



SARDINIA 2023 WORLD PARA SWIMMING OPEN WATER CUP

- version 20/09/2023 -



General



- “World Para Swimming – Rules & Regulations” (June 2023) will apply
 - PART A: “General”
 - PART B: “World Para Swimming Regulations”
 - PART C: “World Para Swimming Competition Rules”
 - 10 “General Competition Rules” (i.e.: Technical Protests, minus one rules)
 - APPENDIX 1 “OPEN WATER”

- Where there is any conflict between the Rules, then World Para Swimming Appendix 1 Open Water Rules shall apply

The Venue

- Clear and accessible pathways for para-Athletes (also wheelchair accessible) are provided
 - from road surface/shore to “Identification & Call Room” Area
 - from “Identification & Call Room” Area to Start Area
 - from Finish Area to shore
- “Identification & Call Room” Area is a covered area 100 m² wide
- The pathways are wooden walkways
- The pathways arrive close to the waterline
- “Job chairs” are available for wheelchair Athletes
- Expected Water Temperature (seasonal norm): between 23 and 26 °C
- Expected Air Temperature (seasonal norm): about 25 °C

The Start

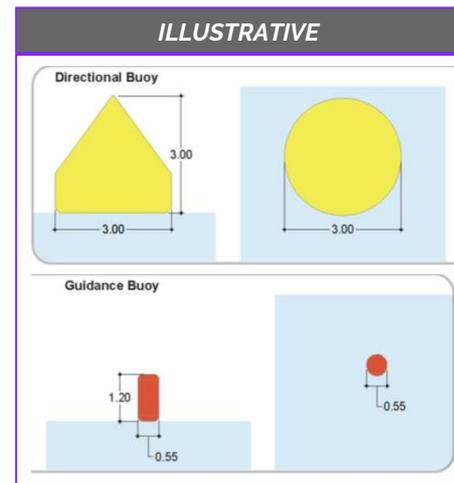
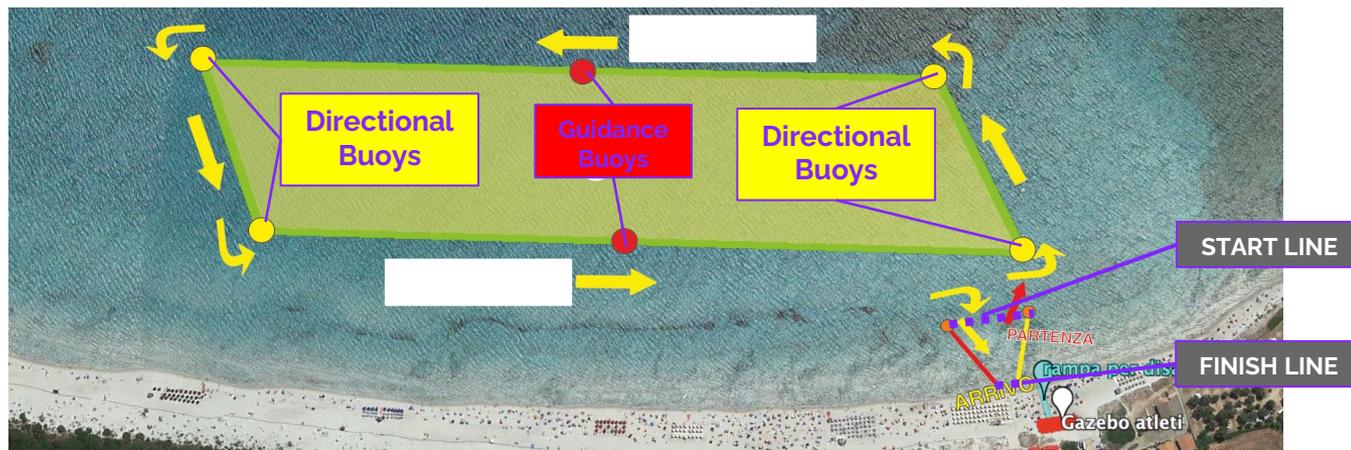


- The Start is in the water (about 100 cm deep, sufficient to commence swimming on the start signal)
- No Starting Platform
- Start line is clearly defined by a rope at water level

- Starting procedure as in WPS Rules
 - When the start is imminent: Chief Referee/Referee shall indicate this with flag held upright & short blasts
 - Start under Starter's Order: Chief Referee/Referee points the flag at the Starter
 - "Take your marks" (and flag held upright by the Starter): all Athletes shall take up their Starting Position
 - When all Athletes are considered ready, the Starter give the starting signal
 - The starting signal is both audible and visual (flags lowered by the Starter)

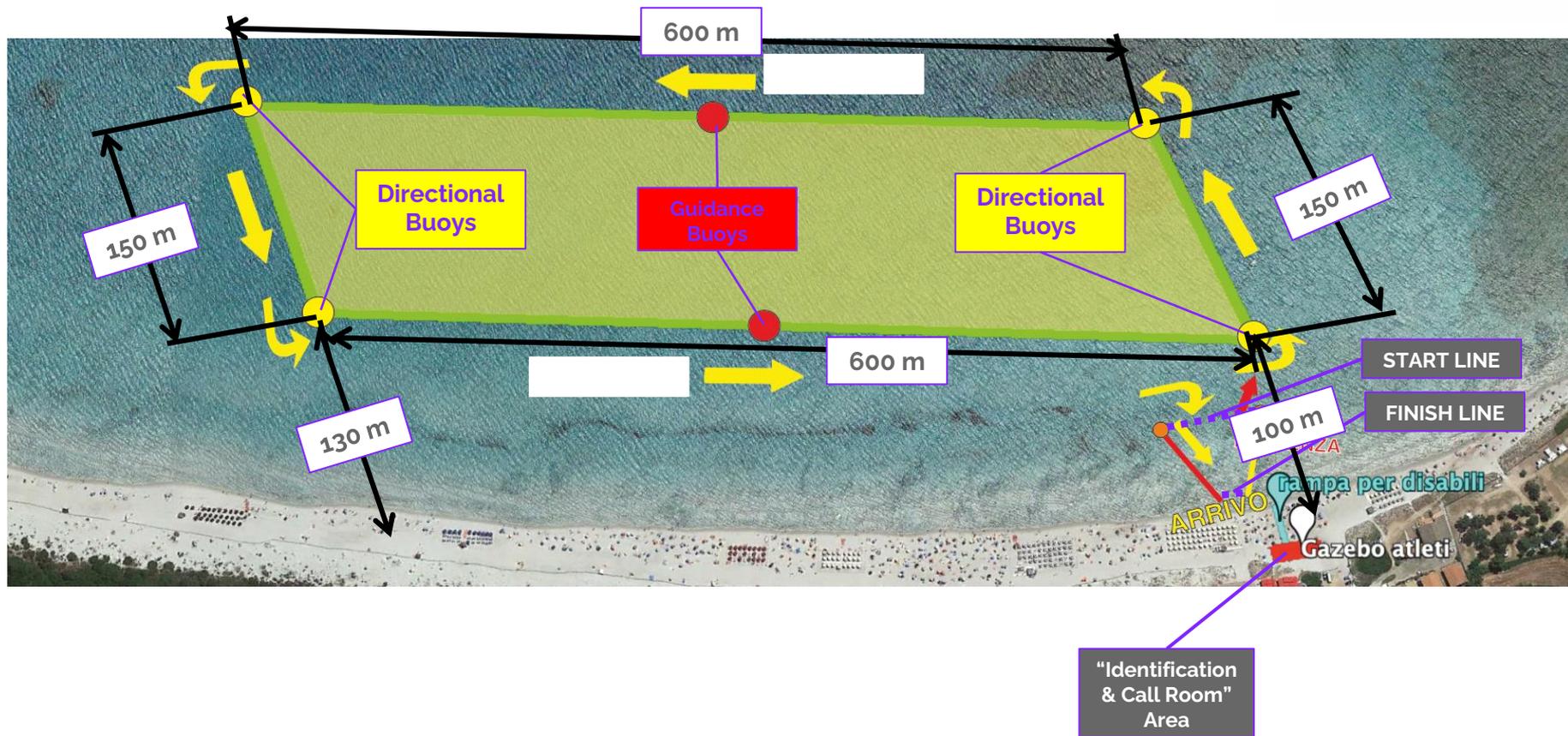
The Course

- Rectangular Course 1,5 km long
 - 1 lap for 1,5 km Event
 - 2 laps for 3 km Event
- 4 mandatory Directional Buoys (yellow) and 2 Guidance Buoys (red)
- Clockwise or counterclockwise TBC * (depending on weather)



(*) The final decision is being confirmed during the Technical Meeting and during the Pre-Race Briefing before the start

The Course



The Finish



- The area leading to the Finish apparatus is clearly marked by rows of buoys which narrow as they get closer to the finish wall
- Finish wall is fixed to floatation devices, securely fastened in place so not to be moved
- Athletes must touch the Finish wall to finish the race
 - Any Athlete who does not touch the finish wall will be disqualified *
 - *“Referee’s discretion” will be used based on Para-Athletes’ impairment*
- Microchip Transponder is provided to Athletes (n. 1 transponder each Athlete)
 - It is mandatory for all Athletes to wear the microchip transponder throughout the race
 - The transponder must be on the wrist
 - Athletes with no upper limbs shall be provided with alternatives means to attach transponders (i.e.: attached to swimsuit, or, last chance, at ankles)
 - If an Athlete loses the transponder, he/she must inform the nearest Technical Official to replace it
 - Any Athlete who finish the race without the transponder will be reported for disqualification
- Cameras not available to film and record the finish

Water Quality & Hazards



- The water is normally used for “touristic swimming” (it is declared swimmable by local Authority)
 - Additionally, before starting the event, water will be chemical analyzed in 3 different point of the course (i.e.: verifying Escherichia coli absence)
- Marine Life hazards (i.e.: jellyfish): since jellyfish phenomenon is influenced by
 - Sea currents
 - Climatic conditions
 - Jellyfish food availability in the waterthere is no foolproof method to predict where and when jellyfish could appear. Anyway L.O.C. and local Authority monitor this issue normally.

Safety & Rescue Capability



- n. 4 Lifesaver (with torpedo equipment) on boats along the course

- First Aid Tent on the shore
 - n. 2 Doctors
 - Paramedics First Aid Staff
 - n. 1 Ambulance in case of hospital transportation
 - n. 1 boat always ready and available for Doctor

- Chief Security Guard & Security Staff are provided

- Boats: Inflatable Boats (Canoes as additional support)

Boats along the course

- n. 1 Referee Boat
- n. 4 Turn Judge Boats (1 for each Directional Buoy)
- n. 2 Race Judge Boats (1 for each long side of the course)

- n. 1 “Broom Service” Boat following the last Athlete

- n. 1 Doctor Boat
- n. 4 Life Saver Boats (and cameras)

- Canoes

** No “shrouded” propellers * (it will be kept a minimum of 5 m from any Athlete, except for an emergency)*

Personal inflatables marker



- Personal inflatables markers are **not permitted for WPS Athlete.**

- Athletes of the concurrent Italian Para Event can decide to use their own
 - NOTE: L.O.C. do not provide them
- In this case, the marker will be checked and approved in the Identification / Call Room areas by the Technical Officials:
 - size
 - safety aspects
 - to make sure no assistance is provided by them

Swimwear (1)

- “World Para Swimming Advertising Guidelines” will apply
- Caps:
 - One cap is provided by the L.O.C. and it must be used during the Race



- It is permissible to wear a maximum of two (2) caps: this number includes any hair retaining device or “soul cap”.
- In the case of 2 caps use, the L.O.C. caps must be the “outside cap”
- “Inside caps” must adhere to WPS Advertising Guidelines

Swimwear (2)



- Swimsuit/Wetsuit:
 - Water temperature from 20°C: swimsuits for both men and women shall not cover the neck, nor extend past the shoulder, nor extend below the ankle.
 - Water temperature below 20°C: men and women may use either swimsuits or wetsuits.
 - Water temperature below 18°C: the use of wetsuits is compulsory
 - Wetsuits are swimsuit made of material providing thermal insulation. Wetsuits for both men and women shall completely cover torso, back, shoulders and knees. They shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists and ankles
 - Water Temperature will be checked 2 hours before the Start in the middle of the Course at a depth of 40 cm. This control will be done in the presence of
 - » WPS Lead Official
 - » Chief Referee / Referee
 - » A member of L.O.C.
 - » One coach from the Teams designated during the Technical Meeting
 - Subject to these specifications, swimsuit for Open Water Swimming competitions shall further comply with all other requirement applicable to swimsuit for pool swimming competition
 - Modification of a swimsuit and deviations to the body coverage requirements to accommodate an Athlete's impairment must be approved and recorded by World Para Swimming Lead Official prior to the Start of the Event (recommended after the Technical Meeting)

- It is the responsibility of each Athlete, prior to the start of the Event to have a space/thermal blanket

Support Staff (1)



- Support Staff are only permitted to assist an Athlete if such a requirement is recorded for the Athlete in the WPS Classification Master List (CoE “A” or “T”)
 - Since the CoE are “pool-oriented”, for health and safety reason WPS Lead Official may, in their discretion, allocate an additional CoE to an Athlete.
 - Such code are applicable only for this competition and will not appear in the WPS Classification Master List
 - This request must be made during the Technical Meeting to WPS Lead Official

- Sport Classes S11, S12 and from S1 to S4 Athletes who cannot navigate the course independently, will be permitted navigational assistance (i.e., Support Staff)
 - The use of a small non-motorized craft, surfboard or guide Athlete may be required.
 - The request to use any such assistance must be made to WPS Lead Official during the Technical Meeting
 - The Athlete is responsible for arranging their Support Staff and craft if required
 - If the Athlete is using a paddler or guide Athlete as Support Staff, then the paddler or guide Athlete is assigned the same number as the Athlete

Support Staff (2)



- Support Staff shall ensure their Athlete is made aware of any disqualification or infringement the Referee gives against their Athlete.
- Athlete may require Support Staff for the start of the Event
- Race Judges shall instruct any Athlete who in, in their opinion, taking unfair advantage by pacing or slip streaming with the Support Staff to move clear
- If in the opinion of the Chief Referee or Referees, any Athlete, or Athlete approved Support Staff takes advantage by committing any violation of the Rules or by making intentional contact with any Athlete, Disqualification Procedure shall apply
- If in the opinion of a Referee an action of an Athlete or Athlete's Support Staff is deemed to be "unsporting" the Referee shall disqualify the Athlete concerned immediately.
- Support Staff shall manoeuvre so as not to obstruct or place themselves directly ahead of any Athlete and not to take advantage by pacing or slip streaming.
- No whistle allowed to Support Staff
- Athletes with a Vision Impairment may be touched by their Support Staff to indicate the finish of the race.
- No support staff will be permitted afloat or in the water unless previously approved by WPS or WPS Lead Official.

Identification Phase



- The following rules will apply
 - The numbering of Athletes is to appear on the arms, upper backs and hands of competitors.
 - On the arms (shoulder) the numbering is vertically.
 - On the upper backs and hands, the numbering is horizontally.
 - **Common sense will be used with athletes with upper limb impairment.**
 - The numbering is made by Technical Officials by black permanent marker pens
 - For Athletes with darker skin and full body wet suits a white marker pen will be used
 - Numbering will apply also to authorized “Support Staff” / “Navigational Assistance” entering the water

- Operational Procedure
 - Identification opening & closing time in a following slide
 - Anyway, Identification closes no later than 30 minutes before the start
 - Athletes must present the Event Accreditation (*) or Identity Document
 - Nails, Caps, Swimwear (and eventually personal inflatable marker) will be checked by Technical Officials
 - It is not mandatory wearing Swimsuit / Wetsuit during Identification, but it is mandatory to present Swimsuit / Wetsuit that will be used by the Athlete for a preliminary check
 - The final check will be made in Call Room Phase

(*) L.O.C. provides Accreditation to WPS Event Athletes only.

Call Room Phase



- The following rules will apply
 - Athletes must have completed Identification Phase
 - Athletes must report to the Identification & Call Room Area no later than fifteen (15) minutes prior to the Start Time.
 - Athletes must present Event Accreditation (*) or Identity Document
 - The Event Accreditation (*) or Identity Document will be collected by Technical Officials and will be stored by TOs till the Finish
 - Athletes will pick up their own Event Accreditation (*) or Identity Document after finishing (or after withdrawing)
 - Only authorized “Support Staff” / “Navigational assistance” can enter in the Call Room

() L.O.C. provides Accreditation to WPS Event Athletes only.*

Identification & Technical Briefing Time



▪ ONLY 1 IDENTIFICATION PHASE

- Identification Phase for both 1,5 km Event and 3 km Event (*): from 07:30 to 08:30

- 1,5 km Event
 - Pre-Race Briefing (place near “ Identification & Call Room” Area): 08:30
 - Start Time: 09:00
 - Time Limit: 10:00

- 3 km Event
 - Pre-Race Briefing (place near “ Identification & Call Room” Area): 09:40
 - Start Time: 10:00
 - Time Limit: 11:30

(* In case of particular needs (to be declared during Technical Meeting and approved by WPS Lead Official), a TO will be available to specific Identification also between 09:00 and 09:30

In case of difficulty during the race

- In any case of difficulty call attention to the nearest boat / canoe
 - VISIBLE: Lay on Back - Rising arms/upper limbs
 - AUDIBLE

- In any case of difficulty **DO NOT EXIT THE COURSE WITHOUT WARNING**
 - Technical Officials
 - L.O.C. Staff

- **PICKING UP THE ACCREDITATION / IDENTITY DOCUMENT AFTER A WITHDRAWING IS MANDATORY**

Number of Starts (*)



Based on number of Boats on the Water and Safety & Rescue Capability, the concurrent “Able Bodied” Event will start after the end of Para Event to ensure safety.

- **1,5 km Event** (Only Para Swimming Event – WPS & FINP)
 - ≈ 20/25 Athletes (MEN + WOMEN): 1 Start (TBC)

- **3 km Event** (Only Para Swimming Event – WPS & FINP)
 - ≈ 25/30 MEN: 1 Start (TBC)
 - ≈ 20/25 WOMEN: 1 Start (TBC)

(*) Based on actual Entry List information. The final decision is being confirmed during the Technical Meeting

Thank you!

