

2020 FINA SCHOOLS

GUIDELINES







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1. Introduction

The main goal of the FINA Schools Programme is to promote sports growth by offering a continuous learning pathway for the Technical Officials, providing and setting the necessary competencies to become eligible to officiate at FINA Events.

A range of FINA Development and Certification Schools are available within each continental region in six aquatic disciplines, with the objective of establishing a universal and standardized training and certification system:

- FINA Swimming Schools for Officials
- FINA Open Water Swimming Development Schools for Officials
- FINA Open Water Swimming Certification Schools for Officials
- FINA Artistic Swimming Development Schools for Judges
- FINA Artistic Swimming Certification Schools for Judges
- FINA Diving Development Schools for Judges
- FINA Diving Certification Schools for Judges
- FINA High Diving Certification Schools for Judges
- FINA Water Polo Development Schools for Referees
- FINA Water Polo Certification Schools for Referees

Through this programme all the participants have access to the same information, guidelines and interpretation of the FINA Rules, increasing the number of certified officials, enhancing their knowledge and creating a uniform pattern of interpretation and application of the rules.

1.1 Course format

The duration of the different FINA Schools depends on the selected discipline, but they are usually organised over a weekend or long weekend session.

They are conducted by FINA Technical Committee Members or by instructors appointed by the different Committees according to each aquatic discipline.

The FINA Schools' curricula are based on the <u>FINA Rules</u> (FINA Handbook – Edition 2017) and on the <u>FINA Manuals</u> for each discipline. Each course covers theoretical sessions and practical training, ending with a final assessment.

There is **no fee** for the participants wishing to attend a FINA School.

2. FINA Swimming Schools for Officials

The FINA Swimming Schools for Officials have to be regarded as a standardized programme held over a duration of two (2) days.

2.1 Regulations for certification

- Only two (2) international swimming officials' categories will be recognized and certified: Referees and Starters
- Certifications are for a 4-year period and must be renewed at the end of the same



- The applicant must have served as a Referee and/or Starter in at least two (2) National Championships during the last four (4) years
- Each National Federation can have three (3) Referees and two (2) Starters on the list

Further information concerning the certification of International Swimming Officials is available on the <u>FINA website</u>.

3. FINA Open Water Swimming Schools for Officials

3.1 FINA Open Water Swimming Development Schools for Officials

- The FINA Open Water Swimming Development Schools for Officials are held over a duration of **two and a half (2.5) days** concluding with a written exercise
- These courses cater for those participants with limited basic knowledge or no experience in Open Water Swimming officiating
- The instruction is theoretical and is delivered in English, Spanish, French or Portuguese; a practical session should be included if possible
- Translation into local language by the host federation is permitted

3.2 FINA Open Water Swimming Certification Schools for Officials

- The FINA Open Water Swimming Certification Schools for Officials are held over a duration of two (2) days concluding with a written exam
- These courses cater to experienced Open Water Swimming officials who require more in depth training of skills at an advanced level
- They are open to all the National Federations interested in training their officials to be on the FINA Lists for the first time or seeking to renew their FINA Certification
- The FINA Open Water Swimming Certification Schools are delivered in English or French by the lecturers appointed by the FINA Open Water Swimming Committee.

Further information concerning the FINA Open Water Swimming Schools and the officials' certification process will be available on the FINA Learning Platform.

3.3 Regulations for certification

In order to be selected to officiate at the Olympic Games, World Championships and all FINA Open Water Swimming Events, applicants must be nominated by their National Federations for the FINA Open Water Swimming Lists subject to meeting the List criteria:

- Have attended a FINA Open Water Swimming Certification School for Officials and passed the test with a minimum score of 70% within four years of application
- Have officiated in at least two (2) major Open Water Swimming competitions within the three (3) years preceding the date of the application for the FINA List

Any FINA Member Federation may nominate up to **four (4)** International Open Water Swimming Officials for the FINA List. Further information concerning the FINA Open Water Swimming Officials List is available on the <u>FINA website</u>.



4. FINA Artistic Swimming Schools for Judges

4.1 FINA Artistic Swimming Development Schools for Judges

- The FINA Artistic Swimming Development Schools for Judges have to be regarded as a standardized programme held over a duration of three (3) days
- They are designed for those National Federations interested in developing judges that are not on the current FINA List
- They are available at three different levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced

4.2 FINA Artistic Swimming Certification Schools for Judges

- The FINA Artistic Swimming Certification Schools for Judges have to be regarded as a standardized programme held over a duration of three (3) days
- The FINA Artistic Swimming Certification Schools are for those Judges on the current FINA List. They are designed to prepare and certify highly qualified FINA List judges in the A or G category.
- To be considered for judging at a FINA competition, a judge must have successfully passed the Judges Exam administered at one of the FINA Artistic Swimming Certification Schools every four years

Further information concerning the FINA Artistic Swimming Schools and the judges' certification process is available on the FINA Learning Platform.

4.3 Regulations for certification

To receive certification, a Judge must attend a FINA Artistic Swimming Certification School and pass the test with a minimum score of **85% for A Judges and 80% for G Judges**.

In addition, each FINA certified judge must annually take the **Online FINA Artistic Swimming** - **Exam for Certified Judges**. A minimum score of 85% for A Judges and 80% for G Judges will be required to earn a passing grade.

The FINA Artistic Swimming Judges List is valid from 1st January to 31st December of each year. Any FINA Member Federation may nominate up to **ten (10) A Judges and five (5) G Judges** subject to meeting the List criteria.

Further information concerning the FINA Artistic Swimming Judges List is available on the <u>FINA</u> website.

5. FINA Diving Schools for Judges

5.1 FINA Diving Development Schools for Judges

- The FINA Diving Development Schools for Judges are designed for individuals with limited basic knowledge or who have no prior diving judge's experience
- The FINA Diving Development Schools are held over a duration of two (2) days
- The instruction is theoretical and is delivered in English



5.2 FINA Diving Certification Schools for Judges

- The FINA Diving Certification Schools are designed for experienced judges taking this
 course for the first time or for Judges who are seeking to renew their FINA Diving
 Judges Certification
- They are held over a duration of three (3) days concluding with an exam
- The course is delivered in **English** and consists of a theoretical and a practical component
- Please note that the following individuals do not need to attend a FINA Diving Development School and may attend a FINA Diving Certification School: former divers (not active), coaches, experienced national judges whose federation certify that they have judged at a national-regional level and at international events hosted by the Federation within the past 3 years

Further information concerning the FINA Diving Schools and the judges' certification process is available on the FINA Learning Platform.

5.3 Regulations for certification

In order for a judge to participate in FINA Events, such as the FINA Diving World Cup and the FINA World Juniors Diving Championships, the following requirements are needed:

- Attend a FINA Diving Certification School for Judges, pass the pre-requisite course and the written test with a minimum score of 85%. Additionally, the judge will be assessed and must achieve a minimum of 85%. Certification is valid for two (2) years
- Be **evaluated** within the most recent two year period at two (2) different competitions (at 2 different places) with at least a 90% rating

Any FINA Member Federation may nominate at their own expense **one** or **two** judges whether or not entering divers. Federations entering at least four (4) divers are expected to bring at least one judge.

Further information concerning the FINA Diving Judges List will be available on the <u>FINA</u> <u>website</u>.

6. FINA High Diving Certification Schools for Judges

- A FINA High Diving Certification School for Judges is organised every odd year in connection with a FINA World Championships or the FINA High Diving World Cup
- The FINA High Diving Certification Schools are held over a duration of three (3) days
- They are designed to prepare and certify qualified judges wishing to be on the FINA High Diving Officials list, subject to meet the List criteria

6.1 Regulations for certification

To receive certification, a candidate must attend a FINA High Diving Certification School and pass the theoretical test and the practical assessment with a minimum score of **85%**. FINA certification is valid for **three (3) years**.

Further information concerning the FINA High Diving Certification Schools and the judges' certification process is available on the <u>FINA Learning Platform</u>.



7. FINA Water Polo Schools for Referees

7.1 FINA Water Polo Development Schools for Referees

- The FINA Water Polo Development Schools for Referees are designed for starting referees willing to officiate at a National level and who have no prior water polo referee's experience.
- They are held over a duration of two (2) days.
- The official working language is English, but they may be delivered in French or Spanish depending on the lecturer's availability.
- Candidates must be at least 16 years old at the start of the FINA Development School programme.

7.2 FINA Water Polo Certification Schools for Referees

- The FINA Water Polo Certification Schools for Referees prepare and certify candidates seeking to become FINA Water Polo Referees.
- They are held over a duration of two and a half (2.5) days concluding with a test.
- Candidates must be at least 18 years old and must have at least two (2) years of practical experience as a referee at the point of registration.

Further information concerning the FINA Water Polo Schools and the referees' certification process will be available on the <u>FINA Learning Platform</u>.

7.3 Regulations for certification

In order to be selected to officiate at the Olympic Games, Qualification Tournaments, World Championships, Water Polo World Cups, FINA Water Polo World Leagues and other designated FINA competitions, referees must be nominated by their National Federations for the FINA Water Polo Referees List subject to meeting the List criteria.

- To receive certification, a candidate must attend a FINA Water Polo Certification School and pass the test with a minimum score of 70%
- The certification is valid for a **four-year period**

Any FINA Member Federation may nominate up to **three (3) referees** to the FINA Water Polo Referees List. In addition a Member Federation is able to nominate **one (1) additional referee** for each FINA Water Polo Competition it has participated in during the previous two (2) years up to a maximum of four (4) additional referees.

Further information concerning the FINA Water Polo Referees List is available on the <u>FINA</u> website.



8. Schools Programme

Each FINA School programme and content has been created and is continuously updated by the different FINA Technical Committees according to the new FINA rules.

9. Schools material

- FINA Swimming Schools Videos: Click Here
- FINA Open Water Swimming Manual: <u>Click Here</u>
- FINA Artistic Swimming Manual 2017-2021: Click Here
- FINA Diving Officials Manual 2017-2021: Click Here
- FINA Water Polo Guide 2017-2021: Click Here

Prior to the FINA School, the electronic manual will be sent to the Host Federation according to the chosen discipline.

The school participants should have access to this document during the course, either in hard copy or in electronic version.

10. Certificates

At the end of each FINA School, the attendees will receive recognition by means of a certificate of participation.

11. Bidding Procedure

11.1 Application Procedure

National Federations wishing to host a FINA School in their country may submit a bid application to the FINA Office.

- All National Federations may submit their bids to FINA during the bidding process, following the FINA procedures.
- Each National Federation may organise one (1) school per discipline on an annual basis.

11.2 Analysis and Approval

The bid applications will be assessed by the FINA Technical Commissions of each discipline according to the following criteria:

- Guaranteed attendance numbers: at least ten (10) participants are required
- Feasibility of the school

Once the FINA Schools have been approved, all the National Federations will be notified regarding the status of their bids and provided with the necessary information for the organisation of the schools.



12. How to host a FINA School

Bidding procedure

- · 30th August 15th September
- All National Federations are invited to submit their bid applications for FINA Schools to the FINA Office, who will collect all the proposals for further approval.
- Each National Federation may organise one (1) school per discipline on an annual basis.

Bids approval

- As from 30th September
- All the National Federations are notified regarding the status of their bids.
- · Approved schools may be organised from January to December of the following year.

School confirmation

- NF's awarded with a FINA School are requested to complete the School Details Form and send it back to the FINA Office at least ninety (90) days prior to the course starting date.
- The FINA Technical Committees will appoint the lecturer(s) for the school.

GMS Registration

- The memorandum of the event is sent to all the National Federations located in the continent where the school is going to be held and it is published on the FINA website.
- National Federations are invited to nominate their Technical Officials through the FINA GMS by the established deadline.
- Only fully submitted registrations will be considered for approval.

School organisation

- NF's: once the participants have been approved by FINA, the NF's shall send the participants' flight itineraries and their accommodation requests to the Host Federation.
- Host Federation: arranges the accommodation, local transportation, meeting room rental, audiovisual equipment, coffee breaks, production of printed materials and pool rental if required.

Conclusion

- Host Federation: sends the school report and pictures to the FINA Office for evaluation purposes, as well as the documents required for reimbursement
- •FINA: sends the results of the participants to each National Federation.

12.1 Material or artwork produced

Any material or artwork produced by the Host Federation on the occasion of the school or its promotion (e.g. banners, brochures, t-shirts, etc.) must be approved by FINA and should include the most recent version of the FINA logo:







The FINA logo should be placed on the top right corner in any promotional material produced for the school.

For any further information concerning this matter, please access the <u>FINA Brand Platform</u> using your federation's login details.

13. How to register for a FINA School

13.1 Participants' nomination

National Federations are entitled to nominate their Technical Officials for the FINA Schools through the <u>FINA GMS</u>:

- Each registration must be fully submitted through the FINA GMS by the established deadline
- In order to submit each registration, please complete the participant's profile including a copy of his/her passport or national ID, his/her photo and his/her **personal** email address. Without this information in the GMS, the application is **not valid**

Should you require any assistance with the registrations, please contact the **FINA GMS Support Team** at aquaticsdb@fina.org

13.2 Participants' approval

Once a registration has been submitted through the FINA GMS, it will be assessed by FINA and approved in due time:

- At least **ten (10)** submitted candidates are required in order to start the approvals.
- As soon as a registration has been approved the relevant National Federation will be notified by FINA.
- After having been notified, each National Federation must send the participant's itinerary and the accommodation request to the Host Federation.

14. Regulations for FINA Schools

14.1 School organisation

As part of the FINA Development Programme, each National Federation may organise **one (1) school per discipline** -swimming, open water swimming, artistic swimming, diving, high diving or water polo- **on an annual basis.**

In order to start the organisation of any FINA School, the *School Details Form* must be sent to the FINA Office **at least ninety (90) days** prior to the course starting date. No action will be made until this document has been sent to FINA.

Please note that at least ten (10) participants are required in order that a FINA School takes place.



14.2 Participants' registration

All the participants, including the ones affiliated to the Host National Federation, must be registered through the **FINA GMS** by the established **deadline**

- Only National Federations are entitled to nominate their officials through the FINA GMS
- Only fully submitted registrations will be considered for approval
- Non-registered participants will not be certified after the school completion

15. Financial Conditions

15.1 Economical Support

School organisation

FINA covers a maximum of USD 2000.00 for the following expenses related to the organisation of the school:

- Room rental
- Rental of audio-visual equipment
- Coffee breaks
- Production of booklets or pamphlets
- Other necessary materials for the organisation of the school

Please note that a detailed budget must be submitted to the FINA Office prior to the school starting date for approval. If the Host Federation does not submit the budget beforehand, FINA cannot guarantee that the full amount will be reimbursed.

Lecturer

FINA will appoint the lecturer(s).

- **Travel**: FINA will cover the lecturer travel expenses in economy fare. The expenses related to the lecturer's local transportation must be covered by the Host Federation.
- Per Diem: FINA will cover the lecturer's Per Diem.
- Accommodation: FINA will cover the lecturer's full board accommodation, including three (3) meals.

Host Federations must ensure that the lecturer is provided with the necessary support on the visa application process whenever this is required for travel.

FINA lecturers shall be staying at a 4 stars hotel. Please note that the lecturer's accommodation expenses must be approved by the FINA Office prior to the school starting date.



Participants

Please note that at least **ten (10) participants** are required in order that a FINA School takes place.

- **Travel:** Each National Federation must cover the participants' travel expenses.
- **Accommodation:** Each National Federation must cover the participants' accommodation expenses.
- **Local transportation:** Transfers from and to the airport must be provided by the OC (free of charge) for those participants accommodated at the official hotel.
- Participation fees: There is no fee for the participants attending a FINA School.

15.2 Reimbursement Procedure

Host Federations are in charge of arranging and paying the expenses related to the organisation of FINA Schools such as the lecturer's accommodation, the conference room rental, the coffee breaks and any printings needed for the course participants.

In order to be reimbursed for the above mentioned expenses, FINA must receive the following documents within **sixty (60) days** from the conclusion of the school:

- 1. Invoice, issued by the National Federation and addressed to FINA, clearly listing the expenses to be reimbursed (please see below the invoicing guidelines)
- 2. Original or scanned copies of all the payment receipts
- 3. NF bank account details using the *FINA Reimbursement Form*, indicating where the transfer should be deposited

Please consider that if one of these documents is missing, FINA will not be able to proceed with the reimbursement. FINA reserves the right to verify any payments to third parties or ask for further documentation if needed.

Please note that according to the FINA's auditor ruling, there are **no exceptions** to the reimbursement procedure.

15.3 Invoicing Guidelines

Any reimbursement request has to be covered by an invoice addressed to FINA as per the invoicing requirements.

- Additional information may be required depending on the countries legislation
- For expenses re-charged to FINA, a copy of the original invoices must be provided

Where and how to submit your invoice

FINA must receive an original paper invoice for processing. Please send all invoices to:

By Standard Post: Fédération Internationale de Natation Chemin de Bellevue 24A / 24B 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland

OR By email:

to schools@fina.org



Invoicing requirements

When billing FINA for goods and services or when issuing a credit note, print all required information. Handwritten information will not be recognized.

- Supplier letterhead / logo
- Supplier contact information (company name, address, e-mail and phone number)
- Supplier VAT number (irrespective of VAT charged on invoice)
- Supplier tax number if applicable
- Supplier invoice or reference number
- Supplier bank details (bank name and address, IBAN and SWIFT numbers)
- · Date of invoice
- VAT % and amount as separate line items
- Invoice currency
- FINA billing address:

Fédération Internationale de Natation (FINA) Chemin de Bellevue 24A / 24 B CH-1005 Lausanne Switzerland

- FINA VAT number (CHE-106.746.831 TVA)
- FINA contact name and e-mail address
- FINA PO number or event / meeting / project reference if available
- · Items invoiced with short description:

Item descriptions to be displayed clearly.

- When recharging travel, hotel costs: Copies of original receipts: invoices, e-tickets, etc. to be sent as attachments.
- Reference to contract if available

If any required information is missing from your invoice, your invoice may be returned to you. If this occurs, you will need to correct the invoice and resubmit for processing.

> Should you require any further information, please contact the FINA Development Department at schools@fina.org



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