

## **CHANGE OF SPORT NATIONALITY – RULES & DOCUMENTATION**

In order to start a procedure on change of sport nationality of an athlete, FINA needs to receive the following documents:

*Please note that:*

- *All documents must be in English or French (or translated)*
- *All documents shall be marked with the appropriate document number (i.e. Doc. 1) as per the list below*
- *All confirmations, letters and statements shall be in a letterhead with the name of the organisation, body or entity and signed by its legal representative.*

### **New NF official request**

Doc. 1      New NF official request: an official request from the new National Federation for a sport nationality transfer of the athlete, with first name, last name, date of birth, aquatic discipline, and the last country represented by the athlete with the former National Federation and the date of this last representation.

### **Citizenship**

Doc. 2      Citizenship: a copy of the athlete's passport or ID card of the country of the new National Federation.

### **Residency**

Doc. 3      Local authority certificate: a certified registration of an address issued by a local authority which states exactly where and the date (day/month/year) since when the athlete is living in the country of the new National Federation.  
The athlete must have resided in the country at least twelve (12) months prior to his first representation for the new National Federation.

Doc. 4      Proof of residence documents: school registration confirmation and/or results, confirmation of the school, employment contract, confirmation of the employer, driver license, bank statements, utility bills, declaration under oath from the landlord of the athlete, rent cheques, affidavit of residency, tax decision, etc. which establish that the athlete resides in the country of the new National Federation during the last twelve (12) months of residence.

## Jurisdiction

- Doc. 5      Club's confirmation: a confirmation from a club of the new National Federation which states the date (day/month/year) since when the athlete is an active member.
- Doc. 6      New National Federation's confirmation: a confirmation from the new National Federation which states the date (day/month/year) since when the athlete is a member.
- Doc. 7      Confirmation by the former National Federation of the last representation with the former National Federation: a confirmation from the former National Federation with the date (day/month/year) of the athlete's last representation with the former National Federation.
- Doc. 8      Non-representation with new National Federation: a statement from the new National Federation that the athlete has never represented the new National Federation in international events in the last twelve (12) months.
- Doc. 9      Official club results list: official result lists from national, regional or international club competitions in which the athlete has participated for his "new" club for the last twelve (12) months. In the case of Water Polo it would be the game protocols from national, regional or international club competitions, and as many as possible in order to cover the twelve (12) months period.

→ *Please highlight the athletes' name, club's name and date of the competition in the official club results list.*

N.B. Any application for change of affiliation must be approved by FINA.

**If you fulfil the requirements as per the FINA General Rules, GR 2.5 to 2.7 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS below, and you desire to apply for a sport nationality change, please send your request for changing sport nationality and all required documentation to: [legal@fina.org](mailto:legal@fina.org)**

*NB. All confirmations, letters and statements shall be considered as true and correct and any false statement could result in denial of the submitted request, and disciplinary proceedings with sanction of warning, fine, suspension or expulsion. The signatory person, the athlete and the potential new national federation understand that all information on the documents are subject to investigation and authorize FINA to make any inquiry of any person, firm or agency relevant to the documents, and further authorize any person, firm or agency to provide information as may be requested by FINA. The signatory person, the athlete and the potential new national federation hereby authorize to release information to FINA concerning the change of sport nationality. The signatory person, the athlete and the potential new national federation certify that they have completed and read the documents and know and understand the contents of it, and confirm that the information contained in it is true and complete.*

## **FINA GENERAL RULES: GR 2 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

GR 2.5 When a competitor or 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. Competitors, who have more than one nationality according to the laws of the respective nations must choose one "Sport Nationality" and be affiliated to one Member only.

GR 2.6 Any competitor or competition official changing his affiliation from one national governing body to another must have resided in the territory of and been under the jurisdiction of the latter for at least twelve months prior to his first representation for the country.

### GR 2.6.1 Proof of Residence

- 1) Residence means the place/country where the competitor or competition official "lives and sleeps" and where he/she can be found in the majority of days of the year.
- 2) The proof of residence must include documentation establishing the applicant resides in the country. In this regard the official school or university confirmation or employment contract or any other relevant documentation may constitute evidence.
- 3) Certified registration of an address in the "new" country for at least twelve (12) months prior to first representation of the competitor or competition official for the "new" country must be sent to FINA.

### GR 2.6.2 Proof of Jurisdiction

- 1) Certified membership in a club of the new country
- 2) Confirmation from the FINA Member of that country
- 3) Official result lists from national championships, national, regional or international club competitions in which the applicant has participated for his/her "new" club during the GR 2.6 requested time
- 4) Applicants cannot represent any of the countries during the "transfer period"

GR 2.7 Any application for change of affiliation must be approved by FINA.

*Last update made on October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015.*

## Application for a change of Sport Nationality – Affidavit of Residence

NAME OF THE ATHLETE:

PASSPORT NUMBER:

DATE OF BIRTH:

ADDRESS OF ATHLETE:

DATE OF THIS LETTER:

Dear FINA Executive,

This letter is to formally confirm my residency and that I, [ATHLETE'S NAME], have been living uninterruptedly in the address stated above during the last 12 months from the date of this letter.

I certify that I, [ATHLETE'S NAME], presently live at [ADDRESS] [COUNTRY], and that I have lived at this address for [PERIOD] years, since [DATE].

I, [ATHLETE'S NAME], further certify that the above information is true and accurate.

Furthermore, I understand that the information contained in this letter is considered as true and correct and any false statement on this application constitutes a perjury and could result in denial of the submitted request, and disciplinary proceedings with sanction of warning, fine, suspension or expulsion.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

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Name of Athlete:

*NB. All confirmations, letters and statements shall be considered as true and correct and any false statement could result in denial of the submitted request, and disciplinary proceedings with sanction of warning, fine, suspension or expulsion. The signatory person, the athlete and the potential new national federation understand that all information on the documents are subject to investigation and authorize FINA to make any inquiry of any person, firm or agency relevant to the documents, and further authorize any person, firm or agency to provide information as may be requested by FINA. The signatory person, the athlete and the potential new national federation hereby authorize to release information to FINA concerning the change of sport nationality. The signatory person, the athlete and the potential new national federation certify that they have completed and read the documents and know and understand the contents of it, and confirm that the information contained in it is true and complete.*

**(PLEASE INSERT THE NATIONAL FEDERATION LETTERHEAD WITH LOGO)**

**Application for a change of Sport Nationality – NF Official Request**

Date: **(TO COMPLETE)**

Dear Sirs,

We, the **(COUNTRY)** National Federation, hereby apply for a request of change of Sport Nationality of:

The Athlete

First name:  
Last name:  
Date of birth:  
Aquatic discipline:  
Former National Federation:  
New National Federation:

The Athlete is a citizenship of **(NEW COUNTRY)** as from **(DATE)**. Please refer to doc.2.

The Athlete is living in **(NEW COUNTRY)** since **(DATE)**. Please refer to doc. 3 and 4.

The Athlete is a member of the **(NAME OF CLUB)** since **(DATE)**. Please refer to doc. 5.

The Athlete is registered with the **(NEW NF)** since **(DATE)**. Please refer to doc. 6.

The Athlete's last representation with the former National Federation was on **(DATE)**. Please refer to doc. 7.

The Athlete has never represented the **(New NF)** in International Competitions in the last 12 months. Please refer to doc. 8.

The Athlete has participated for his "new" club for the last 12 months and has not competed for a club of a different National Federation for the last 12 months. Please refer to doc. 9.

According to the information given above and the annexes, we kindly ask you to approve the change of sport nationality of **(NAME OF THE ATHLETE)**.

Yours Sincerely,

**(Name and Signature of New National Federation President and Official Stamp)**

NB. This is an official statement of the National Federation. The National Federation hereby declares that above is true and correct and any false statement on this application constitutes a perjury and could result in denial of the submitted request, and disciplinary proceedings with sanction of warning, fine, suspension or expulsion. The National Federation understands that all information on this document is subject to investigation and authorize FINA to make any inquiry of any person, firm or agency relevant to this document, and further authorize any person, firm or agency to provide information as may be requested by FINA. The National Federation hereby authorizes to release further information concerning the change of sport nationality. The President of the New National Federation certifies that has completed and read this document and know and understand the contents of it, and swear that the information contained in it is true and complete.

**(PLEASE INSERT THE NATIONAL FEDERATION LETTERHEAD WITH LOGO)**

Annexes - Documents:

1. New NF official request
2. Passport
3. Local authority certificate
4. Proof of residence documents
5. New Club's Registration
6. New National Federation's confirmation
7. Confirmation by the former National Federation of the last representation with the former National Federation
8. Non-representation with new National Federation
9. Official club results list