Guidelines for Home Nations hosting National, Regional, District and County level competitions - 2016/17

 Para-Swimming Conditions & Entry Standards

The general conditions below are guidelines that can be applied to Multi-Classification Swimming events:

The Events

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| Event | Male  |  Female | IPC recognised events |
| 50m Freestyle | S1-S14 | S1-S14 | S1-S13 |
| 100m Freestyle | S1-S14 | S1-S14 | S1-S13 |
| 200m Freestyle | S1-S5 & S14 | S1-S5 & S14 | S1-S5 & S14 |
| 400m Freestyle | S6-S14 | S6-S14 | S6-S13 |
| 50m Backstroke | S1-S5 | S1-S5 | S1-S5 |
| 100m Backstroke | S1,S2 & S6-S14 | S1,S2 & S6-S14 | S1,S2 & S6-S14 |
| 50m Breaststroke | SB1-SB3 | SB1-SB3 | SB1-SB3 |
| 100m Breaststroke | SB4-SB9, SB11-SB14 | SB4-SB9, SB11-SB14 | SB4-SB9, SB11-SB14 |
| 50m Butterfly | S1-S7 | S1-S7 | S1-S7 |
| 100m Butterfly | S8-S14 | S8-S14 | S8-S13 |
| 150m Individual Medley | SM1-SM4 | SM1-SM4 | SM1-SM4 |
| 200m Individual Medley | SM5-SM14 | SM5-SM14 | SM5-SM14 |

Event Guidelines

* A full MC programme offer as above is advised, with a strong preference for the provision of Heats and Finals. Heats may be integrated into able bodied events.
* All competitors must have an authorised IPC Swimming, British Swimming, INAS-FID or British Blind Sport classification, which is held on the British Swimming or IPC Swimming classification database at the time of entry.
* All competitors must be registered as members of a swimming club affiliated to the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) Scottish ASA (SASA) or Welsh ASA (WASA) at the time of entry.
* Minimum age to be 11 years old as at 31st December in the year of competition.
* Suggested that qualifying period is 12 months preceding the event closing date.
* Consideration times as per British Para-Swimming consideration time guidelines. These can be achieved in Long Course or Short course competitions.
* In some cases times from time trials may be used for entry purposes at the discretion of event organizer.
* All events should be swum as separate Male and Female, however all classes of swimmers will swim together (Multi-Classification).
* Finalists shall be determined by the topBritish Para-Swimming (BPS) points scorers from the heats according to the competitors classification, the stroke and the distance (top x swimmers BPS points based on the number of lanes available).
* There will be the appropriate number of heats (dependent upon entries) and a final for each event where required (no semi-finals or B finals will be held).
* Consideration may be given to limiting the number of athletes progressing from heats to finals in each classification, to allow progression across a range classifications and you may limit it to those events recognised by IPC Swimming as shown above.
* We recommend where possible that heats be integrated with the able-bodied events, with progression to a separate final as indicated above. In the instance whereby an MC swimmer qualifies for an able bodied final the MC swimmer should be allowed to compete in the AB final only, but will be eligible for an MC medal as calculated by the British Para-Swimming points.
* In the event of a dead heat of equal points which results in the number of finalists exceeding ten a swim-off shall take place to determine which of those swimmers shall go forward to the final.

Accreditation

* All coaches and personal care attendants must have accreditation. Personal care
attendants will only be permitted for swimmers where assistance is permitted on their code of exceptions. Such attendants will be excluded from any restrictions and will be given
the same accreditation as the swimmer for whom they have personal care
responsibilities.
* A swimmer who has assistance as specified above may have both a coach and a
personal care attendant present. The personal care attendant accreditation will be
free of charge.

Medals

* Medals should be awarded on a multi-class basis to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each event. Medals shall be awarded to the top three BDP scorers in each event. If there are less than four competitors in any one event then a minus one ruling shall apply. If there is only one competitor in an event then a medal shall be awarded if he/she breaks the British/ Home Nation record, for their classification. Medals shall be awarded during the relevant session that the event has taken place. All swimmers shall be required to present themselves to the awards steward when notified.