desk Control**

**SM 2.12.1** The chief recorder is responsible for checking results from computer printouts or from results of times and placings in each event received from the referee. The chief recorder shall witness the referee signing the results.

**SM 2.12.2** The recorders shall control withdrawals after the heats or finals, enter results on official forms, list all new records established and maintain scores where appropriate.

#### **SM 2.13 Technical Advisers**

**SM 2.13.1** The technical advisers are responsible for advising the referee, chief inspector of turns, the judges of strokes and the starter about the adaptations of the swimming rules pertaining to individual swimmers.

**SM 2.13.2** The technical adviser shall report any infringements of the IPC Swimming rules to the referee immediately.

**SM 2.13.3** The technical advisers shall disqualify any swimmer for any violations of the rules.

**SM 2.13.4** The technical adviser is required to hold swimming knowledge in the form of relevant accredited swimming officiating and/or coaching accreditation.

**SM 2.14 Presentation Officer**

**SM 2.14.1** At the direction of the meet director the presentation officer is to prepare and conduct the placed swimmers for the presentation of awards, any other presentation that may be required and the swimmers selected for media interviews.

**SM 2.15** Officials shall make their decisions autonomously and independently of each other unless otherwise provided in the IPC Swimming Rules.

**SM 3 SEEDING OF HEATS AND FINALS**

The starting stations for all events in Paralympic Games, World Championships, Regional Championships and other IPC Swimming competitions shall be seeded as follows:

**SM 3.1 Heats**

**SM 3.1.1** The best competitive times of all entrants for the preceding twelve [12] months shall be submitted on entry forms and listed in order of time by the Organising Committee. Swimmers who do not submit times shall be considered the slowest and shall be placed at the end of the list. Placement of swimmers with identical times or of more than one swimmer without times shall be determined by draw. Swimmers shall be placed in lanes according to the procedures set forth in SM 3.1.2 below. Swimmers shall be placed in trial heats according to submitted times in the following manner:

**SM 3.1.1.1** If one [1] heat, it shall be seeded as a final and swum only during the final session.

**SM 3.1.1.2** If two [2] heats, the fastest swimmer shall be seeded in the second heat, next fastest in the first heat, next fastest in the second heat, next in the first heat, etc.

**SM 3.1.1.3** If three [3] heats, the fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, next fastest in the second, next fastest in the first.

- 23 -

The fourth fastest swimmer shall be placed in the third heat, the fifth in the second heat, and the sixth fastest in the first heat, the seventh fastest in the third heat, etc.

**SM 3.1.1.4** If four [4] or more heats, the last three [3] heats of the event shall be seeded in accordance with SM 3.1.1.3 above. The heat preceding the last three heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers; the heat preceding the last four [4] heats shall consist of the next fastest swimmers, etc. Lanes shall be assigned in descending order of submitted times within each heat, in accordance with the pattern outlined in SM 3.1.2 below.

**SM 3.1.1.5** Exception: When there are two [2] or more heats in an event, there shall be a minimum of three [3] swimmers seeded into any one preliminary heat, but subsequent scratches may reduce the number of swimmers in such heat to less than three [3].

**SM 3.1.2** Except for 50 metre events, assignment of lanes shall be [number 1 lane being on the right side of the pool when facing the course from the starting end] by placing the fastest swimmer or team in the centre lane in the pool with an odd number of

lanes, or in lane 3 or 4 respectively in pools having 6 or 8 lanes. The swimmer having the fastest time is to be placed on his left, then alternating the others to right and left in accordance with the submitted times. Swimmers with identical times shall be assigned their lane positions by drawing within the aforesaid pattern.

**SM 3.1.3** When 50 metre events are contested, the races may be swum, at the discretion of the Organising Committee and in consultation with the Technical Delegate, either from the regular starting end to the turning end or from the turning end to the starting end, depending upon such factors as existence of adequate Automatic Equipment, starters position, etc. The Organising Committee should advise swimmers of their determination well before the start of the competition. Regardless of which way the race is swum, the swimmers shall be seeded in the same lanes in which they would be seeded if they were both starting and finishing at the starting end.

## **SM 3.2 Finals**

**SM 3.2.1** Where no preliminary heats are necessary, lanes shall be assigned in accordance with SM 3.1.2 above. Where preliminary heats have been held, lanes shall be assigned as in SM 3.1.2 based, however, on times established in such heats.

**SM 3.2.2** In the event that swimmers from the same or different heats have equal times registered to 1/100 second for the eighth and/or ninth and tenth [1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> reserves] place, there shall be a swim-off to determine which swimmer shall advance to the final and/or the nominated 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> reserve. Such swim-off shall take place not less than one hour after all involved swimmers have completed their heat.

**SM 3.2.2.1** In the case of a swimmer being disqualified in a swim-off the swimmers recorded time for the heat shall stand but the swimmer shall not be eligible to advance to the final.

**SM 3.2.3** Where one or more swimmers scratch from a final event substitutes will be called in order of the finish times from the heats. The event must be re-seeded and supplementary sheets must be issued detailing the changes or substitutions, as prescribed in SM 3.1.2.

**SM 3.3** In other competitions, the draw system may be used for assigning lane positions.

- 24 -

**SM 3.4** If there are less than six [6] swimmers in a class for the visually impaired or FCS swimmers, in individual events, these swimmers may be seeded together with a higher class. For ranking, the swimmers shall be separated into their original classification.

## **SM 4 THE START**

**SM 4.1** The one start rule shall be applied to all IPC Swimming competitions.

**SM 4.2.** The start in Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Individual Medley races shall be with a dive. On the long whistle [SM 2.2.5] from the referee the swimmers shall step onto the starting platform and remain there. On the starter's command "take your marks", they shall immediately take up a starting position with at least one foot at the front of the starting platform. The position of the hands is not relevant. When all swimmers are stationary, the Starter shall give the starting signal [shot, horn, whistle or command].

**SM 4.2.1** For a swimmer with a visual impairment, on the long whistle from the referee the swimmer shall be permitted to orientate themselves prior to the starters command 'take your marks'.

- SM 4.2.2** The swimmer who has balance problems ie standing stationary, may have assistance to balance themself on the starting platform ie hold at the hips, hand, arm etc, by a volunteer only. An assistant may add the swimmer to remain stationary at the start, however the assistance shall not allow the swimmer unfair advantage ie being held and not exceeding 90 degrees vertical position on the blocks at the start. The application for assistance form is required to be completed and submitted for approval from the technical delegate/assistant technical delegate and/or technical advisers.
- SM 4.2.3** A swimmer may be permitted to start beside the starting platform.
- SM 4.2.4** A swimmer with a lower limb disability may be permitted to take up a sitting position on the starting platform.
- SM 4.2.5** A swimmer may be permitted to start in the water but is required to have one hand in contact with the poolside until the starting signal is given. Standing in or on the gutter or on the bottom is prohibited.
- SM 4.2.6** A visually impaired swimmer due to a medical reason may start in the water. A medical certificate must be presented to the Technical Delegate prior to the commencement of the competition.
- SM 4.2.7** Where a swimmer is unable to grip the poolside, in a water start, the swimmer may be assisted by a support staff or supporting device. The device shall be cleared and deemed safe by the technical delegate/assistant technical delegate and/or the technical advisers prior to the commencement of the competition. Giving momentum to the swimmer at the start is not permitted and shall result in a false start. The swimmer shall have part of the body in contact with the wall until the starting signal is given.
- SM 4.2.8** Class S1, S2 and S3 swimmers are permitted to have their foot/feet held to the wall, until the starting signal is given. Giving momentum to the swimmer at the start is not permitted and shall result in a false start.
- SM 4.2.9** To prevent abrasion, one layer of towel, or the like, may be place on the starting platform. The article shall not dramatically increase the height of the starting platform.
- SM 4.2.10** In the case of a swimmer who is blind and deaf, the person tapping shall be permitted to convey the starting signal to the competitor by the use of a non verbal instruction.
- 25 -**
- SM 4.2.11** In the case of a swimmer who swims in the FCS and is deaf, the swimmer shall be permitted, when no starting light is available, to have conveyed the starting signal by the use of a non verbal instruction.
- SM 4.3** No swimmer shall be permitted to use a starting device that will enhance the swimmers true ability above their classification level.
- SM 4.4** The start in Backstroke and Medley Relay races shall be from the water. At the referee's first long whistle [SM 2.2.5], the swimmers shall immediately enter the water. At the referee's second long whistle the swimmers shall return without undue delay to the starting position [SM 6.1]. When all swimmers have assumed their starting positions, the starter shall give the command "take your marks". When all swimmers are stationary, the starter shall give the starting signal.
- SM 4.5** In Paralympic Games, World Championships and other IPC Swimming events the command "take your marks" shall be in English. At Paralympic Games the start shall be by multiple loudspeakers, mounted one at each starting platform. The sound of these loudspeakers shall be sufficiently loud that repetition of the signal [SM 4.6] will give adequate recall signal for a false start.

**SM 4.6** Any swimmer starting before the starting signal has been given, shall be disqualified. If the starting signal sounds before the disqualification is declared, the race shall continue and the swimmer or swimmers shall be disqualified upon completion of the race. If the disqualification is declared before the starting signal, the signal shall not be given, but the remaining swimmers shall be called back and start again.

**SM 4.7** The signal for a false start shall be the same as the starting signal but repeated along with dropping of the false start rope. Alternatively, if the referee decides that the start is false he shall blow his whistle, which shall be followed by the starter's signal [repeated] and dropping of the false start rope.

**SM 4.7.1** For swimmers with a visual impairment to ensure a satisfactory start for S11 swimmers, spectators shall be requested to remain silent until the swimmers have passed the false start rope. Noises created by hooters, whistles, etc may be mistaken for the false start signal.

## **SM 5 FREESTYLE**

**SM 5.1** Freestyle means that in an event so designated the swimmer may swim any style, except that in individual medley or medley relay events, freestyle means any style other than backstroke, breaststroke or butterfly.

**SM 5.2** Some part of the swimmer must touch the wall upon completion of each length and at the finish.

**SM 5.3** During each complete one stroke cycle some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water, except it is permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface.

**Definition:** One stroke cycle is defined as one full rotation of the shoulder joint/s and/or one complete up and down movement of the hip joint/s.

## **SM 6 BACKSTROKE**

**SM 6.1** Prior to the starting signal, the swimmers shall line up in the water facing the starting end, with both hands holding the starting grips. The feet, including the toes, shall be under the surface of the water. Standing in or on the gutter or bending the toes over the lip of the gutter is prohibited.

- 26

**SM 6.1.1** Swimmers unable to use the starting grips shall be permitted to use the end of the pool.

**SM 6.1.2** Where a swimmer is unable to grip the poolside, the swimmer may be assisted by a support staff or supporting device. The device shall be cleared and deemed safe by the technical delegate/assistant technical delegate and/or technical adviser prior to the commencement of the competition. Giving momentum to the swimmer at the start is not permitted and shall result in a false start. The swimmer shall have part of the body in contact with the wall until the starting signal is given.

**SM 6.1.3** Class S1, S2 and S3 swimmers are permitted to have their foot/feet held to the wall, until the starting signal is given. Giving momentum to the swimmer at the start is not permitted and shall result in a false start.

**SM 6.2** At the signal for starting and after turning the swimmer shall push off and swim upon his back throughout the race except when executing a turn as set forth in SM 6.4. The normal position on the back can include a roll movement of the body up to, but not including 90 degrees from horizontal. The position of the head is not relevant.

**SM 6.3** During each complete one stroke cycle some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water, except it shall be permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and each turn. By this point the head must have broken the surface.

**Definition:** One stroke cycle is defined as one full rotation of the shoulder joint/s and/or one complete up and down movement of the hip joint/s.

**SM 6.4** During the turn the shoulders may be turned over the vertical to the breast after which a continuous single arm pull or a continuous simultaneous double arm pull may be used to initiate the turn. Once the body has left the position on the back, there will be no kick or arm pull that is independent of the continuous turning action. The swimmer must have returned to a position on the back upon leaving the wall. When executing the turn there must be a touch of the wall with some part of the swimmer's body.

**GN 6.4.1** For the swimmer who has no arms or use of his/her arms during the turn, once the body has left the position on the back, there shall be no kick that is independent of the continuous turning action. The swimmer must have returned to a position on the back upon leaving the wall. When executing the turn there must be a touch of the wall with some part of the swimmer's body.

**SM 6.5** Upon the finish of the race the swimmer must touch the wall while on the back. The body may be submerged at the touch.

## **SM 7 BREASTSTROKE**

**SM 7.1** From the beginning of the first armstroke after the start and after each turn, the body shall be kept on the breast. It is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time.

**SM 7.1.1** After the start and after each turn, a swimmer who is unable to push off with the leg/s, may perform one arm stroke that may be simultaneous or on the horizontal plane stroke to attain the breast position.

**SM 7.2** All movements of the arm/s shall be simultaneous and in the same horizontal plane without alternating movement.

**SM 7.3** The hand/s shall be pushed forward together from the breast on, under, or over the water. The elbows shall be under the water except for the final stroke, before the turn and for the final stroke at the finish. The hand/s shall be brought back on or under the surface of the water. The hand/s shall not be brought back beyond the hip line, except during the first stroke after

- 27 -

the start and each turn.

**SM 7.4** All movements of the leg/s shall be simultaneous and in the same horizontal plane without alternating movement.

**SM 7.4.1** A swimmer who has affected leg/s and/or foot/feet must show intent of simultaneous movement and the swimmer who has affected leg/legs and/or foot/feet must show intent to kick in the same horizontal plane.

**SM 7.5** The feet must be turned outwards during the propulsive part of the kick. A scissors, flutter or downward dolphin kick is not permitted. Breaking the surface of the water with the feet is allowed unless followed by a downward dolphin kick.

**SM 7.5.1** A swimmer who is unable to use one or both legs and/or feet to gain normal propulsion shall not be required to turn the affected foot outwards during the propulsive part of the kick.

**SM 7.5.2** A swimmer who is unable to use both legs and/or feet to gain normal propulsion may trail or drag the leg/s.

- SM 7.6** At each turn and at the finish of the race, the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water level. The head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during the last complete or incomplete cycle preceding the touch.
- SM 7.6.1** At each turn and the finish of the race where a swimmer has different arm lengths only the longer arm must touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously.
- SM 7.6.2** A swimmer with upper limbs too short to stretch above the head shall touch the wall with any part of the upper body when turning and finishing.
- SM 7.6.3** At each turn and the finish of the race, where a swimmer uses only one arm for the stroke cycle the swimmer shall be required to touch with one hand/arm only.
- SM 7.6.4** At each turn and the finish of the race, where the swimmer who uses both arms but has restriction in the shoulder/elbow only the longer arm must touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously.
- SM 7.6.5** Swimmers with a visual impairment classification SB11 and SB12 may have difficulty making a simultaneous touch at the turn and the finish if he/she is restricted due to contact with the lane rope, the swimmer shall not be disqualified provided that not advantage was gained.
- SM 7.7** During each complete cycle of one arm stroke and one leg kick, in that order, some part of the swimmer's head shall break the surface of the water, except that after the start and after each turn the swimmer may take one arm stroke completely back to the legs and one leg kick while wholly submerged. The head must break the surface of the water before the hands turn inward at the widest part of the second stroke.
- SM 7.7.1** In the case where there is a non functional arm, one arm stroke shall constitute a full stroke when completed with the remaining parts.
- SM 7.7.2** When a swimmer does not have any legs or arms or parts thereof, either the kick or the respective arm stroke shall constitute a complete stroke.

- 28 -

## **SM 8 BUTTERFLY**

- SM 8.1** From the beginning of the first armstroke after the start and after each turn, the body shall be kept on the breast and both shoulders shall be in line with the normal water surface. Underwater kicking on the side is allowed. It is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time.
- SM 8.1.1** In the case where a swimmer has completed the dropped shoulder test and has been deemed unable to maintain the shoulders in line with the normal water surface, the swimmer shall not be required to keep both shoulders in line with the normal water surface.
- SM 8.1.2** After the start and after each turn, a swimmer who is unable to push off with the leg/s may perform one arm stroke that may not be simultaneous or on the horizontal plane stroke to attain the breast position.
- SM 8.2** In the stroke cycle both arms must be brought forward together over the water and brought backward simultaneously throughout the race, subject to SM 8.5.
- SM 8.2.1** Swimmers with a visual impairment classification of S11 and S12 may have difficulty making simultaneous recovery of the arms during the stroke cycle if they

are restricted due to contact with the lane rope, the swimmer shall not be disqualified provided that no advantage was gained.

**SM 8.2.2** In the case where an arm or part of an arm is missing, one arm stroke shall constitute a full stroke when completed with the remaining parts.

**SM 8.2.3** In the case where there is a non functional arm, one arm stroke shall constitute a full stroke when completed with the remaining parts.

**SM 8.2.4** In the case where there are non functional arms all movements of the legs shall constitute a full stroke.

**SM 8.3** All movements of the feet must be executed in a simultaneous manner. Simultaneous up and down movements of the legs and feet in the vertical plane are permitted. The legs or feet need not be at the same level, but no alternating movements are permitted.

**SM 8.3.1** In the case where there are no legs or non functional legs, the legs shall drag.

**SM 8.4** At each turn and at the finish of the race, the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously, at, above or below the water surface.

**SM 8.4.1** At each turn and the finish of the race where a swimmer has different arm lengths only the longer arm must touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously. The shoulders shall remain in the horizontal plane until the touch has been made.

**SM 8.4.2** A swimmer with no or non functional upper limbs or upper limbs too short to stretch above the head, the swimmer shall touch the wall with any part of the upper body when turning and finishing.

**SM 8.4.3** At each turn and the finish of the race, where a swimmer uses one arm for the stroke cycle the swimmer shall be required to touch with one hand/arm only.

**SM 8.4.4** At each turn and the finish of the race, where the swimmer who uses both arms but has restriction in the shoulder/elbow only the longer arm must touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously.

**SM 8.4.5** Swimmers with a visual impairment classification S11 and S12 may have difficulty making a simultaneous touch at the turn to contact with the lane rope, the swimmer shall not be disqualified provided that no advantage was gained.

- 29 -

**SM 8.4.6** At the turn and finish, swimmers with no leg function may perform a half stroke with the arm/s recovering forward under the surface of the water, in order to contact the wall.

**SM 8.5** At the start and at turns, a swimmer is permitted one or more leg kicks and one arm pull under the water, which must bring him/her to the surface. It shall be permissible for a swimmer to be completely submerged for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and after each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface. The swimmer must remain on the surface until the next turn or finish.

## **SM 9 MEDLEY SWIMMING**

**SM 9.1** In individual medley events, the swimmer covers the four swimming styles in the following order: Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle.

**SM 9.1.1** In the 150m individual medley events, the swimmer covers three swimming strokes in the following order: Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle.

**SM 9.2** In medley relay events, swimmers will cover the four swimming styles in the following order: Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Freestyle.

**SM 9.3** Each section must be finished in accordance with the rules which apply to the style concerned.

## **SM 10 THE RACE**

**SM 10.1** The swimmer will be disqualified if he/she does not complete the scheduled distance of the event and shall be indicated in the results with a DNF – Did Not Finish.

**SM 10.2** A swimmer swimming over the course alone shall cover the whole distance to qualify.

**SM 10.3** A swimmer must finish the race in the same lane in which they started.

**SM 10.3.1** Should a swimmer with a visual impairment inadvertently surface in the wrong lane after a start or executing a turn and the swimmer has surfaced in a lane not in use, the swimmer shall be permitted to complete the race in that lane. If it is necessary for the swimmer to return to the correct lane the 'tapper' may give verbal instructions, but only after clearly identifying the swimmer by name to prevent distraction or interference to other competitors.

**SM 10.4** In all events, a swimmer when turning shall make physical contact with the end of the pool or course. The turn must be made from the wall, and it is not permitted to take a stride or step from the bottom of the pool.

**SM 10.5** Standing on the bottom during freestyle events or during the freestyle portion of medley events shall not disqualify a swimmer, but they shall not walk or propel forward.

**SM 10.6** Pulling on the lane rope is not allowed.

**SM 10.7** Obstructing another swimmer by swimming across another lane or otherwise interfering shall disqualify the offender. Should the foul be intentional, the referee shall report the matter to the Organising Committee and the technical delegate or assistant technical delegate, and to the Member of the swimmer so offending.

**SM 10.8** No swimmer shall be permitted to use or wear any device that may aid his speed, buoyancy or endurance or reduce leg drag during the heat and final events [such as webbed gloves, flippers, fins, wetsuit, etc]. Goggles may be worn.

**- 30 -**

**SM 10.8.1** FCS swimmers shall not be permitted to wear prosthetic and/or orthoses during a race.

**SM 10.8.2** A person may be required to indicate to the visually impaired swimmer that they are approaching the end of the pool in both individual and relay events. Also where necessary, a swimmer may have a touch by the person to indicate the start of their leg of the relay. This procedure is called tapping and the person is referred to a 'tapper'.  
For S11 competitors tapping is compulsory.

**SM 10.8.3** A FCS swimmer may be tapped for safety reasons. A FCS swimmer shall be required to obtain a medical certificate. This information is to be presented to the technical delegate or assistant technical delegate prior to the start of the competition.

**SM 10.9** Any swimmer not entered in a race, who enters the water while an event is being conducted before all swimmers therein have completed the race, shall be disqualified from their next scheduled race in the competition.

**SM 10.10** There shall be four [4] swimmers on each relay team.

**SM 10.10.1** Any competitor swimming breaststroke in a freestyle relay event shall note the following:

- i] When the SB class [ie SB7] is lower or the same as the S class [ie S7 or S8] the swimmer may swim breaststroke in the freestyle relay event but the swimmer must maintain the S class.
- ii] If the SB class [ie SB7] is higher than the S class [ie S6] the swimmer may only swim in the equivalent higher class [ie S7] for the freestyle event.

**SM 10.11** In relay events, the team of a swimmer whose feet/part of the body loses contact with the starting platform before the preceding team member touches the wall, shall be disqualified, unless the swimmer in default returns to the original starting point at the wall, but it shall not be necessary to return to the starting platform.

**SM 10.11.1** A swimmer, in a relay event, may commence in the water. The swimmer may not lose hand contact with the wall until such time as the preceding team mate touches the wall otherwise the swimmer shall be disqualified.

**SM 10.12** Any relay team shall be disqualified from a race if a team member, other than the swimmer designated to swim that length, enters the water when the race is being conducted, before all swimmers of all teams have finished the race.

**SM 10.12.1** A swimmer, in a relay event, who is to commence with a water start, may enter the water only when the preceding swimmer is swimming their length.

**SM 10.13** The members of a relay team and their order of competing must be nominated before the race. Any relay team member may compete in a race only once. The composition of a relay team may be changed between the heats and finals of an event, provided that it is made up from the list of swimmers properly entered by a Member for that event. Failure to swim in the order listed will result in disqualification. Substitutions may be made only in the case of a documented medical emergency.

**SM 10.14** Any swimmer having finished his race, or his distance in a relay event, must leave the pool as soon as possible without obstructing any other swimmer who has not yet finished his race. Otherwise the swimmer committing the fault, or his relay team, shall be disqualified.

**SM 10.14.1** For FCS swimmers only classification S5 and below may stay in their lane until the last swimmer of the team has completed the race. A swimmer remaining in the water shall move a short distance away from the end of the pool, close to

- 31 -

the lane rope but shall not obstruct another swimmer in another lane.

**SM 10.15** Should a foul endanger the chance of success of a swimmer, the referee shall have the power to allow him/her to compete in the next heat or, should the foul occur in a final event, the referee may order it to be reswum.

**SM 10.15.1** For swimmers with visual impairment, should an accidental foul occur during a race, caused by a swimmer either surfacing after the start or turn, in a lane that is in use by another competitor, or by swimming too close to the lane rope, etc, the referee, in consultation with the technical delegate, shall have the power to allow one or all swimmers to reswim the event. If the foul occurs in a final event, the referee, in consultation with the technical delegate, may order the final to be reswum.

**SM 10.16** No pacemaking shall be permitted, nor may any device be used or plan adopted which has that effect nor shall instruction to the swimmer be given after the start of the event.

#### **SM 10.17 Relay Composition**

**SM 10.17.1** Relay teams for the visually impaired are based on a point score. The classification of the individual swimmer is worth the actual number value ie class

S11 is worth eleven [11] points, class S12 is worth twelve [12] points, etc. 4 x100m Relays shall not exceed forty nine [49] points.

**SM 10.17.2** The tapper is able to convey to the swimmer the relay changeovers and convey the position/place of the relay. An extra tapper may be required, one for tapping the swimmer completing the leg of the relay and one tapper for the conveying of the changeover. No coaching is permitted.

**SM 10.17.3** Relay teams for the FCS swimmers are based on a point score. The classification of an individual swimmer is worth the actual number value ie class S6 is worth six [6] points, class SB9 is worth nine [9] points, etc. 4 x 50m Relays shall not exceed twenty [20] points. 4 x 100m Relays shall not exceed thirty four [34] points.

## **SM 11 TIMING**

**SM 11.1** The operation of Automatic Officiating Equipment shall be under the supervision of appointed officials. Times recorded by Automatic Equipment shall be used to determine the winner, all placings and the time applicable to each lane. The placings and times so determined shall have precedence over the decisions of human judges and timekeepers. In the event that a breakdown of the Automatic Equipment occurs or that it is clearly indicated that there has been a failure of the equipment, or that a swimmer has failed to activate the equipment, the decisions of the human judges and recordings of the human timekeepers shall be official. [See SM 13.3]

**SM 11.2** When Automatic Equipment is used, the results shall be recorded only to 1/100 of a second. When timing to 1/1000 of a second is available, the third digit shall not be recorded or used to determine time or placement. In the event of equal times, all swimmers who have recorded the same time at 1/100 of a second shall be accorded the same placing. Times displayed on the electronic scoreboard should show only to 1/100 of a second.

**SM 11.3** Any timing device that is terminated by an official shall be considered a watch. Three timekeepers appointed or approved by the Organising Committee in the country concerned must take such manual times. All watches shall be certified as accurate to the satisfaction of the governing body concerned. Manual timing shall be registered to 1/100 of a second. Where no Automatic Equipment is used, official manual times shall be determined as follows:

- 32 -

**SM 11.3.1** If two [2] of the three [3] watches record the same time and the third disagrees, the two identical times shall be the official time.

**SM 11.3.2** If all three [3] watches disagree, the watch recording the intermediate time shall be the official time.

**SM 11.4** Should a swimmer be disqualified during or following an event, such disqualification should be recorded in the official results, but no time or place shall be recorded or announced.

**SW 11.5** In the case of a relay disqualification, legal splits up to the time of the disqualification shall be recorded in the official results.

**SM 11.6** All 50 metre and 100 metre splits shall be recorded for the first swimmers only during relay events and published in the official results.

## **SM 12 WORLD AND/OR REGIONAL RECORDS**

**SM 12.1.1** For World and/or Regional Records in 50 metre course [Long Course] the following distances and styles for both gender shall be recognised for swimmers in class S14.

<b>Individual</b>	Freestyle	50m	100m	200m	400m	800m	1500m
	Backstroke	50m	100m	200m			

	Breaststroke	50m	100m	200m	
	Butterfly	50m	100m	200m	
	Individual Medley			200m	400m
<b>Relays:</b>	Freestyle	4 x 50m	4 x 100m		
	Medley	4 x 50m	4 x 100m		

**SM 12.1.2** For World and/or Regional Records in 50 metre course [Long Course] the following distances and styles for both gender shall be recognised for swimmers with a visual impairment referred to as class S11, S12, S13

<b>Individual</b>	Freestyle	50m	100m	200m	400m	800m	1500m
	Backstroke	50m	100m	200m			
	Breaststroke	50m	100m	200m			
	Butterfly	50m	100m	200m			
	Individual Medley			200m	400m		
<b>Relays:</b>	Freestyle	4 x 50m	4 x 100m				Max 49 points
	Medley	4 x 50m	4 x 100m				Max 49 points
	Freestyle		4 x 100m				Open Classes

**SM 12.1.3** For World and/or Regional Records in 50 metre course [Long Course] the following distances and styles for both gender shall be recognised for FCS swimmers referred to as class S1-S10.

<b>Individual</b>	50m	Freestyle	S1 - S10	
	100m	Freestyle	S1 - S10	
	200m	Freestyle	S1 - S10	
	400m	Freestyle	S6 - S10	
	800m	Freestyle	S6 - S10	
	1500m	Freestyle	S7 - S10	
	50m	Backstroke	S1 - S10	
	100m	Backstroke	S1 - S10	
	200m	Backstroke	S6 - S10	
	50m	Breaststroke	SB1 – SB9	
	100m	Breaststroke	SB1 – SB9	
	200m	Breaststroke	SB4 – SB9	
	50m	Butterfly	S1 - S10	
	100m	Butterfly	S5 - S10	
	200m	Butterfly	S8 - S10	
	150m	Ind. Medley	SM1 - SM4	[without butterfly]

- 33 -

	200m	Ind. Medley	SM3 - SM10
	400m	Ind. Medley	SM8 - SM10
<b>Relays:</b>	4 x 50m	Freestyle	Maximum 20 points
	4 x 100m	Freestyle	Maximum 34 points
	4 x 100m	Freestyle	Maximum 40 points
	4 x 50m	Medley	Maximum 20 points
	4 x 100m	Medley	Maximum 34 points

**SM 12.2.1** For World and/or Regional Records in 25 metre course [Short Course] the following distances and styles for both gender shall be recognised for swimmers in class S14.

Freestyle	50m	100m	200m	400m	800m	1500m
Backstroke	50m	100m	200m			
Breaststroke	50m	100m	200m			
Butterfly	50m	100m	200m			
Individual Medley		100m	200m	400m		

All relay events eligible in 50 metre course for both gender shall be recognised in the 25 metre course.

**SM 12.2.2** For World and/or Regional Records in 25 metre course [Short Course] the following distances and styles for both gender shall be recognised for swimmers with a visual impairment referred to as class S11-S13.

Freestyle	50m	100m	200m	400m	800m	1500m
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Backstroke	50m	100m	200m
Breaststroke	50m	100m	200m
Butterfly	50m	100m	200m
Individual Medley		100m	200m 400m

All relay events eligible in 50 metre course for both gender shall be recognised in the 25 metre course.

**SM 12.2.3** For World and/or Regional Records in 25 metre courses [Short Course] the following distances and styles for both gender will be recognised for FCS swimmers referred to as class S1-S10.

50m	Freestyle	S1 - S10
100m	Freestyle	S1 - S10
200m	Freestyle	S1 - S10
400m	Freestyle	S6 - S10
800m	Freestyle	S6 - S10
1500m	Freestyle	S7 - S10
50m	Backstroke	S1 - S10
100m	Backstroke	S1 - S10
200m	Backstroke	S6 - S10
50m	Breaststroke	SB1 – SB9
100m	Breaststroke	SB1 – SB9
200m	Breaststroke	SB4 – SB9
50m	Butterfly	S1 - S10
100m	Butterfly	S5 - S10
200m	Butterfly	S8 - S10
100m	Ind. Medley	SM1 – SM10
200m	Ind. Medley	SM3 - SM10
400m	Ind. Medley	SM8 - SM10

All relay events eligible in 50 metre course for both gender shall be recognised in 25 metre courses.

**SM 12.3** All members of one relay team must be of the same nationality.

**SM 12.4** All records must be made in scratch competitions or an individual race against time.

**SM 12.5** World and/or Regional Records will be accepted when times are reported by Automatic Officiating Equipment, or Semi-Automatic Officiating Equipment in the case of Automatic Officiating equipment system malfunctioning or the times of three digital watches.

- 34 -

**SM 12.6** Times which are equal to 1/100 of a second will be recognised as equal records and swimmers achieving these equal times will be called 'Joint Record Holders'. In the event of a tie in a record-setting race, each swimmer who tied shall be considered a winner.

**SM12.7** The first swimmer in a relay team may apply for a World and/or Regional Record for their leg of the relay if the swimmer or the team manager or responsible official specifically requests the Referee that the performance is recorded.

**SM 12.8** The first swimmer in a relay team may apply for a World and/or Regional Record for their leg of the relay. Should the first swimmer in a relay team complete the distance in record time in accordance with the rules, such a performance shall not be nullified by any subsequent disqualification of the his/her relay team for violations occurring after his/her distance has been completed.

**SM 12.9** A swimmer in an individual event may apply for a World and/or Regional Record at an intermediate distance if the swimmer or the team manager or responsible official specifically requests the Referee, in writing prior to the start of the relevant session, that the performance be especially timed or if the time at the intermediate distance is recorded by approved Automatic Officiating Equipment. Such swimmer must complete the scheduled distance of the event to apply for a record at the intermediate distance.

**SM 12.10** Applications for World and/or Regional Records must be made on IPC Swimming official form [Appendix] and must be accompanied by a copy of the Automatic Officiating Equipment or a copy of the recording of the three [3] timekeepers' times. The power to ratify World and/or Regional Records is vested in IPC Swimming.

**SM 12.11** All records made during the Paralympic Games and World Championships and other relevant international competitions where IPC Swimming officials are in attendance shall be automatically approved.

**SM 12.12** Swimmers competing in combined class events are eligible to set records in their class. S11 swimmers must follow rulings GN 4.3 and GN 6.2 to be eligible for records.

**SM 12.13** IPC Swimming Record Keeper must be notified within two [2] weeks of the record setting performance. The application form shall then be forwarded within six [6] weeks of the performance, to IPC Swimming records keeper.

**SM 12.14** World and/or Regional Records shall be ratified only in the case for which the competitor holds an official internationally recognised classification.

**SM 12.15** In the case of a swimmer having a change in classification the following shall apply:

**SM 12.15.1** Visually impaired swimmers shall retain records held in their previous classification

**SM 12.15.2** Functional Classification System

**SM 12.15.2.1** If the reclassification is due to changes in the degree of disability of the swimmer, then record/s will be retained in the swimmer's previous classification.

**SM 12.15.2.2** If the reclassification is due to any reason other than described in SM 12.15.2.1, a swimmer is ineligible to hold record/s in their previous classification. The swimmer's historical times shall be considered for record/s in their new classification.

**SM 12.16** If the application for a World and/or Regional Record is accepted a certificate, signed by the Chairman and the keeper of the records, shall be forwarded to the relevant member nation of the swimmer.

- 35 -

## **SM 13 AUTOMATIC OFFICIATING PROCEDURE**

**SM 13.1** When Automatic Officiating Equipment [see FA 4] is used in any competition, the placing and times so determined and relay take-offs judged by such Equipment shall have precedence over the decision of human judges and timers.

**SM 13.2** When the Automatic Officiating Equipment fails to record the place and/or time of one or more swimmer in a given race:

**SM 13.2.1** Record Automatic Equipment times and places;

**SM 13.2.2** Record human times and places;

**SM 13.2.3** The official place will be determined as follows:

**SM 13.2.3.1** A swimmer with an Automatic Equipment time and place must retain his relative order when compared with the other swimmers having an Automatic Equipment time and place within that race.

**SM 13.2.3.2** A swimmer not having an Automatic Equipment place but having an Automatic Equipment time will establish his relative order by

comparing his Automatic Equipment time with the Automatic Equipment times of the other swimmer.

**SM 13.2.3.3** A swimmer having neither an Automatic Equipment place nor an Automatic Equipment time shall establish his relative order by the time recorded by the Semi-Automatic Equipment or by three digital watches.

**SM 13.3** The official time will be determined as follows:

**SM 13.3.1** The official time, for all swimmers not having an Automatic Equipment time, shall be that of the Semi Automatic time or the three [3] digital watches human time in that order.

**SM 13.3.2** The official time for all swimmers not having an Automatic Equipment time will be the three [3] digital watches human time or the Semi-Automatic Equipment so long as there exists no contradiction with the official place.

**SM 13.4** To determine the relative order of finish for the combined heats of an event, proceed as follows:

**SM 13.4.1** The relative order of all swimmers will be established by comparing their official times.

**SM 13.4.2** If a swimmer has an official time which is tied with the official time/s of one or more swimmers, all swimmers having that time shall be tied in their relative order of finish in that event.

- 36 -

## CHAPTER 5

### OPEN WATER RULES

All Open Water rules are to be read in conjunction with rules already laid down in the IPC Swimming Swim Rule booklet.

**POW 1 DEFINITION:**

Open Water swimming shall be defined as any competition that takes place in rivers, lakes or oceans.

**POW 2 OPEN WATER SCHEDULE:**

When an Open Water event is conducted in conjunction with a pool competition then the Open Water event is to be conducted on the morning the day after the pool competition is completed.

**POW 3: COURSE:**

The course offered shall be 5 kilometres.

**POW 3.1** The maximum distance before a change of direction shall be 1.5 kilometres.

**POW 3.2** The designated area for the commencement and the completion of the race shall be one

and the same.

**POW 3.3** Marker buoys for a distance of no less than 200 metres shall identify the finish.

**POW 3.4** The start and finish of the race shall be in the water.

**POW 4 EVENT STRUCTURE:**

All swimmers competing in the event regardless of gender or classification should be started at the same time and compete on the course simultaneously with the following exception: If the safety and manageability of such a start is in question due to number of athletes it is recommended that two separate start times be used that separate swimmers either by gender or by classification. It is the responsibility of the Open Water Technical Delegate (TD) to make this decision.

**POW 4.1 Classification**  
This is an open event for all classifications.

**POW 4.2 Qualifying Standard**  
It is recommended that the swimmer has written proof [results] from a previous 5km open water swim.

**POW 4.3 Time Limit**  
The time limit of 2 hours and 30 minutes is the maximum time allocated to complete the course. If the swimmer has not completed the course within this time limit then the swimmers will be removed from the water if they are not within reasonable distance of the finish (less than 200m).

**POW 4.4** A swimmer or swimmers may be removed from the water for safety reasons as determined by the referee, technical delegate and/or safety officer.

**POW 4.5** It is the responsibility of each competitor, prior to the start of the event to have a space/thermal blanket. This is to be inspected by the Technical Delegate.  
Note: This is a safety measure against hypothermia.

**POW 4.6 Support Staff for S11, S12 and S1 – S4 Swimmers only**  
These swimmers who cannot navigate the course independently, will be permitted navigational assistance (i.e. support staff). The use of either a small non-motorized escort craft or surfboard or swimmer may be required. The swimmer is to submit to the technical delegate, prior to the day of the race, the method that is to be used for

- 37 -

assistance. The technical delegate is to deem the method safe for all competitors.

**POW 4.6.1** The swimmer is responsible for their support staff and craft if required.

**POW 4.6.2** If the swimmer is using a paddler as support staff, then the paddler is assigned the same number as the swimmer and is required to wear appropriate gear for the conditions. (i.e. wetsuit or sun protection)

**POW 4.7 Awards**  
Medals will be awarded gold, silver, and bronze to the top three (3) male and the top three (3) female finishers.

**POW 5 OFFICIALS:**

The following officials shall be appointed at Open Water Swimming events:

Referee  
Assistant Referees  
Technical Delegate for Open Water & Course Officer  
Chief Timekeeper plus 3 Timekeepers  
Chief Judge plus 2 Finish Judges  
Safety Officer

Medical Officer  
Course Officer  
Clerk of the Course  
Race Judges/Turn Judges (one per alteration of Course)  
Starter  
Announcer  
Recorder  
Stickman

**POW 5.1 Referee:**

- POW 5.1.1** Shall have full control and authority over all officials and shall approve their assignments and instruct them regarding all special features or regulations related to the competition. The Referee shall enforce, after consultation with the Technical Delegate all the Rules and decisions of IPC Swimming and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the meet, the event or competition, the final settlement of which is not otherwise covered by these Rules.
- POW 5.1.2** Shall have authority, after consultation with the Technical Delegate, to intervene in the competition at any stage to ensure that IPC Swimming Rules are observed.
- POW 5.1.3** Shall adjudicate with consultation with the Technical Delegate on all protests related to the competition in progress.
- POW 5.1.4** Shall give a decision in consultation with the Technical Delegate in cases where the judges' decision and times recorded do not agree.
- POW 5.1.5** Shall signal to swimmers, by a raised flag and a number of short blasts on a whistle, that the start is imminent and when satisfied indicate by pointing the flag at the starter that the competition may commence.
- POW 5.1.6** Shall disqualify, in consultation with the Technical Delegate, any swimmer for any violation of the Rules that he personally observes or which are reported to him by other authorised officials.

**POW 5.2 Assistant Referee:**

- POW 5.2.1** Shall ensure that all necessary officials for the conduct of the event or competition are at their respective posts. He may, with the approval of  
- 38 -  
the Referee and Technical Delegate, appoint substitutes for any who are absent, incapable of acting or found to be inefficient. He may appoint additional officials if considered necessary.
- POW 5.2.2** Shall receive all reports prior to the start of the race from the Clerk of the Course, Course Officer and Safety Officer and inform the Referee and Technical Delegate of their contents 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the race.
- POW 5.2.3** Conduct the draw for Race Judges and allocate them to their respective escort safety craft.

**POW 5.3 Technical Delegate for Open Water:**

**Note:** This position maybe in conjunction with the Course Officer. Refer Course Officer's duties:

- POW 5.3.1** Shall advise the referee and assistant referee(s) about the adaptations of swimming rules pertaining to individual swimmers.

- POW 5.3.2** Shall report any infringements of IPC Swimming rules to the referee immediately.
- POW 5.3.3** Shall disqualify any swimmer for any violations of the rules.
- POW 5.3.4** Shall hold knowledge in the form of open water relevant officiating and/or coaching accreditation.
- POW 5.4 Starter:**
- POW 5.4.1** Shall be stationed in such a position as to be clearly visible to all competitors.
- POW 5.4.2** Shall, on signal from the Referee shall raise a distinctive flag into the vertical position in conjunction with a long blast from a whistle.
- POW 5.4.3** Shall simultaneously bring the flag holding arm down, with arm kept straight, and activate an audible signal.
- POW 5.5 Chief Timekeeper:**
- POW 5.5.1** Shall assign at least three Timekeepers to their positions for the start and finish.
- POW 5.5.2** Shall ensure that a time check is made to allow all persons to synchronise their watches with the official running clocks 15 minutes before start time.
- POW 5.5.3** Shall collect from each Timekeeper, the time recorded for each swimmer, and if necessary, inspect their watches.
- POW 5.5.4** Shall record or examine the official time for each swimmer.
- POW 5.6 Timekeepers:**
- POW 5.6.1** Shall take the time of each swimmer assigned. The watches shall be certified correct to the satisfaction of the Management Committee.
- POW 5.6.2** Shall start their watches at the starting signal, and only stop their watches when instructed by the Chief Timekeeper.
- POW 5.6.3** Shall promptly after each finish record the time and turn it over to the  
**- 39 -**  
 Chief Timekeeper.  
**Note: When Automatic Officiating Equipment is used, the same complement of hand timers is to be used.**
- POW 5.7 Chief Judge:**
- POW 5.7.1** Shall assign each Judge to a position and ensure that Stickman is in position, and has required number of numbered sticks.
- POW 5.7.2** Shall collect after the race, signed results sheets from each Judge and establish the result and placing, which shall be sent directly to the Referee.
- POW 5.8 Finish Judges [two, one of whom shall be the Chief Judge]:**
- POW 5.8.1** Shall be positioned in line with the finish where they shall have at all times a clear view of the finish.

**POW 5.8.2** Shall instruct the Stickman, after each finish, the placing of the swimmer.  
**Note: Finish Judges shall not act as Timekeepers in the same event.**

**POW 5.9 Each Race Judge:**

**POW 5.9.1** Shall be positioned in a safety craft, assigned by random draw immediately prior to the start, so as to be able to observe, his assigned section of the racecourse.

**POW 5.9.2** Shall ensure at all times that the Rules of competition are complied with, violations being recorded in writing and reported to the Referee at the earliest opportunity.

**POW 5.9.3** Shall have the power to order a swimmer from the water upon expiry of any time limit so ordered by the Referee or Technical Delegate.

**POW 5.9.4** Shall ensure that swimmers do not take unfair advantage or commit unsporting impediment on another swimmer and if the situation requires, instruct a swimmer to maintain clearance from any other swimmer.

**POW 5.10 Turn Judges:**

**POW 5.10.1** Shall be positioned so as to ensure all swimmers execute the alterations in course as indicated in the competition information documents and as given at the pre-race briefing.

**POW 5.10.2** Shall record any infringement of the turn procedures on the record sheets provided and communicate the infringement to the Race Judge at the time of infringement.

**POW 5.10.3** Shall promptly upon completion of the event deliver the signed record sheet to the Chief Judge.

**POW 5.11 Safety Officer:**

**POW 5.11.1** Shall be responsible to the Referee and Technical Delegate for all aspects of safety related to the conduct of the competition.

**POW 5.11.2** Shall check that the entire course, with special regard to the start and finish areas, is safe, suitable, and free of any obstruction.

**POW 5.11.3** Shall be responsible for ensuring that a minimum of seven [7] powered escort safety craft is available during the competition so as to provide  
**- 40 -**  
safety for the event.

**POW 5.11.4** Shall provide to the swimmers seven [7] days prior to the event a tide/current chart clearly indicating the time of tide changes on the course.

**POW 5.11.5** Shall provide to the swimmers seven [7] days prior to the event, temperature fluctuations and marine life that maybe encountered.

**POW 5.11.6** Shall in conjunction with the Referee, Course Officer and Technical Delegate if, in their opinion, conditions are unsuitable for staging the competition and make recommendations for the modification of the course or the manner in which the competition is conducted.

**POW 5.12**

**Medical Officer:**

- POW 5.12.1** Shall be responsible to the Referee and Technical Delegate for all medical aspects related to the competition and competitors.
- POW 5.12.2** Shall inform the local medical facility as to the nature of the competition, and to ensure that any casualties can be transported to the identified medical facility.
- POW 5.12.3** Shall ensure that a medical inspection is made of each competitor prior to the start of the competition and report any persons who in their opinion are unfit to compete to the Referee and Management Committee. The Referee in consultation with the Technical Delegate shall stop any thus reported person, from competing in the event.
- POW 5.12.4** Shall ensure that a medical inspection is made of each competitor at the completion of the competition.
- POW 5.12.5** Shall brief the escort safety craft occupants on emergency procedures for temperature and marine life First Aid.
- POW 5.12.6** Shall ensure that an ambulance is on-site and accessible.

**POW 5.13**

**Course Officer:**

**Note: This position may be in conjunction with the Technical Delegate. Refer to TD section.**

- POW 5.13.1** Shall be responsible to the Management Committee for the correct survey of the course.
- POW 5.13.2** Shall ensure the start and finish areas are correctly marked and all equipment have been correctly installed and, where applicable, are in working order.
- POW 5.13.3** Shall ensure all course alteration points are correctly marked, and manned prior to the commencement of the event.
- POW 5.13.4** Shall with the Referee, Safety Officer and Technical Delegate inspect the course and markings prior to the commencement of competition.
- POW 5.13.5** Shall ensure that Turn Judges are in position prior to the start of the competition and report this to the Assistant Referee.

**POW 5.14**

**Clerk of Course:**

- POW 5.14.1** Shall assemble and prepare competitors prior to each competition and ensure proper reception facilities i.e. hot/cold beverages and snacks, at  
- 41 -  
the finish are available for all competitors.
- POW 5.14.2** Shall ensure that each competitor is correctly identified with his or her race number.
- POW 5.14.3** Shall ensure that all the swimmers have trimmed fingernails, and not wearing any jewellery, including watches.
- POW 5.14.4** Shall be certain all swimmers are present, in the assembly area, at the required time prior to the start.

**POW 5.14.5** Shall keep swimmers and officials informed of the time remaining before the start at suitable intervals until the last five minutes, during which one-minute warnings shall be given.

**POW 5.14.6** Shall ensure that all competitors leaving the water at the finish have the basic equipment required for their well being should their own attendants not be present at that time.

**POW 5.15 Recorder:**

**POW 5.15.1** Shall record withdrawals from the competition, enter results on official forms, and maintain record for team awards as appropriate.

**POW 5.15.2** Shall record competitor number in relation to stick number, when the swimmers reach the shore and/or medical check point.

**POW 5.16 Stickman:**

**POW 5.16.1** Shall hand the swimmer a numbered Popsicle stick or similar item indicating the position in which they have finished at the completion of the race.

**POW 6 ESCORT SAFETY CRAFT:**

The requirements are as follows:

**POW 6.1** Sea worthy and capable of traveling at a very slow speed.

**POW 6.2** All occupants are to have boating skills and wear approved life vests.

**POW 6.3** The craft is to be large enough to safely hold a minimum of 3 persons.

**POW 6.4** To be equipped with a communication system ie marine radios, linked with the Course Officer, Technical Delegate, Referee, Safety Officer and the Medical Officer.

**POW 6.5** To be equipped with thermal blanket and hot/cold beverages.

**POW 6.6** All occupants are to be briefed by the Medical Officer on the emergency procedure for temperature and marine life first aid.

**POW 7 THE START:**

**POW 7.1** All Open Water competitions shall start with all competitors in contact with the bottom, floating, or treading water in a depth sufficient for them to commence swimming on the start signal. A depth of 1 meter is the minimum depth in which the start may take place. The Clerk of the Course shall keep competitors and officials informed of the time before start at suitable intervals and at one-minute intervals for the last five minutes.

**POW 7.7.1** Competitors may require support staff or volunteers at the commencement of the race.

- 42 -

**POW 7.2** Competitors shall assume their start positions as decided by random draws with the lowest number on the left and the highest number on the right.

**POW 7.3** When the number of entries dictates the start shall be segregated in the Men's and Women's competitions. The Men's events shall always start before the Women's event.

**POW 7.4** The start line shall be clearly defined by either overhead apparatus or by removable equipment at water level.

- POW 7.5** The Referee shall indicate by a flag held upright and a number of short blasts on a whistle when the start is imminent and indicate that the competition is under Starter's orders by pointing the flag at the starter.
- POW 7.6** The Starter shall be positioned so as to be clearly visible to all competitors.
- POW 7.7** The start signal shall be both audible and visual.
- POW 7.8** If in the opinion of the Referee unfair advantage has been gained at the start the competitions shall be stopped and restarted.
- POW 7.9** All support staff craft shall be stationed prior to the start, a minimum of 200 metres from the start, so as not to interfere with any competitor. The picking up their swimmer shall not interfere with the other swimmers.
- POW 7.10** Although they may start together, in all other respects the men's and women's competitions shall be treated as separate events.

**POW 8 THE VENUE:**

- POW 8.1** World Championships event shall be 5 kilometres, conducted at a venue and course approved by IPC Swimming.
- POW 8.2** The course shall be in water that is subject to only minor currents or tide and may be salt or fresh water.
- POW 8.3** A certificate of suitability for use of the venue shall be issued by the appropriate local health and safety authorities. In general terms the certification must relate to water purity and to physical safety from other considerations.
- POW 8.4** The minimum depth of water at any point on the course shall be 1 meter.
- POW 8.5** The water temperature should be a minimum of 16°C. It should be checked the day of the race, 2 hours before the start, in the middle of the course at a depth of 40 cm. This control should be done in the presence of a Commission made up of the following persons present: a Referee, the Technical Delegate, a member of the Organising Committee and one coach from the teams present designated during the Technical Meeting.
- POW 8.6** All turns/alterations of course shall be clearly indicated.
- POW 8.7** A clearly marked craft or platform, containing a Turn Judge, shall be positioned at all alterations of course in such a manner as not to obstruct a swimmer's visibility of the turn.
- POW 8.8** All turning apparatus and Turn Judges craft/platforms shall be securely fixed in position and not be subject to tidal, wind or other movements.
- POW 8.9** The final approach to the finish shall be clearly defined with markers of a distinctive colour.
- POW 8.10** The finish shall be clearly defined and marked by a vertical face.
- POW 8.11** The start and finish areas should be selected so that they provide easy access to the water for non-ambulatory athletes.

- 43 -

**POW 9 THE RACE:**

- POW 9.1** All Open Water competitions shall be Freestyle events.

- POW 9.2** Race Judges shall instruct any swimmer who is, in their opinion, taking unfair advantage by pacing or slip streaming to move clear of another swimmer, escort safety craft or support staff.
- POW 9.3** Obstructing, interfering with or making intentional contact with another swimmer shall, if in the opinion of the Referee or Technical Delegate deemed to be “Unsporting”, lead to disqualification whether made by a swimmer or their support staff.
- POW 9.4** Escort safety craft and support staff shall manoeuvre so as not to obstruct or place themselves directly ahead of another swimmer.
- POW 9.5** Escort safety craft shall attempt to maintain a constant position so as to station the swimmer at, or forward of, the mid point of the escort safety craft.
- POW 9.6** Contacting the bottom during a race shall not disqualify a swimmer but they may not walk, crawl, jump or otherwise use the bottom to gain forward propulsion.
- POW 9.7** Swimmers shall not receive support from any fixed or floating object and shall not intentionally touch or be touched by their support staff.
- POW 9.8** Each support staff craft shall be non-motorized, and shall be operated by a person of the swimmer’s choice.
- POW 9.9** No swimmer shall be permitted to use or wear any device, which may be an aid to their speed, endurance or buoyancy, ie no wet suits are permitted. Goggles, cap, nose clip and earplugs may be used.
- POW 9.10** Swimmers shall be allowed to use grease or other such substances providing these are not, in the opinion of the Referee, excessive.
- POW 9.11** The pacing of a swimmer by another person entering the water is not permitted.
- POW 9.12** The giving of navigational instructions is permitted.
- POW 9.13** The cut off time limit shall be two and a half [2.5] hours after the start of the race. After expiry of the designated time limit the Referee will order any or all swimmers still on the course from the water. The Referee may delegate this responsibility to the Race Judges in which case a specific time must be appointed after the first swimmer has finished.
- POW 9.14** All swimmers shall have their competition number clearly displayed in waterproof ink on their upper back or arms.
- POW 9.15** Each support staff shall display the swimmer's competition number so as to be easily seen from either side.

**POW 10 THE FINISH OF THE RACE:**

- POW 10.1** The area leading to the finish should be clearly marked by rows of buoys, which narrow, as they get closer to the finish wall. Escort safety craft should be stationed at the approach to and entrance of the finish lane to ensure that only the support staff authorized to do so enter or cross this entrance.
- POW 10.2** The finish should, where possible, be a fixed area, securely fastened in place so as not to be moved by wind, tide or the force of a swimmer striking the object and be wide enough to accommodate at least 3 swimmers touching simultaneously.

- 44 -

- POW 10.3** The Finish Judges, Stickman and Timekeepers shall be placed so as to be able to observe the finish at all times. The area in which they are stationed should be for their exclusive use.

- POW 10.4** Every effort should be made to ensure that the support staff be able to meet the swimmer as they leave the water.
- POW 10.5** Upon leaving the water some swimmers may require assistance.
- POW 10.6** A member of the medical team should inspect the swimmers in the designated medical area. A chair, in which the swimmer can sit while an assessment is made, will be provided.
- POW 10.7** Once cleared by the medical member, swimmers should be given access to refreshment.

## CHAPTER 6

### WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

**WY 1** The official IPC Swimming rules, regulations and classification will apply to World Youth Championships with the following alterations.

#### WY 1.1 Age Groups

**WY 1.1.1** The two age groups that will be offered are as follows:  
i] 15 years + under ) Age will be taken as of the  
ii] 16 - 17 years ) first day of the competition.

#### WY 1.2 Events

**WY 1.2.1** Events offered to swimmers with a mental handicap/intellectual disability, male and female. These swimmers shall be referred to as class S14.

<b>Individual</b>	Freestyle	50m	100m	400m
	Backstroke		100m	
	Breaststroke		100m	
	Butterfly		100m	
	Individual Medley			200m
<b>Relays:</b>	4 x 50m Freestyle		Open	[mixed male & female]
	4 x 100m Freestyle		Open	[mixed male & female]

**WY 1.2.2** Events offered for swimmers with a visual impairment, male and female. These swimmers shall be referred to as class S11, S12, and S13.

<b>Individual</b>	Freestyle	50m	100m	400m
	Backstroke		100m	
	Breaststroke		100m	
	Butterfly		100m	
	Individual Medley			200m
<b>Relays:</b>	4 x 50m Freestyle		Open	[mixed male & female and classes]
	4 x 100m Freestyle		Open	[mixed male & female and classes]

**WY 1.2.3** Events offered to FCS swimmers, male and female. These swimmers shall be referred to as class S1-S10.

<b>Individual</b>	50m	Freestyle	S1 - S10	
	100m	Freestyle	S1 - S10	
	200m	Freestyle	S1 - S5	
	400m	Freestyle	S6 - S10	
	50m	Backstroke	S1 - S5	
	100m	Backstroke	S1 - S10	
	50m	Breaststroke	SB1 - SB4	
	100m	Breaststroke	SB5 - SB9	
	50m	Butterfly	S1 - S7	
	100m	Butterfly	S8 - S10	
	150m	Ind. Medley	SM1 - SM6	[without butterfly]
	200m	Ind. Medley	SM7 - SM10	
	<b>Relays</b>	4 x 50m Freestyle		Mixed male & female maximum 20 points
		4 x 100m Freestyle		Mixed male & female maximum 34 points

#### WY 1.3 Awards

**WY 1.3.1** Medals: Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the first three placegetters respectively in individual and team final events.

**WY 1.3.2** Certificates will be awarded to all participating competitors.

**WY 1.4 World Records**

**WY 1.4.1** IPC Swimming will maintain Youth World Records, in each of the age groups and classes for the FCS swimmers, swimmers with a visual impairment and swimmers with an intellectual disability for male and female.

**WY 1.5 World Youth Relays**

**WY 1.5.1** 4 x 50m Freestyle

**WY 1.5.2** This event will be comprise of teams of swimmers selected by the Organising Committee and the Technical Delegate and Assistant Technical Delegate.

**WY 1.5.3** The teams will be of relatively equal strength and will be selected on the basis of the results during the competition. As many teams as possible will be selected irrespective of age, sex, nationality or disability. Heats and finals will be swum.

**WY 1.5.4** Composition of the teams shall not be altered between the heat event and the final event.

## CHAPTER 7

### FACILITIES

The Facilities Rules are intended to provide the best possible environment for competition for competitive use and training. These rules are not intended to govern issues related to the general public. It is the responsibility of the owner or controller of a facility to provide supervision of activities of the public.

#### FA 1 FACILITIES RULES

- FA 1.1** IPC Swimming Paralympic Standard Pools. All Paralympic Games must be held in a pool which complies with FINA Rule FR 2.
- FA 1.2** IPC Swimming General Standard Pools. World Championships and other international IPC Swimming events should be held in an IPC Swimming Paralympic Standard Pool, but the IPC Swimming may waive certain standards for existing pools if it does not materially interfere with the competitions.
- FA 1.3** IPC Swimming Minimum Standard Pools. All other events held under IPC Swimming Rules must be conducted in pools which comply with all of the minimum standards contained in this Part.

#### FA 2 SWIMMING POOLS

- FA 2.1.1** 50.0 metres. When touch panels of Automatic Officiating Equipment are used on the starting end, or additionally on the turning end, the pool must be of such length that ensures the required distance of 50.0 metres between the two panels.
- FA 2.1.2** 25.0 metres. When touch panels of Automatic Officiating Equipment are used on the starting end, or additionally on the turning end, the pool must be of such length that ensures the required distance of 25.0 metres between the two panels.
- FA 2.2 Dimensional Tolerance**
- FA 2.2.1** Against the nominal length of 50.0 metres, a tolerance of plus 0.03 metre in each lane minus 0.00 metre on both end walls at all points from 0.3 metre above to 0.8 metre below the surface of the water is allowed. These measurements shall be certified by a surveyor or other qualified official, appointed or approved by the Member in the country in which the pool is situated. Tolerances cannot be exceeded when touch panels are installed.
- FA 2.2.2** Against the nominal length of 25.0 metres, a tolerance of plus 0.03 metre in each lane minus 0.00 metre on both end walls at all points from 0.3 metre above to 0.8 metre below the surface of the water is allowed. These measurements shall be certified by a surveyor or other qualified official, appointed or approved by the Member in the country, in which the pool is situated. Tolerance cannot be exceeded when touch panels are installed.
- FA 2.3 Depth** A minimum of 1.35 metres, extending to 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall is required for pools with starting blocks. A minimum depth for the remainder of the course is 1.0 metre.
- FA 2.4 Walls**
- FA 2.4.1** End walls shall be parallel and form right angles to the swimming course and to

the surface of the water, and shall be constructed of solid material, with a non slip surface extending 0.8 metre below the water surface, so as to enable the competitor to touch and push off in turning without hazard..

- FA 2.4.2** Rest ledges along the pool walls are permitted; they must be not less than 1.2 metres below the water surface, and may be 0.1 metre to 0.15 metre wide.
- FA 2.4.3** Gutters may be placed on all four walls of the pool. If end wall gutters are installed, they must allow for attachment of touch panels to the required 0.3 metre above the water surface. They must be covered with a suitable grill or screen.
- FA 2.5 Lanes** Number of lanes: 8. There shall be at least 2.5 metres wide, with two spaces of at least 0.2 metre outside of lane 1 and 8. There must be a lane rope separating these spaces from lane 1 and 8 respectively.
- FA 2.6 Lane ropes**
- FA 2.6.1** Lane ropes shall extend the full length of the course, secured at each end wall to anchor brackets recessed into the end walls. Each lane rope will consist of floats placed end to end having a minimum diameter of 0.05 metre to a maximum of 0.15 metre. The colour of the floats extending for a distance of 5.0 metres from each end of the pool shall be distinct from the rest of the floats. There shall not be more than one lane rope between each lane. The lane ropes shall be firmly stretched.
- FA 2.6.2** A lane rope must be placed between the wall and the outside of the first and last lanes.
- FA 2.6.3** At the 15 metre mark from each end wall of the pool the floats shall be distinct in colour from the surrounding floats.
- FA 2.6.4** In 50 metre pools the floats shall be distinct to mark 25 metres.
- FA 2.6.5** Lane numbers of soft material may be placed on the lane ropes at the start and turning end of the pool.
- FA 2.7 Starting Platforms** shall be firm and give no springing effect. The height of the platform above the water surface shall be from 0.5 metre to 0.75 metre. The surface area shall be at least 0.5 metre x 0.5 metre and covered with non slip material. Maximum slope shall not be more than 10 degrees. The platform shall be constructed so as to permit the gripping of the platform by the swimmer in the forward start at the front and the sides; it is recommended that, if the thickness of the starting platform exceeds 0.04 metres, grips of at least 0.1 metre width on each side and 0.4 width if the front be cut out to 0.03 metre from the surface of the platform. Handgrips for the forward start may be installed on the sides of the starting platforms. Handgrips for backstroke starts shall be placed within 0.3 metre to 0.6 metre above the water surface both horizontally and vertically. They shall be parallel to the surface of the end wall, and must not protrude beyond the end wall. The water depth for a distance of 1.0 metre to 6.0 metres from the end wall must be at least 1.35 metres where starting platforms are installed. Electronic read-out boards may be installed under the blocks. Flashing is not allowed. Figures must not move during a backstroke start.
- FA 2.8 Numbering** - Each starting block must be distinctly numbered on all four sides, clearly visible. Lane number 1 shall be on the right-hand side when facing the course from the starting end with the exception of 50m events, which may start from the opposite end. Touch panels may be numbered on the top part.
- FA 2.9 Backstroke Turn Indicators** - Flagged ropes suspended across the pool, minimum 1.8 metres and maximum 2.5 metres above the water surface, from fixed standards placed 5.0 metres from each end wall. Distinctive marks must be placed on both sides of the pool, and

where possible on each lane rope, 15.0 metres from each end wall.

**FA 2.9.1** Backstroke turn indicators should be a contrasting colour to the ceiling or sky.

**FA 2.10 False Start Rope** shall be suspended across the pool not less than 1.2 metres above the water level from fixed standards placed 15.0 metres in front of the starting end. It shall be attached to the standards by a quick release mechanism. The rope must effectively cover all lanes when activated.

**FA 2.11 Water Temperature** shall be 25 degrees – 28 degrees. During competition the water in the pool must be kept at a constant level, with no appreciable movement. In order to observe health regulations in force in most countries, inflow and outflow is permissible as long as no appreciable current or turbulence is created.

**FA 2.12 Lighting** - Light intensity over starting platforms and turning ends shall not be less than 600 lux.

**FA 2.13 Lane Markings** - shall be of a dark contrasting colour, placed on the floor of the pool in the centre of each lane.

Width: minimum 0.2 metre, maximum 0.3 metre.

Length: 46.0 metres for 50 metre long pools;

21.0 metres for 25 metre long pools.

Each lane line shall end 2.0 metres from the end wall of the pool with a distinctive cross line 1.0 metre long and of the same width as the lane line. Target lines shall be placed on the end walls or on the touch panels, in the centre of each lane, of the same width as the lane lines. They shall extend without interruption from the deck edge [curb], to the floor of the pool. A cross line 0.5 metre long shall be placed 0.3 metre below the water surface, measured to the centre point of the cross line.

**FA 2.14 Bulkheads** – when a bulkhead serves as an end wall, it must extend the full width of the course and present a solid smooth, non-slippery stable vertical surface on which touch pads may be mounted extending not less than 0.8m below and 0.3m above the surface of the water, and must be free of hazardous openings above or below the waterline which may be penetrated by a swimmer's hand, feet, toes or fingers. A bulkhead must be of a design that provides for the free movement of officials along its length without such movement creating any appreciable current or water turbulence.

**FA 2.15 Mats** are to be provided. The mats are to be a minimum of 1 metre in wide and 2 metres in length shall be placed on the deck besides the outside lanes of the pool, within 1 metre of each end.

### **FA 3 AUTOMATIC OFFICIATING EQUIPMENT**

**FA 3.1** Automatic and Semi-Automatic Officiating Equipment records the elapsed time of each swimmer and determines the relative place in a race. Judging and timing shall be to 2 decimal places [1/100 of a second]. Equipment that is installed shall not interfere with the swimmers' starts, turns, or the function of the overflow system.

**FA 3.2** The equipment must:

**FA 3.2.1** Be activated by the starter.

**FA 3.2.2** Have no exposed wires on the pool deck, if possible.

**FA 3.2.3** Be able to display all recorded information for each lane by place and by lane.

**FA 3.2.4** Provide easy digital reading of a swimmer's time.

- 50 -

**FA 3.3 Starting devices**

- FA 3.3.1** The starter shall have a microphone for oral commands.
- FA 3.3.2** If a pistol is used, it shall be used with a transducer.
- FA 3.3.3** Both the microphone and the transducer shall be connected to loudspeakers at each starting block where both the starter's commands and the starting signal can be heard equally and simultaneously by each swimmer.
- FA 3.3.4** A strobe/starting light for swimmers with a hearing impairment. The light is required to be able to be transferred next to the starting platform of the swimmer and positioned to the swimmers requirement.

**FA 3.4 Touch panels for Automatic Equipment**

- FA 3.4.1** The minimum measurement of the touch panels shall be 2.4 metres wide and 0.9 metre high, and their maximum thickness shall be 0.01 metre plus/minus 0.002 metre. They shall extend 0.3 metre above and 0.6 metre below the surface of the water. The equipment in each lane shall be connected independently, so it may be controlled individually. The surface of the panels shall be of a bright colour and shall bear the line markings approved for the end walls.
- FA 3.4.2** Installation - The touch panels shall be installed in a fixed position in the centre of the lanes. The panels may be portable, allowing the pool operator to remove them when there are no competitors.
- FA 3.4.3** Sensitivity - The sensitivity of the panels shall be such that they cannot be activated by water turbulence, but will be activated by a light hand touch. The panels shall be sensitive on the top edge.
- FA 3.4.4** Markings - The markings on the panels shall conform with and superimpose on the existing markings of the pool. The perimeter and edges of the panels shall be defined by a 0.025 metre black border.
- FA 3.4.5** Safety - The panels shall be safe from the possibility of electrical shock and shall not have sharp edges.

**FA 3.5** With Semi-Automatic Equipment, the finish shall be recorded by buttons pushed by timekeepers at the finish touch of the swimmer.

**FA 3.6** The following accessories are essential for a minimum installation of Automatic Equipment:

- FA 3.6.1** Printout of all information which can be regenerated during a succeeding race.
- FA 3.6.2** Spectator readout board.
- FA 3.6.3** Relay take-off judging to 1/100 of a second. Where overhead video cameras are installed they may be reviewed as a supplement to the automatic system's judgement of relay take-off.
- FA 3.6.4** Automatic lap counter.
- FA 3.6.5** Readout of splits
- FA 3.6.6** Computer summaries.
- FA 3.6.7** Correction of erroneous touch.

**FA 3.6.8** Automatic rechargeable battery operation possibility.

- FA 3.7** For Paralympic Games and World Championships the following accessories are also essential:
- FA 3.7.1** The spectator electronic read-out board shall contain at least twelve [12] lines of thirty-eight [38] characters, each capable of displaying both letters and numbers. Each character shall have a height of 1mm per 0.6 metre of viewing distance [minimum height – 200mm]. Each line – matrix scoreboard shall be able to scroll up and down, with blink function, and each full matrix scoreboard shall be programmable, and capable of showing animation.
  - FA 3.7.2** There shall be an air-conditioned control centre, with dimensions of at least 6.0 metres x 3.0 metres, located between 3.0 metres and 5.0 metres from the finish wall, with an unobstructed view of the finish wall at all times during the race. The referee must have easy access to the control centre during the competition. At all other times the control centre shall be able to be secured.
  - FA 3.7.3** Video-tape timing system.
- FA 3.8** Semi-Automatic Equipment may be used as a backup to the Automatic Officiating Equipment if there are three buttons per lane, each operated by a separate official. An inspector of turns may operate one of the buttons.

## MEDICAL

### MCL 1 MEDICAL CARE DURING COMPETITION

A physician should be named for all competitions. This physician will be responsible for medical arrangements for the competition, but not for classification.

**MCL 1.1** The competition physician shall be proposed by the host and - in case of IPC Swimming competitions - approved by the IPC Medical Committee and IPC Swimming.

**MCL 1.2** The competitions' physicians' duties include:

**MCL 1.2.1** Medical supervision of the competitors which includes recording all injuries and diseases and the maintenance of emergency medical room including all essential first aid equipment and materials.

**MCL 1.2.2** Assuring that no smoking is allowed in the area of the indoor pools including the stands and spectators.

**MCL 1.2.3** Act as liaison for visiting team physicians with laboratory facilities, emergency treatment, necessary hospitalisation and obtaining necessary medications.

**MCL 1.2.4** Act as physician for competitors whose teams have no team physician.

### MCL 2 POOL SANITATION

In order to protect the health and safety of persons using swimming facilities for the purposes of recreation, training and competition, IPC Swimming draws attention to deficiencies which may exist in swimming pools as a result of nonobservation of medical and sanitary principles and requirements. Diseases of the skin, respiratory and intestinal systems can often be avoided by adopting proper sanitary measures. Pool water must also meet aesthetic requirements.

**MCL 2.1** Recommended bacteriological and chemical criteria for water in swimming pools:  
Colony 21 degrees C plus/minus 0.5 degrees C - 69.8 degrees plus/minus 0.9 degrees F 100/ml - 24h-48h-72h.  
Colony by 37 degrees plus/minus 0.5 degrees C - 98.6 degrees plus/minus 0.9 degrees F 100/ml - 24h-48h.  
Coliform by 37 degrees plus/minus 0.5 degrees C - 98.6 degrees plus/minus 0.9 degrees F 100 ml untraceable 24h-48h.  
Presumptive E.Coli 37 degrees C plus/minus 0.5 degrees C - 98.6 degrees F plus/minus 0.9 F in 100 ml untraceable 24h-48h.  
Pseudomonas aeruginosa 37 degrees C plus/minus 0.5 degrees C - 98.6 degrees plus/minus 0.9 degrees F untraceable 24h-48h.  
Membrane filtration shall be used for testing bacteria.  
After filtration preserve the filter for 2-4 hours in Trypticase-soy-agar at 37 degrees C - 98.6 degrees F  
Afterwards the filter shall be transferred into a culture medium with restrictive influence.  
Free Chlorine contents [DpD liquid] 0.3 to 0.6 mg/L.  
Combined Chlorine equal to or less than 0.4mg/L  
pH – value [measured electrometric optimally] 7.2 to 7.6 resistance to 10.13 to 10.14 ohm.  
Redox voltage [Kalomel measured electrometric optimally] equal to or less than 700 mV resistance to 10.13 to 01.14 ohm.  
Visibility – Clear vertical sight across the floor of the whole pool.  
Turbidity [FTU] – 0.10 FTU measured after the filter before the basin.  
Density – Values to be determine: 20 degrees C – kg/dm 3.  
Potassium permanganate consumption – maximum 3 mg/L over well water and maximum total 10 mg/L in pool water.  
THM [Trihalomethane] as low as possible maximum 20 mg/L.

Air temperature in indoor pool – Minimum 2 degrees Centigrade above water temperature because of construction reasons.

### **MCL 3 DOPING CONTROL**

The Doping Officer shall be appointed by IPC Swimming and approved by the IPC Medical Committee for World Championships and other major IPC Swimming events.

The IPC Swimming Doping Officer shall be responsible for all areas of Doping Control.

**MCL 3.1** Doping is strictly forbidden.

**MCL 3.2** Doping rules shall be directly applicable to competitors, coaches, physicians, team leaders and national representatives.

**MCL 3.3** All competitors shall submit to doping control, in competition, out of competition, announced or unannounced. The competitor shall submit to doping control whenever requested by an authorised official.

**MCL 3.4** Any competitor wishing to use a prohibited substance or prohibited method for therapeutic purpose is entitled to apply to the IPC Therapeutic Use Exception Committee in accordance with Article 6 of the IPC Anti-doping Code.

**MCL 3.5** A swimmer is required to declare and notify IPC Swimming of any associated medical condition and the management plan for the condition. This includes swimmers who have been granted a Therapeutic Use Exception by the IPC Therapeutic Exception Committee. The conditions include but are not limited to asthma, seizures, epilepsy, diabetes, low blood pressure, cardiac abnormalities and a tendency to hyperventilate. The IPC Swimming declaration of medical conditions form must be completed and submitted to IPC Swimming prior to the competition for the swimmer to be eligible to compete in IPC Swimming competitions.

#### **MCL 4.1 BANNED SUBSTANCES AND PROCEDURES**

Refer to the IPC Doping Policy.

**MCL 5** Any country wishing to conduct blood lactate testing on their athletes at an IPC Swimming event is required to submit a formal application and follow the protocol established by IPC Swimming.





## *Application for World/Regional Record*

1. Name of Competitor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Country: \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Classification: Mentally Handicapped/Visual/Functional: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Stroke (freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Length of Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Course: 25m 50m
8. Relay Team, names in order of 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Electronic time: \_\_\_\_\_ Hand Held times 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
(in the case of no 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Electronic timing) 3. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Manufacturer of Electronic Equipment: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Competition title: \_\_\_\_\_
12. City: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Pool: \_\_\_\_\_
13. Date of race: \_\_\_\_\_ Was the water still? YES/NO INDOOR/OUTDOOR
14. In my opinion IPC Swimming swim rules have been upheld.  
Name of Referee: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **For Official Organisations use only**

Application Received on: \_\_\_\_\_ Ratified/Denied on: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Denial:

For newly classified swimmers:

Classified by: Technical: \_\_\_\_\_ Medical: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Signature

## **GUIDELINES FOR INCLUDING MULTI-DISABILITY EVENTS INTO ABLE-BODIED SWIMMING COMPETITIONS**

1. Examine the swimming competition suitability, considering
  - Venue; access and facilities
  - Space in Program
2. Identify events to be held and at what point they are to be held in the program. Events are best conducted as male and female 'multi-disability events' and seeded by entry times with placegetters being determined either from the heat results or alternatively a 'multi-disability final' can be held. The method for determining placegetters/finalists is outlined in Step 5 below.

***It is suggested that if there are insufficient numbers of male and female competitors, combine the events. Three medals only would be presented if male and female events were combined.***
3. Ensure athletes are classified within their disability area.

***Disability areas are:***

  - FCS [Functional Classification Systems] which covers;
    - Spinal cord injured and polio
    - Cerebral palsy & head injury
    - Amputee/Dysmelia
    - Les autres; i.e. arthritis, loss of joint mobility etc.
  - Blind
  - Intellectual Disability
4. Ensure the competition referees have an understanding of the disability rule exceptions. The IPC Swimming rules can be found on the IPC Swimming website [[www.ipcswimming.org](http://www.ipcswimming.org)] or requested to IPC Swimming Chairman. The IPC Swimming rulebook is free of charge.
5. Ensure the competition recorder has a current listing of world record times for programmed events and a complete understanding of the process involved in determining placegetters.

Overall placings for each event [1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, male and female] are determined by subtracting the actual race time from the specific class from the WR time [world record]. World Records can be found on the IPC Swimming website.

**NOTE: This calculation normally results in a negative figure, however a positive figure indicates a WR has been broken.**

**If no WR exists for a 50m event in a specific disability/class, ie. 50m form strokes, a calculation is made thus:**

**# calculated 50m WR time = [current 100m WR time]- 3sec.**

**2**
6. When conducting a final only 3 swimmers from any one classification shall be eligible for the final.

## NOTES

### 1. Definitions

- **FCS [Functional Classification System]**  
*This system allows Amputees and Dysmleia, Spinal Cord Injured and Polio, Cerebral Palsy and Les Autres [the others] to compete together.*  
Competitors are functionally tested on a bench and in the water and then receive a functional class. The system uses a numerical calculation of locomotor ability as a guideline expressed in figures showing the variation in propulsion effectiveness of swimmers with different locomotor abilities. There are 10 classes for Freestyle, Backstroke and Butterfly [S1 – S10]; 9 classes for Breaststroke [SB1 – SB9] and 10 classes for Individual Medley [SM1 – SM10].
  
  - **Blind**  
*There are 3 classes S11 SB11 SM11, S12 SB12 SM12 and S13 SB13 SM13.*

S11 SB11 SM11	No light perception at all in either eye, up to light perception but inability to recognise the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction.
S12 SB12 SM12	From ability to recognise the shape of a hand up to a bisual acuity of 2/60 and/or visual field less than 5 degrees.
S13 SB13 SM13	From visual acuity above 2/60 up to visual acuity of 6/60 and/or field of vision of more than 5 degrees and less than 20 degrees.
  
  - **Intellectual Disability**  
*All swimmers with an intellectual disability whose eligibility has been determined and endorsed in their native country and these details acknowledged and confirmed by INAS-FID shall participate. To be known as S14 SB14 SM14.*  
A swimmer is eligible to compete if meeting the criteria set down by INAS-FID.
2. On deck assistance may need to be supplied by the organisers, ie. assistance with starts, wheelchairs, etc. Family members of fellow club members may be used for this purpose at interclub level but other arrangements may apply at higher level competitions.
  3. All record applications are to be forwarded to IPC Swimming.
  4. If a record is being attempted please have an IPC Swimming World/Regional Record Application Form on hand at the event to facilitate the application [application form can be found on the IPC Swimming website]
  5. World and Regional records must be applied for within 4 weeks of the relevant event.
  6. If you have any queries regarding world record times, classifications contact IPC Swimming or the IPC Swimming website.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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**Chairman, IPC Swimming**  
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**Email: [anne.ipcswimming@bigpond.com](mailto:anne.ipcswimming@bigpond.com)**

**Website: [www.ipcswimming.org](http://www.ipcswimming.org)**



EXAMPLE ONLY

# MULTI-DISABILITY EVENT

Mens 100m Fresstyle

LANE	Lane 1	Lane 2	Lane 3	Lane 4	Lane 5	Lane 6	Lane 7	Lane 8
NAME	<b>PETER SELLERS</b>	<b>SPIKE MULLIGAN</b>	<b>ROBIN WILLIAMS</b>	<b>RODNEY SMITH</b>	<b>MILES FASTER</b>	<b>PETER COOK</b>	<b>DUDLEY MOORE</b>	<b>HARRY SEACOMBE</b>
CLASS	<b>S9</b>	<b>S12</b>	<b>S6</b>	<b>S14</b>	<b>S10</b>	<b>S12</b>	<b>S8</b>	<b>S3</b>
WORLD RECORD	<b>58.62</b>	<b>56.22</b>	<b>1:08.10</b>	<b>56.40</b>	<b>53.76</b>	<b>56.67</b>	<b>1:10.21</b>	<b>1:54.02</b>
RACE TIME	<b>1:22.68</b>	<b>1:20.40</b>	<b>1:11.03</b>	<b>1:04.98</b>	<b>1:03.02</b>	<b>1:05.56</b>	<b>1:28.43</b>	<b>2:00.01</b>
CALC.	<b>58.62</b> <b>-82.68</b>	<b>56.22</b> <b>-80.40</b>	<b>68.10</b> <b>-71.03</b>	<b>56.40</b> <b>-64.98</b>	<b>53.76</b> <b>-63.02</b>	<b>56.67</b> <b>-65.56</b>	<b>60.21</b> <b>-88.43</b>	<b>115.03</b> <b>-120.01</b>
RESULT	<b>-24.06</b>	<b>-24.18</b>	<b>-2.93</b>	<b>-8.58</b>	<b>-9.26</b>	<b>-8.89</b>	<b>-28.22</b>	<b>-4.98</b>
PLACE	<b>6<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>7<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>

