WINTER WORLD MASTERS GAMES • FINLAND 2028

Winter Swimming · Winter World Masters Games 2028

INVITATION TO COMPETE AND SPORTS INFORMATION

Lahti, Pajulahti, 20–23 January 2028 · Version 1, October 2026

1. Welcome to Lahti

The Winter World Masters Games 2028 bring 14 winter sports to Lahti, Heinola and Levi on 14–23 January 2028. Winter Swimming events will be held in Pajulahti, Lahti on 20–23 January, on the Lake Pool Pajulahti.

The competitions are organised by the Kolmen Kampuksen Urheiluopisto, Pajulahti. The organizing committee behind the National Championships in Winter Swimming.

The podium is personal. Every age class from 30 to 90+ races for its own medals. Nothing stops us.

2. Organisers

Role	Organisation
Event owner	World Masters Sports (WMS)
Organising committee	Salppuri Oy, Lahti
Competition organiser	Kolmen Kampuksen Urheiluopisto, Pajulahti
Rules and sports governing body	Adapted from the competition rules of IWSA - International Winter Swimming Association
Technical Delegate	Appointed by organisation
Contact	nothingstopsus@masters2028.com, subject "Winter Swimming"

3. Venue and a Field of Play

Venue

The competition venue is Lake Pool Pajulahti, located in the Pajulahti Campus area. The competition pool includes six (6) lanes, 25 m each. Four (4) saunas and four (4) dressing rooms are included in the competition area.

Pajulahti is located about 25 km from Lahti, WWMG2028 Masters Hub, 20-30 minutes by car or the bus.

Helsinki Airport to Lahti: about 100 km, one hour by train or car.

4. Who can enter

- Anyone can enter, if you are 30 or older on 31 December 2027, born in 1997 or earlier.
- You have your own accident, health and liability insurance, including repatriation, valid in Finland for training and competition. The organiser takes out no insurance for participants.
- You compete at your own risk. By starting, you accept the condition of the lake pool area and the safety measures in place.
- You are responsible for your own fitness to compete. No medical certificate is needed; you confirm your health in the registration.
- Masters compete for themselves. There are no national delegations.
- Participants holding Russian or Belarusian citizenship may attend the Winter World Masters Games 2028 only if they also hold citizenship of another country or are permanent residents of a country other than Russia or Belarus, and they participate individually without using or displaying any Russian or Belarusian flags, symbols, names, abbreviations, colour combinations, anthems, or other national identifiers. This decision has been made by the Local Organising Committee and follows the policies of the Finnish Government and Finnish sports organisations.

5. Age classes

Your age on 31 December 2027 sets your age class. Men and women compete in separate classes, in five-year steps: 30–34 · 35–39 · 40–44 · 45–49 · 50–54 · 55–59 · 60–64 · 65–69 · 70–74 · 75–79 · 80–84 · 85–89 · 90+

Classes will not be combined. The top three of every class receive medals.

6. Winter Swimming

Competition		Day	Format
Breastroke 50m individual	Lake Pool Pajulahti	Thursday 20 January	Heats · Results by time
Freestyle 50m individual	Lake Pool Pajulahti	Friday 21 January	Heats · Results by time

Breastroke 25m individual	Lake Pool Pajulahti	Saturday 22 January	Heats · Results by time
Freestyle 25m individual	Lake Pool Pajulahti	Sunday 23 January	Heats · Results by time
Mixed Relay 4 x 25m (2xBS, 2x FS)	Lake Pool Pajulahti	Sunday 23 January	Heats · Results by time

Max. six swimmers of each heat. No final heats. Results by time.

7. Initial Programme

Day	General Programme in Lahti	Winter Swimming
Friday 14 January	Opening Ceremony, Lahti · accreditation at the Games Centre	
Wednesday 19 January		Competition pool and lanes open for practice · Competition office open at Pajulahti
Thursday 20 January	BS 50m Award Ceremony (TBC)	Breaststroke 50m
Friday 21 January	FS 50m Award Ceremony (TBC)	Freestyle 50m
Saturday 22 January	BS 25m Award Ceremony (TBC)	Breaststroke 25m
Sunday 23 January	FS 25m and Mixed Relay 4 x 25m Award Ceremonies (TBC) · Farewell Party, Lahti	Freestyle 25m · Mixed Relay 4 x 25m (2xBS, 2xFS)

Medals are awarded for top 3 in each age group every evening, location will be confirmed.

Start lists with the starting times will be published on masters2028.com before the Games.

Changes for weather or safety are announced at the official information board in Pajulahti Campus, Competition Office and on masters2028.com.

9. Training

Wednesday 19 January: Competition pool open for training. Training schedule will be published at the official information board in Pajulahti Campus, Competition Office and on masters2028.com.

There is no training on competition days.

10. Athlete Information Meeting

Wednesday 19 January at Pajulahti Campus. The schedule will be informed later.

11. Rules and Security

- The competitions follow the IWSA rules on the basis. Any exceptions and clarifications to the rules will be published at a later date and will form part of the official race rules.
- Jury of three, presented at the Athlete Information Meeting. The jury may stop a competition or exclude an athlete when health or safety is at risk.
- Mixed Relay 4 x 25m: Each team must be of mixed gender and consist of 4 swimmers in total (i.e. three male swimmers and one female swimmer).
- Equipment: Swimwear must be non-transparent. Swimming without a bathing costume or women swimming topless is not permitted. Swimsuits may not go beyond the knee or past the shoulder. Neoprene-based swimming suits are not allowed.

- Security: Water rescue (divers and rescuers), warming facilities, first aid & medical staffing and hospital transportation readiness at the pool.
- Protests: Written in English to the competition office within 30 minutes after the competition ends.
- Anti-doping: the WMS anti-doping rules and the WADA Code apply.

IWSA Rules

12. Entry and fees

Registration opens on 2 November 2026 at masters2028.com. The first week is reserved for pre-registered athletes. Each athlete registers and pays personally online.

Game entry: 225 € per athlete, VAT 13.5 % included. It covers all distances and relay. There is no fee per competition.

Included: competition entry with Wednesday official training, accreditation, welcome package, Opening and Farewell Ceremony, medal ceremonies, timing and results.

In the Winter Swimming you choose the distances of 25m/50m in Breaststroke and Freestyle and Mixed Relay 4 x 25m with your team.

Changes to your distances are free until 30 November 2027, then 25 €.

Late fee +50 € from 1 October 2027. Last-minute fee +100 € from 1 January 2028. Entries close on 14 January 2028.

13. Cancellation

Until 30 June 2027	Full refund minus 50 € admin fee

1 July – 30 November 2027	50 %
From 1 December 2027	No refund
With a doctor's certificate, any time	50 %

Entries cannot be transferred to another person. If the organiser cancels all your sports, 50 % is refunded. The general terms and conditions and the privacy policy on masters2028.com are part of this invitation.

14. Results and medals

Start lists and live results are on masters2028.com. The top three in every class receive medals the same evening, location will be confirmed. No flags, no national anthems: masters compete for themselves.

15. Accommodation and travel

Hotels and transport in Lahti can be booked through the masters2028.com

16. Coaches and companions

Access to the competition area requires accreditation. Limitations will exist on the pool area.

Coaches register as accompanying persons on masters2028.com. Registration for accompanying persons opens in 2027.

17. Contact

nothingstopsus@masters2028.com · subject "Winter Swimming" · masters2028.com

Changes for organisational, safety or weather reasons are possible;

The version date for this document is: 28 October 2026.

NOTHING STOPS US.
WE ARE MASTERS.