MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL FINA MEMBER FEDERATIONS IN ASIA AND OCEANIA

FROM: FINA Office, Lausanne

DATE: 1st March 2019

RE: FINA OPEN WATER SWIMMING DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL FOR OFFICIALS / 21-23 March 2019
Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMA)

Dear Friends,

I have the pleasure to send you the following information related to the organisation of the FINA Open Water Swimming Development School for Officials scheduled to be held in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMA), from 21st to 23rd March 2019.

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 Development Schools cater for those participants with limited basic knowledge or no prior experience in open water swimming officiating.
- They are designed to meet the needs of those National Federations that have requested officials' instruction and do not have any open water swimming training programmes for officials in place.
- Candidates must be at least 14 years old on December 31 in the calendar year of attendance.
Please find below the details related to the organisation of this course:

**DATE:**

**Arrival:** 20th March 2019

**Course:** 21st – 23rd March 2019

**Departure:** 23rd March after the course completion

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

**REGISTRATION:**
All participants must be registered by the 8th March 2019 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](mailto: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:**
Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands
ARRIVAL AIRPORT: Saipan International Airport

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: Please contact the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation if you require visa assistance.

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

Pacific Islands Club (PIC)
Beach Road
Saipan, MP 96950

Website: Click here

Single Room: 165 USD/night (breakfast incl.)

RESERVATIONS: To make a reservation, please contact the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation.

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 Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation.

MEETING VENUE: Pacific Islands Club
PROGRAMME: Please note that the school programme will be provided shortly.

OC CONTACT: Colin Thompson
Email: cmtlaw@live.com
Phone: 1 670 287 2777

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 8th March 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Cornel Marculescu
Executive Director

CM/mc