

## Swimming Australia International Clearance Guidelines

### Background

In adherence to World Aquatics Rules GR2, GR3 and GR4, all athletes wishing to compete overseas individually or with their club or state (not when representing Australia), are required to apply for a clearance from Swimming Australia in order to compete overseas. All athletes wishing to compete in Australia are also required to have a clearance prior to competing. This includes both Pool and Open Water Swimmers of all ages and abilities. Please note that athletes, clubs or state groups that are departing Australia for training camps only are not required to complete this process, it is only for athletes and groups competing overseas.

The relevant World Aquatics Rules have been included at the end of this document as an appendix.

### Guidelines

- Athletes, Clubs or State bodies are required to complete the Swimming Australia Clearance Form. Clearance applications not submitted on the correct form will not be accepted
- Applications should be submitted to Swimming Australia no later than 28 days prior to departure.
- Approval will need to be sought from the relevant state body before submitting to Swimming Australia.
- The Swimming Australia International Clearance Form can be found on each State Member Organisation website or by contacting your State Member Organisation directly.

### Exert from World Aquatics Rule Book

#### GR 2 International Relations

GR 2.1 A competition organised by a National Federation, Regional Body or Club in which other World Aquatics recognised Federations, Clubs or Individuals participate, shall be regarded as an International Competition.

GR 2.2 A member shall not admit to its membership any club affiliated to another Member.

GR 2.3 Any competitor who temporarily or permanently changes his residence to another country may join a club affiliated to the Member in the new country and shall be regarded as coming within the jurisdiction of the latter.

GR 2.4 No team shall be designated by the title of a country or Sport Country unless the competitors have been selected by the Member of the Country or Sport Country.

GR 2.5 When a competitor represents his/her country in a competition; he/she shall be a citizen, whether by birth or naturalisation, of the nation he/she represents, providing that a naturalised citizen shall have lived in that country for at least one year prior to that competition. Competitors, who have more than one nationality according to the laws of the respective nations must choose one "Sport Nationality". This choice shall be exercised by the first representation of the competitor for one (1) of the countries.

GR 2.6 Any competitor changing his affiliation from one national governing body to another must have resided in the territory of and been under the jurisdiction of the latter for at least twelve months prior to his first representation for the country.

GR 2.7 Any application for change of affiliation must be approved by World Aquatics.

### **GR 3 Tours in Foreign Countries**

GR 3.1 A competitor competing at a competition in a foreign country shall be a member of an affiliated Member or of a club affiliated thereto. This sanction shall apply equally to judges, officials, trainers and coaches.

GR 3.2 All competitors must have received sanction by the Member where the competition takes place, and all competitors or clubs must have permission from their respective member.

GR 3.3 In every case of a dispute, the rules of the Member or recognised Continent body under whose jurisdiction the competition is held shall be enforced. During the Olympic Games, World Championships, and other World Aquatics competitions, World Aquatics Rules are applicable.

### **GR4 Unauthorised Relations**

GR 4.1 No affiliated Member shall have any kind of relationship with a non affiliated or suspended body.

GR 4.2 The exchange of competitors, administrators, directors, judges, officials, trainers, coaches etc. with non affiliated or suspended bodies is not permissible.

GR 4.3 The holding of demonstrations and/or exhibitions, clinics, training, competitions, etc. with non-affiliated or suspended bodies is not permissible.

GR 4.4 The Bureau may authorise relations with non-affiliated or suspended bodies in Rules GR 4.1 through GR 4.3 above.

GR 4.5 Any individual or group violating this Rule shall be suspended by the affiliated Member for a minimum of one year, up to a maximum of two years. World Aquatics retains the right to review the suspension made by the affiliated Member and to increase it up to the maximum of two years in accordance with the circumstances involved. The affiliated Member shall abide by any such increase made on review. In the event that such individual or group has resigned its membership with the affiliated Member or is not a Member, it shall not be allowed to affiliate with that Member for a minimum period of three months up to a maximum period of two years. World Aquatics retain the right to review any such sanction imposed by the affiliated Member and to increase it up to the maximum of two years in accordance with the circumstances involved. The affiliated Member shall abide by any such increase made on review.

GR 4.6 Each Member that conducts a competition shall strictly enforce the World Aquatics Rules governing eligibility.