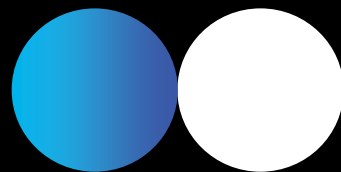




WORLD
AQUATICS



MASTERS

COMPETITION
REGULATIONS

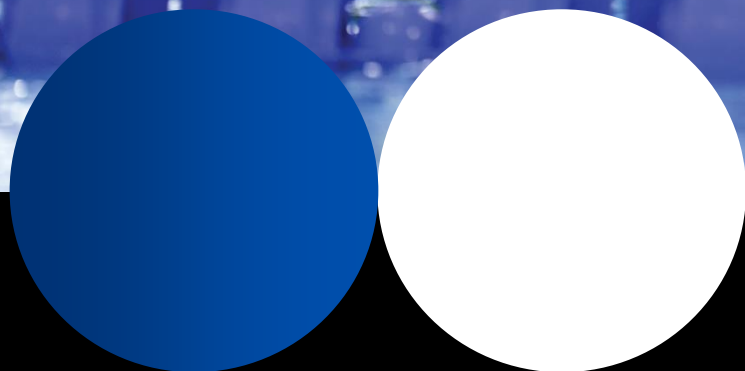




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PART EIGHT: MASTERS RULES

1 GENERAL

The Masters program shall promote fitness, friendship, understanding and competition through Swimming, Diving, Artistic Swimming, Water Polo and Open Water Swimming among competitors with a minimum age of 25 years (note: exception in Part Eight, Article 6.1.3).

The Technical Rules for the different sports (SW, OW, DV, WP and AS) in the Competition Regulations shall be followed with exceptions mentioned in this Masters part of the Competition Regulations.

2 MASTERS GENERAL RULES

2.1 The Members shall register Masters Competitors in a special category for each of the five recognised sports. A competitor who registers for Masters in any sport will still retain his/her unrestricted right to compete in other competitions.

2.2 Except for specific exceptions in the World Aquatics Rules and regulations all other World Aquatics Rules and Regulations shall apply to Masters Competitions.

2.3 Individual entries shall only be accepted from persons representing clubs. No swimmer or team may be designated as representing a country or Federation.

2.4 Age shall be determined as of December 31 of the year of competition.

2.5 Masters Competitors must be aware of the need of being well prepared and medically fit before entering into Masters Competitions. They shall assume full responsibility for the risks included in competing in such competitions. In consideration of their entry, they must agree to waive and release World Aquatics, the Organising National Federation and the Organising Committee from any kind of liability for accidents, which may cause death, injury or property loss. Entry Forms containing a warning of the risks, an Accident Waiver and Release of Liability must be signed by each Masters competitor.

2.6 Protests

2.6.1 Protests are possible:

- (a) if the rules and regulations for the conduct of the competition are not observed;
- (b) if other conditions endanger the competitions and/or competitors; or
- (c) against decisions of the referee; however, no protest shall be allowed against decisions of fact.

2.6.2 Protest must be submitted

- (a) to the referee,
- (b) in writing on World Aquatics Forms,
- (c) by the participant,
- (d) together with a deposit of 500 US Dollars or its equivalent, and
- (e) within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective event or match.

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

2.6.3 All protests shall be considered by the referee. If the referee rejects the protest, referee must state the reasons for her/his decision to the participant.

As a last recourse, at the World Aquatics Masters Championships, the participant can then submit his protest to the World Aquatics Masters Committee. The World Aquatics Masters Committee shall consider the protest and give the final decision.



- 2.6.4** If the protest is rejected, the deposit will be forfeited to the management body of the competition. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be returned.

3 MASTERS SWIMMING RULES

The Swimming Rules in Part II of these Competition Regulation apply to Masters with the following exceptions:

3.1 Age Groups

3.1.1 Individual Events:

25 – 29, 30 – 34, 35 – 39, 40 – 44, 45 – 49, 50 – 54, 55 – 59, 60 – 64, 65 – 69, 70 – 74, 75 – 79, 80 – 84, 85 – 89, 90 – 94 ... (five year age groups as high as is necessary).

3.1.2 Relays:

For all purposes pertaining to Masters meet competition, the actual attained age of the competitor shall be determined as of December 31st of the year of competition.

3.2 Events

The following events may be conducted for each age group.

3.2.1 Short course (25 m)

50, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500m – **Freestyle**

50, 100, 200m – **Backstroke**

50, 100, 200m – **Breaststroke**

50, 100, 200m – **Butterfly**

100, 200, 400m – **Individual Medley**

4 x 50m – **Freestyle Relay**

4 x 50m – **Medley Relay**

4 x 50m – **Mixed Freestyle Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

4 x 50m – **Mixed Medley Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

4 x 100m – **Freestyle Relay**

4 x 100m – **Medley Relay**

4 x 100m – **Mixed Freestyle Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

4 x 100m – **Mixed Medley Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

4 x 200m – **Freestyle Relay**

4 x 200m – **Mixed Freestyle Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

3.2.2 Long course (50 m)

50, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500m – **Freestyle**

50, 100, 200m – **Backstroke**

50, 100, 200m – **Breaststroke**

50, 100, 200m – **Butterfly**

200, 400m **Individual – Medley**

4 x 50m – **Freestyle Relay**

4 x 50m – **Medley Relay**

4 x 50m – **Mixed Freestyle Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

4 x 50m – **Mixed Medley Relay (2 women and 2 men)**



4 x 100m – **Freestyle Relay**

4 x 100m – **Medley Relay**

4 x 100m – **Mixed Freestyle Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

4 x 100m – **Mixed Medley Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

4 x 200m – **Freestyle Relay**

4 x 200m – **Mixed Freestyle Relay (2 women and 2 men)**

3.3 Masters Swimming Technical Rules

3.3.1 Age groups and sexes may be combined so that no swimmer has to swim alone and lanes may be filled.

3.3.2 Start

3.3.2.1 When using the forward start, the referee's whistle shall indicate that the swimmers may take their positions with at least one foot at the front of the starting platform or pool deck, or in the water with one hand having contact with the starting wall.

3.3.2.2 When all swimmers are ready (instead of stationary) to start the starter shall give the starting signal.

3.3.2.3 Any swimmer(s) starting before the starting signal may be disqualified upon the completion of the race.

3.3.3 All Masters events shall be conducted on a timed final basis.

3.3.4 Swimmers may be allowed to remain in their lane while other swimmers are competing until directed by the referee to exit the pool.

3.3.5 The Organising Committee may arrange 400 metre, 800 metre and 1500 metre Freestyle to be swum two (2) swimmers of the same sex in a lane. Separate timing will be required for each swimmer.

3.3.6 The Warm Up must be supervised.

3.3.7 A breaststroke kicking movement is permitted for butterfly. Only one breaststroke kick is permitted per arm pull except that a single breaststroke kick is permitted prior to the turn and the finish without an arm pull. After the start and after each turn, a single breaststroke kick is permitted prior to the first arm pull.

3.3.8 Swimmers who had to be disqualified must be listed with coded reason for disqualification in the results list.

3.4 Relays

3.4.1 Relays shall consist of four swimmers each registered with the same club. No swimmer is allowed to represent more than one club.

3.4.2 MIXED Relays consist of two (2) female and two (2) male each registered with the same club. No swimmer is allowed to represent more than one club.

3.5 Records

3.5.1 Masters World Records for all events listed in Part Eight, Article 3.2 for both sexes in each age group shall be recognised and maintained in 1/100 second time (2 decimal places) and according to the provisions listed on the application form. World Records will be accepted only when times are recorded by Automatic Officiating Equipment, or Semi- Automatic Officiating Equipment in case of Automatic Officiating Equipment system malfunction.

3.5.2 Applications for Masters World Records must be made on the World Aquatics official forms by the individual in question within 60 days from the end of the event.

3.5.3 World Records can only be established in a Masters meet:

- a) formally sanctioned by a World Aquatics Member Federation; and
- b) organised for on behalf of a club or an organisation, which is a member of this World Aquatics Member Federation or recognised by World Aquatics; and
- c) conducted under the rules of World Aquatics (and specially those relevant to Masters Swimming); and
- d) in which only swimmers registered in a club member of a World Aquatics Member Federation participated.



3.5.4 The first swimmer in mixed relays may apply for a Masters World Record.

3.6 Masters Swimming World Records Application Instructions

3.6.1 General

World Records for Masters are recognized by World Aquatics in both Long Course (50 metre pools only) and Short Course (25 metre pool only). Performance must be registered at a Masters meet as per Rule VIII.3.5.3.

3.6.2 Events and Age Groups

3.6.2.1.1 Individual Events - for Men and Women

Freestyle – 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m; Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly – 50m, 100m and 200m; Individual Medley – 100m (Short Course only), 200m and 400m.

3.6.2.2 Age Groups

25 – 29, 30 – 34, 35 – 39, 40 – 44, 45 – 49, 50 – 54, 55 – 59, 60 – 64, 65 – 69, 70 – 74, 75 – 79, 80 – 84, 85 – 89, 90 – 94, 95 – 99, 100 – 104, ... (five year age groups as high as is necessary).

3.6.2.3 Relay Events - for Men, Women and Mixed (2 men and 2 women)

4x50m Freestyle, 4x50m Medley, 4x100m Freestyle, 4x100m Medley, 4x200m Freestyle

Relay Age Groups are calculated from the total age of team members (in whole years) 100 – 119 years, 120 to 159 years, 160 – 199 years, 200 to 239 years, 240 – 279 years, 280 to 319 years, 320 – 359 years, 360 to 399 years, ... (forty year increments as high as is necessary).

3.6.3 Eligibility

All applicants must be financial members of a Federation affiliated with World Aquatics. Relay teams must be made up of four swimmers each properly registered with a single club. Swimmers may swim for only one club at any particular meet.

3.6.4 Timing

- 10) Only electronic timing will be accepted. OR
- 11) Semi-Automatic Timing in the case of where the Automatic Timing system malfunctioned
- 12) Meet timing record or photocopy is to be attached to the application form.

3.6.5 Age Determining Date

For all purposes pertaining to Masters World Records and Masters World Championship meets, the actual attained age of the competitor as of 31 December of the year of the meet shall determine their age group for that competition and any record set during that competition.

3.6.6 Applications

Applications for records should be submitted on the World Aquatics Aqua App under: <https://aqua.apps.worldaquatics.com/account/login> within thirty (30) days of the event. Only the National Federation is to verify the details of the applicant and ensure that all documentation is complete including: a) Certification of pool length; b) Proof of date of birth; and c) Timing record. with only the National Masters Recorder being able to upload the documents into the app.

World Aquatics will decide whether to approve the record application. The World Aquatics Office will inform the National Federation of the results of each application. If after publication an error is detected, the swimmers have the right to appeal for a correction within 6 months of the publication date.

3.6.6.1 Detailed Instructions

To submit the Masters World Records and top 10 you have to pass through the Aqua App.

The exact process can be found in the "how to" document on the World Aquatics Website.

3.7 Appendix - Ruling for Masters Top Ten tabulations.

Results that are valid for the World Aquatics Masters Top Ten results can only be established in a Masters meet:

- a) formally sanctioned by a World Aquatics Member federation;



- b) organised for or on behalf of a club or an organisation which is a member of this World Aquatics Member Federation or recognised by World Aquatics;
- c) conducted under the rules of World Aquatics (and specially those relevant to Masters Swimming); and
- d) in which only swimmers registered in a club member of a World Aquatics Member Federation participated.

4 MASTERS OPEN WATER SWIMMING RULES

Masters Open Water Swimming shall be defined as any event for which the distance is greater than 1500 metres and where entry is restricted to Master swimmers.

The Open Water Swimming Rules in Part Three of these Competitions Regulations shall apply to Masters Open Water Swimming with the following exceptions.

- 4.1** Masters Open Water Swimming events will be up to 5 km.
- 4.2** Age Groups for Open Water Swimming are the same as for Masters Swimming Individual Events (Part Eight, Article 3.1.1).
- 4.3** The water temperature shall be measured within 30 minutes before start of race and must be a minimum of 18°C and maximum of 31°C. The water temperature shall be certified by the Safety Officer as measured in as near to the middle of the course as possible at a depth of 40 cm. If water temperature is below 18°C, the use of wetsuits is compulsory.
- 4.4** It shall be compulsory for all swimmers to wear highly visible coloured swim caps and approved World Aquatics Swimwear.
- 4.5** At all Masters Open Water events the safety of the competition shall be of paramount importance.

5 MASTERS DIVING RULES

The Diving Rules in Part Four of these Competitions Regulations shall apply to Masters Diving with the following exceptions.

5.1 Age Groups and Events

5.1.1 Springboard Diving – Men and Women (1 metre and 3 metre)

Age Groupe (Years)	Total Number of Dives required	
	MEN	WOMEN
25 – 29	6	5
30 – 34	6	5
35 – 39	6	5
40 – 44	6	5
45 – 49	6	5
50 – 54	6	5
55 – 59	6	5
60 – 64	6	5
65 – 69	6	5
70 – 74	5	5
75 – 79	5	5
80 +	5	5

(five year age groups as long as necessary)

5.1.2 Platform Diving – Men and Women (5 metre, 7.5 metre, or 10 metre)