



World Para  
**Swimming**

World Para Swimming  
**Rules and Regulations**  
February 2026

## APPENDIX THREE: FACILITIES

The Facilities Rules are intended to provide the best possible environment for competition for competitive use and training. These Facilities Rules are not intended to govern issues related to the general public. Activities undertaken by the public are the responsibility of the owner or controller of a facility.

The Facilities Rules form part of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations and can be found in **Appendix Three: Facilities**.

### 1. FACILITIES

#### 1.1 General

1.1.1 World Para Swimming recognises two (2) kinds of pools:

1.1.1.1 World Para Swimming **Paralympic Standard Pools: Paralympic Games**, World Para Swimming Championships, World Para Swimming Sanctioned Competitions and World Para Swimming Approved Plus Competitions should be held in a Paralympic Standard Pool that complies with Rule 1.2 and 1.3 below, but World Para Swimming may waive certain standards for existing pools if it does not materially interfere with the competition.

1.1.1.2 World Para Swimming **Minimum Standard Pools: World Para Swimming** Approved Competitions shall be conducted in pools which comply with all of the minimum standards contained in Rule 1.2 below.

1.1.2 The swimming pool and the technical equipment for Paralympic Games, World Para Swimming Championships, World Para Swimming Sanctioned Competitions and World Para Swimming Approved Plus Competitions shall be inspected and approved prior to the swimming competitions by the appointed Technical Delegate and World Para Swimming.

and 0.3m above the surface of the water and must be free of hazardous openings above or below the waterline which may be penetrated by an Athlete's hand, feet, toes or fingers. A bulkhead must be of a design that provides for the free movement of officials along its length without such movement creating any appreciable current or water turbulence.

### **1.3 Paralympic Standard Swimming Pools (for both permanent and temporary swimming pools)**

- 1.3.1 Length: 50.0 metres between the AOE touch panels, except for the Short Course World Para Swimming Championships, which shall be 25.0 metres between the AOE touch panels at the starting end and the wall or touch panels at the turning end.
  - 1.3.1.1 Dimensional tolerances as in 1.2.2
  - 1.3.1.2 **Width: 25.0 metres.**
  - 1.3.1.3 Depth: minimum two (2) metres.
  - 1.3.1.4 Walls: as in 1.2.4.
  - 1.3.1.5 The pools must be equipped with flush walls at both ends.
  - 1.3.1.6 **Number of lanes:** min. eight (8) lanes for World Para Swimming Championships and ten (10) lanes for Paralympic Games.
  - 1.3.1.7 **Lanes shall be 2.5 metres wide with two** (2) spaces 2.5 metres wide outside of lanes 1 and 8. There must be a lane rope separating these spaces from lanes 1 and 8. If the pool has 10 lanes, these must be marked from 0 to 9.
  - 1.3.1.8 For World Para Swimming Championships there must be a lane rope separating these spaces from lanes 0 and 9
- 1.3.2 Lane Ropes: As in Rule 1.2.6.
- 1.3.3 Starting Platforms: as in Rule 1.2.7. Except the surface area shall be at least 0.5