



International Sports Federation for Athletes with Intellectual Impairment



2025 Virtus Swimming World Championships

August 20-30th · Bangkok Thailand

EVENT HANDBOOK

*Hosted by:
Sports Association
for Intellectual Disability
of Thailand*



ATHLETES WITHOUT LIMITS
with notes for US Swimmers from Virtus USA Member

World Para Swimming Approval Pending

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Welcome Message

Welcome athletes, coaches, and officials to the 2025 Virtus Swimming World Championships in Bangkok, Thailand. We are delighted to host you in our vibrant city and wish you a successful and enjoyable event. It is our goal to ensure that every participant has a memorable experience, both in and out of the pool.

Bangkok, the capital and largest city of Thailand, is a bustling metropolis located on the delta of the Chao Phraya River. Known for its rich cultural heritage, Bangkok is a vibrant hub of commerce, politics, and tradition. Visitors can explore landmarks such as the Grand Palace, Wat Arun, and the iconic floating markets, alongside experiencing world-renowned Thai cuisine.

The 2025 Virtus Swimming World Championships will be organised by Virtus Swimming Championships Thailand, in collaboration with key national and international stakeholders.

Technical support for the championships will be provided by the Thailand Aquatics Association (TAA), ensuring adherence to international standards for competition and event management.

The Meaning of the Mascot

The mascot for the 2025 Virtus Swimming World Championships is **Macchanu**, a mythical character from Thai and Hindu mythology. Macchanu is the son of Hanuman and Suvannamaccha, embodying qualities of bravery, loyalty, and harmony between land and water.



1) Contact Information

All questions should be directed to the swimmer's Virtus Member Country Organization. The Virtus Member organization will communicate with the International Meet Director and host organization.

In the USA the Virtus Member Organization is Athletes Without Limits.

For US swimmers with questions about Athletes Without Limits US National Team trip to the 2025 Virtus World Championships, we will be posting a separate USA Team Guide with details, timelines, US Team costs and selection criteria for US swimmers which will answer most questions and will include an FAQ section.

We will also invite all US swimmers with Virtus Eligibility who have met or are likely to meet at least one MQS qualifying time for this event to a Zoom information session.

After the US Team Guide and Zoom sessions additional questions can be submitted from our website "Contact Us" form at:

<https://www.athleteswithoutlimits.org/about/contact>

Local Information and Services

Service	Details
Pharmacies	Available in supermarkets, standalone stores, and hospitals
Car Rentals	Valid license required
Banks	Open Monday to Friday
Electricity	220V, Type C and B sockets
SIM Cards	Available at airports and stores



2) Event Information

Competition Location

Location	Bangkok, Thailand
Coordinates	Latitude 13.736717, Longitude 100.523186
Dates	August 20th - 30th, 2025
Climate	Rainy season, temperatures between 24°C and 32°C

Language

The official language of the championships is **English**. To assist non-English speaking teams, the LOC will assign volunteer translators.

Travel and Transportation

Airport	Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK)
Airlines	Thai Airways, Qatar Airways, Emirates, Turkish Airlines, Bangkok Airways, Japan Airlines
Travel Time	30-45 minutes from the airport to official hotels (28 km)
Local Transport	The LOC will provide transport services between the airport, competition venues, hotels, and official events (for swimmers, coaches and staff).

Visa Requirements

Participants from certain nations will require a visa to enter Thailand. It is the responsibility of each delegation to secure their visas prior to arrival. The LOC will provide invitation letters upon request to support visa applications.

Insurance

All participants, including athletes, coaches, and team officials, are required to arrange their own travel and medical insurance, covering any medical emergencies or incidents during their stay in Thailand.



3) Competition and Athlete Facilities

Aquatics arena

Facility	Details
Venue	Assumption University Aquatic Centre
Competition Pool	50m long course, 10 lanes and warm up facility
Timing System	Alge Timing System with Hy Tek Meet Manager
Sports Information Desk	Located at the pool for all event queries

Accommodation and Food

Team Hotel	The Green View Hotel (5-Star)
Room Facilities	Deluxe Twin Beds, Air Conditioning, Free Wi-Fi, 32-inch TV, Coffee/Tea, Complimentary Water, Shower Heater, Telephone, Blackout Curtains
Meals	Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided daily to all participants.

Social Program

A variety of cultural and social activities will be available for participants, including guided tours to historical and traditional landmarks in Bangkok.



4) Sports Rules and Regulations

All competitions will adhere strictly to **World Para Swimming Rules** and **Virtus Swimming Specifications**, ensuring fairness and consistency throughout the championships.

Entry Criteria

- Maximum of 3 entries per nation for individual events.
- 1 team entry (4 swimmers) per nation for relay events.
- Each athlete **MUST** qualify with at least one (1) MQS entry, all other entries for the athlete must meet at least the MET for the relevant event.
- All individual events of 400m or greater will be swum as Heat Declared Winner (“Timed Finals”).
- Entry is subject to the [Virtus Conditions of Entry](#) and [Code of Conduct](#) , [Safeguarding Code](#), and the [Virtus Privacy Policy](#)

Eligibility and Accreditation

Athletes must have full Virtus International eligibility in one of three Virtus II-1, II-2 or II-3 groups below. Accreditation (**Event Credentials**) will be issued to each athlete after she/he personally has shown her/his passport to the Virtus officer upon arrival. All staff members will also receive accreditations.

No guest entries will be permitted.

COMPETITION GROUP	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
Virtus II-1 (Paralympic S14 Class)	Athletes with an Intellectual Disability who have: 1) Full Scale IQ of 75 or lower on WAIS, WISC or Stanford Binet, 2) At least one domain area with significant limitations on a Vineland or ABAS Adaptive Behavior assessment, and 3) Onset before age 22.
Virtus II-2	Athletes with an intellectual disability and significant additional impairment (including Trisomy21 & Translocation Down Syndrome with AAI Clearance)
Virtus II-3	Athletes with a formal diagnosis of Autism (ASD) Note: Athletes with Autism who also meet the criteria for <i>Intellectual Disability</i> are eligible to compete in the Virtus II1/Paralympic S14 group above.

Results System

The event will use the **Hy Tek Meet Manager V8.0** system (confirmation pending) to manage and display competition results.



Wild Card Entry *[for countries who have not previously attended a Virtus World Swimming event]*

The application of Wild Card Entries by countries developing their Virtus sport swimming program is strongly encouraged. If in doubt contact the Virtus Sport Director-Swimming for information. These slots are aimed at encouraging wider participation, fostering the growth of competitive swimming globally, and providing opportunities for athletes who may not meet the standard qualification times.

Each application for a Wild Card entry will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Wild Card athletes must still meet basic eligibility requirements and adhere to event rules.

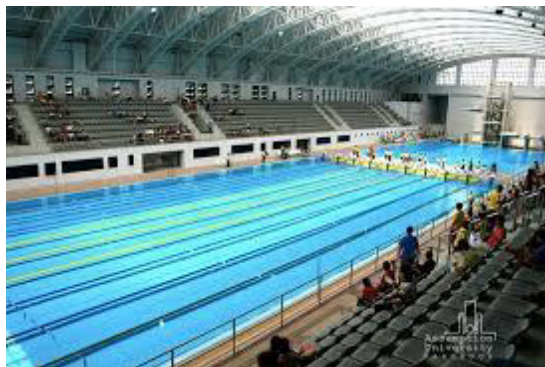
Member Organisations without any qualified athletes, or with only one (1) qualified athlete in the Championships can apply for a Wild Card. For Wild Card entry please contact the Virtus Swimming Director by 20 March 2025. Note that a Wild Card slot is allocated to the individual athlete, not to the respective Member Organisation.

A maximum of one (1) male slot and one (1) female slot may be granted if a Member Organisation has not obtained any qualification slot by MQS.

Member Organisations who have obtained only one (1) qualification slot may be given one (1) or two (2) Wild Card slots as per the table below:

Qualified Swimmers	Wild Card Slots available
No (0) qualified swimmers	1 female and/or 1 male slot
1 qualified female swimmer	1 female or 1 male slot
1 qualified male swimmer	1 female slot

Wild Card does not apply to our US Team since we have participated many times.



Medal Criteria

Medals will be awarded for **1st, 2nd, and 3rd places** in each event. For events with fewer than 4 competitors, the medal distribution may be adjusted in accordance with the n-1 rule. *For example, if there are only three swimmers in an event - only two medals will be awarded.*

Anti-Doping

Random doping tests will be conducted under the supervision of the **Doping Control Agency of Thailand (DCAT)**, in accordance with international anti-doping regulations.

We will provide information in our USA Team Guide about extra paperwork called TUE's that may be needed for certain medications.

Accreditation

Accreditation will be issued upon identity verification and validation of eligibility. Accreditation must be worn at all times to access competition and official event areas.

Medical Provision

Comprehensive medical support will be available at all competition venues and official hotels, including emergency medical services and on-call physicians.



5) Competition Program

Technical Meeting:

The first technical meeting will be held on **August 22** at **The Green View Hotel**

Schedule of events

Date	Activity
August 20	Teams Arrive
August 21-23	Team Training Days (+IPC Classification Appts. for qualified Virtus II-1)
August 24	Competition Start, Opening Ceremony
August 25-29	Championships
August 29	Closing Ceremony
August 30	Teams Depart

List of Events

Event Type	Distances
Freestyle	50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m
Backstroke	50m, 100m, 200m
Breaststroke	50m, 100m, 200m
Butterfly	50m, 100m, 200m
Individual Medley	200m, 400m
Relays	Male and Female 4x50m Freestyle, 4x100m Freestyle, 4x200m Freestyle, 4x50m Medley, 4x100m Medley; and 4x100m Freestyle Mixed Relay, 4x100m Medley Mixed Relay



6) Entry

Important Deadlines

USA: Athletes Without Limits USA Team Guide will include registration and payment timelines, dates and details for US Athletes.

JUL 14, 2025	Virtus will post non-viable events (those without enough swimmers registered) and will invite additional entries to change to viable.
JUL 29, 2025	Virtus will post final decision on non-viable events. Swimmers who are impacted will be offered alternative swim optionsB
AUG 21, 2025	Coaches First Technical Meeting (Green View Hotel) Time TBD Scheduled
AUG 21-23, 2025	Training Days (to be organized with National Team Coaches
AUG 21-23, 2025	IPC International Paralympic Classification Appointments for qualified Virtus II-1/Para S14 athletes (signup deadline tbd)

Entry cost

Team costs are unique to each Virtus member country traveling to Thailand.

USA NOTES: For the US National Team, Athletes Without Limits will be conducting an athlete interest & MQS survey of US swimmers with Virtus eligibility to help estimate US National Team size prior to setting the cost per athlete.

Once US Team costs are determined we will post our USA Team Guide.

EVENT FEE: Athlete costs will be an all-inclusive event registration fee that covers team accommodations (swimmers stay with our National Team Coaches and staff together with delegations from other countries), meals, credentials, event entry, ceremonies, event shuttles, uniforms, coaching and US Team support for 10 days in Thailand August 20-30, 2025.

FLIGHTS: Because we originate from many cities across the US, airfare to Thailand will be an additional cost that athletes will purchase directly – most US athletes fly with their parents/ family to Virtus events and meet up with the Team at the Team Hotel.

FAMILIES: Parents and family members coming as spectators make their own separate hotel reservations near the venue and/or team hotel. We are typically able to provide some guidance on this based on recommendations from the host country and local organizing committee and will provide further information in our US Team Guide & Zoom sessions.



7) Draft Schedule of Swim Competition

Proposed Daily Schedule		Planned Completion approx	
07:30	Warm Up	08:45	
09:00	Heats Start	12:00	
15:00	Warm Up	16:15	
16:30	Finals Start	20:00	

Bangkok Virtus World Swimming Championships <i>Draft Programme - Subject to change*</i>					
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
400m Freestyle*	200m Freestyle 50m	1500m Freestyle*	100m Freestyle 200m	800m Freestyle*	100m Butterfly
100m Backstroke	Butterfly	100m Breaststroke	Butterfly	200m Backstroke	50m Freestyle
50m Breaststroke	200m Individual Medley	50m Backstroke	400m Individual Medley*		200m Breaststroke
4x100m Mixed Freestyle Relay	4x50m Freestyle Relay	4x50m Medley Relay	4x200m Freestyle Relay	4x100m Mixed Medley Relay	4x100m Mixed Medley Relay
	4x100m Medley Relay				
* Timed Finals (No Separate Finals in afternoon)					
800m Freestyle - Max 4 heats in total (40 entries)					
1500m Freestyle - Max 2 Heats in total (20 entries)					
For limited entry events the LOC will select the fastest entries with a relevant proportional mix of Eligibility Groups and Gender					

VIRTUS NOTE: The information for MQS, MET and event programme are correct as of 21 November 2024. Any changes agreed by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and Virtus Sport Director-Swimming will be published as and when required.



2025 Virtus Swimming World Championships

USA National Team Trip | August 20-30th | Bangkok Thailand



Minimum Qualifying Standards (MQS)

Swimmers must have at least one MQS to qualify for the Championships

MALE/OPEN		Long Course Meters (LCM)*	FEMALE	
II2	II1, II3		II1, II3	II2
Freestyle				
00:37.00	00:27.00	50m	00:32.10	00:45.00
01:22.00	01:02.00	100m	01:15.00	01:36.00
03:10.00	02:20.00	200m	02:42.00	03:30.00
07:00.00	05:20.00	400m	06:05.00	07:15.00
13:45.00	10:00.00	800m	13:00.00	15:00.00
26:00.00	20:00.00	1500m	25:00.00	30:00.00
Breaststroke				
00:50.00	00:42.00	50m	00:50.00	00:56.00
01:40.00	01:30.00	100m	01:45.00	02:00.00
03:45.00	03:17.00	200m	03:58.00	04:25.00
Backstroke				
00:44.00	00:34.00	50m	00:45.00	00:56.00
01:40.00	01:16.00	100m	01:38.00	01:55.00
03:37.00	03:01.00	200m	03:25.00	04:18.00
Butterfly				
00:38.00	00:31.00	50m	00:40.00	00:58.00
01:30.00	01:10.00	100m	01:25.00	01:48.00
03:30.00	02:41.00	200m Individual	03:35.00	04:15.00
Medley				
03:25.00	02:38.00	200m	03:10.00	04:10.00
06:50.00	06:00.00	400m	06:50.00	08:15.00

Minimum Entry Times (MET) for Additional Events

Swimmers with 1 MQS can compete in additional events where an MET is met.

MALE/OPEN		Long Course Meters (LCM)*	FEMALE	
II2	II1, II3		II1, II3	II2
Freestyle				
00:41.00	00:30.00	50m	00:35.00	00:50.00
01:30.00	01:08.00	100m	01:23.00	01:45.00
03:15.00	02:34.00	200m	02:58.00	03:51.00
07:00.00	05:20.00	400m	06:05.00	07:15.00
13:45.00	10:00.00	800m	13:00.00	15:00.00
26:00.00	20:00.00	1500m	25:00.00	30:00.00
Breaststroke				
00:55.00	00:46.00	50m	00:55.00	01:00.00
01:50.00	01:39.00	100m	01:55.00	02:12.00
04:00.00	03:36.00	200m	04:21.00	04:51.00
Backstroke				
00:48.00	00:37.00	50m	00:49.00	01:01.00
01:50.00	01:23.00	100m	01:48.00	02:06.00
03:50.00	03:19.00	200m	03:45.00	04:43.00
Butterfly				
00:42.00	00:34.00	50m	00:44.00	01:03.00
01:39.00	01:17.00	100m	01:33.00	01:58.00
03:50.00	02:57.00	200m Individual	03:56.00	04:40.00
Medley				
03:45.00	02:53.00	200m	03:29.00	04:53.00
06:50.00	06:00.00	400m	06:50.00	08:15.00



ATHLETES WITHOUT LIMITS (USA Member of Virtus) will post a USA Team Guide for this event with National Team selection criteria and trip details for US swimmers. Visit our US Team page at: www.athleteswithoutlimits.org/event/2025-virtus-world-swimming-thailand

*CONVERSION TO LCM: Times earned at events that are SCM (Short Course 25 Meter) or SCY (25 Yards) can be converted to LCM (Long Course 50 Meter) times using the online conversion tool at SwimSwam: swimswam.com/swimming-times-conversion-tool

QUALIFICATION PERIOD: Times must have been earned since June 1, 2023 at officially timed events.