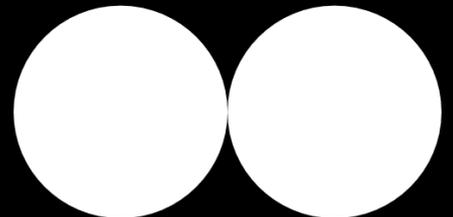
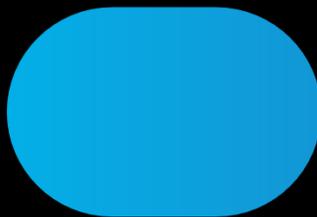
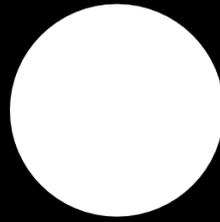




WORLD
AQUATICS



WORLD AQUATICS CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

REQUEST FOR TENDER
2025

RFT Documentation – WORLD AQUATICS CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE	
Content	Clarification on the development of a new platform that will serve the aquatic athletes.
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INTRODUCTION

World Aquatics is seeking proposals from platform/website developers for the conception of a new platform to support World Aquatic athletes through their development from competitive to elite athletes and life beyond aquatics. The platform should be a reference for athletes of all aquatic disciplines to find information at whatever stage they may be at in their sporting career as well as in their post sporting career.

1. COMPANY BACKGROUND

World Aquatics, formerly known as FINA (Fédération Internationale de natation), founded in 1908 following the London 1908 Olympic Games and was officially renamed as World Aquatics in December 2022.

World Aquatics is the international federation, which is based in Lausanne, Switzerland and recognised by the International Olympic Committee for administering international competitions in the six aquatic sports of swimming, water polo, diving, artistic swimming, open water swimming and high diving. Five of these before-mentioned aquatic sports are part of the Summer Olympics sport programme and aquatics competitions accounted for 1408 athletes at the most recent Olympic Games (Paris 2024), the most of any international sports organisation. Besides that, World Aquatics also oversees "Masters" competition for adult-age competitors in aquatic sports.

World Aquatics is driven by the mission to increase global participation in aquatic sports and to teach the essential life skill of swimming. With the assistance of World Aquatics National Federations and Continental Associations, the organisation runs a robust development programme aimed at increased participation, enhanced promotion and global competitive success in the sport. The World Aquatics Development Department focuses its attention on promotion and support, education, governance and administration, and high-performance training and competition for developing National Federations.

2. WORLD AQUATICS ATHLETES

World Aquatics athletes are at the centre of everything World Aquatics does. They represent a global community of individuals who compete across the six major aquatic disciplines. These athletes come from every continent, embodying a broad range of cultures, personal stories, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Their common link is the shared dedication to aquatic sports, pursued in a wide variety of environments, from highly equipped training facilities to simpler, resourceful setups.

3. WORLD AQUATICS VISION, MISSION AND BRAND STORY

And today, we unite past and future—honouring where we've been as FINA and celebrating where we're going as World Aquatics with the following vision, mission, tagline and brand story:

Vision – A world united by water for health, life and sport.

Mission – To ensure the ability to participate, compete in and benefit from aquatic sports.

Tagline – United by Water

Our Brand's Story – We are united by water.

. This is a moment in time that calls for a stroke of progress, and a new chapter in our story. Yet while our brand, name and logo may be changing, the most important things—our values, our sense of community, our passion—remain.

Across five continents and our six sports of swimming, water polo, diving, artistic swimming, open water and high diving, we have an opportunity to unite the world and invite new generations into our passions.

Our first call to action is effectively communicating our brand's story, both verbally and visually.

The new guidelines are a living document to help our entire organization do just that as we mark a new era of sportsmanship, unity and collaboration.

We are World Aquatics.

REQUEST FOR TENDER (“RFT”)

1. REQUEST FOR TENDER

World Aquatics is inviting interested companies to submit a detailed proposal (in English) for World Aquatics' review & consideration for the development of a new digital platform that will serve aquatic athletes, no later than **30 April 2025** to athletes.committee@worldaquatics.com. Any submissions received after this deadline may or may not be considered by World Aquatics. World Aquatics reserves the right not to consider any proposal which is not in compliance with the terms of this RFT.

This RFT does not constitute as an offer and does not create any contractual obligation on World Aquatics. World Aquatics may, in its full discretion, choose not to select any of the proposals received and instead may initiate and ask for additional proposals or finish the tender relating to this project.

Interested companies may submit a request for clarification on any matter concerning this process in writing to athletes.committee@worldaquatics.com. World Aquatics reserves the right to make available its clarifications to any question to all interested companies.

World Aquatics reserves the right to hold one or more clarification meetings with interested companies where necessary following the submission of their proposals. Such meetings may be online, or the interested companies may be required to attend meetings in person at a mutually agreed date and time.

2. PROJECT GOAL

The goal of this project is to provide aquatic athletes all the relevant advice, services and tools to support athletes in the areas that they need most and at every stage of their career. The goal is to create an engaging, user-friendly platform that enhances the knowledge, careers and well-being of athletes in the aquatic's sports community.

3. SCOPE

3.1. Project Overview

The objective of this tender is to solicit a qualified vendor to design, develop and deploy an engaging and user-friendly digital platform called the *Centre for Excellence*, tailored for aquatic athletes. Initially, the platform will be accessible as a website compatible with all standard web browsers, with plans for a mobile app in a subsequent development phase.

The Centre for Excellence will serve as a centralized hub for athletes. The platform's aim is to centralize educational resources for all competitive athletes from all continents.

The platform will be designed to offer:

- Career advice, including education and training opportunities
- Health resources, including injury prevention, mental health support, and nutrition information.
- Guidance for career transition, including networking, job opportunities, and financial management tips.
- Resources and education on aquatics sports integrity, including anti-doping information, fair play, and ethics.
- World Aquatics events info

3.2. Functional and technical requirements

The digital platform should encompass the following core functions:

- ***User management & authentication***

The platform will be accessible with personal credentials. Athlete profiles will be linked to World Aquatics' General Management System ("**GMS**"), and they will have to be registered as an athlete in the GMS, prior to gaining access to the platform.

- ***Content Management System ("CMS")***

A flexible, easy-to-use CMS allowing administrators to create, edit, and publish content.

- ***Analytics & Reporting***

Built-in analytics to track user behaviour, system performance, and key performance indicators. The platform should support exporting data for external analysis and reporting.

- ***Responsive Design and Accessibility***

Fully responsive design, optimized for desktop, mobile devices and various screen sizes to ensure a seamless user experience across all platforms.

- ***Security and Data Privacy***

Compliance with industry-standard security protocols, including data encryption, secure authentication, and regular security patches, as well as adherence to the regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC ("**GDPR**") and any other relevant data protection regulations.

- ***Scalability***

The platform must support at least 5000 concurrent users and be designed to scale as the user base grows.

- *Performance & Availability*

The platform should meet performance benchmarks and ensure 99.9% uptime, with appropriate load balancing and caching mechanisms.

3.3. Key sections of the platform

Using mediums such as live sessions, explanatory videos, chats, presentations, etc., the platform will feature the following key sections:

a. Throughout the sporting career

Guiding athletes throughout their sporting career by providing information and access to:

- World Aquatics programmes (such as scholarships, training centres, etc.)
- Support for travel, accommodation and coaching
- World Aquatics' rules, points and prize money
- Contracts and agents
- Sponsorship engagement
- Various courses

b. Health and wellness

Educating athletes on how to take care of themselves physically and mentally by providing information and courses on:

- Mental health
- Conditioning
- Nutrition
- Managing injuries and setbacks
- Health education
- Sleep and recovery

c. Career transition

Supporting and facilitating athletes as they come to the end of their sporting career by providing information and access to:

- Finance courses
- Mentoring programmes
- Information on educational possibilities (such as: Universities, MBA, AISTS etc.)
- World Aquatics Internship Programme
- Job interview preparation
- Resume writing support
- Job and internship opportunities

d. Aquatics Sports Integrity

Educating athletes and provide information and resources on:

- Clean sport
- Anti-doping
- Prevention of Competition Manipulation
- Safeguarding

e. Engagement

- A forum or chat feature where athletes can communicate with the Athletes' Committee anonymously.
- A calendar of events and workshops related to aquatics sports and athlete development.

f. World Aquatics' Events

- Information on all World Aquatics' events.
- Information on activities organised for athletes and coaches on World Aquatics' events.

4. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

By submitting a proposal, in case of selection, the company undertakes to conclude an agreement with World Aquatics on the terms and conditions set out in its proposal. Company Information

- Please provide the following information about your company headquarters:

a. Company Name:

b. Registered seat (and postal address if it is different from the registered seat):

c. Contact Person(s)

- Name:
- Title:
- Email:
- Phone:

d. Company Registration Number:

e. Company ownership structure:

f. Company capital:

g. Number of full-time employees:

h. Company history:

i. Website:

j. Social Media Channels:

- Company background, expertise, and qualifications in platform development.
- Key personnel and their relevant experience.

4.1. Proposed Solution

- A detailed description of how the platform will be developed, including technical architecture and proposed tools or technologies.
- Approach to addressing key features and functionalities outlined in Section 3.3
- Proposed timelines for each project phase.

4.2. Past Experience

- Case studies or examples of similar projects completed by the vendor.
- References from previous clients in the sports, healthcare or other sector.

4.3. Budget

- Detailed budget breakdown, including costs for each phase of the project.
- Licensing fees for any third-party software or tools used.

- Ongoing costs for maintenance and support after launch.

4.4. Risk Management

- Potential risks and challenges with proposed mitigation strategies.

4.5. Security And Compliance Approach

- Proposed measures for ensuring data security and privacy.
- Approach to regulatory compliance (e.g., GDPR, etc.).

5. TIMELINES

The proposed timetable for this process is set out below. This timetable is for guidance only and World Aquatics reserves the right to alter the timetable at any time.

- World Aquatics' RFT published on 13 March 2025.
- Deadline for interested companies to submit any request for clarification 15 April 2025.
- Deadline by which World Aquatics will respond to any requests for clarification, 15 April 2025.
- Deadline for submission of proposals to World Aquatics, 30 April 2025.
- Start of evaluation of proposals received by World Aquatics, 1 May 2025.
- Period for proposal clarification meetings, as required, 15 to 30 May 2025.
- Completion of proposals evaluation by World Aquatics, 15 June 2025.
- Selection of proposal, 30 June 2025.
- Contract drafting from 1 to 30 July 2025.
- Project start date on 16 August 2025.
- First project draft: 15 December 2025.
- Expected completion date 30 March 2026.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Any company may submit its proposal to World Aquatics to be considered to design, develop and deploy an engaging and user-friendly digital platform for aquatics athletes. World Aquatics shall base its assessment on a variety of factors including but not limited to:

a. Technical Expertise

- Demonstrated ability to develop digital platforms with complex requirements.
- Experience in creating sports, health, or career-focused platforms.

b. Design and Usability

- Quality of proposed design and user experience.
- Ability to create a responsive and accessible platform.

c. Project Management

- Clear, realistic project timelines and milestones.

- Proven success in managing projects of a similar scale.

d. Cost Efficiency

- Competitive pricing in relation to the proposed solution.
- Transparent and detailed cost breakdown.

e. Support and Maintenance

- Plan for ongoing support and updates post-launch.
- Availability of technical support and customer service.

For the sake of clarity, World Aquatics shall be free in its absolute and sole discretion to select the proposal that most successfully fulfils World Aquatics' objectives and requirements.

In case no agreement is finalized and signed with the (first) selected company, World Aquatics reserves the right to start discussions with another company, or to start a new RFT process or to decide not concluding an agreement with any company relating to this project.

World Aquatics is not obliged to give reasons for any decisions made at any stage.

7. DATA PROTECTION

The purpose of the processing of personal data (if any) relating to the submitted proposals is to evaluate the proposals and select the winning proposal and the personal data (if any) will be processed during the selection process. If necessary for the selection of the winning proposal, World Aquatics is entitled to transmit the submitted proposal (including but not limited to the personal data) (if any) to the extent necessary for the purpose of the selection procedure to the third party who takes part in the selection procedure.

By submitting a proposal, the company provide its consent to the processing of personal data.