

2017-2021

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All FINA Members, National
Federations, Continental Organisations

Lausanne, June 5th 2018

MEMORANDUM TO ALL FINA MEMBERS

Dear FINA Family Members,

FINA is one of the strongest International Sports Federations, comprising of 209 National Member Federations on the five continents. Recently, FINA has been aware of a so-called international competition "International Swimming League", which FINA does not recognise.

In the interest of the sport of Swimming, its rules and the good governance within FINA, we would like to inform you that FINA Rule BL 12.1, C 7.5, C 8.2.1, FINA Code of Ethics 9 and FINA Rule GR 4.1 provide the legal framework concerning "International Competitions", "Membership" and "Unauthorised Relations". We recommend and require that our National Federations respect and apply those FINA Rules, including:

- BL 12.1 "An International Competition shall refer to any competition organised or sanctioned by FINA, any Continental or Regional Organisation or any Member Federation in which other FINA recognised Federations, clubs or individuals participate".
- BL 12.3 "All Continental and regional Organisations and Members Federations shall seek approval from FINA for any International Competition to be organised or sanctioned by them.
- C 7.5 "Each Member shall acknowledge in its national rules that FINA is the only recognized body in the world which governs Aquatics internationally".
- C 8.2.1 "All members are obliged to support FINA in its efforts to achieve its objectives".
- GR 4.1 "No affiliated Member shall have any kind of relationship with a non-affiliated or suspended body".

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- Code of Ethics 9 “No Official may be involved with any company association, firm or person whose activity is inconsistent with the objectives or interest of FINA. (...)”.

For the sake of clarification, the “International Swimming League” is neither recognised by nor affiliated to FINA. Further, FINA has neither sanctioned the competitions organised by this entity, nor approved their sanction by other FINA bodies (Continental, Regional and National bodies).

Consequently, the competitions of the “International Swimming League” are not FINA sanctioned nor FINA approved. They are not part of the international calendar. The results and records achieved in these competitions are not and will not be recognised.

FINA will assess the development of this matter and will consider art. GR 4 and BL 12, as and where appropriate.

We hope this will help all FINA Members NFs to have a clear and mutual understanding of FINA’s competence and jurisdiction in respect to international competitions. It is in the interest of all Members and other organisations of the FINA Family to maintain a proper structure of the sport, securing development at all levels and ensuring safe, proper and equal conditions for the competitors in all FINA aquatic disciplines.

We trust that all FINA Members and bodies will work together to achieve that objective in the interest of our sport.

Thank you for your kind attention and cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Cornel MARCULESCU
FINA Executive Director