Dear Friends,

I have the pleasure to send you the following information related to the organisation of the FINA Open Water Swimming Certification School for Officials scheduled to be held in Eilat, Israel (ISR), from 5th to 6th March 2020.

The purpose of this course is to achieve the following objectives:

- Enlarge the number of officials and improve officiating at Open Water Swimming competitions;
- Unify the Open Water Swimming officiating procedure;
- Use the course as an instrument to develop and promote Open Water Swimming worldwide.

Please note the following information related to the designation & courses for Open Water Swimming officials:

- The FINA Open Water Swimming Certification Schools cater to experienced Open Water Swimming officials who require more in depth training of skills at an advanced level.
- They are designed to prepare and certify highly qualified officials wishing to be on the FINA OWS Lists.
- Candidates must be at least 16 years old on December 31 in the calendar year of attendance. Nevertheless, they must be aged 18 years or older in the year of attendance to receive certification.
- Only participants who have successfully completed the test in English or French will become certified. Certification is valid for a four-year period.
In addition, each certified official must take the FINA Open Water Swimming Online Course which will be available in English on the FINA Learning Platform.

Officials who have passed the FINA Open Water Swimming Certification School Exam, the FINA Open Water Swimming Online Exam and who have officiated at a required level will be eligible for the FINA OWS Lists.

Please find below the details related to the organisation of this course:

**DATE:**
- Arrival: 4th March 2020
- Course: 5th – 6th March 2020
- Departure: 6th March 2020 after the course completion or 7th in the morning

**PARTICIPANTS:**
Each National Member Federation may nominate Open Water Swimming officials for this course.

**REGISTRATION:**
All participants must be registered by the 5th February 2020 in the FINA General Management System (GMS) using your federation login details. The link to the FINA GMS is [https://data.fina.org](https://data.fina.org).

Please kindly note that the specific discipline of the school must be added to the attendee’s GMS profile as well as his/her personal email address in order to submit the registration.

If you require any assistance with the registration, please contact aquaticsdb@fina.org

**NATIONALITY:**
Please take into consideration that when a competition official represents his/her country in a competition, he/she shall be a citizen, whether by birth or naturalisation, of the nation he/she represents, provided that a naturalised citizen shall have lived in that country for at least one year prior to that competition (FINA Handbook - Edition 2017, General Rules 2.5).
PLACE: Eilat, Israel

ARRIVAL AIRPORT: Ramon International Airport (ETM)

TRAVEL: Each National Federation is responsible for the travel expenses of the nominated officials.

We kindly ask you to not book any flight tickets until your participants have been approved.

VISA SUPPORT: If you require visa assistance, please contact the Israel Swimming Association no later than January 8, 2020.

ACCOMMODATION: Each National Federation will cover the accommodation expenses of the nominated officials.

Isrotel Sport Club
North Shore, Eilat

Website: Click here

Single Room: 155 EUR/night (all inclusive)
Double Room: 235 EUR/night (all inclusive)

RESERVATIONS: To make a reservation, please contact the Israel Swimming Association.

LOCAL TRANSPORT: Transfers from and to the airport will be provided by the OC for those participants accommodated at the official hotel.

In order to organise the local transportation, please provide the participants’ flight arrival and departure details to the Israel Swimming Association.

MEETING VENUE: Isrotel Sport Club
PROGRAMME: Please find attached the school programme.

OC CONTACT: Orly Cohen

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Phone: +972 9 8851970

We strongly believe that the FINA Open Water Swimming Schools for Officials will powerfully contribute to the improvement of our sport.

For any further details please contact the FINA Office in Lausanne:

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We look forward to receiving your nominations through the FINA GMS by no later than the 5th February 2020.

Yours sincerely,

Cornel Marculescu
Executive Director

CM/mc