

SUMMONS

CENTRAL AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN GAMES OPEN WATER SWIMMING QUALIFIER ARUBA 2026 BY PANAM AQUATICS

March 20 - 22, 2026

QUALIFYING EVENT FOR:

Santo Domingo 2026 Central American & Caribbean Games



PANAM AQUATICS WELCOME.....	3
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE WELCOME.....	4
LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (LOC).....	5
KEY DATES - 2026.....	6
MARCH 2026.....	6
VENUES.....	6
Mangel Halto.....	6
Training Venue - Pool.....	6
GENERAL ENTRY RULES.....	7
COMPETITIONS.....	8
OW Age Groups & Entries.....	8
OW Competition Format.....	8
OW Technical Meeting.....	9
OW Training Schedule.....	9
OW Competition Schedule.....	10
OW Awards.....	11
OW Timing and Scoring System.....	11
OW Qualification.....	11
OW Technical Officials	12
APPEALS.....	12
JURY OF APPEAL.....	12
LATE ATHLETE REPLACEMENT POLICY.....	13
ACCOMMODATION.....	13
Accommodation Options.....	13
DELEGATIONS.....	14
Accreditation.....	14
Airport.....	14
Transportation and Arrivals and Departures form.....	15
Anti – Doping.....	15
Uniform, Clothing and Equipment.....	15
Entry Fees.....	16
Registration.....	16
Team Officials.....	16
Visa Support.....	16
Medical Care.....	17
Weather.....	17
Electric Current.....	17
TECHNICAL OFFICIALS FORM.....	18
PRELIMINARY ENTRY FORM.....	19

PANAM AQUATICS WELCOME

It is a very special honor for me to welcome you all to the **2026 Open Water Qualifier for the Santo Domingo 2026 Central American and Caribbean Games** and **PanAm Aquatics OWS Series Stop**, right here in Aruba, my home. Hosting this event in Mangel Halto, surrounded by the most beautiful waters of the Caribbean, fills me with pride and gratitude.

There is something truly magical about these shores, the calm of the sea, the rhythm of the waves, and the spirit of the Aruban people. Our island is known for its warmth, friendliness, and joy, and I hope you feel that energy from the moment you arrive.

As President of PanAm Aquatics and as an Aruban, I'm thrilled to welcome our Open Water family to this special place. May this event bring out your best, both in competition and in connection, with each other and with the ocean that unites us all.

Welcome to Aruba. Welcome to my home.



Maureen Croes
President, PanAm Aquatics

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE WELCOME

Aruba Aquatics Welcomes You!

On behalf of the Aruba Aquatics Federation, it is with great pride and joy that I present to you the summons for the **CAC Open Water Swimming Qualifier**, to be held at the stunning shores of **Mangel Halto in Pos Chiquito, Aruba**, on **March 21-22, 2026**.

Mangel Halto, a true Caribbean gem, will provide the perfect backdrop for this important competition. With its crystal-clear waters, vibrant marine life, and breathtaking scenery, it is not only an ideal venue for Open Water Swimming but also a reflection of the natural beauty and hospitality that Aruba is known for.

This event stands as a milestone in our journey, bringing together athletes, coaches, and supporters from across the region in pursuit of excellence. It is a celebration of dedication, discipline, and the enduring spirit of aquatics in the Caribbean and the Americas. More than just a qualifier, it will be a gathering that highlights the unity, passion, and perseverance that bind our aquatic community together.

I look forward to welcoming you to Aruba in March 2026, where we will witness outstanding performances, share unforgettable experiences, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Together, let us make waves at Mangel Halto and honor the spirit of competition, camaraderie, and love for the water that unite us all.



Edric Winterdal

President, Aruba Aquatics Federation

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (LOC)

President	Edric Winterdal	president@arubaaquatics.org
Executive Director	Carla Kok	carla.kok@arubaaquatics.org
Open Water Swimming Managers	Jorik Julsing Esther Keetlaer	openwater.tc@arubaaquatics.org
Finances & Payments	Armando van de Griend	openwater@arubaaquatics.org

UPDATES

February 22, 2026: Confirmed time and place for the Technical Meeting
Updated Competition Schedule Timeline

KEY DATES - 2026

Preliminary entry form (At the end of this document)	January 30
“Long list” entry in the GMS (all athletes possible to participate)	February 19
“Short list” and final entries (maximums per each event)	March 5
Team Arrival/Departure form	March 9
Late replacements	March 20 (15:00)*

* Subject for approval (medical reasons).

MARCH 2026

Aruba 2026		W	T	F	S	S	M
		18	19	20	21	22	23
Opening				OC			
Open Water Swimming	OW	A	T	TM	★	★	D

OC: Opening Ceremony
A: Arrival Day
T: Training Day

TM: x (also T)
★: Competition and Awards Day
D: Departure Day

VENUES

Mangel Halto

Competitions of Open Water Swimming.

Address: Mangel Halto, Spaans Lagoenweg, Pos Chickito, Aruba

Training Venue - Pool

Pisina Olimpico Roly Bisslik, as a Training Venue with a **50m** m pool.

Address: Savaneta 302, Savaneta, Aruba

GENERAL ENTRY RULES

The PanAm Aquatics Championships are open to athletes in good standing with their National Federations (NFs) and who are members of PanAm Aquatics (PAQ) or World Aquatics (AQUA). Preliminary entry forms must be submitted by January 30, 2026. There is no limit to the number of entries per NF.

All participants in the Championships must be members of a club, regional team, or national team affiliated with a NF that is duly constituted, in good standing, and recognized by World Aquatics and PanAm Aquatics. Clubs and regional teams must secure permission from their NF to participate in the competition.

The registrations of athletes and/or teams from each country will be accepted only through their respective national federations, which will receive the GMS credentials once the preliminary entry form has been submitted. Registrations sent directly by clubs or regional teams will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Naturalized citizens may be registered, provided they submit official documentation proving their affiliation with the National Federation (NF). Accepted documents include, but are not limited to, a national ID card issued by the NF's country, a birth certificate confirming citizenship status, or other official documents demonstrating national affiliation, even in cases where a passport has not yet been issued, according to [AQUA Regulations](#).

Substitutions or alternates are not permitted after final entries are submitted, except for relays. All relay participants must be officially entered in the meet.

COMPETITIONS

OW Age Groups & Entries

For the 10 km event, all athletes will compete in the Open category, separated by gender, with a minimum age of 14 years (born in 2012 or earlier). For awards purposes only, the 10 km event may be subdivided into the following age groups (both genders):

- A. 14-15** (2012 - 2011).
- B. 16-17** (2010 - 2009).
- C. 18-29** (2008 - 1997).
- D. 30 and over** (1996 or before).

For the 3 km and 1 km events, athletes must compete within their respective age groups, as follows (both genders):

- **3 km (4 age groups):** 13-15 years, 16-18 years, 19-29 years and 30+ years.
- **1 km (5 age groups):** 8-10 years, 11-12 years, 13-15 years, 16-29 years, and 30+ years.

For the 3 km Knockout Sprint event, all athletes will compete and be awarded in the Open Category, separated by gender. The minimum age for participation is 14 years (born in 2012 or earlier).

All ages must be calculated according to AQUA Rules, as of December 31, 2026.

OW Competition Format

Event 1	Men's 10K	Open Category (14+)*
Event 2	Women's 10K	Open Category (14+)*
Events 3-6	Men's 3K	13-15 years 16-18 years
Events 7-10	Women's 3K	19-29 years 30+ years
Events 11-15	Men's 1K	8-10 years 11-12 years 13-15 years
Events 16-20	Women's 1K	16-29 years 30+ years
Event 21	Men's 3K Knockout Sprint	Open Category (14+)
Event 22	Women's 3K Knockout Sprint	Open Category (14+)

* Only Qualifier Event for Santo Domingo 2026.

Details of the final course layouts will be presented at the Technical Meeting. The 10 km event will consist of a maximum of eight (8) laps of 1.25 km each, while the 3 km and 1 km events will be swum in laps of 1 km.

For the 3 km Knockout Sprint (both genders: male and female):

1. Men's and women's events will be held separately.
2. Round 1 will be divided into two or more heats. Athletes in each heat will be assigned randomly.
3. Each competitor will swim 1500 m in Round 1. Competitors who qualify for Round 2 (semifinal) will swim 1000 m, and those who qualify for Round 3 (final) will swim 500 m.
4. The starting order for Rounds 2 and 3 will be determined by the results of the previous round, with the fastest times being presented first.
5. The eight (8) fastest times from each heat in Round 1 will advance to Round 2 (semifinal).
6. The eight (8) fastest times from Round 2 will advance to Round 3 (final).
7. The top three finishers in Round 3 will receive gold, silver, and bronze medals.
8. If a competitor receives a first infringement during Rounds 1 or 2, the penalty will remain in effect if they advance to subsequent rounds.
9. In the event of a disqualification or withdrawal in Rounds 2 or 3, the position that would have corresponded to the competitor will be awarded to the next best-classified athlete, and all lower-ranked competitors will move up one place in the semifinal or final, as applicable.

OW Technical Meeting

The OW Technical Meeting will be held on March 20, at 18:30, in the University of Aruba. The meeting will be open to all individuals with appropriate accreditation. Attendance is mandatory for Team Leaders, Coaches, and Athletes from each delegation.

The PanAm Aquatics Open Water Swimming Committee Commission Member will lead the meeting, which will be conducted in English and, if required, with interpretation to Spanish. The Technical Officials meeting will take place immediately after the Technical Meeting.

OW Training Schedule

The available training times are:

Date	Time	Venue
March 19	07:00 - 09:00	Pool Training Venue
	13:00 - 15:00	Pool Training Venue
March 20	07:00 - 09:00	Pool Training Venue
	14:00 - 16:00	Field of Play Familiarization

IMPORTANT: For all those teams arriving earlier than March 19, the LOC can provide training options under previous request. Therefore, if your team is planning to arrive earlier than March 19, please contact the LOC with your training plans so they can organize the training accordingly. Additional charges might apply.

OW Competition Schedule

Registrations and staging for each event will close 10 minutes before the start of the final technical briefing.

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
March 21	6:45	Registration Opens Event 1
	7:40	Briefing Event 1
	7:50	Presentation of Athletes Event 1
	8:00	Event 1 - Men 10K
	9:00	Registration Opens Event 2
	10:10	Briefing Event 2
	10:20	Presentation of Athletes Event 2
	10:30	Event 2 Women 10K
	After both events	Awards Ceremonies
March 22	6:45	Registration Opens All Events
	7:40	Briefing Events 3-10
	7:55	Presentation of Athletes Events 3-6
	8:00	Events 3-6 - Men 3K (may be different starts)
	8:01	Presentation of Athletes Events 7-10
	8:05	Events 7-10 - Women 3K (may be different starts)
	9:10	Briefing Events 11-20
	9:25	Presentation of Athletes Events 11-15
	9:30	Events 11-15 - Men 1K (may be different starts)
	9:31	Presentation of Athletes Events 16-20
	9:35	Events 16-20 - Women 1K (may be different starts)
	10:10	Briefing Events 21 & 22
	10:20	Presentation of Athletes Event 21
	10:30	Event 21 (Round 1) - Men 3K Knockout Sprint
	10:50	Presentation of Athletes Event 22
	11:00	Event 22 (Round 1) - Women 3K Knockout Sprint
	After all events	Awards Ceremonies

OW Awards

Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each event. For the 10 km races, although all athletes will compete together within their gender category, medals will also be awarded to the top three athletes in each age group. Additionally, a trophy will be presented to the overall winners of the Open category in both the 10 km and 3 km Knockout Sprint events.

Event #	Distance	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Trophy
Event 1	Men's 10K	4	4	4	1
Event 2	Women's 10K	4	4	4	1
Events 3-6	Men's 3K	4	4	4	0
Events 7-10	Women's 3K	4	4	4	0
Events 11-15	Men's 1K	5	5	5	0
Events 16-20	Women's 1K	5	5	5	0
Event 21	Men's 3K Knockout Sprint	1	1	1	1
Event 22	Women's 3K Knockout Sprint	1	1	1	1

The 10 km events will count for the PanAm Aquatics Open Water Swimming Series 2026, and points will be awarded in accordance with the [PanAm Aquatics Open Water Swimming Series Regulations](#).

All athletes will receive a certificate recognizing their participation.

OW Timing and Scoring System

The Critical Communication Caribbean (C3) System with chips will be used for the Open Water Swimming competitions.

OW Qualification

To qualify for the Santo Domingo 2026 Central American and Caribbean Games, National Olympic Committees (NOCs) in good standing with Centro Caribe Sports, through their respective National Federations (NFs), must participate in the Aruba 2026 Qualifying Event (10 km).

A total of 20 quotas per gender will be allocated according to the following priority:

1. Host NOC (DOM): Two (2) quotas per gender.
2. Performance-based qualification: The next eighteen (18) highest-ranked athletes in each 10 km event at Aruba 2026 will qualify their respective NOCs, with a maximum of two (2) quotas per NOC.
3. Reallocation of unused quotas: If any quotas remain after applying the above criteria, they will be reassigned to the NOCs of athletes with the next best overall rankings from the Aruba 2026 results.

OW Technical Officials

Qualified officials may apply to PanAm Aquatics to act as Technical Officials in Open Water Swimming. All candidates are expected to cover their travel and accommodation expenses. An application form is available in the last pages of this document, that should be completed and sent to the email addresses of the PanAm Aquatics Open Water Swimming Committee and PanAm Aquatics Office as listed below: openwater@panamaquatics.com and office@panamaquatics.com.

APPEALS

Appeals are made in accordance with the AQUA Rules, "Part One: Rules Applicable to All Aquatic Sports, Chapters 13 and 14," except as detailed below.

Appeals must be submitted to a representative of PanAm Aquatics within 30 minutes after the conclusion of the event and/or the publication of the results, accompanied by a deposit of USD 300 or its equivalent in local currency.

The Discipline Commission Members may give recommendations to the Jury of Appeal, whose decision will be final.

JURY OF APPEAL

The Jury of Appeal shall be composed of a minimum of three members, one of whom will be designated as Chair. The jury will be formed by members of the Executive Committee and the COO of PanAm Aquatics who are present at the time the appeal is received.

To complete the minimum required quorum or to add additional members to the jury, members of the PAQ committee corresponding to the discipline may be included.

The members of the jury must be free of any conflict of interest prior to their appointment. They are also required to disclose any potential conflict of interest that may arise. In such cases, the COO of PanAm Aquatics shall determine whether a conflict exists.

LATE ATHLETE REPLACEMENT POLICY

After the entry deadlines, NFs may request the replacement or withdrawal of an athlete entered in a team event. Such requests will only be considered in cases of emergency or for medical reasons. To submit a request, NFs must email office@panamaquatics.com and provide the following details: the name of the athlete being withdrawn, the name of the replacement athlete (if applicable), and any changes to team numbers or rosters. All requests must be accompanied by the original medical records supporting the case. If the records are not in English, a translation provided by the NF must also be included.

ACCOMMODATION

Each delegation must arrange accommodations **directly with the hotel**. Failure to pay on time may result in the loss of reserved rooms. **Transportation costs are not included** in the accommodation rates.

Accommodation Options

The following hotels are available for the delegations:

Hotel	Drive to the venue	Meals per person	Room	Price
Marriott Courtyard	40 minutes	USD 71	For 2 people	USD 335.38
			For 3 people	USD 369.13
			For 4 people	USD 402.88
Blue Village Apartments	35 minutes	À la carte only (breakfasts are included)	2-Bedroom Units - 5 persons	USD 185.50
			1-Bedroom Units - 3 persons	USD 158.50
Hyatt Place	15 minutes	USD 100	King Bed	USD 211.63
			Double Bed	USD 225.13

Hotel	Website	Booking Information
Marriott Courtyard	Link	reservations@arubacourtyard.com Phone: +297 586 7700 Code: Aruba Aquatics 2026
Blue Village Apartments	Link	Code: CAC Open Water Qualifier
Hyatt Place	Link	Link for booking

Disclaimer: All prices and details are based on information provided by the respective hotels. The Aruba Aquatics Federation is not responsible for any changes in rates, availability, or discrepancies. All reservations must be made directly with the hotel.

DELEGATIONS

Accreditation

The Local Organizing Committee will issue accreditations to all athletes, team officials, and technical officials. Only accredited individuals will have access to restricted venue areas and must carry their accreditation at all times, presenting it upon request. Delegates must provide photo identification for all team members when collecting accreditations. A US\$30 fee will apply for the replacement of lost accreditations or the issuance of additional ones.

Airport

The Queen Beatrix International Airport (AUA) in Oranjestad will be used for all arrivals, departures, and event operations. The airport is conveniently located only a few kilometers from the main hotels and competition venue.

Queen Beatrix International Airport is Aruba’s main gateway for international and regional flights, offering direct connections to major cities across the Americas and the Caribbean.

Transportation and Arrivals and Departures form

Official event transportation will be provided:

- Airport ⇌ Official hotels
- Official hotels ⇌ Training sessions
- Official hotels ⇌ FOP and competition venue on the 2 competition days

This service is available **only from the official hotels** and has an additional cost of **USD 150 per person** (athlete, team official or technical official).

Payments must be made directly to the provider by bank transfer. Proof of payment should be sent to: openwater@arubaaquatics.org

Bank details:

- **Account name:** Arubaanse Zwembond
- **Address:** Savaneta 231-A
- **Bank:** Aruba Bank
- **BIC code:** ARUBAWAX
- **Account number:** 110006211

To arrange **airport–hotel–airport** transportation, please complete the **Arrivals & Departures Form** and send it by email to:

- office@panamaquatics.com
- openwater@arubaaquatics.org
- carla.kok@arubaaquatics.org

❖ [Arrivals and Departures Form. You must download the file before editing.](#)

Anti – Doping

During the competitions, anti-doping control tests will be conducted in accordance with AQUA's established regulations, and in stretch coordination with the Aruba National Anti-Doping Organization (ARUNADO).

For medalists selected for testing, the awards ceremony will take precedence. A chaperone will remain with the athlete at all times until the sample collection is completed.

Uniform, Clothing and Equipment

Clothing and equipment used by athletes and other participants in the Championships must comply with the documents listed in the World Aquatics [Competition-Regulations](#), Part I, Numbers 7-8, *Rules Applicable to all Aquatic Sports - Swimwear and Wearables and Advertising Identification*.

During award ceremonies, athletes must wear their NF's official uniform, including long pants and sneakers. The use of hats, sunglasses, **flags**, cell phones, or other items is **strictly prohibited**.

Entry Fees

US\$ 50.00	registration and accreditation fee per athlete
US\$ 30.00	accreditation fee per team official
US\$ 5.00	per individual event

Additional accreditations are available at a cost of USD \$30 each and are subject to PAQ approval.

Registration

All NF registrations and sport entries must be done through the General Management System (GMS). Each NF is responsible for submitting registrations, including those for their Clubs or Regional Teams (if applicable), before the specified deadlines.

The registration process will open on January 30, 2026. NFs must access the GMS using their username and password, which will be provided by PAQ after receiving the preliminary registration form.

Team Officials

Chief of Delegation (1): The Chief of Delegation (CD) is appointed by the NF to lead the delegation and represent the NF at all official functions with PAQ and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC).

Open Water Swimming Team Officials:

1. **Delegations with eight (8) athletes or fewer:** one Head Coach, two Coaches, and two Medical Staff, totaling five (5) team officials, in addition to the CD and TL.
2. **Delegations with nine (9) athletes or more:** three additional Assistants, totaling eight (8) team officials.

Visa Support

If any of your team requires a visa for entry to Aruba, please notify the LOC and copy office@panamaquatics.com. The LOC will work to create an invitation letter to be presented to your Embassy/Consulate to assist in the visa process. Please send a list of all travelers with Full Name, Passport Number, Date of Birth, Gender, Nationality, and Role within the delegation.

Medical Care

As a reminder, all National Federations (NFs) **MUST** carry their own travel and health insurance. The LOC will provide First Aid Personnel at the competition pools. All NFs must take full responsibility for any other needed medical expenses.

The physician designated for the venue or discipline has the authority to make medical decisions concerning athletes in matters related to the competition, including, but not limited to, withdrawal from participation due to injury or illness.

Weather

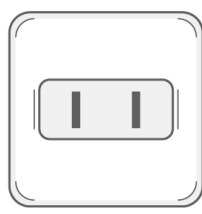
Aruba offers warm, dry, and stable weather conditions in March, providing an ideal environment for Open Water Swimming competitions. Average daytime temperatures range between 29 °C and 32 °C (84 °F–90 °F), with nighttime temperatures around 24 °C–26 °C (75 °F–79 °F). March falls within the island's dry season, with minimal rainfall and consistent sunshine throughout the day.

Gentle trade winds and calm sea conditions make this period particularly favorable for outdoor aquatic events, ensuring optimal comfort and safety for athletes and officials.

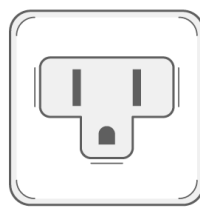
Electric Current

Aruba uses Type A, Type B, and Type F power outlets, and the standard voltage is 110 V with a frequency of 60 Hz. Travelers coming from regions that use 220–240 V or different plug types may need an adaptor and, in some cases, a voltage converter to safely use their devices.

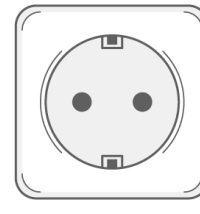
It is recommended to check the voltage specifications of laptops, chargers, and other electronics before traveling to ensure compatibility with Aruban outlets.



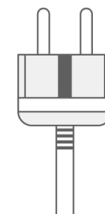
Tipo A



Tipo B



Tipo F



TECHNICAL OFFICIALS FORM

Referees, Starters, Judges, Evaluators

Please submit it to the discipline and copy to office@panamaquatics.com by February 27, 2026

National Federation:	
Technical Official Full Name:	
Closest Airport (Name and IATA Code):	
Technical Official Email Address:	
WhatsApp # (incl. country code):	

Have you served as a technical official during the past four years? YES / NO

If your answer is YES, list meets/events:

Event name	Date	Location	International or National event

English Proficiency (mark with an **X**): Basic () Intermediate () or Advanced ().

Technical Official Certification (if applicable):

National: _____ PanAm List #: _____ AQUA List #: _____

Technical Official Signature: _____

Must be signed by the President or Secretary of the NF:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

NOTE: Team officials may not serve as technical officials, and the expenses of each technical official must be covered by each National Federation (NF).

PRELIMINARY ENTRY FORM

Please complete and send to: office@panamaquatics.com before **January 30, 2026**

National Federation:	
Authorized person:	
Position of authorized person:	
E-mail address:	
WhatsApp # (incl. country code):	

NUMERICAL DELEGATION ENTRY

	Athletes		Team Officials		Technical Officials	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Total number						
Total in delegation						

*Team Officials: Chief of delegation, Delegates, Coaches, Doctors, Staff of the NF.
Technical Officials: Referees, Judges, Technical Controllers, Evaluators.*

National Federation President or General Secretary:

Name: _____ Position: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____