



**WORLD**  
**AQUATICS**

# **OPEN WATER SWIMMING WORLD CUP**

**Rules & Regulations 2023**

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## 1. GENERAL CONCEPT

The World Aquatics Bureau approves the organisation of the World Aquatics Open Water Swimming World Cup (OWSWC). The OWSWC is an annually staged elite level global competition series.

The OWSWC will consist of a number of stops staged by Organising Committees “OC’s” under the recognition of Host National World Aquatics Member Federations (“HMF’s”) and staged throughout the year on dates to be approved by World Aquatics.

World Aquatics owns all rights in the World Cup and its competitions, except where granted to the HMF as set out in the staging agreement between World Aquatics and the HMF.

The OWSWC shall be open to participation by all World Aquatics affiliated Federations (except those suspended)

All OWSWC stops will be conducted according to the World Aquatics Open Water Swimming Rules and Regulations defined herein this document.

## 2. PARTICIPATION, ENTRIES & COMPETITION FORMAT

### **Entries:**

Entries will be accepted only from World Aquatics National Member Federations (with the exception of suspended Federations).

A coach can be responsible for up to two (2) competitors in the water at the same time. The team representative (team leader, coach) is responsible for representing the competitors at the Team Leaders Meeting and feeding them during the event.

A competitor without a coach/handler present will not be allowed to start the race. Each National Federation that has entered one or more competitors in an event must also have at least one team representative (team leader, coach) present.

### **Entry Process & Registration:**

All National Federations registration and entries must be done online through the World Aquatics General Management System (GMS) via <https://data.worldaquatics.com> Each National Federation will access the system to complete their registrations before the designated deadline for each stop.

### **Information Bulletin:**

The HMF/OC, in collaboration with Word Aquatics, shall create an information bulletin (including entry process, official hotel & transportation information, venue and course information, prize money distribution, etc.) to be shared with all World Aquatics Member Federations and World Aquatics at least 60 days prior to each competition.

**Competitor Withdrawal:**

If any competitor entered by his/her national federation subsequently withdraws, is withdrawn or otherwise does not participate in the competition at any time during the fourteen (14) days prior to the competition without extraordinary reasons or without providing World Aquatics with the necessary evidence in writing, then the national federation concerned shall pay a penalty fee of five hundred United States Dollars (US\$ 500) to the HMF/OC to cover any costs incurred by the late withdrawal of the competitor.

**Team Leaders Meeting:**

The HMF/OC, in collaboration with World Aquatics, shall organise a Team Leaders Meeting on the day before the first day of competition, not later than 18:00. The World Aquatics Technical Delegate shall Chair the Team Leaders Meeting, supported by the World Aquatics Sport Manager and the OC

**Event Program:**

2–3-day competition format. Order of the events to be decided by World Aquatics & OC depending on the dates of the competition. Information will be published in the information bulletin.

Individual Events: 10km

- Each individual event will have a separate race for Men and Women
- The World Aquatics Technical Delegate and World Aquatics Safety Delegate will decide on the start of the race.
- There will be one start for the Men's race and one start for the Women's race.
- For races of more than 50 competitors, the World Aquatics Delegates shall have the discretion to split the start of each race.
- For individual events, the starting position for the competitors will be decided by random draw at the Team Leaders Meeting.

Team Event: 4x1500 Mixed Team Relay

- 2 men and 2 women per team (1500m each).
- The World Aquatics Technical Delegate and World Aquatics Safety Delegate will decide on the start of the race.
- Exchange will be done by using the relay exchange platform.
- Each National Federation will be able to enter up to 2 teams for the event (only 1 team will be eligible for the medals & prize money).

Note: Should less than a minimum of 4 National Federations be registered for the 4x1500m Mixed Team Relay event by the registration deadline, World Aquatics and the Local Organising Committees reserve the right to cancel the event.

- For the Team Relay the starting position of the team on the starting platform will be designated by random draw at the Team Leaders Meeting. The competitors may swim in any order within the team.

**Mass Participation Event:** As a complementary part of the event program, the HMF/OC can organise a Mass Participation Event with one or more open races, on the same day as, but not during the Event elite race(s), with entry open to any participants. This event(s) will be considered as a complementary part of the World Cup, but not a World Aquatics Event. The HMF/OC shall be the sole and entire responsible of the Mass Participation Event and cover all the costs.

### 3. POINTS SYSTEM & DISTRIBUTION

#### Points system:

- For the 10km, points will be awarded to the competitors depending upon their race finishing position. Competitors may accumulate points at each stop in which they participate and finish, with their total points counting towards the overall final rankings for each year.
- NEW:** For the 10km there will be a separate ranking based on points awarded at 3 designated sprints along the race, at each stop. Points will be accumulated towards a separate overall ranking at the end of the season.

#### Points distribution:

- Points distribution for the overall ranking:

Position / Points	10km
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	800
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	700
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	600
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	550
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	500
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	450
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	400
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	350
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	300
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	250
<b>All other finishers</b>	As per Appendix 1

- NEW: Points distribution for the sprint ranking:

Position / Points	First Sprint	Second Sprint	Third Sprint
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	40	30	20
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	30	20	17
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	20	18	15
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	18	16	13
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	16	14	11
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	14	12	10
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	12	10	8
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	10	8	6
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	8	7	4
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	5	3	2

Note:

- Exact laps for the sprints will be confirmed within each stop's Information Bulletin, depending on the set up of the 10km course. Example: on a 6-lap course, lap 1, 3 and 5 will be the laps counted for the first, second and third sprint respectively.
- The intermediate gate and the transponder will be used to determine the position of each competitor at the sprint. In the scenario of a close sprint, video replay will be used to determine the sprint ranking. The head of the athlete reaching the line will be considered to determine the ranking positions.
- Any competitors who do not finish the race or who are disqualified will receive zero (0) points.
- Any competitors who the Technical Officials have reason to believe have colluded and/or agreed to finish with a tie, will be subject to disqualification.
- In case of a tie: Tied positions receive same ranked points. Ranks in the next lower ranking are skipped.

## 4. PRIZE MONEY & AWARDS

**EACH STOP:**

- 10km Prize Money: Each HMF/OC shall pay a minimum net total amount of thirty thousand United States dollars (US\$ 30.000) equally distributed between men and women, as follows:

Position	Prize Money
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	US\$ 3'500
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	US\$ 3'000
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	US\$ 2'500
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 1'700
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 1'500
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 1'200
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 950
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 650

- Mixed Team Relay Prize Money: World Aquatics shall pay a minimum net total amount of ten thousand United States dollars (US\$ 10.000) distributed as follows:

Position	Prize Money*
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	US\$ 5'000
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	US\$ 3'000
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	US\$ 2'000

\*Only one team per National Federation will be entitled to Prize Money

- Awards
  - **"World Cup Leader"** awarded to the overall Leader (men & women) of the 10km: The current World Cup overall leader in 10km will carry the title to the following stop.
  - **"World Cup Sprint Leader"** awarded to the overall Leader (men & women) of the sprint points within the 10km: The current overall leader in the sprint ranking will carry the title to the following stop.
  - **"World Cup Junior Leader"** Awarded to the overall best ranked youngest athlete\* (men & women) at the 10km event. The current overall leader of the junior ranking will carry the title to the following stop.

\*Age to be eligible for this ranking: 19 years old and under, as of December 31

Note:

- The method of the distribution of the prize money shall be announced to the competitors at each stop during the Managers/Representatives Meeting.
- The total amount of the prize money must be paid to the competitors without any deductions.

- In case there are less than eight (8) finishers (for the 10km Men & Women) and three (3) finishers (for the Mixed Team Relay), then all the prize money will be redistributed amongst the finishers.
- The National Federation of all competitors winning prize money will inform the HMF as to whether the prize money will be paid to the National Federation or directly to the athlete.
- In case of a tie, tied athletes/teams all receive the assigned prize money for the rank.
- In case of emergency abandonment due to weather conditions or other unpredictable circumstances rule III 5.18.1 from the Competitions Regulations shall prevail. If the race cannot be re-started resulting in cancellation, there will be no ranking points nor prize money awarded at that stop.

### **OVERALL:**

Each HMF/OC shall pay an annual sum of ten thousand United States dollars (US\$10'000) to World Aquatics, no later than 30th November in each year prior to the event, which shall be put towards the overall annual prize money. A minimum amount of three hundred fifty thousand United States dollars (US\$ 350'000) shall be paid to the overall annual prize money.

- **“World Cup Leader”**; The overall individual annual winners will be decided by the male and female competitors respectively, who have accumulated the most points in the 10km event during that year, provided that they have participated in a minimum of seventy-five per cent (75%) of the stops in that year.

The annual prize money to be awarded for both the Men's and Women's World Cup overall winners (*“World Cup Leader”*) is as follows:

<b>Position / Points</b>	<b>Prize Money</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	US\$ 50'000
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	US\$ 35'000
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	US\$ 25'000
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 20'000
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 15'000
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 12'000
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 8'000
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 5'000
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 3'500
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	US\$ 1'500



- **“World Cup Sprint Leader”**; US\$ 10'000 will be awarded to the overall individual annual leader (men & women) who have accumulated the most points in this category within the 10km event during that year, provided that they have participated in a minimum of seventy-five per cent (75%) of the stops in that year.
- **“World Cup Junior Leader”**; US\$ 5'000 will be awarded to the overall individual annual leader (men & women) who have accumulated the most points in this category within the 10km event during that year, provided that they have participated in a minimum of seventy-five per cent (75%) of the stops in that year.

Note:

- In case of a tie in the final overall rankings, tied positions will receive the prize money assigned for the rank position.
- Should any of the World Cup 2023 stops be cancelled, the 75% participation rule to be eligible for the overall annual prize money will be calculated over the total of stops that have taken place during the season.

## 5. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS & JUDGES

**World Aquatics Representatives:** For each stop, World Aquatics will nominate a Technical Delegate, Medical Representative, a Safety Delegate, and a Media Delegate.

**Technical Delegate:** The Technical Delegate shall:

- ensure that the World Aquatics OWS Rules & Regulations are applied and respected.
- check the entries to ensure the Federations have approved them, the declaration form is signed, and the coach is nominated for each competitor in accordance with the handler requirements.
- Meet with the HMF/OC at least three days prior to the event to ensure arrangements are in accordance with the Rules and Regulations.
- Confirm the Chief Referees for each event are current World Aquatics List Referees.
- Approve the officials' assignments proposed by the HMF.
- Chair the Team Leaders Meeting, supported by the World Aquatics Sport Manager and the OC.
- advise the athletes of the World Aquatics rules to be applied in case of presenting a protest (Competitions Regulations I 13.1) and jury of appeal (Competitions Regulations I 13.2).
- check the presence of competitors and their coaches.
- ensure that the information about the course, the safety and the finish is given in a clear and sufficient form.

- ensure that the Chief Referees, the Safety Officer, the World Aquatics Medical Representative are also present.
- submit a written report to World Aquatics within 48 hours of the end of the event, covering the administration and conduct of the event, including race information – participants, results, etc. –, the official hotels, meals and dining facilities, transportation, Venue and competition facilities, protocol, etc., according to contents specified by TOWSC Commission.

**Safety Delegate:** The Safety Delegate must review the safety plan submitted by the HMF/OC to World Aquatics to ensure that it is suitable for the conduct of the event and to make recommendations the HMF/OC to ensure the safe conduct of the event; and must:

- chair the Safety Meeting.
- meet with the HMF/OC at least three days prior to the event to ensure that the safety plan is in accordance with the Rules and Regulations
- ensure that enough qualified people are available onsite at the event to follow the race, as described in the Safety Plan.
- ask for additional watercraft (kayaks jet-ski, paddle board etc.) if the numbers identified are deemed insufficient to provide a safe event.
- ensure with the Safety Officer and the World Aquatics Medical Delegate that ambulances and medical people are ready near to the course.

**Medical Representative:** The duties of the Medical Representative shall include:

- Liaising with the World Aquatics Safety Delegate, World Aquatics Technical Delegate and Local Medical Officer (LMO) on all matters of athlete health and safety.
- Liaising with the LMO and World Aquatics Safety Officer to confirm the venue is acceptable for safe competition, considering such factors as water temperature and quality, aquatic flora and fauna, currents, boat traffic and any other potential hazards.
- Having responsibility for oversight of all medical aspects of competition, in liaison with the LMO. This includes adherence to medical regulations for World Aquatics events, as these specifically apply to Open Water Swimming.
- Undertaking oversight and approval of an emergency evacuation plan that coordinates on-water and land-based health care and includes emergency transport and hospital care.
- Providing oversight of the provision of adequate medical personnel, positioned appropriately at training venues and on the racecourse.
- Overseeing water quality and temperature results well prior to competition, and on competition day, in strict accordance with World Aquatic standards.
- Contributing to the medical presentation at the Team Leaders Meeting, in collaboration with the LMO.

- Submitting a detailed medical report on the event, together with recommendations for improvement at future World Aquatic competitions.

**Chief Referees' appointment:** The HMF/OC of each event shall ensure that for each event race (men and women), a Chief Referee from the current World Aquatics Open Water Swimming Officials List is appointed and present for the race and the Team Leaders meeting.

**Technical Officials:** The HMF shall appoint the Technical Officials for each event for approval by World Aquatics/Technical Delegate, and all other officials, marshals and other persons required shall be recruited and appointed by the OC.

**Technical Officials Meeting:** The HMF shall organize an Open Water Swimming Officials meeting with the participation of all of the appointed officials, on the day prior to the race. This meeting will be conducted by the World Aquatics Technical Delegate.

## 6. VISAS & TRANSPORTATION

**Visas:** The HMF/OC shall make best efforts with its government regarding entry visas for all competitors and team officials from any National World Aquatics Member Federation, as well as for World Aquatics officials and Media attending the event.

**Local Transportation:** The HMF/OC shall welcome all entered competitors, team officials and World Aquatics Delegates and Officials at the nearest airport/railway station upon arrival and shall provide appropriate transportation to the official hotels. The HMF shall also provide the return travel arrangements and confirm in advance the departure times from official hotels to the airport/railway station.

Flights for all athletes & team officials will be the responsibility of each National Federation to cover.

The HMF shall provide local transportation between official hotels and training/competition venues (shuttle system) free of charge for the following groups for the duration of the event and 4 days prior thereto, plus the day after the conclusion of the event:

- World Aquatics Officials: up to 5 persons
- Judges and Officials
- Competitors and team officials

## 7. ACCOMMODATION & MEALS

**Invited athletes:** The HMF/OC shall provide at its own cost accommodation in a minimum 4-star hotel with full-board (3 meals per day of adequate quantity and quality) up to 5 days for:

- The first three (3) men and the first three (3) women classified in the 10km competitions at the World Aquatics Championships in Budapest 2022

Accommodation for the **rest of participants** (team officials & athletes) will be the responsibility of each National Federation to cover. Request for accommodation at the official hotel must be done by sending to the OC (by the specified deadline) the completed accommodation form - available at the World Aquatics Website.

## 8. APPENDIX 1 - POINTS DISTRIBUTION

PLACE	POINTS	26	98	52	48	78	22
1	800	27	96	53	47	79	21
2	700	28	94	54	46	80	20
3	600	29	92	55	45	81	19
4	550	30	90	56	44	82	18
5	500	31	88	57	43	83	17
6	450	32	86	58	42	84	16
7	400	33	84	59	41	85	15
8	350	34	82	60	40	86	14
9	300	35	80	61	39	87	13
10	250	36	78	62	38	88	12
11	200	37	76	63	37	89	11
12	190	38	74	64	36	90	10
13	180	39	72	65	35	91	9
14	170	40	70	66	34	92	8
15	160	41	68	67	33	93	7
16	150	42	66	68	32	94	6
17	140	43	64	69	31	95	5
18	130	44	62	70	30	96	4
19	120	45	60	71	29	97	3
20	110	46	58	72	28	98	2
21	108	47	56	73	27	99	1
22	106	48	54	74	26	All	
23	104	49	52	75	25	Finishers	1
24	102	50	50	76	24		
25	100	51	49	77	23		