



Swimming Champion of Champions Information for Para Swimming 2024

This event is open to swimmers who have a physical, vision or intellectual impairment (known as Para swimmers). There are no qualifying times for Para swimmers for this event, however a provisional classification or higher must be held.

Para swimmers cannot take part in the Zone events to qualify unless the Para swimmer enters as an Able-bodied participant and therefore would not qualify as a Para swimmer at this event.

Para swimmers **must**:

- Have competed in their School Swimming Sports in the same year (if applicable)
- Belong to a swim club or school team and train regularly
- Be accompanied by a minimum of a Provisional Classification

To be provisionally classified, or to discuss the status of your classification, contact National Para Swimming Development Coordinator, Cameron Leslie, on cameron@swimming.org.nz. Although there are no qualifying times for Para swimmers, the swimmer must be capable to swim their entered race(s).

Forms to apply for a Provisional classification can be found here:

<http://www.paralympics.org.nz/Pathway/Classification/Classification-Forms>

If you have any questions, please contact the Paralympics New Zealand Classification Manager at classification@paralympics.org.nz

The Para swimming races will be run as multi class events with all classifications swimming together.

Places in each race will be determined based on comparing each swimmers time to the World Record in their classification. The swimmer with the time closest to their world record as a percentage will place first and so on.

These championships are an important part of the pathway for Para swimmers and a great opportunity for the Individual Championships to be the trail blazer in terms of inclusive Secondary School sport in Auckland.

Individual Events

- 50m Freestyle
- 50m Backstroke
- 50m Breaststroke
- 50m Butterfly

To enter Para swimmers, please go to EnterNOW on the College Sport website through your School Sports Coordinator.

Age Groups

- Junior: under 14 on January 1 in the year of competition.
- Intermediate: under 16 on January 1 in the year of competition.
- Senior: under 19 on January 1 in the year of competition.

Para swimming classifications

Para swimmers must have participated in a school swimming event prior to entering a College Sport Auckland swimming event.

If you require any advice about your possible Para athlete(s) taking part, please College Sport

The sport classification names in Para Swimming consist of a prefix S, SM or SB and a number. The prefixes stand for the event and the number indicates the sport class the Para athlete competes in during the respective event.

The prefixes stand for:

S: Freestyle, Butterfly, and Backstroke events

SM: Individual Medley

SB: Breaststroke

Sport Classes 1-10: Physical Impairment

There are 10 different sport classes for Para swimmers with physical impairment, numbered 1-10. A lower number indicates a more severe activity limitation than a high number. Note that Para swimmers with different impairments compete against each other, but the impact of their impairment on swim performance is similar.

Sport Classes 11-13: Visual impairment

Para swimmers with visual impairment compete in sport classes 11-13, with 11 meaning a complete or nearly complete loss of sight and 13 describing the minimum eligible visual impairment. Para swimmers in sport class 11 compete with blackened goggles.

Sport Class 14: Intellectual impairment

Para swimmers with intellectual impairment must have a restriction in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior which affects them socially and practically in skills for everyday life. This impairment needs to be present before the age of 18.

Evidence of impairment could include, but not limited to, a formal assessment of cognitive and adaptive behavior, is on the ORS (ongoing resourcing scheme) at school, is receiving any service relating to accommodation, employment, protection and/or financial support because of the intellectual impairment.

Para swimmers with an intellectual impairment who meet the sport-specific criteria compete as S14.

More information on classification can be found on the Paralympics New Zealand website

<https://paralympics.org.nz/pathway/classification/classification-forms/>.

Disability/National Sports Organizations:

A group of National and Disability Sports Organizations are working together with College Sport Auckland to improve the inclusion and growth of Para opportunities at this level across a number of sports.

Feel free to contact any of the below contact people for more information on their organization and how they support athletes with disabilities.

Swimming New Zealand:

Cameron Leslie (Nationals Para Swimming Development Coordinator)

Cameron@swimming.org.nz

Paralympics New Zealand:

info@paralympics.org.nz

Special Olympics New Zealand:

Helen Ferguson (Regional Team Leader)

helenf@specialolympics.org.nz

Halberg Foundation:

Joseph Dan-Tyrell / Rachel Batters (Auckland Disability Sport Advisors)

joseph@halberg.co.nz / rachel@halberg.co.nz

Disability Sport Auckland:

Natasha Barber (Sport Development Manager)

natasha@disabilitysportauckland.co.nz