

National Eligibility (Swimming & Diving) Update (1st January 2024)

Representation – Irish National Team

To be eligible to represent Ireland, competitors must have an Irish passport at the time Swim Ireland submit entries to World or European Aquatics.

If an athlete is eligible to compete for more than one nation, he/she may choose which nation to represent, and their sport nationality is established at the occasion of their first international representation. Until they represent Ireland, they can choose to compete in the national championships in any of their eligible nations, provided they meet the entry conditions.

Any athlete who has previously represented another nation at senior competition must observe a waiting period of three years between the last representation of the previous nation and the first representation for Ireland and have uninterrupted residence on the island of Ireland during this period. If an athlete has only represented a nation at junior competition, the waiting period and residency is reduced to one year.

National Championship Eligibility Rule

To be eligible for an Irish National Championships individual or relay medal, competitors must compete for a Swim Ireland Club and must not be in a position of current international transfer from another World Aquatics nation. The competitor must also be able to produce one of the following if/when required by the Competition Manager:

- a. Evidence of a Republic of Ireland citizenship being in place (such as Citizenship Certificate, Republic of Ireland Passport)
- b. Birth Certificate indicating birthplace on the island of Ireland, or
- c. Provide evidence of residency in line with the following:
 - i. An athlete aged under 18 years – 12 months primary residence on the island of Ireland immediately before the first day of competition for the respective Irish National Championship event
 - ii. An athlete aged 18 years or older – 36 months primary residence on the island of Ireland immediately before the first day of competition for the respective Irish National Championship event

Irish National Record Eligibility Rule

To be eligible for an Irish National Record, competitors must compete for a Swim Ireland Club and must not be in a position of current international transfer from another World Aquatics nation. The competitor must also be able to produce one of the following to Swim Ireland before the record can be verified:

- a. Evidence of a Republic of Ireland citizenship being in place (such as Citizenship Certificate, Republic of Ireland Passport)
- b. Birth Certificate indicating birthplace on the island of Ireland

In order for a Club relay team to break or hold a swimming National Club Record, all members of that relay team must meet the criteria outlined above.

Irish Masters National Record Eligibility Rule

To be eligible for an Irish Masters National Record, a competitor must swim for an Irish Club, be registered as a competitive Swim Ireland member and swim in a Masters competition. The competitor must also be able to produce one of the following to Swim Ireland before the record can be verified:

- a. Evidence of a Republic of Ireland citizenship being in place (such as Citizenship Certificate, Republic of Ireland Passport)
- b. Birth Certificate indicating birthplace on the island of Ireland
- c. Provide evidence of a period of 12 months years primary residence on the island of Ireland immediately before the first day of competition for the respective event.

Primary Residence in all cases is defined as the place or country where the competitor 'lives and sleeps' and where he/she can be found in the majority of the days of the year

References:

[Swim Ireland Rule Book - Section 7 Update](#) (Section 7.2 to 7.6)

[World Aquatics Competition Regulations](#) (Section 3 Sport Nationality)