



WORLD
AQUATICS

CERTIFICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

In force as from 1 November 2025

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1. OVERVIEW

The World Aquatics certification document process is intended to verify that facilities are compliant with World Aquatics Competition Regulations. The documents themselves undergo constant upgrades to align with organizational rebranding, regulation updates, and document clarifications; however, the goal of the process remains unchanged.

The facility certification process contains four types of documentation:

- **Major Competition Facility Certification:**

The Facility Certification document is intended to be an in-depth look at the facility to ensure that it meets the World Aquatics Competition Regulations. This document will require the pool to be empty or drained for a survey to be completed. The surveyor must be licensed to practice in the jurisdiction in question. This document must be completed once every 15 years, or upon a major renovation to the facility. This document will be filed with World Aquatics to establish a data base of venues that can host a major World Aquatics Competition such as an Olympic Games, World Championship, or World Cup. There is one Facility Certification document for each World Aquatics - sanctioned sport.

- **Major Competition Event Certification:**

The Event Certification document is intended to verify that a facility has been properly set up to host a major World Aquatics Competition such as an Olympic Games, World Championship, or World Cup. The document will be filled out after the competition course(s) have been set up for the event in question and prior to the start of the event. There is one Event Certification per World Aquatics sanctioned sport.

- **Qualifying Event Certification (SW):**

The Qualifying Event Certification is intended to verify that the competition course(s) used for a qualifying event for a major World Aquatics competition meets the minimum facility standards for the competition. The document will be filled out after the competition course(s) have been set up for the event in question and prior to the start of the event. This document applies only to Swimming.

- **World Record Validation (SW):**

The World Record Validation document is intended to verify that a World Record was completed in a compliant racecourse. The World Record Validation must be completed immediately at the conclusion of a meet session and must be submitted for the record to be considered and validated. This document applies only to Swimming.

2. CERTIFICATION DOCUMENT INSTRUCTIONS

The following lists outlines the procedure for the major competition **facility certification** process.

1. The National Federation or interested party shall download the relevant documents from the [World Aquatics website](#) and review the submission requirements.
2. The National Federation or interested party shall contract a surveyor, licensed in the jurisdiction of the facility, to conduct a survey of the facility.
3. The surveyor shall conduct the survey of the facility and provide the required information in the forms. All measurements shall contain the appropriate number of significant digits. The survey should occur following the build of the pool prior to fill, or when the pool is drained for maintenance.
4. The National Federation or interested party shall complete the form(s), ensure that all sections are complete, and all signatures are applied. Signatures that shall be completed are: (1) The surveyor, completed by the licensed professional that conducted the survey, (2) The pool expert, completed by the operator of the facility, and (3) The organizing body, completed by a National Federation representative.
5. The National Federation or interested party shall submit the form(s) to World Aquatics. The submission must include supporting documentation for all sections of the facility certification for validation. this is including, but not limited to, product cut sheets, photo documentation, and scaled electronic drawings. The appointed surveyor shall provide a Calibration Certificate confirming the measurement quality of surveying equipment WITH A maximum validity of 1 year and documentation of their licensure and good standing.
6. The forms shall be reviewed by World Aquatics. World Aquatics will respond with comments and clarification, of required, and then give a final verdict.

The following lists outlines the procedure for the major competition **event certification** process.

1. The National Federation shall download the relevant documents from the [World Aquatics website](#) and review the submission requirements.
2. The licensed surveyor shall take the required measurements and provide the required information for the forms. All measurements shall contain the appropriate number of significant digits.
3. The National Federation shall complete the form(s), ensure all sections are complete, and all signatures are applied. Signatures that shall be completed are: (1) The surveyor, completed by the licensed professional that conducted the survey, (2) The pool expert, completed by the operator of the facility, and (3) The organizing body, completed by a National Federation representative.
4. The National Federation shall submit the form(s) to World Aquatics. The submission must include supporting documentation for all sections of the event certification for validation. this is including, but not limited to, product cut sheets, photo documentation, and scaled electronic drawings. The appointed surveyor shall provide a Calibration Certificate confirming the measurement quality of surveying equipment with a maximum validity of 1 year.
5. The forms shall be reviewed by World Aquatics. A site visit may be scheduled with a representative from World Aquatics to review the facility. World Aquatics will respond with comments and clarification, as required, and then provide a final decision.

The following lists outlines the procedure for the **qualifying event certification** process.

1. The National Federation shall download the relevant document from the [World Aquatics website](#) and review the submission requirements.
2. The qualified official shall take the required measurements and provide the required information for the forms. All measurements shall contain the appropriate number of significant digits.
3. The National Federation shall complete the form, ensure all sections are complete, and all signatures are applied. Signatures that shall be completed are: (1) The surveyor, completed by the qualified official that conducted the survey, (2) The pool expert, completed by the operator of the facility, and (3) The organizing body, completed by a National Federation representative.
4. The National Federation shall submit the form to World Aquatics. The submission must include supporting documentation for all sections of the event certification for validation. this is including, but not limited to, product cut sheets, photo documentation, and scaled electronic drawings. The National Federation shall provide a Calibration Certificate confirming the measurement quality of surveying equipment with a maximum validity of 1 year.
5. The form shall be reviewed by World Aquatics. World Aquatics will respond with comments and clarification, as required, and then provide a final decision.

The following lists outlines the procedure for the **world record validation** process.

1. The National Federation shall download the relevant document from the [World Aquatics website](#) and review the submission requirements.
2. The qualified official shall take the required measurements and provide the required information for the forms. All measurements shall contain the appropriate number of significant digits.
3. The National Federation shall complete the form, ensure all sections are complete, and all signatures are applied. Signatures that shall be completed are: (1) The surveyor, completed by the qualified official that conducted the survey, (2) The pool expert, completed by the operator of the facility, and (3) The organizing body, completed by a National Federation representative.
4. The National Federation shall submit the form to World Aquatics. The National Federation shall provide a Calibration Certificate confirming the measurement quality of surveying equipment with a maximum validity of 1 year.
5. The form shall be reviewed by World Aquatics. World Aquatics will respond with comments and clarification, as required, and then provide a final decision.