

PANAM AQUATICS OPEN WATER SWIMMING SERIES REGULATIONS

PAQ OW SERIES 1 - EVENTS

- 1.1 The PanAm Aquatics Open Water Swimming Stops (PAQ OWS Stops) must include a 10 km event for each gender. To be eligible, each competition must comply with the World Aquatics (AQUA) Competition Regulations and be officiated by AQUA-certified Open Water Swimming (OWS) referees.
- 1.2 All PAQ OWS Stops shall count toward the annual overall classification and will be categorized within Tiers 3 to 5, in accordance with AQUA Regulations.
- 1.3 A PAQ OWS Stop may be held in conjunction with a National Open Water Swimming Championship or any existing OWS Event. In such cases, two (2) separate result lists must be produced: one for the PAQ OWS Stop and another for the National Championship.
- 1.4 A PAQ OWS Stop shall be organized annually, whenever possible.

PAQ OW SERIES 2 - ORGANIZATION

- 2.1 The Host Federations and the locations where the Stops will be held shall be approved by the PAQ Executive Committee, subject to the recommendation of the PAQ Open Water Swimming Committee (PAQ OWSC).
- 2.2 Each Host Federation shall provide all relevant event information, including hotel rates, to PAQ no later than ten (10) weeks prior to the start of the event, so that PAQ can distribute it to all PAQ Member Federations.
- 2.3 For each Stop, the PAQ OWSC shall nominate one (1) Technical Delegate.

PAQ OW SERIES 3 - COMPETITION FORMAT

3.1 Ranking and Point System

- 3.2.1 Separate rankings shall be maintained for men and women.
- 3.2.2 Points shall be awarded at each Stop as follows:

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| ➤ 1 st : 800 points | ➤ 3 rd : 700 points |
| ➤ 2 nd : 750 points | ➤ 4 th : 650 points |

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| ➤ 5 th : 600 points | ➤ 17 th : 160 points |
| ➤ 6 th : 550 points | ➤ 18 th : 150 points |
| ➤ 7 th : 500 points | ➤ 19 th : 140 points |
| ➤ 8 th : 450 points | ➤ 20 th : 130 points |
| ➤ 9 th : 400 points | ➤ 21 st : 120 points |
| ➤ 10 th : 350 points | ➤ 22 nd : 110 points |
| ➤ 11 th : 300 points | ➤ 23 rd : 108 points |
| ➤ 12 th : 250 points | ➤ 24 th : 106 points |
| ➤ 13 th : 200 points | ➤ 25 th : 104 points |
| ➤ 14 th : 190 points | ➤ 26 th : 102 points |
| ➤ 15 th : 180 points | ➤ 27 th : 100 points |
| ➤ 16 th : 170 points | ➤ Decreasing by 1 point thereafter. |

3.2 Disqualification

3.2.1 If, in the opinion of the Referee(s), any swimmer or the swimmer's approved representative or escort safety craft gains an advantage by violating the rules or by making intentional contact with another swimmer, the following procedures shall apply:

- **1st Infraction:** A yellow flag and a card displaying the swimmer's number shall be raised to indicate that the swimmer is in violation of the Rules. This serves as an official warning.
- **2nd Infraction:** A red flag and a card displaying the swimmer's number shall be raised to indicate a second violation of the Rules. The swimmer shall be disqualified and must leave the water immediately.

3.2.2 If, in the opinion of the Referee, a swimmer or an escort craft engages in unsporting behavior, the Referee shall immediately disqualify the swimmer concerned in accordance with the AQUA Rules.

PAQ OW SERIES 4 - PARTICIPATION

4.1 All swimmers may participate in any Stop, provided they are nominated by their respective National Federation or by a club in good standing with that Federation.

PAQ OW SERIES 5 - ENTRIES TO QUALIFYING EVENTS

5.1 Preliminary Entries, indicating the expected number of participants (without names), shall be submitted to the Host Federation, with a copy to the PAQ Office, no later than six (6) weeks prior to the start of the competition.

- 5.2 Named Entries shall be submitted to the Host Federation by the deadline established in the summons. Federations may withdraw a named entry up to ten (10) days prior to the start of the competition. Withdrawals made after this deadline shall incur a fine of sixty-five United States dollars (USD 65), payable to PAQ, for each registered competitor who fails to start.

PAQ OW SERIES 6 - MEDALS AND PRIZE MONEY

6.1 At each Stop

- 6.1.1 Medals shall be awarded by the Host Federation to the competitors placing first, second, and third in both the men's and women's categories (only two competitors per country are eligible to medal per stop). Additional prize money may be granted at the discretion of the Host Federation.

6.2 For the General Classification

- 6.2.1 A trophy shall be awarded by PAQ to the competitors with the highest number of points at the final stop.
- 6.2.2 Prize Money shall be allocated in accordance with the system communicated by PAQ at the beginning of each calendar year. A total of six (6) athletes, three (3) per gender, shall be eligible for the Prize Money distribution.

PAQ OW SERIES 7 - TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

- 7.1 Each participating Federation may nominate, at its own expense, one or two qualified Technical Officials. The qualification of judges is not limited to the AQUA list but must be approved by PAQ. Nominations shall be submitted to the PAQ Office, with a copy to the Host Federation, together with the Named Entries.
- 7.2 The Host Federation shall provide all other officials required for the proper conduct of the event.

PAQ OW SERIES 8 - FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

- 8.1 The Host Federation of any Stop shall provide:
- a. Transportation between the nearest airport or train station and the official hotel(s), and return, for the PAQ Technical Delegate, and the Referee(s).

- b. Local transportation between the official hotel(s) and the competition/training venues for the PAQ Technical Delegate, and the Referee(s).
- c. Training sessions of at least two (2) hours per day at the competition site and/or in a pool, beginning two (2) days prior to the start of the competition.

8.2 Each participating Federation shall be financially responsible for all other expenses incurred by its team.

PAQ OW SERIES 9 - RESULT LISTS

9.1 Each Host Federation shall provide:

- a. A digital results file in HyTek, Lenex, or ODF format shall be provided for World Aquatics. The Host Federation must send this file to the PAQ Office.
- b. Additionally, one (1) PDF file containing the full official results shall be provided to both the PAQ Technical Delegate and the PAQ Office.

9.2 The PAQ Office shall forward the official results to AQUA for inclusion in the corresponding gender rankings.