



FINSWIMMING

TECHNICAL HANDBOOK

FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS



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INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY
SPORTS
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. HISTORY	2
2. STATISTICS	2
3. GENERAL SCHEDULE	2
4. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES	2
4.1. General Entry (Deadline: -6 months to the event)	2
4.2. Quantitative Entry (Deadline: -3 months to the event)	3
4.3. Individual Entry (Deadline: -1 month to the event)	3
5. SPORT REGULATIONS	4
5.1. Competition Disciplines	4
5.2. Competition Procedures	4
5.3. Delegations Composition	4
6. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS	5
6.1. International Technical Officials	5
6.2. National Technical Officials	6
7. SPORT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	7
7.1. Competition Venues	7
7.2. Training Venues	7
7.3. Equipment	7
8. TRAININGS	8
9. MEDICAL SERVICES	8
10. DOPING CONTROL	9
11. PROTOCOL, SPORT PRESENTATION & AWARDING	9
11.1. Medals Table	9
11.2. Sport Presentation	10
11.3. Finswimming Pre-Competition Protocol	11
12. SERVICES	12
12.1. Ice	12
12.2. Laundry	12
12.3. Wi-Fi	12
13. GENERAL TIMELINE	13

1. HISTORY

Since 2018, Finswimming is a FISU Recognised Sport and several endorsed events have been organised. The sport entered officially the FISU sport programme in 2020 and the first University World Cup Finswimming was held in 2022, in Lignano Sabbiadoro, Italy.

The second edition, which took place in 2024, adopted a Championships format, allowing athletes to represent their countries rather than their universities. The event was held in Pereira, Colombia, and featured a high level of athletic participation, resulting in the establishment of numerous new FISU records.

2. STATISTICS

EDITION	YEAR	COUNTRY	CITY	COUNTRIES	ATHLETES			OFFs	TOTAL
					M	W	TOT		
1	2022	ITA	Lignano Sabbiadoro	15	48	42	90	23	113
2	2024	COL	Pereira	16	59	52	111	27	138

3. GENERAL SCHEDULE

DAY -3	DAY -2	DAY -1	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
A	A	GTM / OC	C	C / CC	D

Legend: A – Arrivals / CC – Closing Ceremony / C – Competition / D – Departures / GTM – General Technical Meeting / OC – Opening Ceremony

For Finswimming, the competitions shall last 2 days

4. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

4.1. GENERAL ENTRY (DEADLINE: -6 MONTHS TO THE EVENT)

The General Entry is the first stage of the registration process, where delegations are invited to register, through the NUSFs, for the Championship indicating a general interest in participating in the event.

Teams and athletes are not required to submit any documentation or undergo a selection processes.

The submission of a General Entry Form is non-binding, indicating only initial interest by the NUSF but not final commitment

4.2. QUANTITATIVE ENTRY (DEADLINE: -3 MONTHS TO THE EVENT)

During the Quantitative Entry the NUSF delegation commits to participate and confirms the delegation composition in terms of numbers and although it does not yet provide individual details, it requires the NUSFs to submit an accurate count of delegation members.

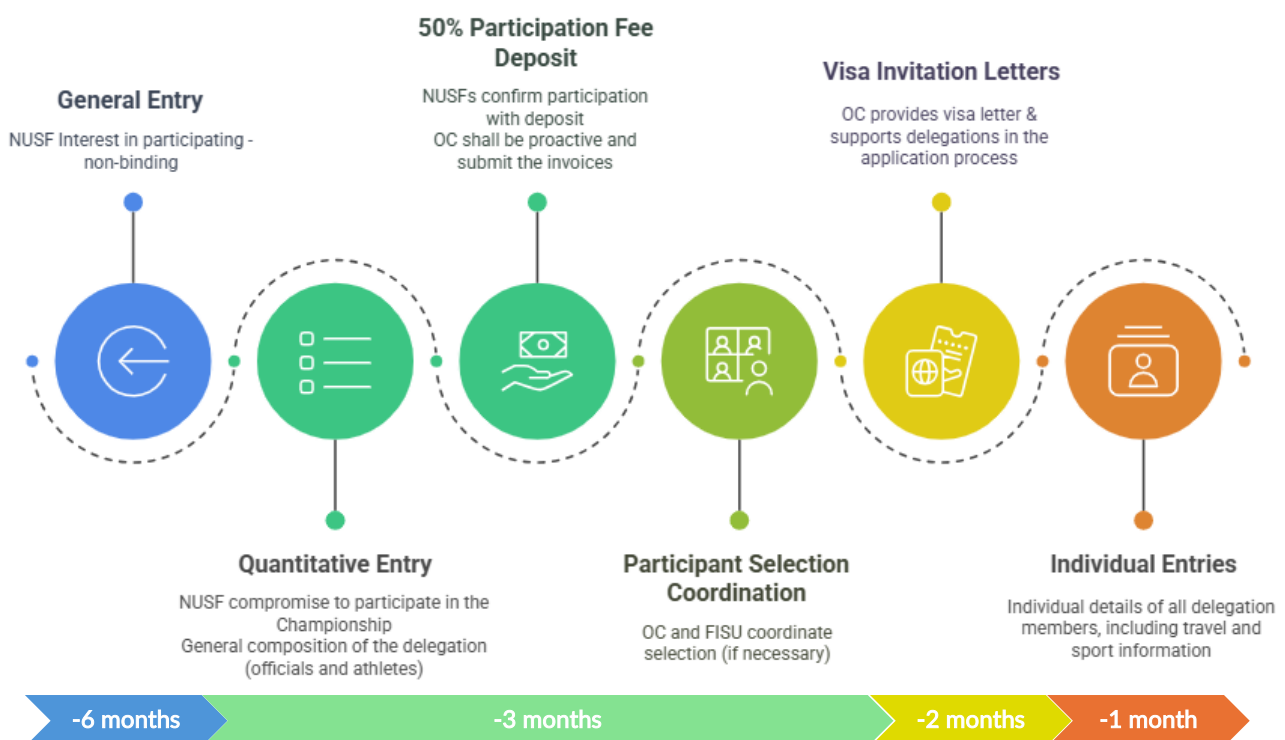
At this stage, a 50% payment of the participation fees is due and must be settled by the Quantitative Entry deadline. By proceeding with the payment, the delegation confirms its participation in the Championship.

This deposit serves as a participation guarantee, and is non-refundable in case of withdrawal, with refunds subject to FISU General Regulations and any OC-specific cancellation policies

4.3. INDIVIDUAL ENTRY (DEADLINE: -1 MONTH TO THE EVENT)

The Individual Entry is the final step in FISU event registration. The NUSF must provide all relevant data and documentation for each delegation member.

The remaining 50% of the participation fees is paid in full to the Organising Committee by this deadline. Failure to do so may result in non-participation in the Championship, unless specifically approved by the Organising Committee



5. SPORT REGULATIONS

The Finswimming competitions shall be organised following the most recent Technical Regulations of the World Underwater Federation (CMAS). In case of dispute in the interpretation of the rules, the English text shall be regarded as authoritative.

The competitions shall last 2 days as indicated in the General Schedule (Section 3) and the competition programme shall be proposed by the Organising Committee Competition Manager and confirmed by the FISU TCC, including the following events:

5.1. COMPETITION DISCIPLINES

INDIVIDUAL DISCIPLINES (MEN's & WOMEN's)			
50m AP			
100m SF	200m SF	400m SF	800m SF
50m BF	100m BF	200m BF	400m BF

MIXED RELAYS			
4x50m SF	4x50m BF	4x100m SF	4x100m BF

The Mixed Relay Team is composed of 4 athletes (2 men and 2 women), and the starting order will be M – W – M – W

5.2. COMPETITION PROCEDURES

- If, during the same event, several swimmers touch the wall simultaneously, they are awarded the same ranking in the official records. This rule also applies to identical times recorded to the 1/100th of a second in different heats.
- When a decision is required regarding semi-final or final qualification, the result of a swim-off—an additional race conducted to determine qualification—is considered the decisive factor.
- A swim-off may take place no less than one hour after the involved swimmers have completed their heats.

In the event of multiple swimmers touching the wall simultaneously in a final, they are awarded the same position in the official records. The podium will feature three medallists according to their positions and any ex aequo results. However, if there is a tie for third place, resulting in more than three medallists, the podium will display four medallists

5.3. DELEGATIONS COMPOSITION

A. Athletes

DISCIPLINE	MEN's	WOMEN's
Individual	Max. 2 per discipline	Max. 2 per discipline
Mixed Relays	Max. 2 teams per relay (2 men + 2 women)	
Max. 36 athletes (18 men & 18 women) per delegation		



Athletes are eligible to participate in both Individual and Mixed Relay events, subject to the total participant limit. There is no restriction on the number of disciplines or relays in which an athlete can be entered

The Finswimming CMAS license is not compulsory for participation in this competition; however, the athletes' CMAS ID numbers will be recorded in the FISU database to facilitate athlete identification and linkage

To encourage broader participation, teams comprised of athletes from different countries, and formed randomly on-site (FISU Teams), are eligible to compete in the mixed relay events. FISU Teams will not be included in the final standings, nor be eligible for medals

At the Technical Meeting, the Head of Delegation or his/her representative shall confirm and sign the official list of competitors accredited by the CIC

B. Officials

TOTAL NUMBER OF ATHLETES	TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICIALS
1 to 9 athletes	Max. 2 officials
10 to 19 athletes	Max. 4 officials
Over 19 athletes	Max. 5 officials

6. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

6.1. INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

For the FISU Championship, the ITOs are appointed by CMAS, with the endorsement of FISU. This appointment process considers several critical factors, including the number of participants, the level and availability of NTOs, and the goal to minimise expenses when possible. To achieve cost-efficiency, CMAS will aim to nominate ITOs from neighbouring countries whenever feasible. This approach not only fosters regional cooperation but also optimises resources.

A. Number & Roles of ITOs

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS	
NUMBER	FUNCTION
1	Chief Judge
1	Starter
1	Speaker
1	Pre-Start Judge
2	Style Judge
A total of 6 ITOs are required	

B. ITOs Costs

According to the Collaboration Convention signed between FISU and CMAS, the costs of the ITOs are the following:

- CMAS will cover:
 - Technical Delegate's flights
 - ITOs flights
 - ITO's per-diem
- Organising Committee shall provide:
 - Technical Delegate's accommodation in single room
 - Technical Delegate's meals
 - Technical Delegate's internal transportation
 - ITOs' accommodation
 - ITOs' meals
 - ITOs' internal transportation

6.2. NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

Concerning the NTOs, these individuals are appointed by the Finswimming National Federation or the appropriate governing bodies within a country, under the supervision of the Organising Committee.

A. Number & Roles of NTOs

NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS	
NUMBER	FUNCTION
1	Chief Timekeeper
8	Timekeeper
8	Turning Judge
2	Assistant Style Judge
2	Finish Judge
A total of 21 NTOs are required	

B. Agreement with the NF

Concerning the NTOs participation, it falls outside the scope of FISU or CMAS. It is therefore advisable for the Organising Committee to reach an agreement directly with the National Federation. This collaboration will help ensure clarity and alignment on the financial aspects associated with it, including the following:

- NTOs Nomination – Ensure all NTOs possess the necessary qualifications to work in an international event
- Management and distribution of the technical official's clothing/uniforms
- Arrangement of suitable accommodation for the required period, if needed

It is strongly recommended to initiate communication with the National Federation promptly regarding the appointment of these officials. This proactive approach will help avert any potential personnel shortages that may arise from conflicting event dates, thereby expanding the available options and ensuring a more successful engagement

7. SPORT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

7.1. COMPETITION VENUES

- Number of competition venues – 1
- Type of venues – Indoor or Outdoor swimming pool
- Swimming pool:
 - Length – 50m
 - Width – min. 21m
 - Depth – 1,80m
 - Starting blocks on each poolside
- Lighting – Minimum 1.500 lux

7.2. TRAINING VENUES

- Number of training venues – 1
 - Complementary warming up and recovery
- Type of venue – Indoor or Outdoor swimming pool
- Swimming pool – min. 25m length

7.3. EQUIPMENT

A. Venue Equipment

- Timekeeping with 16 touchpads and 16 plates on the surface of starting blocks connected with the timekeeping system to judge false starts
- Video scoreboard (compatible with the countdown before the start of 1'15)
- 2 ropes with flags on poles with a minimum 1m above the surface to delimitate 15m zones on each side of the pool
- 15m areas marked with a 20cm wide strip that must be fixed on the floor of the swimming pool, away from each start and turning wall

Please refer to the [Minimum Requirements document](#) for more detailed information

B. Sport Equipment

- All authorised CMAS-certified equipment should be checked on the CMAS website
 - [Appendix 1 Homologated Bi Fins](#)
 - [Appendix 2 Homologated Swimsuits](#)
 - Bullet point 2.5.1.4. on Monofins in the [CMAS Finswimming Rules 2025](#)
 - [Appendix 3 Homologated Monofins](#)

8. TRAININGS

The Organising Committee is responsible for coordinating and communicating the training schedule to each delegation, ensuring appropriate access to facilities based on the sport and competition schedule. Some of the factors to be considered are:

- Create a training schedule based on the indications of the FISU TCC
- Consider the usage of the main competition venue, if needed and appropriate
- Provide hydration and basic medical assistance for training sessions
- Share a detailed training plan with each delegation at least 48 hours before their arrival
- Ensure training venue availability throughout the Championship
- Trainings are available from the first official arrival day

Please refer to the Section 5.2.3 of the General Handbook for more detailed information regarding Trainings

9. MEDICAL SERVICES

A. FISU Requirements

- First aid and Emergency Medical care
- Medical transportation
- OC on-call first aid medical services shall be available on a 24-hour basis
- A minimum of two ambulances per venue should be available and on duty from the start of warm-up until at least 45 minutes after the final competition of the day

B. Participants Medical Insurance

All participants must have valid travel medical insurance, covering:

- 24/7 Emergency Assistance
- Emergency Medical Expenses
- Medical Evacuation/Repatriation
- Trip Cancellation/Interruption
- Accidental Death or Injury

The OC is solely responsible for providing first aid, emergency medical care, and transportation to the designated hospital. All other medical costs shall be borne by the participant's insurance

Refer to Section 3.4.1 of the General Handbook for more detailed information regarding Medical Services

10. DOPING CONTROL

A. FISU Requirements

- The requirements regarding the number and type of doping tests, as well as the total number of tests to be conducted, can be found in the *FISU Doping Test Requirements* document. This information is available exclusively to the Organising Committee.
- The OC Doctor or Head of the Medical area shall coordinate the doping testing and contact the FISU CMI to clarify the moment or disciplines in which the tests will be carried out.
- All doping tests costs (including collection, transportation, laboratory analyses) shall be borne by the Organising Committee.

B. Athletes Selection

- Athletes are eligible for testing once accredited until departing from the official event accommodation.

Please refer to Section 3.4.2 of the General Handbook for more detailed information regarding Doping Control

11. PROTOCOL, SPORT PRESENTATION & AWARDING

11.1. MEDALS TABLE

FINSWIMMING									
DISCIPLINE	MEN			WOMEN			MIXED RELAY		
	G	S	B	G	S	B	G	S	B
50m AP	1	1	1	1	1	1			
100m SF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
200m SF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
400m SF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
800m SF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
50m BF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
100m BF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
200m BF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
400m BF	1	1	1	1	1	1			
4x50m SF							4	4	4
4x100m SF							4	4	4
4x50m BF							4	4	4
4x100m BF							4	4	4
TOTAL	9	9	9	9	9	9	16	16	16

A. FISU Requirements

The Organising Committee is responsible for providing the medals as shown in the table above. Medals must be awarded for all individual and mixed relay events. The top three athletes/teams in each discipline (individual and mixed relay) are eligible for medals.

The table below provides a comprehensive overview of the total number of medals awarded across all competition disciplines. Please note that extra/reserve medal sets and the FISU set are not included in these figures.

FINSWIMMING MEDALS	
Gold	34
Silver	34
Bronze	34

The Organising Committee must provide FISU with a set of medals of the event

B. Recommendations & Considerations

It is crucial to have additional sets of medals on hand as a contingency. Some medals may be defective, or athletes may achieve the same final time, necessitating duplicate medals of the same type.

Medals are not mandatory for Officials in Finswimming. Trophies are also not required as there's no team ranking

11.2. SPORT PRESENTATION

Sports presentation is vital for elevating a Championship from a competition to an unforgettable experience. It encompasses everything from music and lighting to commentary and fan engagement, creating a unique atmosphere that engages the audience.

In case there is a big screen in the venue for the spectators, some educational video (provided by CMAS) regarding the sports and its rules, including how to reach the finals and medal, can be displayed at the beginning of the competition day

A. FISU Requirements

- **Audio Elements**
 - Sound System: A high-quality sound system is essential for announcements, music, and commentary, ensuring clear communication and an engaging atmosphere.
 - Microphone: Essential for general announcements such as schedule, results, athletes introduction, general information, and others.
 - Thematic Music: Curate an energetic playlist to be played during introductions, warm-ups, and medal ceremonies to elevate the excitement.
- **Commentary and Announcing**
 - Live Announcements: Make timely announcements regarding event schedules, race results, and athlete backgrounds to keep the audience informed and engaged.
- **Athletes Introduction**
 - Ceremonial Introductions: Develop exciting and personalized introductions for the athletes, showcasing their achievements and backgrounds. This builds anticipation before each heat. This task shall be done by the Speaker ITO.

B. Recommendations & Considerations

- **Audio Elements**
 - DJ: Enhances the atmosphere and overall experience of a sports competition, by creating and maintaining energy, motivating the athletes and engaging the crowd.
- **Commentary and Announcing**
 - Engaging Commentary: Hire knowledgeable commentators who can provide insights about the athletes, techniques, and race strategies. This adds depth to the viewing experience.

11.3. FINSWIMMING PRE-COMPETITION PROTOCOL

A. General Principles

Athletes should be prepared in the Prestart room at least 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the event, in accordance with the start time specified for "Athletes Introduced and Called to Start" in the DCAS, which will be in the event's Bulletin. Please note that this DCAS will be updated following the Individual Entry deadline, once the starting lists have been finalised.

B. Athletes Introduction

- **Heats:** When the swimmers arrive on the pool deck, they sit down on the corresponding chair and wait for the presentation by the speaker of each swimmer. The swimmer must stand up, wave with a hand when his/her name is announced by the speaker, then sit down again waiting for the chief Judge's signal.
- **Finals:** The speaker announces the swimmers who stay in the prestart room one by one. The presentation order is by the lane number (alternative descending based on times realised during the heats, from the 8th time to the athlete who qualified with the best time).
 - The swimmers go one by one to the pool deck when their names are announced.
 - When the swimmer arrives on the pool deck, he/she sits down on the corresponding chair, and waits for the end of the presentation and the Chief Judge's signal.

FINSWIMMING PRE-COMPETITION PROTOCOL	
TIME	ACTIVITY
-20'	- End of warm-up and athletes go to the call room
-15'	- Athletes are ready to be called to the pool for the first start
-10'	- Board of Judges entry within the Field of Play
-8'	- Chief Judge, Starter, CMAS Technical Delegate introduction
-8'	- Time Keeping company name introduction
-8'	- Introduction of the session program
-5'	- Athletes' introduction, according to the protocol above
-1'30"	- Preparation for the first start
0'	- Start of the competition

12. SERVICES

The Organising Committee should provide a variety of services for the event, including:

- Ice
- Laundry
- Wi-Fi

12.1. ICE

The supply of ice is one of the most common requests from participating delegations, particularly for injury treatment and recovery purposes.

- The Organising Committee must supply ice for treating injuries during both practice and competition, as part of the medical coverage for the event. It does not cover large quantities of ice needed for recovery treatments, such as cryotherapy.

The Organising Committee secure a reliable ice provider on standby, anticipating the request from teams and establishing clear procedures for ice procurement, including pricing and how to access this service

12.2. LAUNDRY

Laundry services are essential for many sports, particularly in long-duration competitions and team sports, where athletes may require frequent changes of clothing.

- Laundry services must be provided in all Team Sports Championships and in all sports with more than four competition days.
- Self-Service or Full-Service Laundry can be considered (hotel/accommodation and external services included in the latter)

Self-Service is the preferred option, giving more flexibility and control to the teams. If not, it is important to negotiate reduced pricing and adjust the timing for collection/delivery of uniforms with the provider

12.3. WI-FI

Wi-Fi is an essential service for university students, as it serves as a critical infrastructure that fosters communication and supports their academic responsibilities.

- Participants can easily access real-time information about event schedules, results, and updates. This allows them to plan their day effectively, ensuring they don't miss out on key events and activities.
- Participants can engage with live broadcasts, social media updates, and other digital content related to the event.
- For many students, academic responsibilities continue even during events. Wi-Fi connection ensures they can access study materials and educational resources, maintain communication with professors, and keep up with online courses.

Wi-Fi should be provided free of charge for all participants at the event, both at the accommodation sites and at the competition venues

Please refer to the Section 3.11 of the General Handbook for more detailed information on all services

13. GENERAL TIMELINE

TIMELINE	ACTIONS
Event -12 months	• Coordination Visit ◦ Venues visit and Equipment approval (FISU TCC) • Competition programme approval (FISU TCC) • Venue medical plan approval (FISU TCC)
Event -6 months	• General Entries (NUSFs)
Event -3 months	• Quantitative Entries (NUSFs) • 50% payment from participating countries (NUSFs / OC) • ITOs & NTOs list (FISU / CMAS)
Event -1 months	• Individual Entries (NUSFs) • 100% payment from participating countries (NUSFs / OC) • Final Bulletin (OC / FISU / FISU TCC)
Event -1 day	• Accreditation and participants list confirmation (NUSFs) • Technical Officials Meeting (ITOs / NTOs / TCC / OC) • General Technical Meeting (NUSFs / OC / FISU)
EVENT	
Event +1 week	• Send all documents and media to FISU (OC)
Event +1 month	• Final Report to FISU (OC)

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