LEG 2
24 JULY
2026

EUROPEAN
AQUATICS
OPEN WATER SWIMMING
MASTERS TOUR 2026
SUKORO~HUNGARY

INFORMATION BULLETIN

EUROPEAN AQUATICS' PRESIDENT WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

It is a real pleasure to welcome athletes, officials and partners to the second stage of the 2026 Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour, which is taking place in the town of Sukoro, on the shores of Hungary's second-largest lake, Lake Velence. A short drive from the nation's capital, Budapest, athletes will be competing in a state-of-the-art Olympic venue (home to the National Kayak Academy).

The Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour, a brand new initiative of European Aquatics, is taking place across three stages, with men and women competing 3km distance at each event. To be included in the final Tour ranking, athletes must compete in all three legs, with points accumulated across the season. Full rules and regulations for the 2026 Tour are available on the European Aquatics website.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Hungarian Swimming Federation, led by my friend Sandor Wladar, who are once again showing their commitment to European Aquatics by hosting another event, working closely with key local partners.

A creative innovation of the European Aquatics' Masters Committee, this new initiative is an exciting chapter for masters open water swimming, bringing together swimmers from across Europe in a spirit of competition, camaraderie, and shared passion for the sport.

Yours sincerely,

Antonio Silva

President of European Aquatics

HOST FEDERATION'S WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Being part of something new has always been considered an exciting challenge in Hungarian swimming and it has been met with acceptance and readiness. Like hosting the inaugural edition of the European Aquatics Championships exactly 100 years ago in Budapest. I may add that 30 years earlier, in 1896, it was never a question to participate at the very first Olympic Games where our athlete Alfred Hajos became the first ever champion of swimming. Even though he is listed among the past winners of pool events – indeed he won the 100m and 1200m free, in the given circumstances he might just as well be named the first open water swimming champion in the modern Olympics as, exactly 130 years ago, he swam in the rough sea in Athens, where the water temperature was measured 11ºC.

This might already suggest you that here in Hungary we embrace all forms of swimming with love and care. And I should add that open water has a special place in our hearts as we can look back on tremendous successes and no other federation has hosted so many European and global events as ours did and this goes well beyond the three editions of the European Aquatics Championships (2006, 2010, 2021) and the two World Aquatics Championships (2017, 2022 – 2027 is coming) we staged in the recent past.

That said, we did not hesitate to say a sound yes to the request from European Aquatics to organise a leg of the newly launched Masters Open Water Swimming Cup. Since we'll have the course set for the junior Europeans, welcoming more participants to this great new event should be seen as another step in widening the borders of aquatics.

This new and exciting location, Sukoro, on the shores of Lake Velence and the venue, the National Kayak Academy - a state-of-the-art sports complex - provides everything you need to stage a high-level event for age-group swimmers and Masters athletes as well.

This is going to be another magnificent testimony to highlight one of the most important values of swimming, that it is truly a life-long activity.

On behalf of the organising team, let me ensure all of you that we'll do our best to make your trip to Hungary a memorable open water swimming adventure in the summer of 2026.

Sincerely yours,
Sandor Wladar
Olympic champion
President of Hungarian Swimming Federation

EVENT CONTACTS

Should you have any questions or queries regarding the information provided in this document please feel free to contact the Hungarian Swimming Federation.

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European Aquatics	Masters Contact
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EVENT KEY DATES & DEADLINES

20 April 2026	Registration opens
3 July 2026	Registration deadline
23 July 2026	Technical Meeting at 16:00
23 July 2026	Training day (from 17:30)
24 July 2026	Competition day
23-26 July 2026	EA Junior Open Water Swimming Championships (same venue)

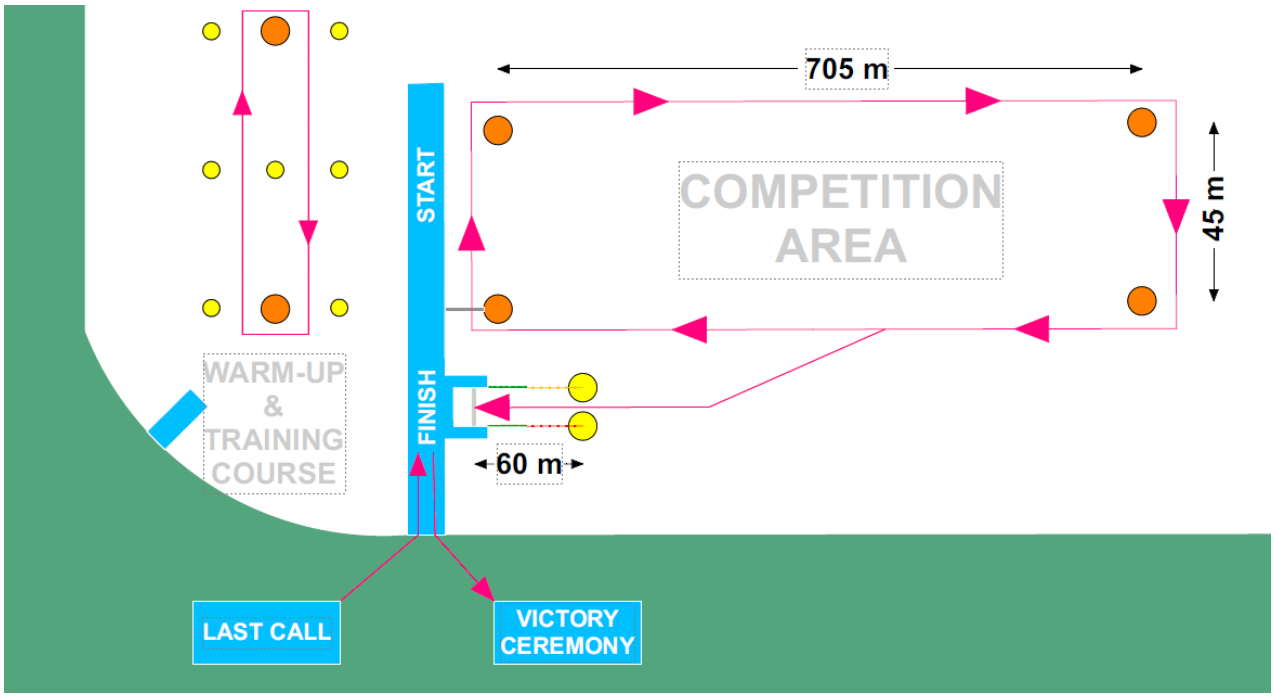
THE VENUE

The town of Sukoro lies on the shores of Hungary's second-largest lake, Lake Velence. It is located appr. 50 km from the nation's capital, Budapest.

The event will be held using the facilities of the National Kayak Academy, a state-of-the-art sports complex dedicated to the development of elite athletes. Officially opened in October 2024, the academy serves as a training hub for hundreds of athletes representing numerous sports. Its architecturally distinctive, multisport environment and world-class water sports infrastructure make it a unique center for high-performance sport in Hungary and internationally. You can find the venue here: https://maps.app.goo.gl/zrHCz39UAfnpV2pY9

COURSE INFORMATION

The Event will be organized on the rowing course of the lake, with basically no currents nor waves to be expected. The rectangular shaped course will be marked with 4 main buoys, and swimmers will need to cover 2 laps on a 1.5k-long course.



EUROPEAN AQUATICS
2026 MASTERS' OPEN WATER SWIMMING TOUR LEG 2
(SUKORÓ – HUNGARY)
24th July 2026

2026 MASTERS' OPEN WATER SWIMMING TOUR CALENDAR

LEG	DATE	PLACE	DISTANCE
1	19 April	Protaras (CYP)	3 km
2	24 July	Sukoro (HUN)	3 km
3	28 August	Šamorín (SVK)	3 km

REGULATIONS

2026 Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour - Leg 1 and 2 - will be organized under the same rules as is stated in each provided bulletin.

2026 Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour - Leg 3 will be organised as part of the European Aquatics Masters Championships. The bulletin will be published separately, and the respective championship rules will apply.

More information can be found on the website:
https://europeanaquatics.org/sports/masters/masters-tour/

EVENTS

3km Men and Women

AGE CATEGORIES

20-24, 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+.

Age category shall be determined solely based on the athlete's year of birth.

EVENT ENTRIES, ENTRY FEES AND ACCREDITATION

Competitors are not required to hold membership in a club affiliated with a Member Federation or in a Federation registered with European Aquatics.

Entries may be submitted directly by competitors or by any authorized person until circulated deadline. No amendment is possible after Technical Meeting. There are no restrictions regarding citizenship or residence of competitors.

Registrations will be done through the official timekeeper's website: https://eamasters2026leg2.microplustimingservices.com

A participation fee of **€50** (plus transaction fee) must be paid to the LOC through the payment link provided at time of registration. Once the payment is completed, the fee is non-refundable.

Each competitor may obtain their Accreditation Card/wristband upon arrival at the event, following verification of identity. **Release of Liability** form (Attached to this Bulletin) should be signed and brought to the Registration Center.

AWARDS & PRIZES

The best three ranked male and female in each category will be awarded with medals.

MASTERS OPEN WATER SWIMMING TOUR FINAL RANKING

Participation in all three legs is mandatory for inclusion in the Masters Tour Final Ranking.

Ranking and Ranking System is available on the Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour website: https://europeanaquatics.org/sports/masters/masters-tour/

WATER TEMPERATURE

The water temperature shall be measured within 30 minutes before start of race and must be a minimum of 16°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 multiple measurements are taken, these must be averaged.
Historically, Lake Velence tends to be warm at this time of the year, with water temperatures averaging between 24-28 °C.

SWIMWEAR

All competitors will receive and must wear a brightly coloured numbered cap according to the seeding.

If measured water temperature is below 18°C, the use of wetsuits is compulsory.

All swimsuits (also wetsuit) must be according to World Aquatics rules.

WAVES

Competitors will be seeded in waves according to age groups. European Aquatics and the LOC will decide on the number, composition and the start times of each wave after the registration deadline. Athletes will be briefed about the waves in due time.

OTL (OUT OF TIME LIMIT – CUT OFF TIME)

For the 2026 Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour Leg events, a cut off time of 30 minutes per kilometre may be applied.

The application of cut off times and OTL procedures shall be presented at Technical Meeting.

TECHNICAL MEETING

Technical Meeting shall be held at competition venue (Main Building of the National Kayak Academy) between **16:00–17:00 on Thursday, 23 July 2026**. Each participant is strongly advised to be represented at the meeting as key information will be communicated there.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The LOC provides training opportunity for the registered participants on the competition course the day before the event **(23 July) between 17:30-19:00**. Also, on the day of the competition, a small section of the lake will be closed off for Masters athletes to warm up before their respective start.

PROVISIONAL COMPETITION SCHEDULE

11:30	On-site registration opens
13:10 or 20 mins before final wave	On-site registration closes
13:15 / 15 mins before start of each wave	Last call briefing (1st wave)
13:30	Men Competition starts
15:30*	Women Competition starts
right after finish (continuously)	Victory ceremony

*The start time will depend on the number of waves and can be changed.

ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORTATION

Please note that the LOC does **not** provide dedicated accommodation options to the participants of the Masters Open Water Swimming Tour. As the event will take place in a very busy season, we highly recommend booking your accommodation in time as nearby hotels are running out of rooms quickly. Lake Velence is a popular tourist destination with limited hotel capacity, but the city of Szekesfehervar is only appr. 20 minutes' drive away from Sukoro and provides some further accommodation options. The western outskirts of the capital, Budapest are also within 50 kms from the competition venue with the suburban cities (Érd, Törökbálint, Budaörs) providing even closer options to the venue. With no official transportation system provided, there will be a dedicated parking lot for the participants of the event arriving by car.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

All visitors to Hungary should have a valid visa for their entry and stay in the country. For additional information and to find out whether a Visa is needed for your entry into Hungary, please visit https://konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en/visa-free-travel-hungary**.** Please note that application for Visa may take **up to 15 days** or more depending on various criteria.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU SOON IN HUNGARY!

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Release of Liability

Full name: _____ Country: _____

I, the undersigned participant, intending to be legally bound, hereby certify that I am in good physical condition and that I have not been advised otherwise by a medical practitioner.

I acknowledge that I am aware of the risks inherent in participating in the European Aquatics Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour – Leg 2 in Hungary in 2026, including training and competition, which may include serious injury, permanent disability, or death, and I voluntarily assume all such risks.

I hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all rights to claims for loss or damages arising out of or in connection with my participation in the European Aquatics Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour – Leg 2 in Hungary in 2026, or any activities incidental thereto, against European Aquatics, the Organizing Committee, and any individuals participating in or supervising Masters events, as a condition of my participation. I further agree to abide by and be governed by the rules and regulations of European Aquatics.

I further declare that I have sufficient health insurance valid in Hungary to cover any medical, pharmaceutical, hospitalization, and repatriation expenses that may arise in connection with my stay and participation in the European Aquatics Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour – Leg 2 in Hungary in 2026. I understand and agree that the Organizing Committee, European Aquatics, or the competent authorities in Hungary may request evidence of such insurance coverage for myself and for any accompanying persons.

Participants and accompanying persons attending the European Aquatics Masters' Open Water Swimming Tour – Leg 2 in Hungary in 2026 are responsible for their own travel and personal expenses.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

THE FORM MUST BE PRINTED AND DELIVERED UPON ACCREDITATION.

Following is only for the staff of the Accreditation Centre to fill out.

Proof of identity by one of the following:

a) Passport
b) National ID card
c) Other (please specify): _____

Accreditation card handed over by: _____
(sign)