

OFFICIAL RULES FOR THE
LI DESCENSO A NADO DE LA RIA DE NAVIA
(Navia's Estuary Downstream Swimming Competition)

GENERAL WORK FRAME: The *Descenso a Nado de la Ría de Navia* is a long distance swimming competition organised in accordance with the rules issued by the *Federation Internationale de Natation / FINA*, the *Ligue Européenne de Natation / LEN* and the *Royal Spanish Swimming Federation / RFEN* for the *open water swimming* contests. Consequently, the following clauses take into account such a set of regulations.

ORGANIZING BODY: *Asociación Amigos de la Ría de Navia*. For further information please contact the mentioned *Asociación* by any of the following ways:

- e-mail address: natacion@rianavia.com
- Phone number: **+34 985473018**;
- Post address: **Apartado de Correos nº 5.- 33710 NAVIA (ASTURIAS) SPAIN**

PLACE AND DATE: Navia (Asturias – Spain); Saturday, 16th – August – 2008 at 18.30 hrs.

RACES TO BE HELD AND AGE GROUPS: *Descenso-2008* consists of the following four different races: **a] Senior Men**, over a distance of 5000 m. approx.; **b] Senior Women**, over a distance of 3000 m. approx.; **c] Junior A** (boys and girls), over a distance of 1700 m. approximately; **d] Junior B** (boys and girls), over a distance of 1100 m. approximately. In both *Junior* races there will also be different classification groups for boys and girls.

Junior A race is for:

- Boys born from 1st - January - 1992 to 31st – Dec.- 1994, both dates included).
- Girls born from 1st - January - 1993 to 31st – Dec.- 1995, both dates included).

Junior B race is for the youngest children (boys born from 1st - January – 1995 onwards and girls from January – 1996 onwards).

Participation is also open for **Masters** swimmers (men as well as women). The rules for their registration and participation are shown in the Annex to this document.

REGISTRATION RULES:

Participation in *Descenso* is reserved for swimmers owning a current licence issued by the *Royal Spanish Swimming Federation/RFEN* or any other National Swimming Association officially recognised by it¹. The registration in the *Descenso* of any swimmer has to be supported by the club he belongs to. Therefore, entries shall be performed by the club (or, alternatively, other recognised entity) and individual registrations might be rejected if not endorsed by a liable institution or person.

Entries shall be submitted in writing (e-mail, post, etc.) and should be received by the Organizers before 13.00 hrs. on Thursday, 14th - August - 2008. Every swimmer will report his/her full name, identification of club he belongs to, licence number, and date of birth. For registration in any of the *Junior* or *Master*

¹ A particular document that enables a swimmer to participate in the *Descenso* is the "*licencia especial Travesías 2008*" (i.e., "*Special Licence for OWS competitions - 2008*") that issues the *Federación de Natación del Principado de Asturias / FAN (Asturias' Federation)*. Thus, people not owing other qualifyng licence/document might participate in the *Descenso* requesting to the FAN (phone +34 985327018; e-mail: fan@ctv.es) the issue of the above mentioned *licencia especial*

categories, age must be certified with a legal document (such as, for instance, passport, swimming licence, ...) stating date of birth. Besides, a photocopy of this document must be presented, which will be kept by the competition jury after checking it against the original.

TROPHIES AND PRIZES: Different entities grant valuable trophies every year (74, in the last venue). Besides, the support of the Descenso's sponsors makes feasible to reward to the winners of the senior races with the following prizes (for the 3 first men and the 3 first women):

- 1st → 1000 €
- 2nd → 700 €
- 3rd → 400 €

No award will be made in senior contests if, in case of exceptional circumstances, the corresponding races had to be cancelled.

CONTEST GUIDELINES: The Descenso is a competition to be held under the rules of *Royal Spanish Swimming Federation* and therefore, as previously mentioned, submitted to the regulations set shaped by FINA, LEN and *Spanish Swimming Federation* itself. And, because of Descenso's special characteristics, it is convenient to clarify the application of such a rules set through some specific documents issued by the Organizing Body. These papers are: **a]** this document itself; **b]** *Descenso's Official Regulations*, inspired directly by the FINA's *Open Water Swimming Rules* **c]** *Preparation of classifications and assignment of trophies to be granted*. All the three are at public disposal.

JURY: Each of the four races will have its own jury, appointed by the recognised **Referees Committee** within the *Royal Spanish Swimming Federation*. Any queries, misunderstandings, rules interpretations or disagreements that may arise and were not covered by the rules laid out in this paper will be sorted out by the race's *main referee* (who, if necessary, can seek for the advice of the representatives from the Organizers).

MEDICAL INSURANCE: As Clubs are legally obliged to provide medical and safety insurance to all their respective members, the Descenso's Organizing Body declines any responsibility that might derive from the swimmers participation in the contest. Nevertheless the services of the opportune Medical and Safety / Rescue teams will be in place.

⇒ For additional information, you can see on internet the web page www.rianavia.es.

⇒ The Organizers reserve all the rights to cancel, add or modify any of the points in this paper. Registration implies the full acceptance of these rules as a whole.

Navia, 23rd - May - 2008

LI DESCENSO INTERNACIONAL A NADO DE LA RIA DE NAVIA (Navia's Estuary Downstream Swimming Competition)

ANNEX TO ITS OFFICIAL RULES

MASTERS' PARTICIPATION

The thriving that, in the swimming world, are experiencing the *masters's* categories recommends to the Descenso's organization to pay special attention to them, taking also care in keeping updated their participation rules according to the masters's swimming evolution. And now, face to the Descenso'2008, it proceeds to consolidate two modifications that were successfully tested last year: 1) the possibility for the older swimmers (born before January 1st/1959) to join to the 1100 race; 2) in the 1700 m. race, they will be reserved some awards (cups) to the masters category (for men and women). Therefore, the rules for the masters's participation are now fixed in the following terms:

- a) Firstly it is to be said here that the criteria adopted by the *Descenso's Organizing Body* to typify the masters's categories is aligned with the related RFEN rules (specified in its document "**Reglamento de Actividades Master 2005/2009**");
- b) As said in the *main body* of these Descenso's *Rules*, there exist four different races, with respective lengths of 1100, 1700, 3000 and 5000 m.;
- c) The 1700 and 3000 m. races (and, of course, the 5000 m. one) are open to the participation of masters belonging to the C30+ category and onwards (C35+, C40+,...). Besides, it is also admitted the participation of masters from the C50+, C55+,... groups in the shortest race (the 1100 m. one)[‡]. That means that any master belonging to the categories **C30+** and beyond (not so the **C20+** and **C25+** ones) can choose, regardless of his/her age, which of the 1700, 3000, 5000 m. races he/she wishes to join to. And masters from the C50+, C55+,... groups can also opt to swim the 1100 m. one. Regarding to the **C20+** (*pre-master*) and **C25+** swimmers, they are obliged to join to the corresponding *senior* race (i.e., the 3000 m. one in case of master women and 5000 m. for men);
- d) In each of the mentioned three races there will exist two specific clasifications for masters (one for men and other for women). These clasifications will also include the category indication (**C30+**,) for all the swimmers;
- e) **No trophies will be granted to the specific clasifications** for masters in the 1100, 3000 and 5000 m. races. But, in other hand, and as above indicated, **in the 1700 m. race there will be some trophies (cups) reserved to the master swimmers (men and women)**. However, the different **CXX+** groups will be not taken into account when granting these trophies. So, the circumstance of belonging to one or another **CXX+** category has not relevance for the awarding of cups.
- f) Master women that swim the 3000 race will keep the right to get any of the trophies/cash prizes entitled to the *Senior Women* contest (additional information can be found in the **Preparation of clasifications and assigment of trophies to be granted** document). In the same way, master men swimming the 5000 m. race will be considered also as standard participants in the *Senior Men* contest, thus having the right to compete for the trophies/cash prizes entitled to this race.
- g) All the masters born before December 31st/1958 (i.e. those belonging to the **C50+**, **C55+**,... categories) completing the Descenso -irrespectif of their registration in the 1100 m. race or any other (1700, 3000 or 5000 m.)- will receive the **Sirenita** (little mermaid), souvenir that from 2007 is delivered exclusively to the swimmers included in the above mentioned age groups.

[‡] The raison for not considering the registration of C30+ to C45+ masters in the 1100 m. race lies in the risk of leaving the real protagonists of this contest (the children) in a secondary place. The Descenso's Organizing Body thinks that, in case of admitting here the registration of such master categories, the first swimmers arriving to the finish line would probably belong to master groups, so diverting the spectator's attention from the main goal of this race: the participation of children up to 12/13 years old.

The table below can help to *master* (or *pre-master*) swimmers to determine the races in which their registration is admitted.

IDENTIFICATION OF RACES OPEN TO THE REGISTRATION OF THE DIFFERENT GROUPS OF MASTER SWIMMERS	Pruebas			
	1100 m.	1700 m. (with granting of specific awards)	3000 m.	5000 m.
People born up to December 31 st /1958 (C50+, C55+,... groups)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
People born between January 1 st /1959 and December 31 st /1978 (C30+, C35+, C40+ and C45+ groups)		Yes	Yes	Yes
People born after December 31 st /1978 (premaster y C25+)			Yes	Yes

The Descenso's Organizing Body will admit as Master Swimmers all those who meet any of the two following conditions:

- Possession of a **Master National Licence**, issued by the RFEN (or, alternatively, by any other National Swimming Association recognised by the Spanish Federation);
- Not having the licence above mentioned, to be in possession of an standard licence from the RFEN (alternatively, from a National Association recognised by the Spanish one) or other enabling document (as the "*licencia especial Travesías 2008*") and, being born before 31st-December-1978 (included), have expressly asked to Descenso's Organizing Body to be included in such a category.

To request their registration in the Descenso, all masters must fill in and sign a form –supplied by the *Descenso's Organizing Body*- with an **Individual Declaration of Fitness**.

Navia, 23rd - May - 2008