

Presidents and Secretary Generals of
National Member Federations &
Continental Organisations

Re : World Aquatics Competition Regulations

Dear Presidents and Secretary Generals,
Dear National Federation Members,

We hope this letter finds you in good health and happiness.

On behalf of the Bureau, we are pleased to inform you that a comprehensive set of Competition Regulations has been developed that now replaces the old regulations for all aquatic disciplines, as well as the following old rules and policies:

- General Rules
- By-Laws
- Facilities Rules
- Medical Rules
- Swimwear and Equipment Rules
- Advertisement and Signage

The document is accessible online through the following [LINK](#).

As the document is quite substantial, we have made it text searchable and hyperlinked throughout. While the majority of the rules remain the same, please find below some of the substantive changes that were made:

- Sports Nationality:
 - Minimum 3 years of residence
 - Transitory provision for those in the process of changing sport nationality
- Water Polo:
 - All Rules and Annexes in the Competition Regulations are the result of a restructuring of the former Water Polo Rules.
 - All matches shall end with a winner (ties to be broken by penalty shootout)
 - Updated Beach Water Polo Rules
 - Updated competition format and seatings for age group competitions (U20 and U18)
 - Updated VAR protocol
- Swimming:
 - **Age range for Men and Women competitors has been aligned (14-18)**

- Artistic Swimming:
 - Male/Female has been changed to Men/Women for consistency with the other disciplines
 - The Open category for Team events has been added
 - World Rankings on hold and removed from the current document.
- Open Water:
 - Wetsuit is mandatory as of 18° (not optional in between 18° and 20°)
- Diving
 - Team Event: up to 4 Divers (instead of 2)

As in the past, these rules may change from time-to-time following input from the World Aquatics stakeholders. Naturally, we will keep you informed if any changes are made.

In the meantime, should you have any questions about the World Aquatics Competition Regulations, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully Yours,



Mr. Brent J. Nowicki
World Aquatics Executive Director