



INTERNATIONAL LIFESAVING FEDERATION

To: All ILS Full Member Federations

Cc: ILS President, ILS Secretary General, ILS Regional Presidents, ILS Board of Directors

From: John Martin MBE, ILS Event Director on behalf of the ILS Sport Commission

1 August 2023

SUBJECT: WORLD GAMES 2025 QUALIFICATION PROCESS

1) PURPOSE OF THIS CIRCULAR

Lifesaving Sport has been confirmed as one of the 33 sports that will be included in The World Games 2025 Chengdu (TWG 2025 Chengdu). This circular sets out the Qualifying Process that all nations will need to follow in order to qualify their teams and individuals to participate in TWG 2025 Chengdu. Please note the action to be taken as described in Section 6

2) INTRODUCTION

Since TWG 2022 in Birmingham, the ILS TWG International Federation passport has been increased from 100 to 120 athletes. The number of International Technical Officials permitted as also been increased from 8 to 13, plus 5 in the Competition Management team.

For TWG 2022, the traditional qualification procedure for lifesaving sport was changed to ensure that the best can race against the best across 5 individual and 3 team events. Separate procedures for qualifying for the men's and women's event were introduced, with an emphasis on getting the top 8 in the world racing against each other in both the individual and team events.

This was a successful process and created significant interest among the ILS Member Federations, as well as being welcomed by the International World Games Association (IWGA). The increased number of athletes for TWG 2025 Chengdu reflects this policy to increase the possibility of more athletes to be included outside of the normal team selections.

Additionally, and with the agreement of the IWGA, the events that will be contested in Chengdu have been changed. All races involving Obstacles – 200m Obstacle Swim and 4x50m Obstacle Relay – have been replaced by existing events in the ILS World Championships programme. The 100m Rescue Medley and 4x50m Pool Lifesaver Relay are now included in their place.

3) TWG 2025 CHENGDU LIFESAVING QUALIFICATION PROCESS

The ILS is adopting a similar process for lifesaving participants to qualify for TWG 2025 Chengdu as it did for TWG 2022 Birmingham. However, while the 2022 Qualifying Series ran for 50 weeks, for TWG 2025 Chengdu

the Qualifying Period will run for 18 months from 1 August 2023 to 31 January 2025. This has been approved by the IWGA.

This will allow potential participants a longer period to establish their fastest times. It will allow for the ILS Lifesaving World Championships in 2024 and Regional Lifesaving Championships in 2023 and 2024 to be included in the ILS TWG 2025 Chengdu Qualifying Series as well as many other international and national lifesaving championships.

All events to be included in the Qualifying Series must be sanctioned by the ILS (apart from the World and Regional Championships that will take place during the period) prior to it being included in the approved list of Qualifying Events.

Each national federation or international competition organiser is invited to apply for their events to be included in the official Qualifying Series. See below at **Section 4** for the type of events that can be included in the Qualifying Series, and **Section 5** for the procedure for getting an event approved as a Qualifying Event.

In total five (5) individual medal events and three (3) relay medal events are organised in each gender:

Individual races	Team races (relays)
50 m Manikin Carry	4 x 25 m Manikin Relay
100 m Manikin Carry with Fins	4 x 50 m Medley Relay
100 m Manikin Tow with Fins	4 x 50 m Pool Lifesaver Relay
100 m Rescue Medley	
200 m Super Lifesaver	

A. Selection of athletes for team events

1. Team qualification times for the 3 team events, that are submitted in accordance with the process described below, will be ranked as if scored at an LWC.
2. The top 8 men's teams from points gained in the 3 team events added together will qualify with 5 athletes each, who are the only athletes permitted to participate in the team events. If the host nation (China) does not qualify in the top 8 teams, only the 7 best teams will qualify, and the 8th place will be awarded to the host nation.
3. The top 8 women's teams from points gained in 3 team events added together will qualify with 5 athletes each, who are the only athletes permitted to participate in the team events. If the host nation (China) does not qualify in the top 8 teams, only the 7 best teams will qualify, and the 8th place will be awarded to the host nation.
4. It follows that teams can use only a maximum of 5 men athletes and 5 women athletes in obtaining the required qualification times.
5. A federation may submit times for more than 1 team of 5 competitors for both the men's and women's qualification. However, in the final selection, only their highest scoring team will be considered for selection.
6. The team selection process accounts for 80 athletes (40 men and 40 women) of the total quota of 120.

B. Selection of athletes for individual events

The remaining 40 athletes will be selected by an independent and conflict-free ILS World Games Selection Committee. They will ensure that the world's best available ILS pool lifesaving athletes compete in the World Games. The selection criteria of athletes to compete in individual events will be as follows:

1. Those athletes who submit the 8 fastest times (in accordance with the process described below) in the five individual events who are:

- a) Selected by the nations in their qualified teams already – pre-selected in effect (it is anticipated that at least 75% of those in the qualifying teams will be in this category).
 - b) Not selected by a nation in their qualifying team.
 - c) From nations that have not got a qualified team.
2. If there are insufficient athletes identified through criteria 1), those who may be recognised as standout performers, e.g. new world record holders since LWC 2022 on a wild card basis.

Important Notes:

- This process means that not all participating nations may have an athlete in individual events.
- Athletes from the host nation will only qualify for an individual event if they meet the above criteria in point B1.
- Furthermore, each nation is limited to a **maximum of 2 athletes** for each individual event in each gender.
- In order to manage expectations and ensure that the best athletes only are selected, all times to be achieved must meet the minimum standard time set out in the [Appendix 2](#).
- If an athlete selected as part of the qualifying team is subsequently unable to attend the World Games through injury, they may be replaced by another individual from the nation, subject to the prior agreement of the ILS World Games Selection Committee. The replaced athlete cannot take any part in the World Games.

4) EVENTS AT WHICH WORLD GAMES QUALIFICATION TIMES CAN BE ACHIEVED

There are a number of ways open to federations to qualify their athletes for TWG 2025 Chengdu. All events where a qualifying time is to be achieved must be held in the period from **1 August 2023 to 31 January 2025**. The eligible events are:

- a) **The ILS Lifesaving World Championships 2024.** Times achieved at this event will be recognised provided they equal or are inside the minimum standard time set out in [Appendix 2](#)
- b) **Any ILS Regional Championships held during the qualifying period from 1 August 2023 to 31 January 2025.** Times achieved at these events will be recognised provided they equal or are inside the minimum standard time set out in [Appendix 2](#).
- c) **An existing international Pool Lifesaving competition.** Times achieved at a recognised international event, such as the German Cup, Spanish Cup, Orange Cup, Commonwealth Championships, etc, if they are sanctioned by the ILS, can be submitted as a qualifying time, provided they are equal to or are inside the minimum standard time set out in [Appendix 2](#).
- d) **A federation's National Championships:** Times achieved at such an event, provided it is sanctioned by the ILS, can be submitted as a qualifying time, provided they are equal to or are inside the minimum standard time set out in [Appendix 2](#).

Federations will be responsible for submitting valid qualifying times for their individuals and teams, including those achieved at an international event outside their own nation. A process for submitting times direct to the ILS World Games Qualifying Times Database will shortly be made available as described below in Section 6. The federation should select their best 5 men and 5 women athletes for their national team that they would select for the World Games to participate in all three of the options listed.

National Team Time Trials:

If a national federation has no opportunity to attend events in either option a), b) or c), they can use option d) to achieve a national team qualification time. While a national team will not normally race in a federation's National Championships, it will be permitted for the federation to run a 'National Team Time Trial' at their National Championships in the 3 relay events for their national teams and submit these times, if they are unable to attend any other International or ILS Regional Championships. The federation should select their best 5

men and 5 women athletes for their national team that they would select for the World Games to participate in all three of the options listed.

A federation may, at their discretion, allow athletes from another country to compete in their national competition. For example, a nation with athletes who would like to attempt to qualify for the World Games, could request or be invited to attend a National Team Time trial being held at a national competition in another country that is on the approved list of events in the Qualifying Series.

5) PROCESS TO GET A LIFESAVING COMPETITION SANCTIONED BY THE ILS

The process for a federation or organiser to register a competition or a trial event in the TWG 2025 Chengdu Qualifying Series should follow the appropriate paragraph a), b) or c) below:

- a) **Existing International Lifesaving Competition:** For any event as defined in 4 c) above the normal sanctioning process described in the official ILS Sanctioning Policy must still be followed: <https://www.ilsf.org/lifesaving-sport/rules/sanctioning/>
- b) **Federation's National Championships:** For any event as defined in 4 d) where the federation normally applies for sanctioning by the ILS, the official ILS Sanctioning Policy must still be followed.
- c) **At any other event where a specific national team trial will be run:** If the event is not one that is normally sanctioned by the ILS as in a) and b) above, an amended sanctioning process will apply:
 - i. An application for sanction to register an event/time trial to qualify athletes and/or teams for the World Games must be done at least **60** days before the event takes place. No retrospective applications will be considered. Applicants must complete the attached form: [Appendix 1](#).
 - ii. **Anti-Doping:** The event/time trial must comply in process and adhere to the ILS anti-doping policy. This policy can be found on the ILS website: www.ilsf.org.
 - iii. **Competition Rules:** All qualifying events/time trials must be conducted in accordance with the rules (including pool, equipment, timing, event rules etc.) contained in the current edition of the "ILS Competition Rule Book" and any amending bulletins. Other rules pertaining to the conduct of activities associated with the competition (e.g. the establishment and conduct of a judicial system to be utilized when required, during the competition (e.g. appeals committee, etc.) do not need to comply in terms of structure to the ILS Competition Rule Book but rather in purpose and intent.
 - iv. **Change to Competition:** Should the grounds upon which sanctioning was granted change at any time prior to the competition, notification must be given to ILS, whereby the sanctioning will be immediately reviewed. Should the review result in the competition not meeting sanctioning standards, ILS reserves the right to advertise withdrawal of the event sanction.
 - v. Federations must comply with all rules and directions made by ILS in respect of the conduct of this competition and all conditions conferred by ILS. Failure to comply with any of these rules, directions or conditions entitles ILS to (amongst other things) withdraw approval for qualifying for the World Games.
- d) The ILS Sport Commission may appoint a person to be present at and monitor the conduct of any of the events that are defined in a), b) and c) above.
- e) The ILS will shortly ask all federations to advise which events they intend to organise between 1 August 2023 and 31 January 2025 under 4 c) or 4 d) for the purposes of obtaining qualifying times for TWG 2025 Chengdu. The details of these events have to be recorded in the IWGA Competition Management System to confirm the ILS qualification process.
- f) **Qualifying Series Event results:** As part of the Sanctioning process for events to be included in the TWG 2025 Chengdu Qualifying Series, the organisation responsible for hosting the competition must make the results available to the ILS within 7 days of the conclusion of the event. While it is acknowledged that event results may be posted on the event website in a pdf format, the organiser must also provide them to the ILS Event Director in an Excel file format for scrutiny. The results file must show all heat results and

the final results and confirmation by the appointed Chief Referee that the events were run in full accordance with the current ILS Competition Rulebook.

6) PROCESS TO SUBMIT QUALIFYING TIMES TO THE ILS

Athletes' and teams' times to be submitted to ILS for World Games selection must meet the minimum qualifying times as set out in [Appendix 2](#). All times must be submitted by the National Federation of the individual and national team with the all the relevant information required. The athletes will not be able to submit their own times, it must be done by their National Federation.

Each National Federation will be granted a login access to the ILS World Games Qualifying Times Database, which is being established (and will be available on the ILS Website shortly), for a nominated individual from their federation to be responsible for entering the information into the database. Only that nominated person will be permitted to access the database. The details of how to create an account, login, and enter achieved times will be communicated in a separate note to be sent to every National Federation in the coming days.

Once the information has been input to the Database and verified, the results will display on the ILS Website. The current top 10 times will be visible with an option to view all of the times submitted.

The National Federation can enter as many achieved times for a competitor or a team as they wish in each event. It is inevitable that, for those who are serious competitors with a desire to represent their country at TWG 2025 Chengdu, their achieved times will likely improve during the 18 months of the Qualifying Period. It is therefore clear that the faster times will be uploaded as the Qualifying Series progresses.

Action required: If your federation wishes to include any of your athletes or national team in the TWG 2025 Chengdu Qualifying process, please send the name and e-mail address of the person in your federation who will be responsible for entering achieved times to the ILS Event Director, John Martin MBE at j.martin@ilsf.org An invitation for them to login, create an account and explanation of the procedures will then be sent to them.

7) NOMINATION OF THE 120 ATHLETES TO PARTICIPATE AT TWG 2025 CHENGDU

After the closing date of submission of the qualifying times (31 January 2025) the ILS World Games Selection Committee will select the best teams and individuals to ensure that the world's best available ILS pool lifesaving athletes compete at the TWG 2025 Chengdu.

It is expected that the qualifying teams and athletes will be announced by **14 February 2025**. National Federations must confirm to the ILS by **14 March 2025** that they accept the places allocated to their members and will attend TWG 2025 Chengdu.

If you have any questions with the content of this circular, please address them to John Martin MBE, the ILS Event Director and Competition Manager of the Lifesaving Events at TWG 2025 Chengdu:

j.martin@ilsf.org

Sent on behalf of the ILS Sport Commission



John Martin MBE
ILS Event Director

Competition Manager of the Lifesaving Events at TWG 2025 Chengdu

APPENDIX 1



INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING FEDERATION

Gemeenteplein 26 - 3010 Leuven - Belgium

Tel: +32/ (0)16 896060

ils.hq@telenet.be www.ilsf.org

SANCTIONING APPLICATION FOR WORLD GAMES QUALIFYING TRIAL AND FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT INSPECTION REPORT

Reference: current ILS Competition Rule Book, Section 8: *Facility and Equipment Standards and Scrutineering Procedures*.

To be filled in and submitted by email, by the National Federation at least 60 days prior to the trial to the ILS Event Director at j.martin@ilsf.org.

COMPETITION HOST

Host Organisation/Member: _____

Address: street & number: _____

Zip & City/Country: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Host Contact: _____

Position/Title: _____

Meet Manager: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Meet Chief Referee: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

FACILITY

Date of Inspection: _____

The Facility and Equipment complies with the specifications indicated in the ILS Competition Rule Book.

Meet Manager's name: _____

Meet Manager's signature: _____

Facility Features (include copy of certified surveyor if available):

Name of Pool Facility: _____

Deck or overhead Obstructions (describe): _____

Deck fittings (location from deep-end wall i.e. false start): _____

Starting platforms style: _____ Height of platform above water: _____

Lane ropes style: _____

Bulkhead width: _____
Water Temperature: _____ Warm up / cool down pool availability: _____
Electronic timing system brand: single ended , double ended ,

EQUIPMENT COMPLIANCE (Meet Manger verifies compliance):

Manikins Brand: _____ Initial: _____

Rescue Tubes Brand: _____ Initial: _____

Pool Tank Measurements in meters:

Length: _____ Width: _____ # of Lanes: _____ Width of lanes: _____

Width from outside wall to lane: _____ Gutter style: _____

POOL DEPTHS – all depths are measured in meters, from the deep end wall

Dive Start:

0.0m _____ 1.0m _____ 6.0m _____ and/or 44.0m _____

48.0m _____ 49.0m _____ 50.0m _____ Minimum depth 1.35m.

Manikin Carry* - 50m, Initial: _____

24.0m _____ 26.0m _____ Minimum depth is 1.8m.

Rescue Medley* - 100m, Initial: _____

16.5m _____ 18.5m _____ and/or 31.5m _____ 33.5m _____ Minimum depth is 1.8m.

Manikin Carry with Fins* – 100m, Initial: _____

2.0m _____ and/or 48.0m _____ Minimum depth is 1.8m.

Manikin Tow with Fins* – □ 100m, Initial: _____

2.0m _____ and/or 48.0m _____ Minimum depth is 1.8m.

Super Lifesaver* – □200m, Initial: _____

2.0m _____ 24.0m _____ and/or 26.0m _____ 48.0m _____ Minimum depth is 1.8m.

Manikin Relay – □ 4 x 25m, Initial: _____

0.0m _____ 1.0m _____ 2.0m _____ 23.0m _____ 25.0m _____ 27.0m _____ and/or 48.0m _____
49.0m _____ 50.0m _____ Minimum depth is 1.0m at the start wall and 1.8m in the middle and the turning wall.

Pool Lifesaver Relay* – □ 4 x 50m, Initial : _____

10.5m _____ 12.5m _____ 14.5m _____ 25.5m _____ 37.5m _____
39.5m _____ Minimum depth is 1.8m.

Lifesaving Medley* – □ 4 x 50m, Initial: _____

0.0m _____ 1.0m _____ 2.0m _____ 6.0m _____ and/or 44.0m _____
48.0m _____ 49.0m _____ 50.0m _____ Minimum depth 1.35m at the starting wall and 1.8m at the turning wall.

Note* - Events beginning with a dive start are required to adhere to those depths indicated for dive starts.

SANCTIONING AND APPLICATION FOR A WORLD GAMES QUALIFYING TRIAL REQUEST BY HOST ORGANISER

We have read the ILS Sanctioning Guidelines and Application for a World Games Qualifying Trial and agree to comply to and abide by all conditions stated in the Competition Sanctioning Guidelines.

Printed Name: Telephone:

Date: E-mail:

SANCTIONING FOR WORLD GAMES QUALIFYING TRIAL BY NATIONAL FEDERATION

We have analysed the Sanctioning of the World Games Trial Application Form and all related and necessary documents and confirm that they comply with the ILS Competition Sanctioning Guidelines.

Name of National Federation:

Printed Name: Telephone:

Date: E-mail:

SANCTIONING FOR WORLD GAMES QUALIFYING TRIAL APPROVED AND NOTED BY ILS

ILS Sports Commission Chairman

ILS Designate

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Date.....

CONDITIONS APPLIED - IF ANY (example: need for site visit, the actual events to be covered by the sanction detailed in the section – COMPETITION DETAILS)

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APPENDIX 2

Minimum Qualifying Times

WG 2025 Qualifying Times - Individual WR + 12.5%			Women		Men	
	Age	Event	Current World Record	WG Qualifying Times	Current World Record	WG Qualifying Times
Open	Open	50m Manikin Carry	00:32.69	00:36.78	00:27.27	00:30.68
	Open	100m Rescue Medley	01:06.89	01:15.25	00:57.66	01:04.87
	Open	100m Manikin Carry with Fins	00:49.30	00:55.46	00:44.04	00:49.55
	Open	100m Manikin Tow with Fins	00:55.40	01:02.33	00:49.02	00:55.15
	Open	200m Super Lifesaver	02:16.07	02:33.08	02:02.98	02:18.35

WG 2025 Qualifying Times - Team - WR + 15%			Women		Men	
	Age	Event	Current World Record	WG Qualifying Times	Current World Record	WG Qualifying Times
Open	Open	4x50m Pool Lifesaver Relay	01:46.16	02:02.08	01:46.16	02:02.08
	Open	4 x 25 m Manikin Relay	01:16.89	01:28.42	01:04.04	01:13.65
	Open	4 x 50 m Medley Relay	01:35.87	01:50.25	01:26.19	01:39.12

World Records as at 01/07/2023

Qualifying for TWG 2025 will be open from 01/08/2023 until 31/01/2025