

## **7. AQUATICS GENERAL**

Swim Ireland recognises World Aquatics as the international and world governing body of Swimming, Artistic Swimming, Diving and Water Polo, and recognises the national federations affiliated to World Aquatics as the governing bodies of aquatic sport in their respective countries. Swim Ireland recognises European Aquatics as the European governing body of aquatic sports. The Swim Ireland Swimming Competitions Steering Group shall govern the General Event regulations in consultation with all relevant groups.

### **7.1 Swimming Competition Rules**

#### **7.1.1 International Competitions**

All international competitions shall be run in accordance with World Aquatics Rules

#### **7.1.2. Championship Events**

All Swim Ireland National and Regional Championships shall be run in accordance with World Aquatics Rules, these Swim Ireland Rules, the General Events Regulations and specific Competition Conditions as published from time to time unless otherwise specifically agreed with Swim Ireland.

#### **7.1.3 Other Events**

All other events run under the auspices of Swim Ireland must comply with the Swim Ireland Rules and Swim Ireland Licencing requirements as amended from time to time

### **7.2 Eligibility**

#### **7.2.1 Change of Residence**

A competitor from another World Aquatics member country who permanently or temporarily changes residence to Ireland may join a club affiliated to Swim Ireland and shall be regarded as coming under the jurisdiction of Swim Ireland. In this case, "residence" shall mean 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.

#### **7.2.2. Proof of Residence**

Proof of residence must include documentation establishing that the competitor resides in Ireland. In this regard the official school or university or employer confirmation or any other relevant documentation may constitute evidence.

#### **7.2.3 International Representation**

In the case of International representation, proof of residence and jurisdiction may be required in accordance with World Aquatics rules

#### **7.2.4 Temporary Change of Residence**

A competitor who is eligible to represent Swim Ireland as per World Aquatics Competition Regulations 3 (Sport Nationality) and who holds residence within another World Aquatics member federation may join a club affiliated to that federation in accordance with the rules of that federation. Such a competitor shall be eligible to retain his/her membership of their Swim Ireland club and shall be eligible to compete for that club when in Ireland.

#### **7.2.5 Representation**

Any competitor who is not eligible to represent Ireland as per World Aquatic Competition Regulations 3 (Sport Nationality), and does not reside on the island of Ireland, who wishes to compete in an Irish competition must compete for the club in the country in which they reside.

## **7.3 Irish National Records General (Swimming and Diving)**

### **7.3.1 Eligibility**

To be eligible for an Irish National Record, a competitor must be a member in good standing of 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,

### **7.3.2 Electronic Timing**

In the case of swimming, National Records will only be accepted on the basis of electronic timing.

### **7.3.3 Claims**

Where a record is broken at an event which is not run by Swim Ireland and where there is no Irish National Team in attendance, application for the Record must be made to the Swim Ireland office within 3 months of the achievement.

### **7.3.4 Ratification**

The received claim shall be issued to the Swim Ireland Performance Manager, who, if satisfied that all conditions have been met, shall ratify the record and issue a Swim Ireland Record Certificate to the competitor.

### **7.3.5 General**

An athlete in an individual event may apply for a record at an intermediate distance provided that the athlete completes the scheduled distance without disqualification and that the Referee indicates that the intermediate distance is finished correctly.

### **7.3.6 Age Groups**

A Junior Male athlete may set a Swim Ireland Junior Record up to a 19<sup>th</sup> birthday whilst a Junior Female athlete may set a Swim Ireland Junior Record up to a 17<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **7.3.7 Relays**

Only the first athlete in a swimming relay may apply for an individual Swim Ireland National Record. Should the first athlete in such a relay team complete the distance in record time in accordance with the required rules, their performance shall not be nullified by any subsequent disqualification of their relay team for violations occurring after their distance has been completed.

### **7.3.8 National Team Relay Records**

In order for a National Relay Team to break or hold a swimming National Record, all members of that relay team must individually be eligible to represent Ireland as per World Aquatics Competition Regulations (3. Sport Nationality) and must be members of a Swim Ireland Club.

### **7.3.9 National Club Team Relay Records**

In order for a Club relay team to break or hold a swimming National Club Record, all members of that relay team must individually be registered members of the club, must have Eligibility as per Swim Ireland Rule 7.3.1 and must be members in good standing with both the club and Swim Ireland.

### **7.3.10 Synchronised Diving Team Records**

In order for a National Synchronised Diving Team to break or hold a diving National Record, both members of that synchronised team must be eligible to represent Ireland as per World Aquatics Competition Regulations (3. Sport Nationality) and must be members of a Swim Ireland Club

### **7.3.11 Dispute**

In the event of any dispute the World Aquatics rules will apply.

### **7.3.12 Failure to Comply with Rules**

If the above rules are not satisfied, any record claim shall not be granted/ratified.

## 7.4 Irish Masters National Records

### 7.4.1 Eligibility

Claimants 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 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

### 7.4.2 Electronic Timing

In the case of swimming, National Records will only be accepted on the basis of electronic timing.

### 7.4.3 Documentation

The following hard copy documentation must accompany the application for a Masters National record

- a) Fully completed Swim Ireland Masters National Record Application Form
- b) Hard copy of event results signed by the Competition Referee; World & European Championships are exempt from this requirement

### 7.4.4 Claims

Only the fastest Irish athlete in the age group in any one competition may claim the Masters National Record. All record claims must be submitted within 1 month of the achievement.

### 7.4.5 General

An athlete in an individual event may apply for a record at an intermediate distance provided that the athlete completes the scheduled distance without disqualification and that the Referee indicates that the intermediate distance is finished correctly.

### 7.4.6 Freestyle

Any time achieved in a Freestyle race will be recorded as a Freestyle time regardless of the stroke used.

### 7.4.7 Relay Records Age Eligibility

For the purposes of claiming Irish Masters National Relay Records, all members of relay team must be in the 25-29 age group or older.

### 7.4.8 Relay Records General

- a) For the purposes of claiming Masters National Records, World Aquatics Rule MSW 8.2.3 'a swimmer can compete only once per relay event' will apply.
- b) Only the first athlete in a swimming relay may apply for an individual Swim Ireland National Record. Should the first athlete in such a relay team complete the distance in record time in accordance with the required rules, their performance shall not be nullified by any subsequent disqualification of their relay team for violations occurring after their distance has been completed.

### 7.4.9 Dispute

In the event of any dispute the World Aquatics rules will apply.

### 7.4.10 Failure to Comply with Rules

If the above rules are not satisfied, any record claim shall not be granted/ratified.

## 7.5 Irish National Championship Events General

### 7.5.1 Definition

Annual Irish National Championship events shall include:

- a) Swimming – Irish National Winter Championships (25m)
- b) Swimming – McCullagh International Meet (50m) – relay events only
- c) Diving – Irish Open Championships
- d) Swimming – Irish Open Championships (50m)
- e) Swimming – Irish Summer National Age Group Championships (50m)
- f) Swimming – Irish Summer National Youth & Senior Championships (50m)
- g) Swimming (Open Water) – National Championships (All Distances)

### 7.5.2 Eligibility

To be eligible for an Irish National Championships individual or relay medal, competitors must be members in good standing of and 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.

Primary Residence 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

### 7.5.3 Non-Eligible Competitors

Individual competitors and relays who do not meet the eligibility criteria as per Swim Ireland Rule 7.5.2 and who finish in a medal winning position at an Irish National Championship event will receive a Commemorative Award

### 7.5.4 Disputes

In the event of any dispute, WA Rules will apply

## 7.6 National Centre, National Team, National Programme and/or Regional Programme Competitors

All athletes accepting their place as part of a Swim Ireland National Centre, National Team, National Programme and/or Regional Programme shall compete in Irish National Championship events/competitions each year as directed by the National Performance Director.

## 7.7 Representation - Irish National Team

### 7.7.1 Approval of National Team Status

No team, unless approved in advance by Swim Ireland, shall be designated as Irish, Ireland, International or accorded any other title calculated to give it apparent National status.

### 7.7.2 Eligibility

Members must achieve certain published standards/criteria via the Selection/Nomination Policy to become members of a National Team or any Swim Ireland team or to represent Ireland at international competition and must submit all required documentation as requested.

### **7.7.3 Uniform**

When representing Ireland at such competitions, competitors shall only wear the official uniform of Swim Ireland (or the Olympic Federation of Ireland or Student Sport Ireland) and/or their sponsor/s as directed by Swim Ireland.

### **7.7.4 Withdrawal Costs**

When a competitor is selected to represent Ireland at an international competition and where the competitor accepts that selection, the competitor shall be responsible for Swim Ireland's costs should they withdraw or be deselected from the event once the bookings have been made save in those exceptional circumstances agreed with and by Swim Ireland.

### **7.7.5 Codes of Conduct**

All competitors (and parents/guardians where competitors are under 18 years of age), participating in such events as an Ireland representative must be aware of and adhere to Swim Ireland's National Team Codes of Conduct.

## **7.8 National Team Staff and Officials for International Events**

In order to be eligible for selection to an Irish National team or to represent Ireland abroad:

### **7.8.1 Selection Policies**

All National Team staff and Officials will be selected in accordance with the published Swim Ireland Selection/Nomination Policies as amended from time to time.

### **7.8.2 Eligibility**

All National Team Coaches, Team Managers and Officials must be Swim Ireland members in good standing

### **7.8.3 Safeguarding requirements**

All National Team Coaches, Team Managers and Officials must meet the Swim Ireland Safeguarding requirements in order to be selected for and/or work with Irish National Teams and competitors within such teams

### **7.8.4 Licencing Requirements**

National Team Coaches, Team Managers and Officials must be licensed in accordance with Swim Ireland procedures and must complete relevant Swim Ireland training

### **7.8.5. Codes of Conduct**

All National Team staff and officials travelling to international events on behalf of Swim Ireland must commit to compliance with the relevant National Team Code of Conduct and associated policies