



# TEAMS GUIDE

Dear athletes, dear coaches, distinguished guests from around the world,

It is a great pleasure and honour for us to welcome you to the Para Swimming World Series 2026 in Berlin. For many years, the German capital has been one of the key venues in international para swimming. We are proud to host one of the fastest pools in the world, where numerous records have already been set.

With a brand-new event concept dedicated exclusively to the World Series, we are opening an exciting new chapter this year. Berlin, a vibrant sports metropolis with a rich tradition and an open, international spirit, offers the perfect setting: centrally located in the heart of Europe, excellently connected, and supported by an enthusiastic sports community.

We are grateful to World Para Swimming for their trust in Berlin as a host city and for their continuous support of the Para Swimming World Series. Their leadership and vision at the international level provide the foundation for the growth and success of Para swimming worldwide, and we are proud to continue this collaboration here in Berlin.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to German Disability Sports and National Paralympic Committee (Deutscher Behindertensportverband/DBS). As a long-standing and invaluable partner, the federation plays a crucial role in advancing Para sport in Germany. Its expertise, commitment, and continuous support significantly contribute to the successful realization of this event and to strengthening the Para swimming community as a whole.

Our sincere thanks also go to the state of Berlin, whose strong support makes this event possible. Berlin as a sports metropolis stands for openness, diversity, and deep-rooted enthusiasm for athletic excellence. The city's commitment to inclusive sport, combined with its world-class infrastructure and vibrant sporting culture, creates an environment in which athletes from all over the world can perform at their very best. This invaluable backing demonstrates once again how firmly Para sport is embedded in the spirit and identity of the capital.

We wish you exciting competitions, many personal highlights, and inspiring encounters. This year, athletes will once again have the opportunity to undergo classification — an important part of Para sport and a key step on the road to the 2028 Paralympic Games. Immediately after the Para Swimming World Series, Berlin will also host the International German Championships (IDM) from May 10th to 12th — this year as a dedicated standalone event. The IDM provides another outstanding stage for the world's top para swimmers to showcase their talent, while also giving emerging national and international athletes the valuable opportunity to test themselves against the sport's elite.

Welcome to Berlin — welcome to the Para Swimming World Series 2026!

**Özcan Mutlu**

President Behinderten- und Rehabilitations-Sportverband Berlin e.V.  
(Disability Sports Berlin/BSB)

## 1. WELCOME

World Para Swimming, in cooperation with the Behinderten- und Rehabilitations-Sportverband Berlin e.V. (Federation for disability and rehabilitation sports Berlin) is pleased to present the Teams Guide for the Para Swimming World Series Berlin. In this guide, you will find all essential information regarding your stay in Berlin.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Berlin. Should you have any questions, please contact the LOC representative listed below.

## 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

### 2.1. Dates & General Information

|                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Entries open:                      | 05 February 2026        |
| Classification Entry Deadline:     | 12 March 2026           |
| Entry Deadline:                    | 26 March 2026           |
| Training/Classification Dates:     | 04 - 06 May 2026        |
| Competition Dates:                 | 07 - 09 May 2026        |
| <b>Hotel Preliminary Forecast:</b> | <b>07 January 2026</b>  |
| <b>(non-binding)</b>               |                         |
| <b>Hotel Final Booking:</b>        | <b>11 February 2026</b> |
| <b>(binding)</b>                   |                         |

While this preliminary hotel booking form is non-binding for teams, we kindly ask you to complete it as accurately as possible by the deadline, as it is essential for our planning and securing sufficient accommodation for all participants – thank you!

#### LOC Main Contact:

**Mr. Matthias Vanell**

[paraswimming@roughwaterand.com](mailto:paraswimming@roughwaterand.com)

World Para Swimming Technical Delegate:

Sue Prasad

World Para Swimming Contact:

Daniela Gimenez

[Daniela.Gimenez@WorldParaSwimming.org](mailto:Daniela.Gimenez@WorldParaSwimming.org)

World Para Swimming Classification contact:

Kanyali Ilako

[Kanyali.Ilako@WorldParaSwimming.org](mailto:Kanyali.Ilako@WorldParaSwimming.org)

## 2.2. Venue Overview

The competition will be held at “Schwimm- & Sprunghalle im Europasportpark” (SSE) in Berlin. The 3.000 seat facility features a 10 lane 50m competition pool and a 10 lane 50m warm-up pool.

|                    | Competition pool        | Warm-up pool         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Size:              | 50 x 25m, depth 3m      | 50 x 25m, depth 2,10 |
| Water temperature: | 26 °C                   | 26 °C                |
| Lanes:             | 10                      | 10                   |
| Ropes:             | Super wave killer       | Wave killer          |
| Timing system      | Omega electronic timing |                      |

Location: Schwimm- und Sprunghalle im Europasportpark (SSE)  
 Paul-Heyse-Straße 26  
 10407 Berlin  
[Google Maps](#)



## 2.3. Traveling to Berlin

### By Plane

Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) is the nearest airport, located approximately 60 minutes (26km) from the venue. Transfers will be arranged upon arrival at this airport for delegations whose reservations at one of the official hotels have been made through and confirmed by the Local Organizing Committee.

### By Train

Berlin offers excellent rail connections from across Germany and Europe. The following long-distance stations provide convenient access to the venue and the official hotels. Considering Berlin's city traffic, it is recommended to take the S-Bahn or tram to "Landsberger Allee" station, which is located directly opposite the venue and close to the official hotels. Transfers from one of the railway stations mentioned below may be arranged upon request for delegations whose reservations at one of the official hotels have been made through and confirmed by the Local Organizing Committee.

#### **Berlin Central Station (Hauptbahnhof)**

Berlin Central Station is Berlin's main railway hub, welcoming trains from all major German and European cities. The venue is easily accessible within approximately 25 minutes by tram lines M8 or M5. Transfer by car is 25 to 35 minutes (8km).

#### **Berlin East Station (Ostbahnhof)**

Berlin East Station offers excellent connections for guests arriving from eastern regions. The venue is conveniently accessible within approximately 15 minutes by taking the S3, S5 or S7 to Ostkreuz and continuing on the S8, S42 or S85. Transfer by car is 15 to 25 minutes (4km).

#### **Berlin Gesundbrunnen**

Berlin Gesundbrunnen serves as an important northern gateway to the city, with frequent long-distance and regional train services. From Gesundbrunnen you can take the S41 and reach the Venue in just 7 minutes. By car the venue is reachable in 15 to 20 minutes (6km).

**Please note: if you arrive at any airport or station not listed above, the LOC will not be able to offer transportation to the hotel/venue.** You will need to make your own way to one of the listed airports or stations to access LOC-provided transportation. Otherwise, you will need to arrange your own travel to the hotel/venue.

## 2.4. Visas

Each team is responsible to ensure they have the proper documentation to enter Germany. Please use the following button to check if you require an entry VISA:

[VISA Requirements](#)

Should you require a visa, you can request a letter of support from [paraswimming@roughwaterand.com](mailto:paraswimming@roughwaterand.com) with the following information on all staff and athlete's attending from your NPC:

- Full Name
- Position (e.g. athlete, staff, coach)
- Date of Birth
- Passport Number
- Passport Expiry Date

**Please note: preparing letters of invitation for a visa may take up to 3-4 business days.**

## 2.5. Accommodation and Transportation

The LOC will be offering Accommodation and transportation packages for this event. Please find all information in the accommodation package below:

[Accommodation Package](#)



## 2.6. Competition Fee

Competition Entry fee for athletes: 180,00 EUR

Entry fee for Staff: 80,00 EUR

Should an athlete no longer be able to attend, withdrawals are only permitted according to the WPS Rules and Regulations. Medical Withdrawals require a Medical Withdrawal form submitted to the WPS contact for confirmation.

Payments must be received by **15 April 2026**.

To request for invoices, please contact the LOC via email with the following details:

- Name of NPC / National Federation
- Billing Address
- Number of Athletes and Team Officials entered
- Contact Details (Name, telephone number, email address)

Payment can be made by bank transfer.

Bank Name: SozialBank  
Bank Address: Oranienburger Str. 13–14, 10178 Berlin  
Swift Code: BFSWDE33XXX  
Bank Code: BFSWDE33XXX  
Branch Code: 3702 0500  
Account Name: Berlin Para Swimming  
Account Number: 3276502  
IBAN: DE70 3702 0500 0003 2765 02

## 3. SPORT ENTRIES

### 3.1. Athlete Eligibility

Swimmers must:

- hold an active World Para Swimming license for the Season 2026.
- be entered by their NPC or NF.
- the NPC being a good standing member of IPC and must have no outstanding invoices with WPS. Any outstanding invoices must be paid prior to entry confirmed
- be 12 years of age or older by 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of the competition

To compete in Para Swimming World Series finals, an athlete must have an International Classification status of Review (R), Fixed Date Review (FDR) or Confirmed (C). Any athlete on a New (N) Status not undergoing classification in the competition may only swim in heats and will not progress to finals.

### 3.1. Entries

All entries must be through WPS Entry system. [SDMS \(ipc-services.org\)](https://ipc-services.org)

#### Important Entry dates:

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Entries Open:                  | 05 February 2026 |
| Classification Entry Deadline: | 12 March 2026    |
| Final Entry Deadline:          | 26 March 2026    |

**No late entries will be accepted.**

### 3.2. Competition Format and Programme

Para Swimming World Series events are run under Multi class competition format for both heats and finals. Points are determined using the World Para Swimming Points System.

For all Para Swimming World Series events the current World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations apply. They can be found on the World Para Swimming website (see Swimming – Rules & Regulations – Rules).

- Heats
  - 10 lanes will be used
  - Heats will be seeded by entry time
  - Warm up time: 07:30
  - Heats start time: 09:00
- Finals
  - 8 lanes will be used
  - Finals will be seeded by Points
  - Warm up time: 15:30
  - Finals start time: 17:00
  - The highest points scoring athletes in each event as determined by WPS Points system will be eligible for finals



Finals shall be formatted and prioritized in the following order:

- World Series Final A (1-8 Placed on Points)
- World Series Youth Final (1-8 placed on points scores of Youth athletes not in the A final).
- B Final (9-16 placed on points scores of athletes not involved in youth final)
  - Youth and B finals will only take place if more than four (4) athletes are eligible and available for the start list of the respective final, excluding those already places in the A final.
  - Youth Final age group eligibility is 18 years and under (age at 31<sup>st</sup> December of competition year)

Finals priority order is outlined below

- Where a swimmer has made the A finals and Youth final, they will only be entered into the A final. The A final will be prioritized over Youth and B final.
- Where a swimmer has made the B finals and Youth final, they will be only entered into the Youth Final. The Youth final will be prioritized over the B final.

If necessary, a swim-off may be used to determine swimmers for an individual final, where point scores are equal, unless the swimmers are the same class then the fastest swimmer shall progress

Where possible there will be 2 reserve swimmers for A finals only.

Direct finals will be in place for events with 8 or less entries, as per the WPS Rules and Regulations 10.10.1.2.1.

- WPS have implemented an exception to this rule for 50m Breaststroke and 150m Individual medley events to support development of a heat opportunity for lower class athletes.

Version 2 competition programme will be in place for the Para Swimming World Series Berlin Competition programme below:

| Day 1   | Day 2   | Day 3   |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Freestyle M/F (S1-14)<br>50 Backstroke M/F (S1-5)<br>100m Breaststroke M/F (SB4-9, 11-14)<br>50m Butterfly M/F (S2-7) | 200m Freestyle M/F (S1-5, S14)<br>100m Butterfly M/F (S8-14)<br>50m Breaststroke M/F (SB1-3)<br>200 IM M/F (SM5-14) | 100m Backstroke M/F (S1-2, 6-14)<br>50m Freestyle M/F (S1-13)<br>400m Freestyle M/F (S6-14)<br>150 IM M/F (SM1-4) |
| Mixed 4x100 Medley 49pt Relay<br>Mixed 4x100 Medley S14 Relay<br>Mixed 4x50 Medley 20pt Relay                             | Mixed 4x50 Freestyle 20pt Relay<br>Mixed 4x100 Freestyle 34pt Relay<br>Mixed 4x100 Freestyle 49pt Relay             | Mixed 4x100 Freestyle S14 Relay<br>Mixed 4x100 Medley 34pt Relay  |

## 4. COMPETITION INFORMATION

### 4.1. Competition Venue

The detailed venue plan will follow at a later date.

### 4.2. Parking

Parking is available all around the competition venue. For the venue's car park a parking permission is needed. Because of the small size of the parking venue the parking permission will be given only to wheelchair users or athletes with severe walking disabilities travelling with their own car. For parking permissions please contact the LOC via email. Parking Permissions can be picked up at the accreditation.

### 4.3. Training

Training will take place at both pools inside the SSE Berlin

Training times are below:

**Training Dates:** 04 - 06 May 2026

Morning: 09:00 - 12:30

Afternoon: 14:00 - 18:00

Lane markings will be clearly displayed on the poolside outlining specific classification lanes, e.g. VI lane, S1-4 Lane.

In the competition pool on training days, lanes 0 and 9 are reserved for classification.

#### **4.4. Warm Up/Swim Down**

Warm up on competition days for heats and finals is available in the competition pool and warm up pool.

Warm up times in the competition pool are below:

- Heats: 07.30 - 08:45
- Finals: 15:30 - 16:45

All athletes must follow the warm up signage in place for the safety of all swimmers. Warm up lane allocations will also be shared in the technical meeting.

The warm up pool stays open till half an hour following the finish of the session for swim down.

#### **4.5. Technical Meeting**

The Technical Meeting will take place on **06 May 2026**. Time and Place will be confirmed at a later date.

Technical Meeting presentation will be circulated to attending NPCs in advance of the meeting to prepare any questions.

Any equipment that is required to be checked by Technical Officials can be taken to the technical meeting and checked at the end of the meeting.

#### **4.6. Call Rooms & Competition**

There will be two (2) call rooms:

- 1- 100m Call Room located on pool deck (TBD)
- 2- 50m and 150m Call Room located on pool deck (TBD)

It is the responsibility of the athlete to report to the Call Room in line with WPS Rules and Regulations.

Regulations outlined in the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations concerning swimwear will apply; swimwear (caps, goggles and swimsuits) must be from the approved list and might be checked in the call room. Athletes will be escorted from the Call Room onto the pool deck.

#### 4.7. Sport Information Desk (SID)

A Sport Information Desk will operate at the competition venue on the days of competition, as well as during any scheduled training sessions. It is the primary and only point of distribution for all event related information including the following:

- Distribution of start lists for the NPCs (digital only);
- Official communication with teams;
- Official forms distribution (Relay Declaration Form, Protest Form, Medical Withdrawal Form);
- Liaison between teams and LOC / World Para Swimming.

#### 4.8. Accreditation

**All athletes and team staff require accreditation to enter the venue and competition areas.**

Accreditation registration is through the SDMS system at the following link <https://db.ipc-services.org/accreditation> .

Accreditation system open: 05 February 2026

Accreditation registration deadline: 01 April 2026

#### 4.9. Classification

**Classification Dates: 04 - 06 May 2026**

This competition offers international classification for the following impairment types:

- Physical Impairment (PI)
- Vision Impairment (VI)
- Intellectual Impairment (II) (TBC)

World Para Swimming will schedule athletes with a New or Review status pursuant with the below regulations.

An athlete will only be permitted to undergo International Classification if he or she:

- Is licensed with World Para Swimming for the 2026 Season
- Has been entered into the competition by the classification entry deadline;
- The NPC has submitted their athlete priority list prior to the classification entry deadline

It is NPC responsibility to enter the required events for Classification observation purposes for the athlete in the Entry by Name. Details of which minimum events can be used for observation are below:

Physical Impairment (PI):

At least 100m S stroke (Freestyle, Backstroke or Butterfly) and  
100m Breaststroke for SB4-9 classes or 50m Breaststroke for SB1-3 classes

Intellectual Impairment (II):

200m Freestyle or 100m Backstroke and  
100m Breaststroke

Official posting of Classification results will be printed and posted in venue at a designated area. The classification team will notify NPCs of this location upon check in to classification. Results will be emailed to Team leaders for a secondary notification, however, please note the official posting time will be in venue.

**4.10. Ice Baths, Massage Tables & Race analysis**

Ice baths will not be available. A registration is necessary to do physiotherapy or massages. Areas will be foreseen for these kinds of treatments.

There is a race analysis area on the second level on the athletes' site of the venue. Tables and power plugs will be available earliest from Wednesday, 06 May 2026.

Please do not use the glass doors in the race analysis area as an exit, as they are alarm-secured.

**5. VICTORY CEREMONIES**

Medal ceremonies will take place throughout finals or at the end of finals and will be listed in the timeline for each evening.

World Series Medals to be awarded to the three highest points scorers in the World Series A final per event.

World Series Youth Medals to be awarded to the three highest points scorers of youth athletes across all finals per event.

WPS Minus one rule will be implemented where applicable as per the WPS Rules and Regulations.

## **6. ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICAL INFORMATION**

### **6.1. Anti-Doping**

The Anti-Doping control / processes will be carried out in full accordance with the IPC Anti-Doping Code and the IPC Doping Control Agreement.

<https://www.paralympic.org/swimming/rules-and-regulations/anti-doping>

### **6.2. Medical Services at the Venue**

Lifeguards, medical team and ambulance (on call) are available for teams on site.

### **6.3. Insurance**

Each NPC must ensure that all members of their delegation are appropriately insured, including coverage for travel, liability, accidents and repatriation. All delegation members must have appropriate accident and health insurance accepted in order to compete. The LOC will provide only basic medical services in the venue

No medical insurance will be provided to any of the participants. All participants are responsible for obtaining their own medical insurance (including Repatriation Coverage) and will be responsible for any medical expenses resulting from participation in the event.

### **6.4. Medical Attention**

The following details relate to emergency medical services:

In an emergency, call one of the following numbers from any telephone:

Police: 110              Fire service: 112              Medical service: 112

Hospital:

Vivantes Klinikum im Friedrichshain (about 1.9km from the pool)

Froebelstrasse 15, 10405 Berlin

+49 (0) 30 130 160

Pharmacy

Haus-Apotheke: Landsberger Allee 117, 10407 Berlin

Mo – Fr: 08:00 – 20:00 hrs

Sa: 08:00 – 16:00 hrs

Su: closed