



INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING (ILS)
SPORT COMMISSION TECHNICAL BULLETIN # 4
HANDBOOK OF THE LWC2026 - NELSON MANDELLA BAY SOUTH AFRICA

This Bulletin advises an update of the LWC2026 Handbook – Nelson Mandela Bay, Gqeberha, South Africa that was published in January 2026.

The amendments reflect event management decisions and have been endorsed by the ILS LWC2026 Event Management Committee.

For ease of reference the changes are:

- Part B – S3.1** Addition of two notes relating to the conduct Surf Boat and IRB events at LWC2026:
- Formal confirmation that the Inter Club Open and Masters Surf Boat LWCs **will be conducted** at LWC2026; and.
 - Formal announcement that the National Teams and Interclub Teams and IRB LWCs **will regrettably not be conducted** at LWC2026. As a result, all references to IRB competition in the LWC2026 Handbook are not applicable for the conduct of LWC2026.
- Part B – S9.2** A note has been added to advise that, because of the pool depth at an end of the LWC2026 Pool at Newton Park does not meet ILS specifications, no new world record times will be recognised in the Open, Youth and Masters Individual Obstacle or Obstacle Relay events at LWC2026.
Note: For clarity this note is reiterated in the table of events at Part B - 18.1 and 18.2.
- Part B – S18.1** The heat and final format for the Open and Youth National Teams and Interclub Oceanman, Oceanwoman, and Ocean M Lifesaver Relay events have been reviewed for presentation purposes.
- Part B – S24** The annexure containing the overall WC2026 programme and key dates has been updated to reflect the non-conduct of the IRB events.
- General:** Correction of typographical errors, formatting, and other minor edits, plus the naming of some new perpetual trophies. These changes do not affect the rules of competition nor the conduct of LWC2026.

The updated LWC2026 Handbook has been published on the ILS website at:

<https://www.ilsf.org/lifesaving-sport/rules>.

Should further information be required please direct your enquiry to the Secretary of the ILS Sport Commission at sport@ilsf.org.

31 May 2026