EUROPEAN AQUATICS®

Open Water Swimming

Officials Clinic Open Water Swimming Level 1

Prof. Dr. Bastian Esefeld | EA TOWSC Member, Education Officials Sub-Commission

Lecturer: Bastian Esefeld



- TOWSC Member of **European Aquatics** (since 2023)
  - Technical Delegate and Official
  - Rules and Regulations
  - Sub-Committee Education OWS Officials (since 2024)
- **World Aquatics Referee** (since 2015) Gold Level
  - Officiating EA Championships (5),EA Junior Championships (3), EA-Cup (4), WA-Cup, WA Championships Masters (3)
- **Referee** national championships (annual since 2014)
- National Chair Open Water Swimming (since 20212)
  - Organisation **of Bavarian / German Championships**
  - Education Officials Open Water Swimming

Overview Updated Education System

Level 1 – Basic

No qualification to become ITO, **only NTO**

Development

Compact Course **(in person)** for Federations w/o OWS experience
Theory + national Event
Lecturer visits federation

Basics

Compact **online / recorded** Course for Officials of Cup-Host Federations
→ Limited positions as NTO

Level 2 – Intermediate

Qualification to become ITO w/o Chief Ref. / SO

Qualification

Online Course **2 days** with final exam (online)
→ Similar to 1st edition in Jan. 2025

Refreshment

Online Course **(1/2 – 4 hours)** with rule changes and discussion of relevant practical examples
No final exam

Level 3 – Advanced

Qualification for Chief Ref. / Safety Officer

Module 1

In-Person Course 2 half-days with final exam (written):

- Last briefing (hands on)
- Decision making
- Psychological aspects
- Safety plan
- Course layouts positioning
- preparation of event
- Rule updates

Module 2

Officiating during EA-OWS event under observation of TOWSC member / delegate
Assessment regarding

- rules,
- personal appearance,
- group dynamics
- leadership

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Agenda

1 General Definitions

- 1.1 Rules and Regulations
- 1.2 Definitions
- 1.3 Course forms and length
- 1.4 Water temperature and Suits

2 Organization of Events

3 Working on the Water

4 Officials and Tasks

5 Special Occurrences

6 Further Race Formats

Rule Set

WORLD AQUATICS

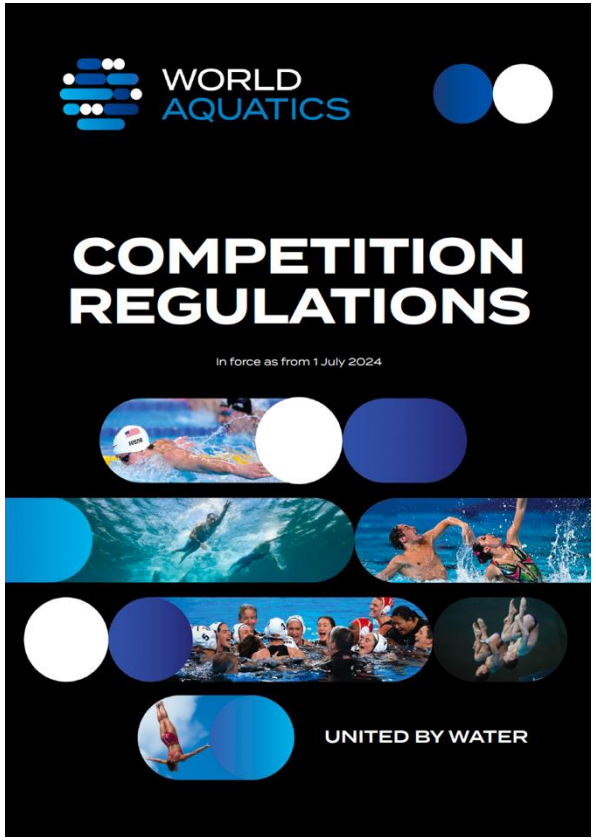
https://www.worldaquatics.com/rules/competition-regulations

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

https://europeanaquatics.org/rules/competition-rules-regulations-and-guidelines/

European Aquatics Events shall be held in accordance with the Rules of World Aquatics or such modifications thereof as stated in European Aquatics Rules or as approved by the Bureau.

AQUA Competition Regulations



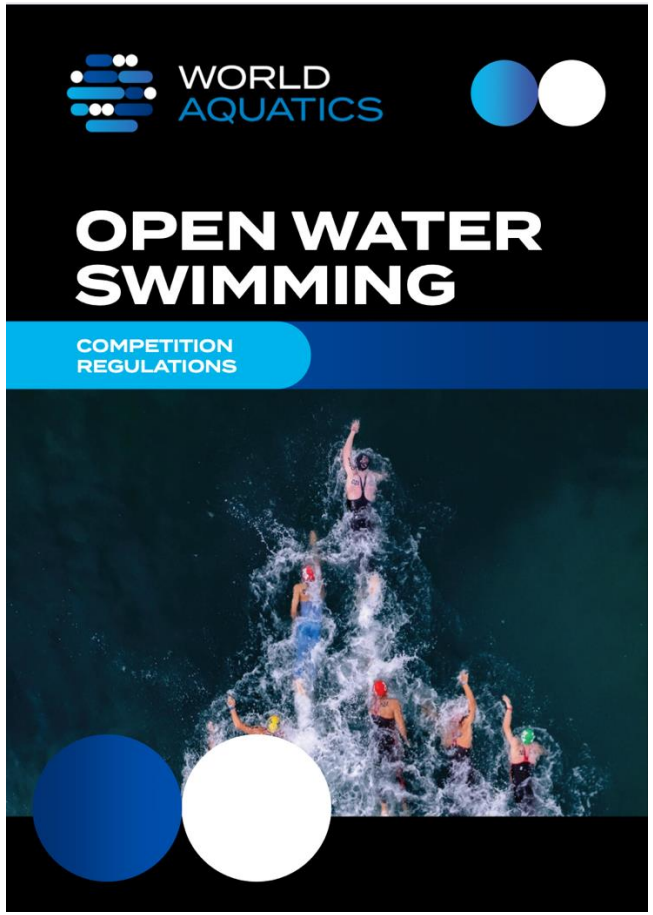
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Focus on

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- Part Eight: 4 Masters Open Water Swimming Rules

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AQUA Open Water Swimming Regulations



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European Aquatics Rules

COMPETITION RULES

General events rules

European championships
In swimming, diving, artistic swimming and open water swimming

- SWIMMING RULES
- DIVING RULES
- HIGH DIVING RULES
- WATER POLO RULES
- ARTISTIC SWIMMING RULES
- OPEN WATER RULES
  - EA Open Water Swimming Championships - Stand Alone
  - EA Open Water Junior Championships
  - EA Open Water Cup
  - EA Open Water Cup Point System
- MASTERS RULES



Definitions

Open Water Swimming is defined as any competition that takes place ***in rivers, lakes, oceans or water channels*** *or* ***any other body of open water****.*

The minimum depth of water at any point on the course shall be ***1.40 metre****.*

The course shall be in water that is subject to ***only minor currents or tides*** *and shall be free of* ***hazardous obstacles, pollutants****, and* ***dangerous marine life****.*

AQUA – Part Three – 1.1 + 2.1.6.2 + 10.4.6







Waves and Current



JEOWSC
Setubal
2022



Marathon Swimming Olympics
Paris
2024

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European Aquatics OWS Events - Overview

European Championships

- 5 km Individual
- 10 km Individual
- Knockout-Sprint
- 6 km Mixed Relay = 4 x 1500 m (2 Women, 2 Men)

EA OWS Cup

- Annual series of 5-6 single events
- Individual classification and cup classification
- Possibility for young talents to find to OWS-competitions
- Attractive because of price money
- Regularly one race per event

European Junior Open Water Swimming Championships

- 5 km Individual: 14 / 15 years
- 7.5 km Individual: 16 / 17 years
- 10 km Individual: 18 / 19 years
- Knockout-Sprint (14 – 16 / 17-19 years)
- 6 km Mixed Relay = 4 x 1500 m (2 Girls, 2 Boys), U16
- 6 km Mixed Relay = 4 x 1500 m (2 Girls, 2 Boys), U19

** The **minimum age** for swimmers […]: Girls and Boys, at least **14 years** of age, on 31st December in the year of competition.* AQUA – Part 3 1.4

Course Form – Point to point

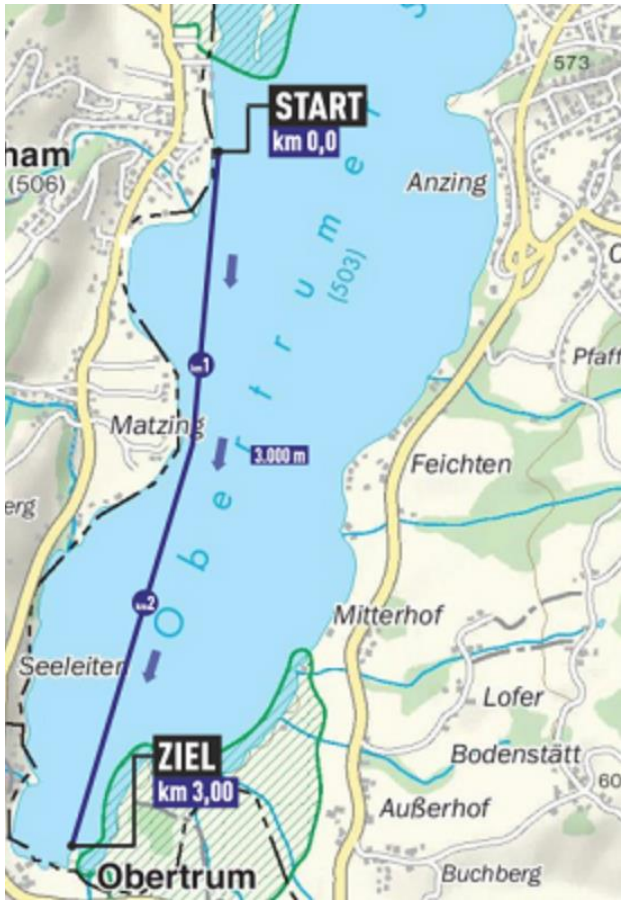
Frequently used for sea crossings

Advantages

- High attractiveness for swimmers (event character)
- No / fewer turn judges

Disadvantages

- Low spectator friendliness
- Difficult feeding
- Accompanying the swimmers for safety
- High effort for course safety
- Transport of material (clothing)





Course Form – Circuit course, multiple laps

Characteristics

- Often in triangular / rectangular shape
- Turning buoys that must be rounded on the outside
- Choose the ‘right’ swimming direction and lap length



Advantages

- Smaller water surface possible
- High spectator friendliness
- Fewer safety personnel required / safety partly stationary

Disadvantages

- overlapping possible
- High number of officials (turn judges)
- Counting (wrong number of laps)
- Less attractive for swimmers

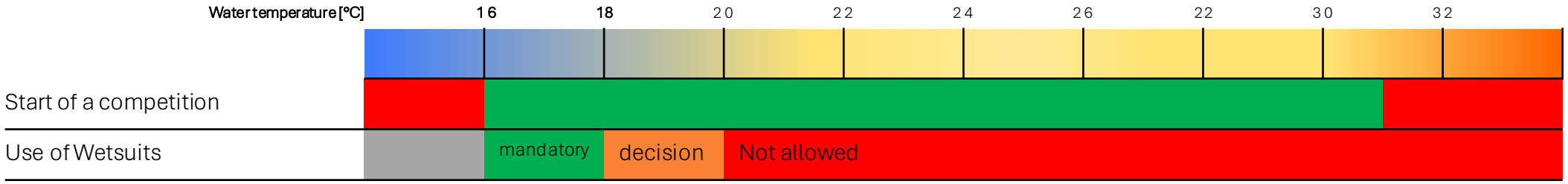


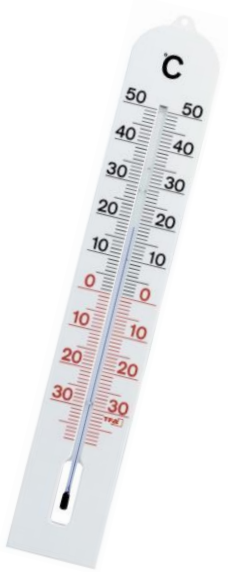

EUROPEAN
GLASGOW 2018

Water temperature and effect on swimwear

- *The water temperature should be a **minimum of 16°C and a maximum of 31°C**.*
- *For Open Water Swimming competitions in **water with temperature below 18°C**, the use of **wetsuits** is **compulsory**.*
- ***Wetsuits are not permitted** in Open Water Swimming competitions in **water with temperature 18°C and above,***
- ***except** when conditions are **hazardous** for the competitors, the Chief Referee may, upon recommendation from the Safety Officer & Medical Officer declare **wetsuits as mandatory** in temperatures **up to 20.0°C**.*

AQUA – Part Three – 8.1.6.3 + 7.2

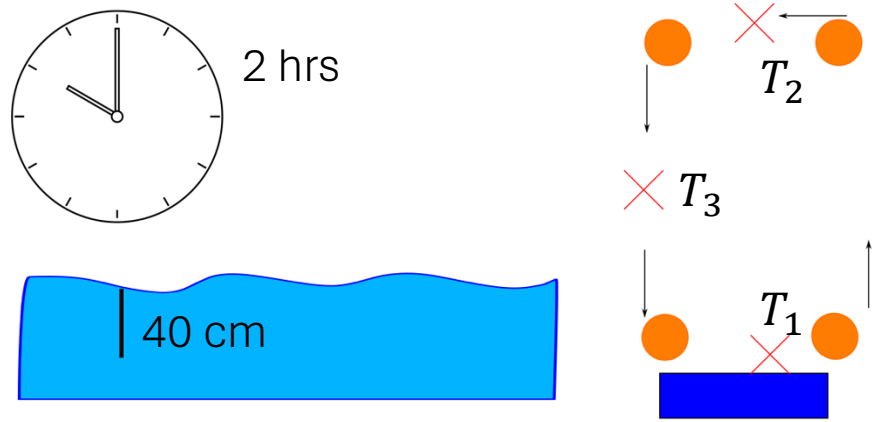




Water temperature initial check

- *It [The Water temperature] should be checked the day of the race,*
  - *2 hours before the start,*
  - *at three points around the course*
  - *at a depth of 40 cm.*
- *The agreed temperature will be the **average** of the three taken.*
- *This control should be done in the presence of a Commission made up of the following persons present:*
  - *a Referee,*
  - *a member of the Organising Committee*
  - *and one coach from the teams present designated during the Technical Meeting.*

AQUA – Part Three – 9.1.6.3



$$T = \frac{T_1 + T_2 + T_3}{3}$$

Water Temperature has effect on

- Start of competition: yes / no
- Swimsuit / Wetsuit
- Possible Stop of Race (2 subsequent measurements out of norm)

Swimsuits and Wetsuits in OWS Competitions

Swimsuits

No competitor shall be permitted to use or wear any device which may be an aid to their speed, endurance, or buoyancy.

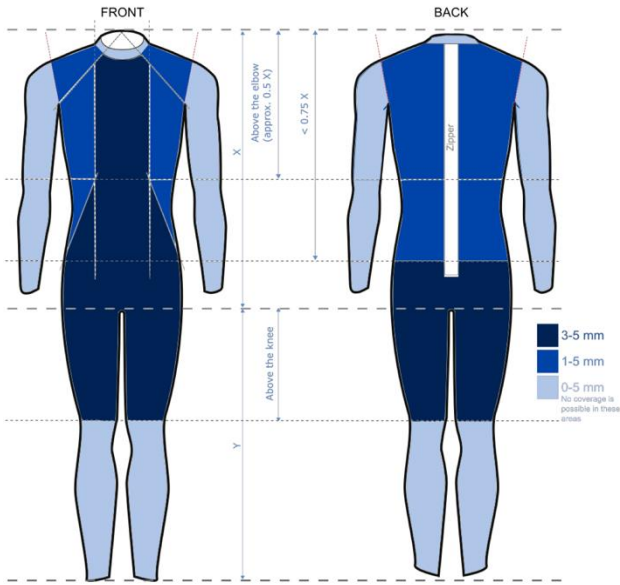




Water temperature ≥ 18.0°C

Wetsuits

… to effectively protect the swimmers from low temperature.





Water temperature < 18.0°C

Or hazardous conditions and water temperature ≤ 20.0°C decided by Chief Referee

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Agenda

1 General Definitions

2 Organization of Events

- 2.1 Selection and Preparation of the Venue
- 2.2 Safety Plan and Safety Officer
- 2.3 Tracking of Swimmers and Clerk of Course
- 2.4 Course Installations and Course Officer
- 2.5 Electronic Timing and Video Systems

3 Working on the Water

4 Officials and Tasks

5 Special Occurrences

6 Further Race Formats

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Selection of the right venue



Safety is paramount – experts are necessary



Get allowance from authorities

Selection of the right venue



Be aware of other water users



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Water Quality


Dirty Seine sparks new drama at Paris Olympics

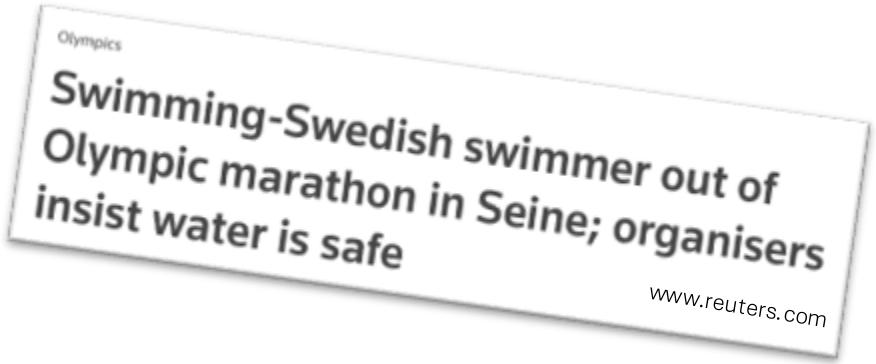
By Sam May Sunday, 4 August 2024

www.insidethegames.biz


Olympics swimming test event in Seine canceled due to poor water quality

By Chris Liakos and Maya Szaniecki, CNN

3 minute read · Published 12:00 PM EDT, Sun August 6, 2023


Olympics

Swimming-Swedish swimmer out of Olympic marathon in Seine; organisers insist water is safe

www.reuters.com


Fifty-seven swimmers fall sick and get diarrhoea at world triathlon championship in Sunderland

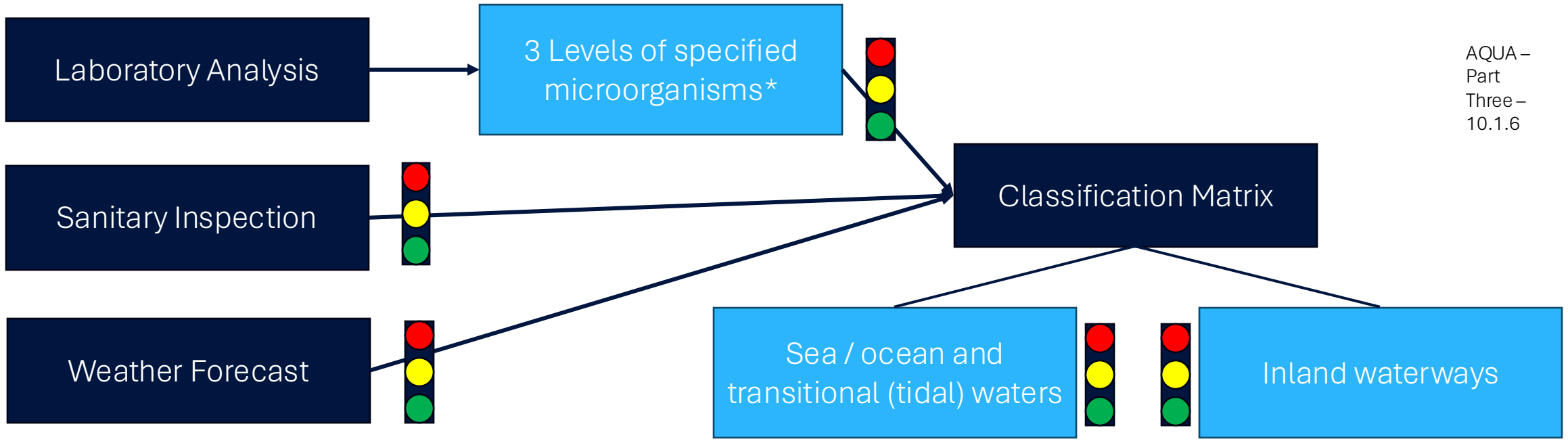
Athletes competing on stretch of UK coastline where reduced water quality at centre of dispute over sewage discharges

www.theguardian.com


OPEN WATER SWIMMER LEONIE BECK EXPERIENCING GI SYMPTOMS AFTER WOMEN'S 10KM IN SEINE

www.swimswam.com

Water Quality - Concept



AQUA – Part Three – 10.1.6

Only **excellent** or **good** water quality accepted for competition / training
Fair and **poor** water quality are not suitable

* Indicators:
- Enterococci
- Escherichia coli (e coli)

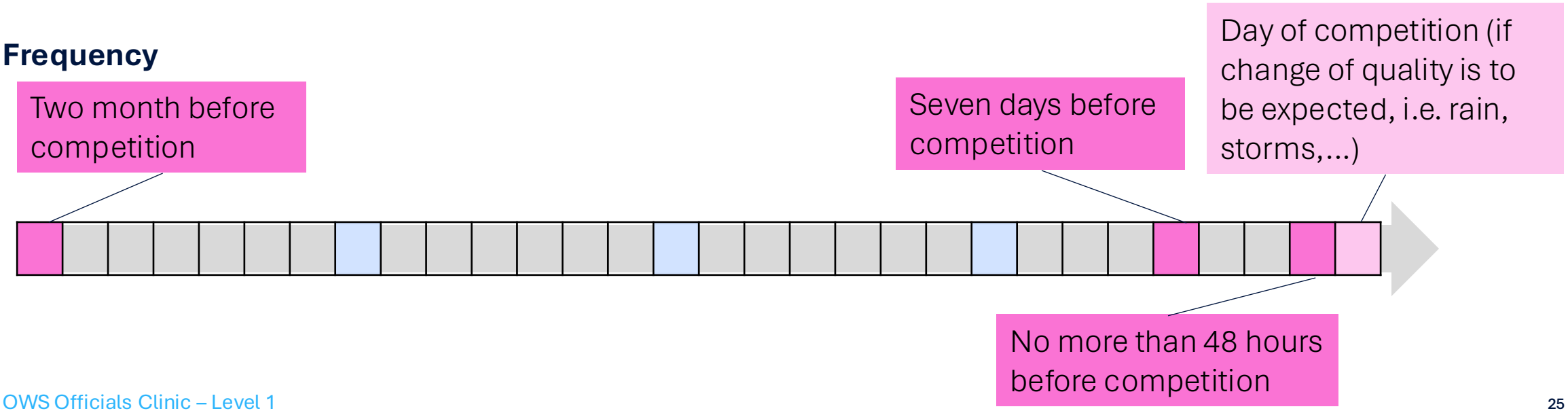
Laboratory Analysis

Water quality analysis report necessary to be awarded with AQUA / EA event

- Three different locations on course
- Authorised laboratory
- **Poorest result** determines overall result

	Ocean	Inland waterway
pH	6-9	6-9
Enterococci	< 200 cfu/100ml	< 400 cfu/100ml
E-Coli	< 500 cfu/100ml	< 1000 cfu/100ml
Algal bloom	-	Cyano bacteria test

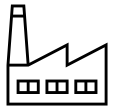
Frequency



Sanitary Inspection

Inflow by

- local health authorities
- Nearby factories
- Farms
- Hotels



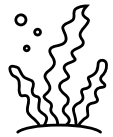
Influence of stormwater overflow (heavy rain)

- If influence: "clearance time" after rain has to be reported by LOC for application



Characteristics of water:

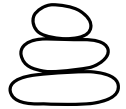
- Stagnation
- Clarity
- Odour
- Algal bloom → Cyanobacteria
- Surface scum
- Visible pollutants (oil film, slick)





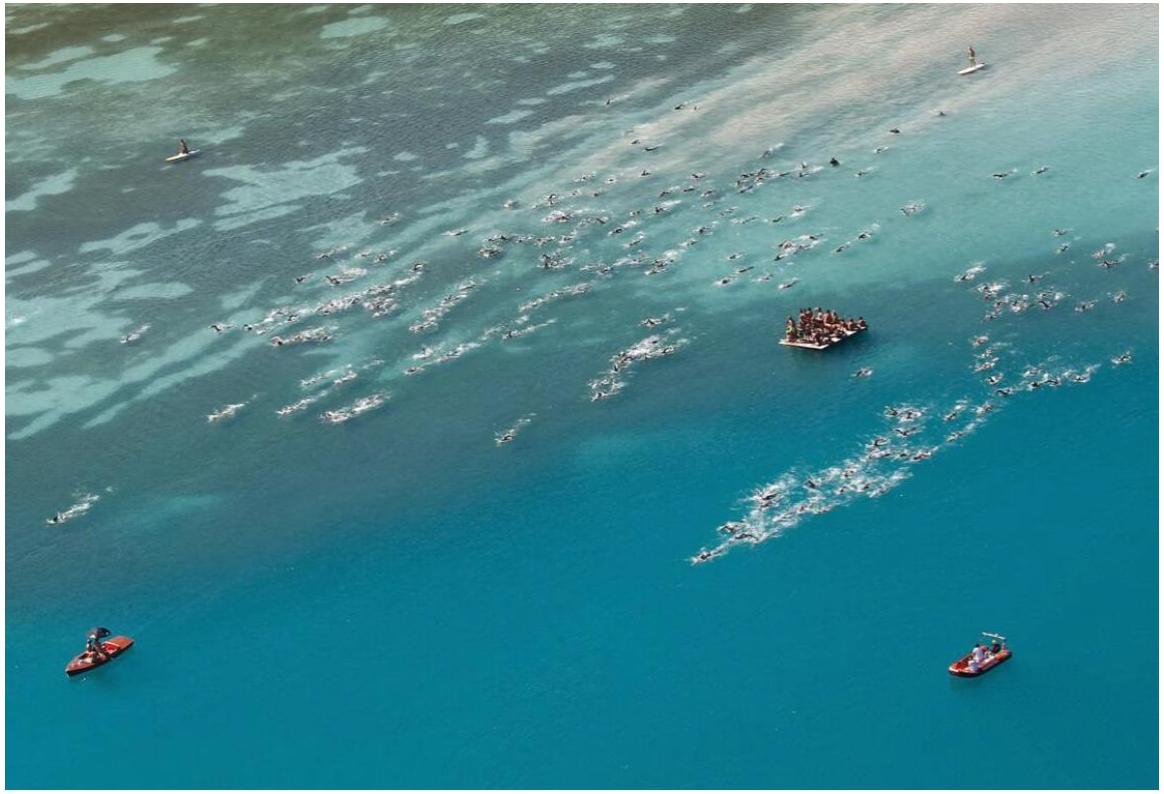
Further items for inspection:

- Tide and current
- General debris
- Floating logs
- Rocky outcrops



More details: AQUA – Part Three – 10

Fascination Open Water Swimming?!



Fuschlseecrossing, Austria



Ironman Ireland

Fascination Open Water Swimming?!



Fran Crippen dies in open-water event

www.espn.com

Associated Press
Oct 23, 2010, 02:21 PM ET

Share

PHILADELPHIA -- Fran Crippen, a medal-winning open-water swimmer on the U.S. national team, told his coach he wasn't feeling well late in a race before he died in the United Arab Emirates on Saturday



Frau (†58) aus Berchtesgadener Land stirbt bei bekanntem Schwimmrennen im Fuschlsee

Erstellt: 27.08.2023, 08:45 Uhr
Von: Martin Weidner

www.rosenheim24.de



European Swimming: Natalia Charlos rescued in open water race

www.bbc.com

Polish swimmer Natalia Charlos had to be rescued from the water after losing consciousness in the women's 10k race at the European Swimming Championships.

Charlos, who lives and trains in Germany, was pulled ashore on the opening day in Berlin after officials and spectators alerted the lifeguard.

Ironman tragedy: What exactly happened during the fatal triathlon in Youghal?

The deaths of two Ironman athletes have rocked the Co Cork seaside town

www.irishtimes.com

‘...but in this case there were no safety boats and the conditions were simply too harsh. The water temperature was well over 30 degrees, almost like in a bathtub. The outside temperature was well over 40 degrees. You shouldn't have been swimming in these conditions. We swam between ten and twelve o'clock, when it was at its warmest...’ [Thomas Lurz, zeit.de]



Athlete dies during women's race at Ironman 70.3 World Championship

Athlete extracted approximately halfway into the swim in Lahti, Finland, passes

www. triathlonmagazine.ca

Team during an OWS Competition



Safety Preparation

- **Primary objective**: ensuring safety of
  - the swimmers
  - The officials
  - Further staff on the water
- **Safety Plan**:
  - Number and types of boats
  - Spare boat
  - Deployment plan and procedure for rescue operations
    - First aid of swimmers by kayaks
    - Transfer to motorboats
    - First aid on land
    - Rescue Chain – Hospital
    - Radio communication (separate channel)
  - Monitoring of swimmers
  - Communication in Team leaders meeting and booklet







Safety Preparation





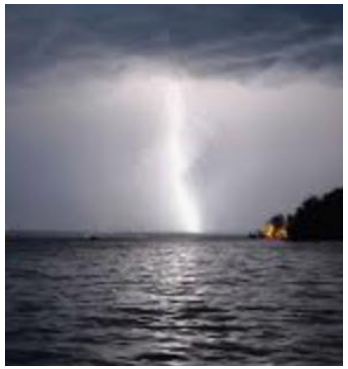
- **Emergency Evacuation** in case of danger (i.e. thunderstorm)
  - Transport to land as fast as possible
  - Gathering at pre-defined area
  - Check of number and ID of athletes
    → **clear responsibilities!**
    → **Head of operation is Safety Officer (not Chief Referee)**

- **Doctors / Medical Services**
  - Attendance for the entire duration of the event
  - Name, address, and telephone number of the emergency services/ doctor provided to the referee, safety officer, and recorder and communicated to teams



Emergency Abandonment – Possible Reasons

Lightings
lightning strike
→ **Danger to life**



Wind
Storm Warning
Waves, Choppy Water
→ Swimmers are no longer visible
→ Swimmers might swallow water



Dangers / Risks

Heavy rain
Spray
Little oxygen on the surface
→ Risk of drowning



Dangerous Fauna



Extreme Water temperature
→ Hypothermia (exhaustion)
→ Hyperthermia (dehydration)



Plan in Case of Loss of a Swimmer

Performance of the following steps

Checking **order of arrival** of all the swimmers via the **transponders**

Visual inspection of the entire field of play

Check the **incidents book** at evacuation points

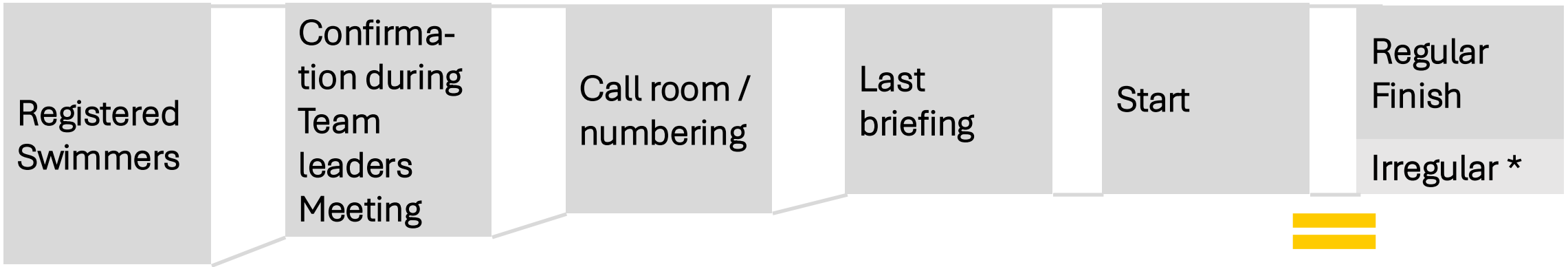
Further Steps:

- Activation of searching devices in the water
- Review of all information
  - Lap times (intermediate times)
  - Turn Judges records
  - Notes of Recorder



LEN-Cup
Kiel 2022

Monitoring / Tracking of Swimmers



* **Possibilities**

- Withdrawal (on the course – rescue boat / on the shore)
- Disqualification
- Exceeding the time limit (OTL)
- Removal by a judge in case of obvious exhaustion **(authorisation by each judge)**

1st Call Room / Registration

Check Accreditation





BSV

28. Internationaler Bayerncup 2024 - 2. Durchgang

Inning, Am Wörthsee — am 27.07.2024
Veranstalter: Bayerischer Schwimmverband — Meldeergebnis
Ausrichter: Freier Wassersportverein München — Seite: - 3 -

Wettkampf 18 - 2500m Freistil männlich

Nr.	StartNr.	Schwimmer	Jg.	Nation	Meldezeit
1.	250	Marvin Freser	2003	GER	31:30,00
2.	251	Maximilian Stühler	2007	GER	31:30,00
3.	235	Till Richter	1975	GER	37:30,00
4.	229	Jannik Hünniger	2010	GER	40:00,00
5.	259	Robert Bretschneider	1992	GER	00:00,00

Wettkampf 19 - 2500m Freistil weiblich

Nr.	StartNr.	Schwimmerin	Jg.	Nation	Meldezeit
1.	256	Anna-Sophia Kolb	2005	GER	00:41,30
2.	228	Clara Ehrlich	2010	GER	40:00,00
3.	252	Kim Winter	2009	GER	40:00,00
4.	248	Melina Barts	1999	GER	40:00,00
5.	253	Pauline Wirsching	2010	GER	40:00,00
6.	249	Svea Fischer	2008	GER	40:00,00
7.	230	Alina Lotar	2010	GER	45:00,00
8.	227	Hannah Drescher	2010	GER	45:00,00
9.	233	Anna Helene Richter	2009	GER	46:00,00
10.	260	Lisa Marie Lehner	2000	GER	00:00,00
11.	262	Sarah Negele	2008	GER	00:00,00

Trimmed finger- and toenails







No jewellery or watches









1st Call Room / Registration













Correct Marking / Numbering

Arms and Back:
100 mm high x 60 mm wide

1st Call Room / Registration











Markings also possible via:

- Pens / Eddings
- Stamps

Tips:

- Have Pens as substitute for Tattoos as well
- Baby wipes to correct mistakes
- Be careful with Vaseline, Suncream

1st Call Room / Registration

All competitors should wear when available whatever ***electronic tracking technology*** *may be required as part of the approved* ***safety plan***.

AQUA – Part Three – 10.4.4









Issuing the transponders

Check of swimsuits









https://approved.swimwear.fina.org

WORLD AQUATICS ✓

APPROVED

Check of Wearables

WORLD AQUATICS

OPEN WATER SWIMMING

CURRENT LIST OF APPROVED WEARABLES

February 19, 2024

Manufacturer	Product Name	Product Type
Abbott	Freestyle Libre 2	Glucose Sensor
Exelio	GPS EXE Pro 2	GPS Tracking Device
FES Institut	FES SwimSensor	GPS Tracking Device & Sensor
Garmin	HRM-SWIM	Heart Rate
Garmin	HRM-TRI	Heart Rate
Movella	DOT (Xsens)	Sensor
Polar	OH1	Heart Rate
Polar	Verity Sense	Heart Rate
Polar	H10	Heart Rate
Swimtraxx	Swimtraxx One	Heart rate + strokes monitor + accelerometer
Tritonwear	Triton 2	Transponder

https://resources.fina.org/fina/document/2024/02/19/97dfa697-a27d-4427-b67d-14f88d92bbc6/2024.02.19-List-of-Approved-Wearables-OPEN-WATER-SWIMMING.pdf

Notes on Swimwear (Comparison)

Swimsuits

- Swimsuits of men and women have the same shape requirements (in contrast to pool swimming)
- Covered areas are limited
- Covered areas are bigger compared to pool swimming
- Zippers are not allowed (Triathlon suits)
- Only one suit is allowed (one piece for men, one or two pieces for women)
- Water permeability is compulsory



Wetsuits

- Wetsuits of men and women have the same shape requirements
- Minimum of covered areas is defined
- *Shorties* are allowed
- Zippers are necessary (functional allowed)
- Regular swimsuit below wetsuit is accepted
- Tapes to cover scrubbing areas are accepted
- Wetsuits must protect swimmers from hypothermia (no permeability)



WORLD AQUATICS APPROVED

Caps

All Open Water competitions shall start with all competitors wearing ***an approved swim cap*** *[…]*

In all Open Water events it is

- ***mandatory*** *for the cap to display* ***on each side the "national-three letter code"*** *and*
- *may display the swimmer's* ***national flag*** *or the swimmer's* ***name****.*

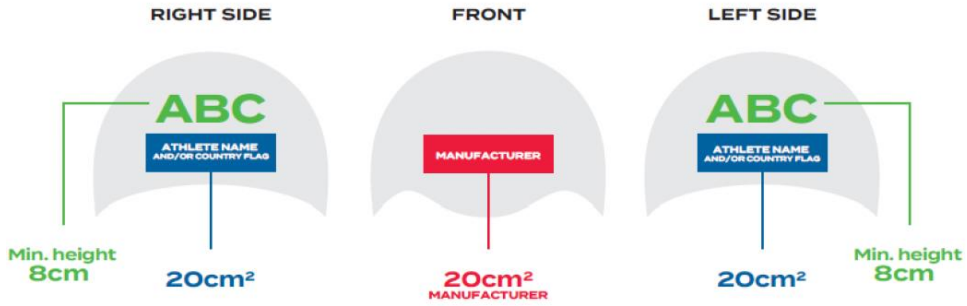
The country code shall be a ***minimum of 8cm in height****.*

Caps meeting the specifications of I.8.5 are not acceptable except ***for one (1) manufacturer's logo*** *of a maximum size of 20cm² on the front.*

Athlete's name of a maximum size of 20cm² : The competitor's name shall be printed under the country name (three letter code). ***Displaying the competitor's name is not compulsory.***

Team Event: *All competitors from the same team* ***must wear the same team caps*** *which shall also comply with these Regulations, Part One, Article 8.6*

AQUA – Part Three – 4.1 + 8.6 Part One - 7.4



Gathering in Last Call Room (Assembly area)



Accompany until the start



Tracking Competitors by Clerk of Course



Registration

Continuous Update Start list





Receive Transponder,
Issue Accreditation



Last Call Room

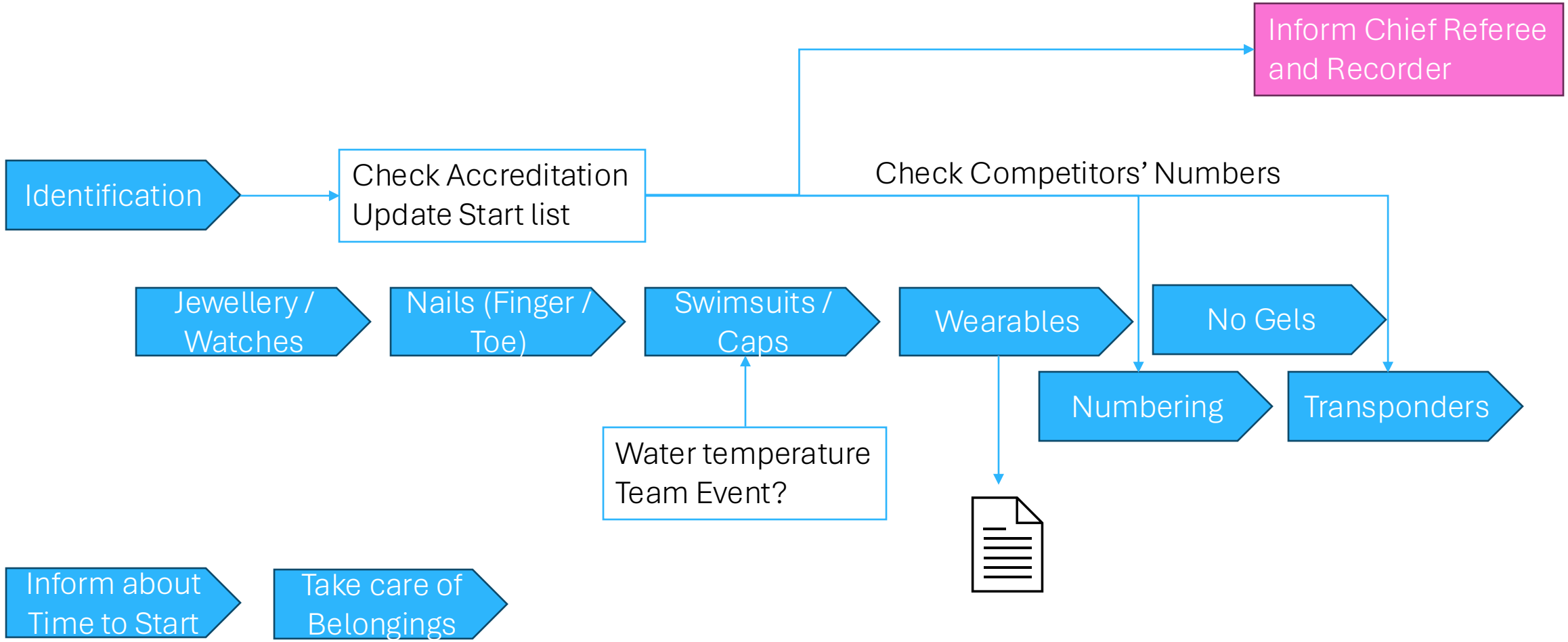


Before the start



Race

Clerk of Course – Pre-Race Duties



Installations in the Water – Responsible: Course Officer

- Buoys
  - Turn Buoys → Alterations
  - Guidance Buoys
- Platforms
  - Starting platform
  - Feeding platform
  - Relay Changeover Platform
- Intermediate Gate
- Finish
  - Finish Funnel
  - Finish plate
  - Video system
- Timing System









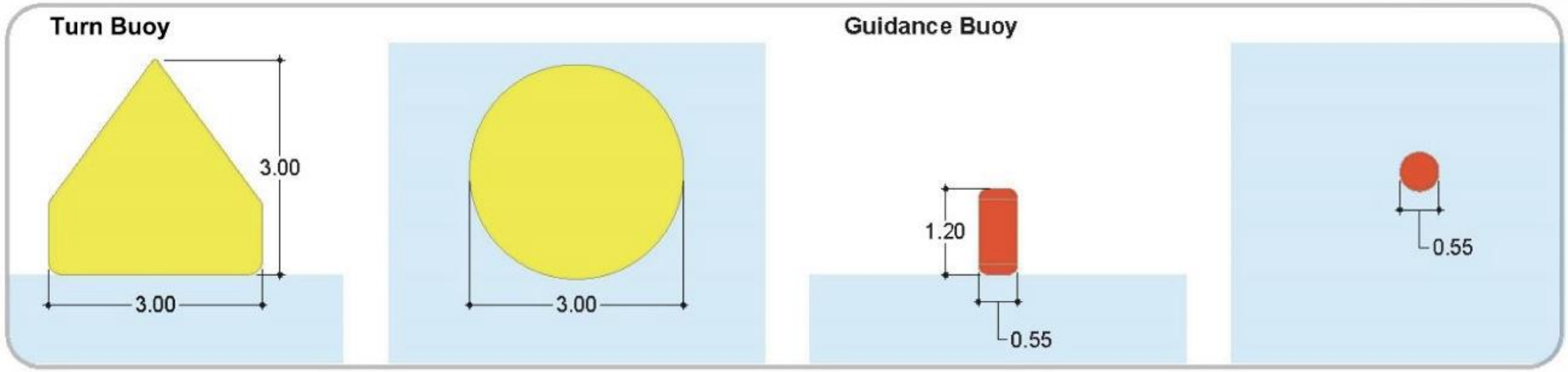


Turns and Alternations

*All **turns/alterations** of the course shall be **clearly indicated**. **Turn Buoys** which are alterations of the course shall be of a **different colour** to **guidance buoys**. Wherever possible there shall be **a long distance** (to be approved by World Aquatics) **from the start** to the first turning buoy to ease congestion at the turn.*

AQUA – Part Three – 9.1.3 + Appendix 3

*A clearly marked craft or platform, containing a **Turn Judge**, shall be positioned at all alterations of course in such a manner as **not to obstruct a competitor's visibility of the turn**.*



Markers and Buoys









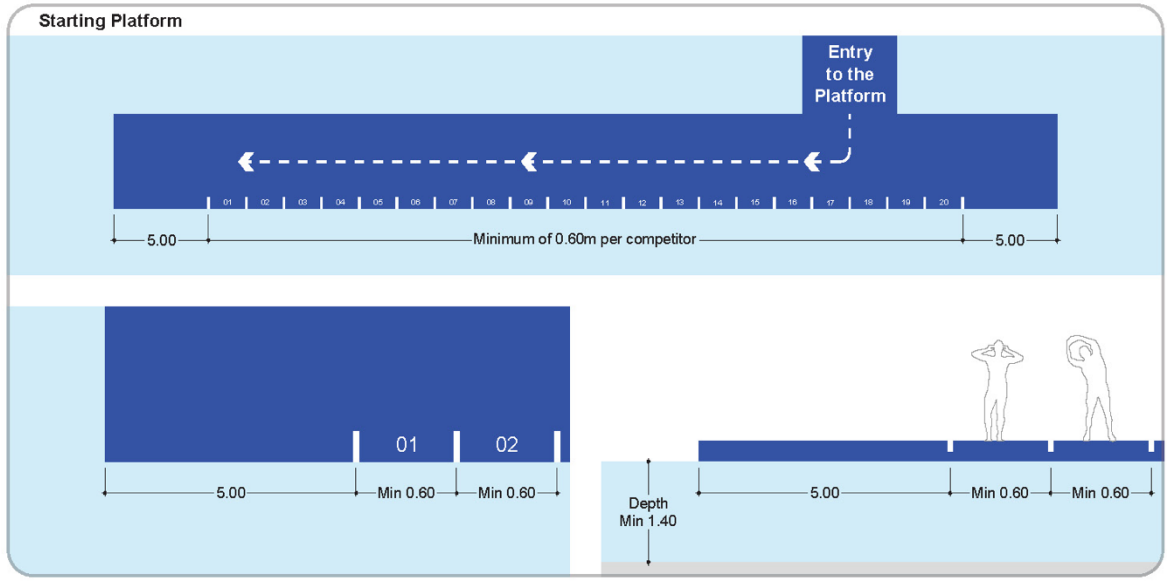


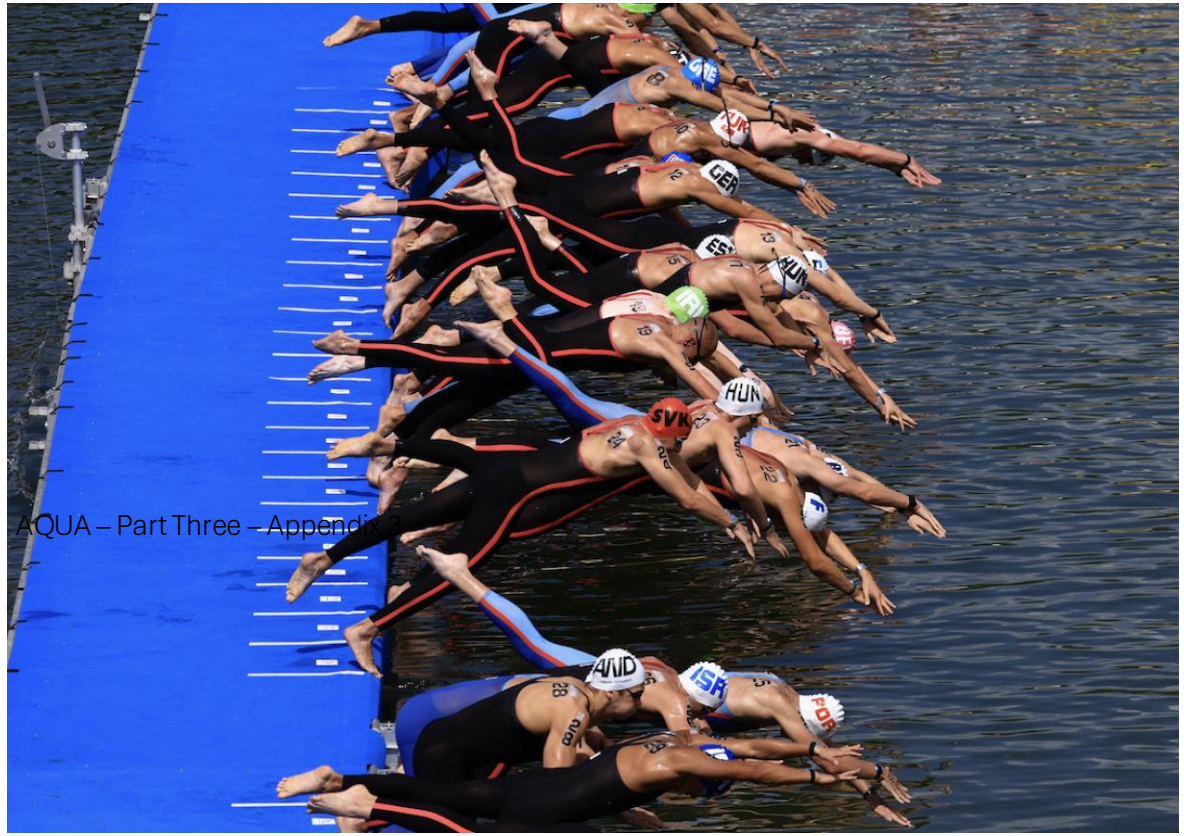


Care about Visibility (Size, Colour), Fixation, Risk of Injury (hooks lace nets)

Starting platform

- Necessary for Dive start
- Swimmers start from designated position defined by random draw
- At least 60 cm linear space for each competitor

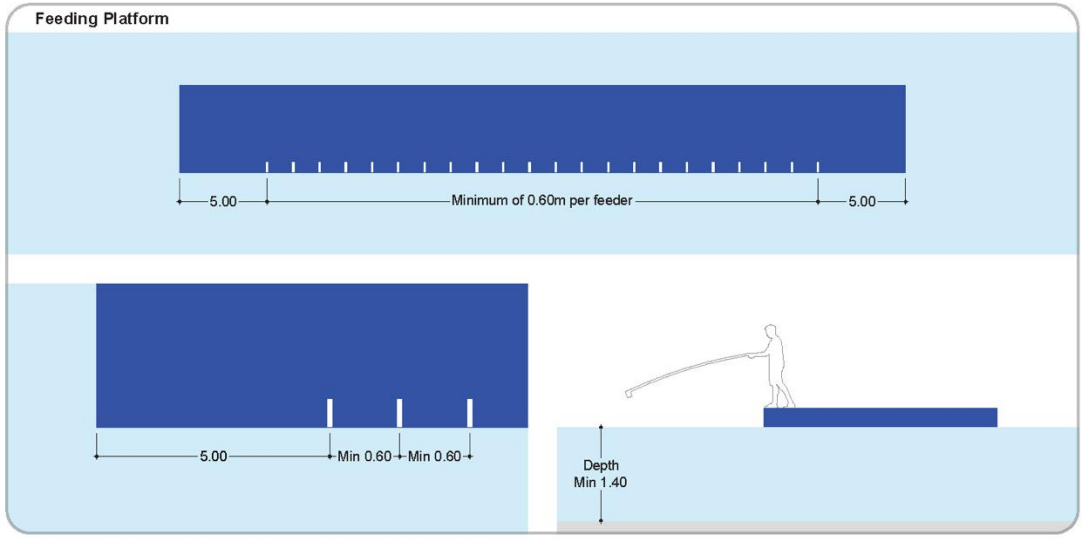




AQUA – Part Three – Appendix 3

Feeding Platform

- Necessary for competitions **greater than five kilometers**
- **available at least every 2.5 kilometers.**
- At least 60 cm linear space for each feeder





AQUA – Part Three – 11.4.5 + 9.1.4 + Appendix 3

Relay Change Platform

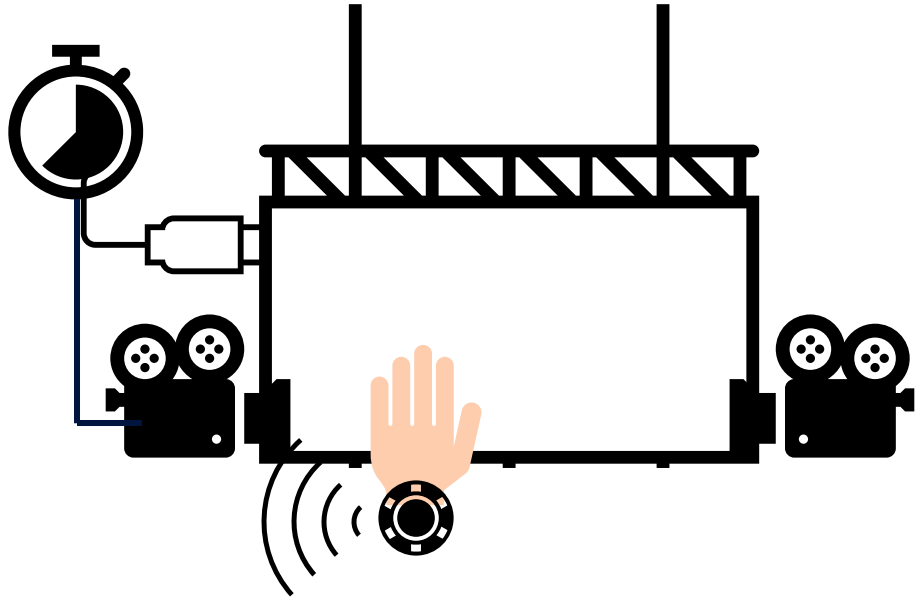
- To provide a dive start
- **Following swimmer jumps from opposite side as finishing swimmer**
- Start position is determined (random draw)
- Position for finishing swimmer (touch of the platform) is arbitrary
- Jump and run is allowed



Automatic Timing Equipment

- *All competitors must start the race with a microchip transponder* ***on each wrist****. […] All competitors need to finish with* ***at least one transponder*** *on their wrist. Any competitor who finishes the race without at least one transponder will be disqualified.*
- *When […] a finish plate is available, competitors* ***must touch the*** *finish plate to finish the race. Any competitor who does not touch the finish plate will be disqualified.*
- *[…] The finish should* ***be filmed and recorded*** *from each side and above by a video system with* ***slow motion*** *and* ***recall facilities*** *including timing equipment. […]*

AQUA – Part Three – 6.3 + 6.4 + 9.1.2.4



Important: Disqualification if Swimmer
- Does not touch the finish plate
- Finishes without a transponder



Automatic Timing

- Time is started by Timing Company (Omega, Microplus, Seiko, …)
- Time is stopped by **wireless signal** of transponder of competitor (not exactly identical with touch of plate)
- Each swimmer has a pair of data:
  - Recorder Automatic Time
  - Transponder number
- Regular Operation: data set (official time and placing) is generated automatically
- **Problem**: Deviation of Time sent by transponder and time touching the plate → this might have effect on placing
- **Solution**: Check Videotape (Chief Referee) for correct order of finishing competitor (touching the finish plate)
- Precision of Timing:
  - World Aquatics 1/10 sec
  - European Aquatics: 1/100 sec



Olympic Games
Rio de Janeiro 2016

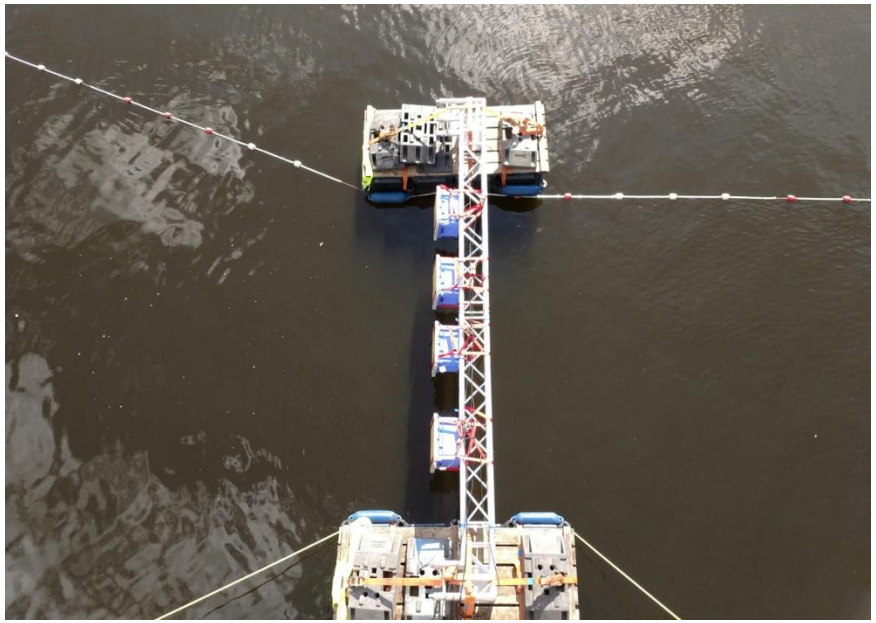
Intermediate Gate

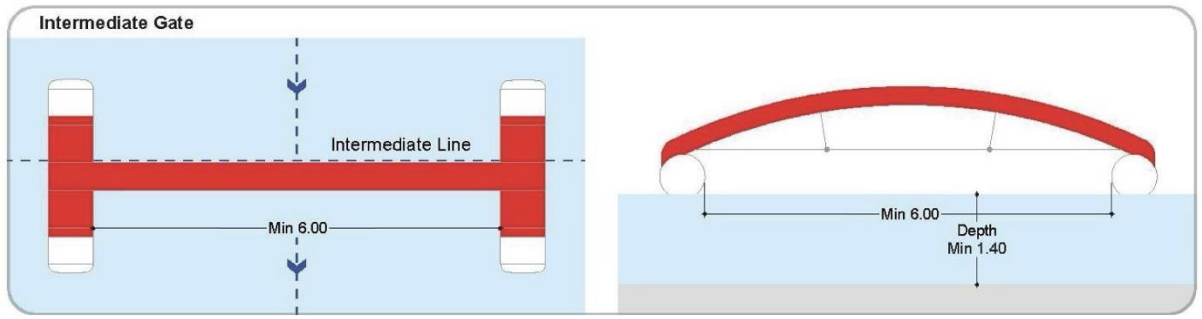
Where an intermediate timing gate is used it shall be placed such that it becomes part of the overall course within the swimming line of the course without deviation for the competitors. It shall be a ***minimum width of 6m*** *wide at the swimming waterline.*

AQUA – Part Three – 9.2.2 + Appendix 4







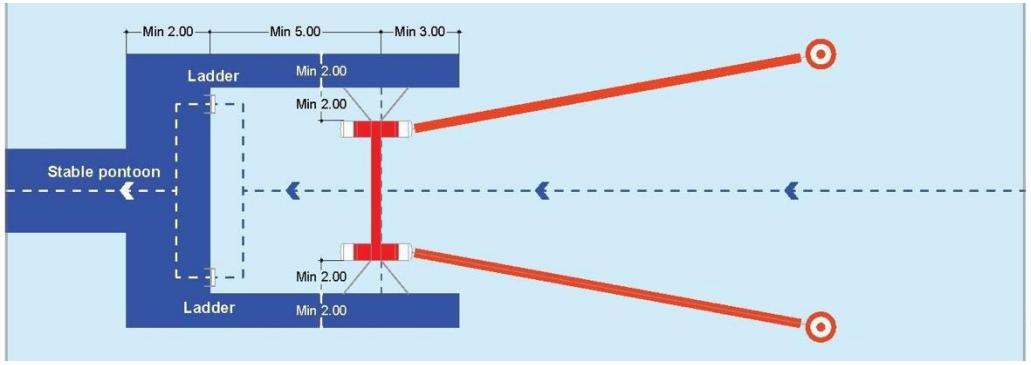


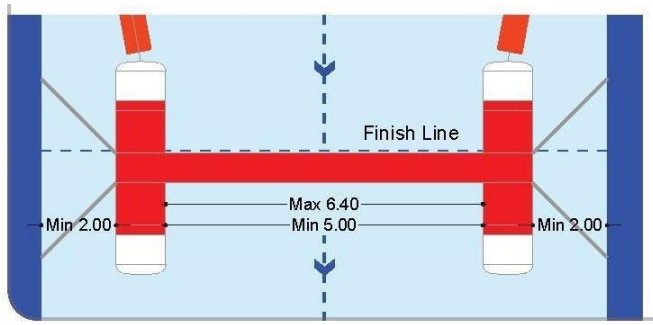
Finish Area

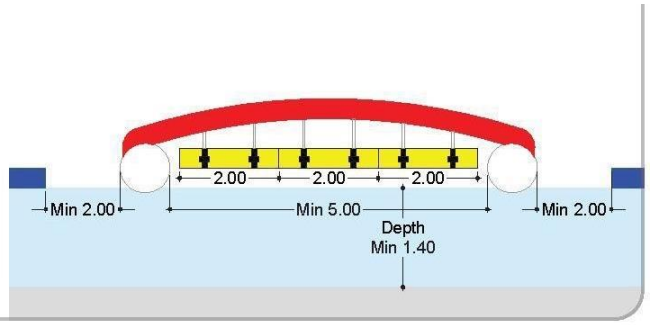
Finish

AQUA – Part Three 9.1.2 + Appendix 4

- *The final approach to the finish shall be clearly defined with **markers of a distinctive colour** and shall comprise the boundary of the course.*
- *The area leading to the finish apparatus should be clearly marked by **rows of buoys which narrow** as they get closer to the finish wall. For World Aquatic events these buoys shall be inflatable tubes.*
- *The finish shall be clearly defined and marked by a **vertical face**.*





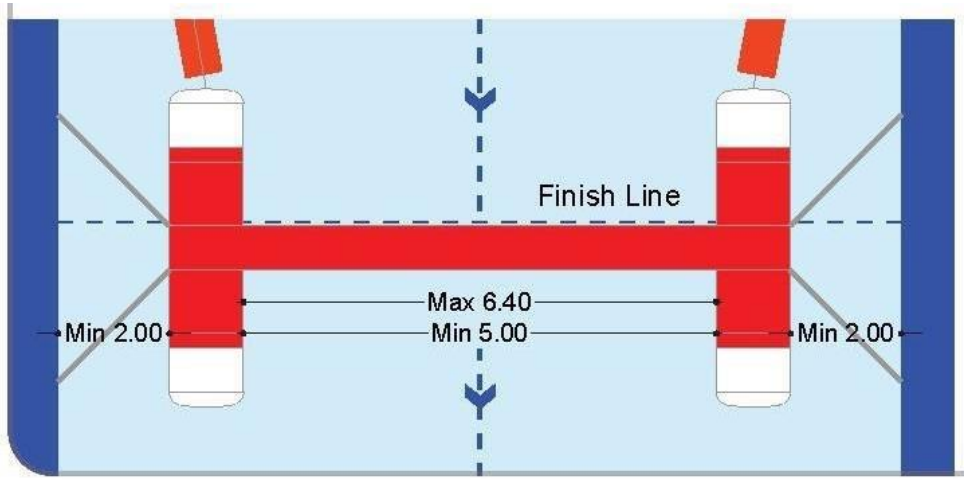


Finish Apparatus

Finish

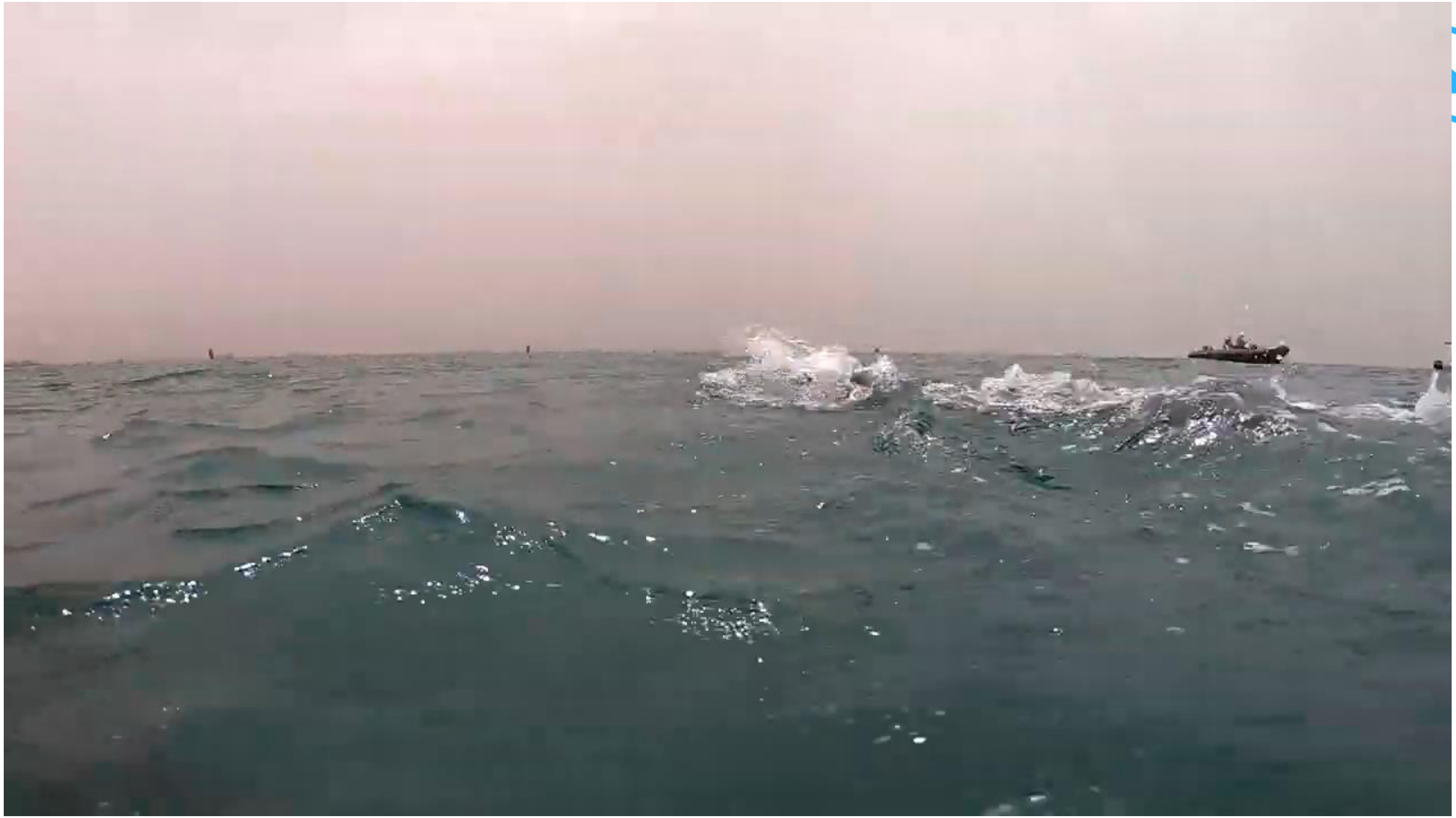
- *The finish apparatus should, where possible, be a finish plate at least **5 metres** wide fixed if necessary to floatation devices, **securely fastened** in place so as not to be moved by wind, tide or the force of a competitor striking the wall. […]*

AQUA – Part Three 9.1.2 + Appendix 4






Malmsten
Malmsten
EUROVISION SPORT
LEN EUROPEAN AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

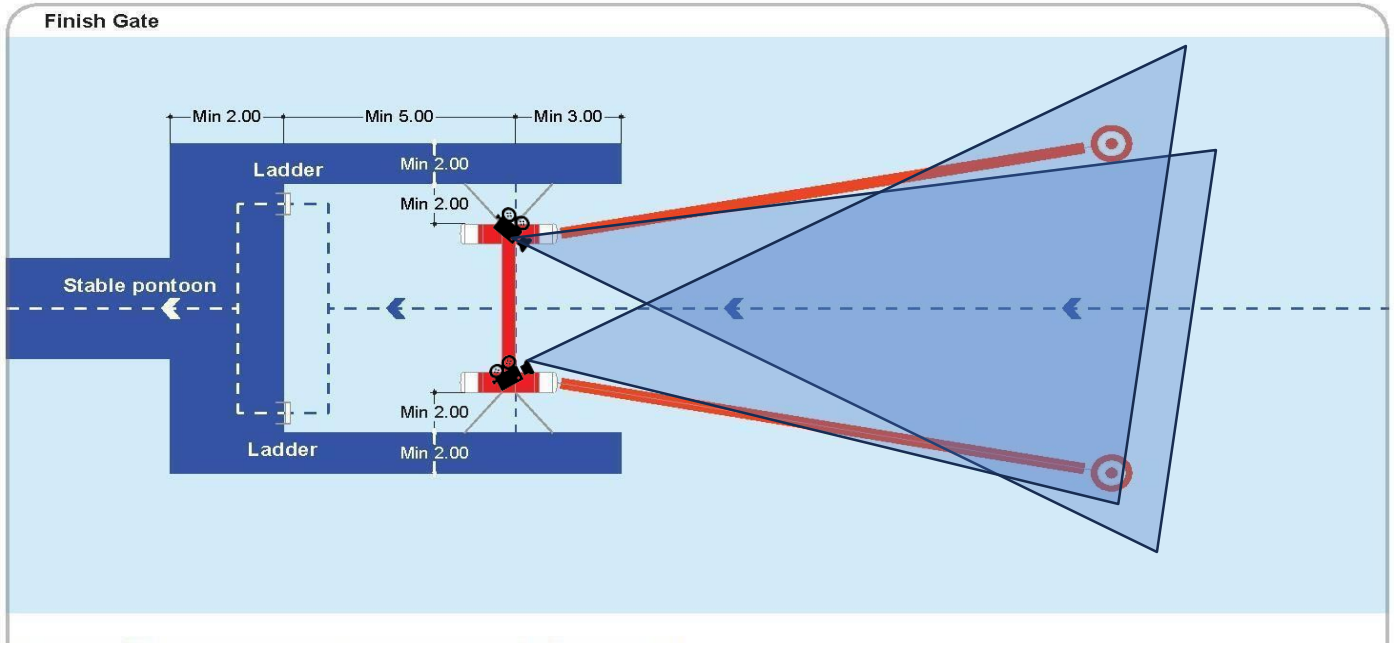


Decision Review System (DRS) and Video Review Judge (VRJ)

Finish

AQUA – Part Three 9.1.2 .5+ Appendix 5

*Additional cameras on each side of the finish plate are required for the **Decision Review System** (DRS) described in Part 3, 9.4. these cameras shall cover the **breadth of the finish funnel** continuously from the entrance until overlapping the coverage provided by the finish cameras described in 9.1.2.4*



Additional Judge: **Video Review Judge** (VRJ) to observe the camera images and prepare the video for Chief Referee

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Agenda

1 General Definitions

2 Organization of Events

3 Working on the Water

- 3.1 Equipment
- 3.2 Radios and Usage

4 Officials and Tasks

5 Special Occurrences

6 Further Race Formats

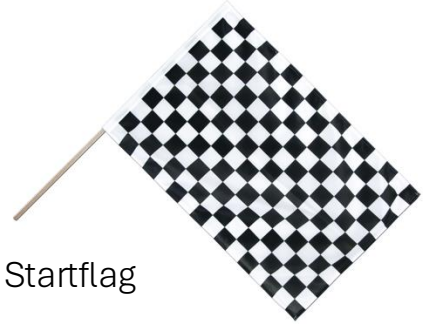
Equipment on the water: Start signal, Flags, Boards, Radios



Audibile Startsignal
- Pistol
- Horn







Startflag

Start

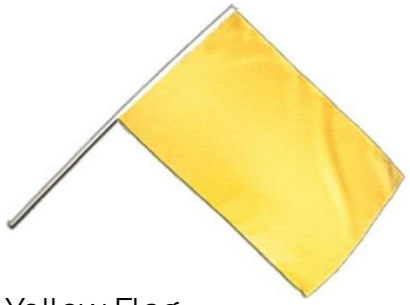




Radios
→ Communication with officials

Forms / Lists

Communication / Documentation



Yellow Flag
→ 1st infringement



Red Flag
→ Disqualification



Whistle → Attention



Board → Show competitor's number

Spare Transponders



On the water for referees

Useful items on the water



Sun- and Rain proteccion



Sustenance



Auxiliaries

Hands-on: Work with the radio

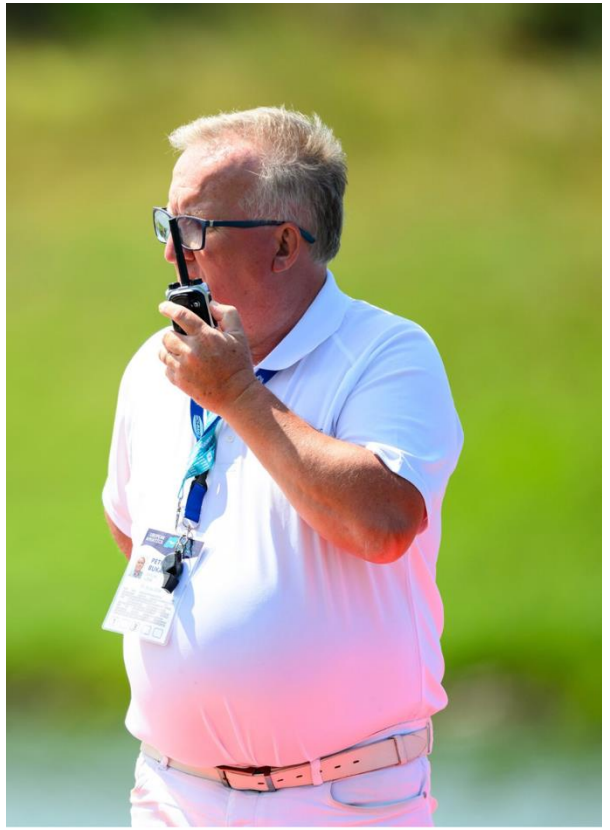


Select the channel
(Take care of mistake)

Switch on + volume
(choose high volume)

Talk button (keep pressed and wait 1 sec before start to speak)





Tips for working with the radio

- Test reception after receiving the device (Radio Check) and after assuming the position (i.e. Turn Judge)
- Place the device close to your mouth, avoid wind interference
- Only speak when the channel is clear (and wait 1-2 seconds after pressing button)
- Use short messages in English
- Only send relevant messages (blocking the channel!)
- Press and hold the button while speaking
- Structure of the message
    1. Recipient position
    2. Own position
    3. Message
    4. Wait for confirmation (release channel)

radio discipline necessary and crucial for event

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Agenda

1 General Definitions

2 Organization of Events

3 Working on the Water

4 Officials and Tasks

- 4.1 Overview / Roster
- 4.2 Turn Judge, Finish Judge, Timekeeper
- 4.3 Feeding Platform Judge
- 4.4 Recorder

5 Special Occurrences

6 Further Race Formats

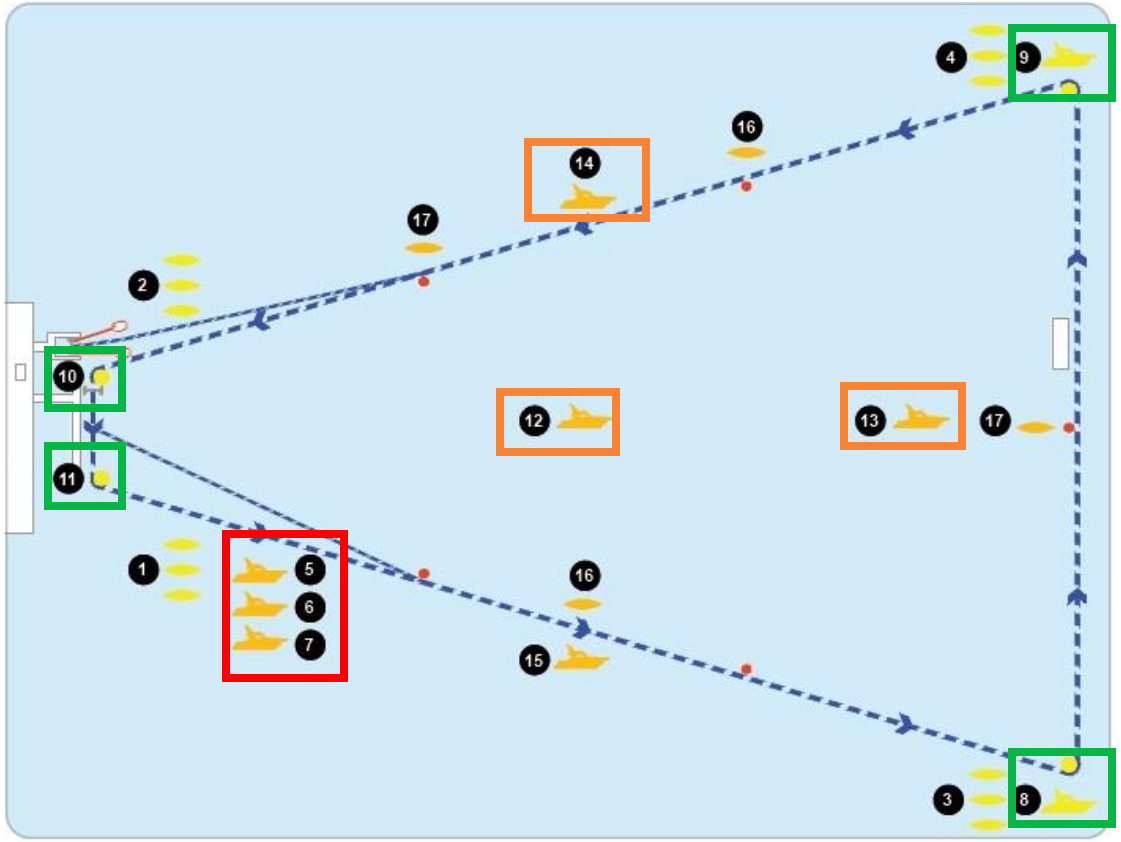


Officials in OWS Competitions

Official	Comment	Position	
A Chief Referee (one per race)	Assistant Chief Referee	Everywhere, on the water with the swimmers	**1+1**
Referees (2 minimum, additional Referees proportional to race entries)	Assistant Referee 1, Assistant Referee 2	On the water with the swimmers	**2+2**
Chief Timekeeper plus 2 Timekeepers		(Start) and Finish area	**3**
Chief Finish Judge plus 2 Finish Judges		Finish area	**3**
Safety Officer	One official + one local	Water or on land	**1+1**
Medical Officer		Water or on land	**1**
Course Officer		Water	**1**
Clerk of the Course	Head + assistants	Numbering area , call room, finish area	**4**
Race Judges (one per competitor) except for events with a course of 10 km or less	only for ultra-marathon events	Boat with „his“ swimmer	
Turn Judges (one per alteration of Course)		Turning buoy	**4**
Feeding Platform Judge (when feeding platforms are used)	not for races < 10 km	Feeding platform	**1**
Relay Judge	only for relays	Relay changeover platform	
Starter	+ assistant Starter	Start area	**1+1**
Announcer			**1**
Recorder		Time keeping company	**1**
Video Review Judge		Finish area	**1**

~ 30

Officials on the water



Operational Plan - Crafts position

1. Kayak - Left side of the pontoon
2. Kayak - Right side of the pontoon
3. Kayak - Right side of Turn 1
4. Kayak - Left side of Turn 2
5. Boat - Chief referee 1 + 1 Driver
6. Boat - Referee 1 + 1 Driver
7. Boat - Referee 2 + 1 Driver
8. Platform or Craft* - Turn Judge 1
9. Platform or Craft* - Turn Judge 2
10. Platform or Craft* - Turn Judge 3
11. Platform or Craft* - Turn Judge 4

**Craft requires a driver*

12. Boat - Course Officer
13. Boat - Medical Officer + 1 Driver + 1 Lifeguard
14. Boat - Safety Officer + 1 Driver + 1 Lifeguard
15. Boat - Media + 1 Driver
16. Jetski - 1 Paramedic + 1 Driver
17. Jetski - 1 Parademic + 1 Driver

AQUA – Part Three – Appendix 2

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Tasks / Responsibilities Chief Referee (Referees)

Before the Race

Venue Check
- Together with Safety Officer and Course Officer
- Water Temperature (Referee 1)
- Pole Check (Referee 2)

Head of Officials:
- Setting up Roster
- Officials' Meeting
- Referees' Meeting

Last Briefing of Athletes

Starting the Race

- Alignment with Starter (define Positions)
- Initiate Starting procedure
- Observe starting procedure (yellow / red flag)

During the Race

Accompanying Swimmers
- Insure fair race
- Warning / Disqualification

Define boat positions on the water

Warn / Disqualify in case of Reports by Officials

After the Race

Decide on the final ranking

Check the videotape

Adjudicate on protest
Sign the results

Officials' Debriefing

Chief Referee – Team Leaders Meeting and Last Briefing

Team representatives must attend the Team Leaders' Meeting. If a Team Leader or Team's/competitor's representative is unable to attend the Team Leaders' Meeting, the competitor must attend a special safety briefing in order to participate in the race.

AQUA – Part Three – 11.4.1

A short pre-race safety briefing, mandatory for all competitors, shall be held immediately prior to the race.

- Presentation of Officials (Referees, Starter)
- Course, markers, alternations
- Start procedure and start signal
- Timing, transponders
- Water temperature and quality
- Safety, rescue, emergency abandonment
- Finish
- Feeding
- Time limit
- Infractions and disqualification procedure



WORLD AQUATICS

CHIEF REFEREE'S GENERIC BRIEFING

Good Morning/ Afternoon
My name is ..... and I am the Chief referee for this event. The other referees are ....., ..., ..., and .....

Our Safety Officer is ....., supported by personnel from ....., (Name of the group providing on-course safety).
WORLD AQUATICS RULES & REGULATIONS apply to the conduct of this event.
The Water temperature is ..... C The Air temperature is C
The forecast is for .....
.....

The Swimming Course of the race is as provided to you at the Teams Meeting. You are required to round the ..... Turning buoys .... (give a brief description of the course). All other buoys are directional only. You are required to swim the complete course. The number of laps is .....
The Hazards on the course are .....
Your start will be in the water/ from the starting platform (delete as required) and you will require your accreditation to enter the water. When finishing you must enter and remain within the finish chute to finish the race including touching the vertical wall at the finish point.

The Time Limit for the race is ..... minutes after the first competitor in each age/ gender(delete as required) finishes the race. If in the opinion of the Chief Referee you will not finish the race within the time limit you may be immediately asked to leave the water. If you receive a Red Flag disqualification you will also be required to immediately leave the water.
Should you experience any difficulties in the water, please raise one arm above your head, and remain stationary. Safety personnel will come to you as quickly as possible. If you leave the water for any reason, other than at the finish of the race it is mandatory that you report to the medical officer and to the Clerk of Course or Chief Recorder.
In the event of abandonment of the race the warning signal will be the starting signal sounded repeatedly. The referees & Safety personnel will also advise you to immediately leave the water.

The feeding platform/s is/are located at..... Only authorised persons are permitted on the feeding platform.
Your event will start in ..... minutes. The Clerk of the Course will give you 1 minute warnings in the final 5 minutes leading up to the start. Have a good race and I wish you well with your swim today.

1.) Welcome
Competition _____ Event _____ Venue _____
My name is Bastian Esefeld, I'm the chief referee of the race today
Assistant _____ Referee 1 _____ Referee 2 _____

2.) Introduction of course

Water temperature:	_____ degree Celsius cf. Protocol
Water quality:	excellent
Hazards in water	none / _____
Start	from platform at designated place, **one foot at the front of platform**
Start signal	air horn / gun shot
Course	rectangular / triangular: clockwise / anticlockwise sense length of course: _____ m
number of laps	2 / 4 / 6 / 8 laps
turn buoys	mandatory: right / left shoulder
guidance buoys	arbitrary
intermediate gate	mandatory to pass
Finish funnel	Entrance marked by bouys (no diving under line)
Finish	Touch of vertical wall mandatory (disqualify if no touch)
Caps	mandatory to wear at the start [Relay: same cap color for all starters]
Transponders	start with two transponders on both wrists mandatory to finish with at least one transponder if loosing transponder: ask referee for substitute
Feeding	at the feeding platform only one coach per swimmer take care of swimmers: no fighting, no holding on platform, no running / jumping
[Relay exchange]	start on designated position one hand on the platform, touch above water between finger and elbow jump from platform after finish of incoming swimmer

3.) generel remarks
emergergency abandonment repeated start signal
crossed arms / flags of officials on water and whistles enter immediatly safety crafts
trouble / problems flowting on back and raise arm to get assistance from life-guards

Fairness no intentional contact with other competitor
Hint: blow of whistle and showing separating hands by referee
1. infringement: yellow Flag and race number (warning)
2. infringement: red Flag + racenumber (Disq. - exit water) unsporting behaviour (especially near finish): direct disqualification

No watches / jewelleries allowed

Time limit 15 / 30 / ____ min inish of first swimmer

4.) Any questions

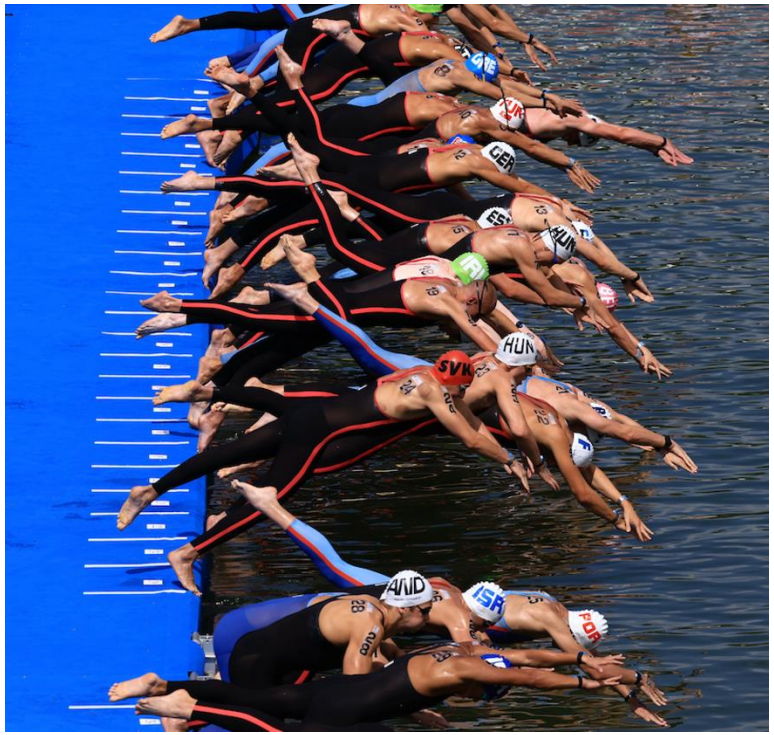
5.) Good luck!
..... minutes to the start





Start of the Race – Two Start Possibilities

Platform Start – Dive Start



Start from designated position (defined by random draw)

Water Start – Holding the platform







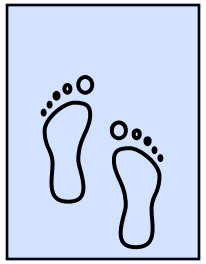
Start of the Race

Short Blasts on the Whistle → Handing over to Starter via Flag → Command *Take your Marks* → Starting position (one foot in front of platform) → Start Signal (audible and visual)











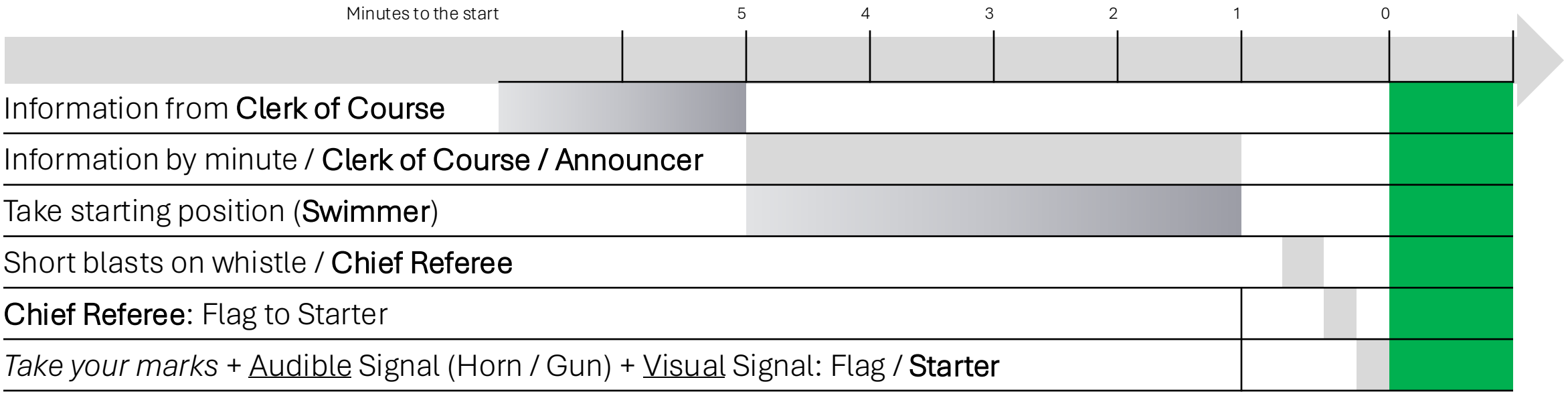


Chief Referee

Starter

Competitors

Start Sequence







Starter - Hints

- Choose position **to be clearly visible to all competitors**.
- After arrival at venue:
  - Check start area
  - Get familiar with start signal (horn, gun, cannon) - by organiser or own
- Have whistle as substitute
- When more waves: cooperate with chief referee, chief timekeeper, recorder to ensure time delay
- Ensure fair start
- Effective team with chief referee
- Demonstrate start signal at briefing



AQUA – Part Three – 3.3 + 4.6

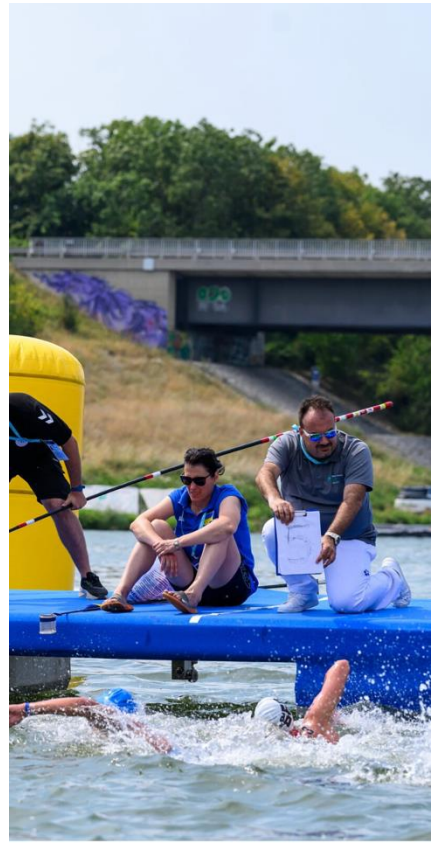
Assistant Positions – Assistant Starter

- Gather material to be used for the start
  - Acoustic Start signal (horn, gun, …)
  - Visual Start signal: start flag
  - Megaphone









- Assist during the start signal (hold megaphone or raise the start flag)

- For Competitions with many laps: act as **lap-counter**

Referee during the Race







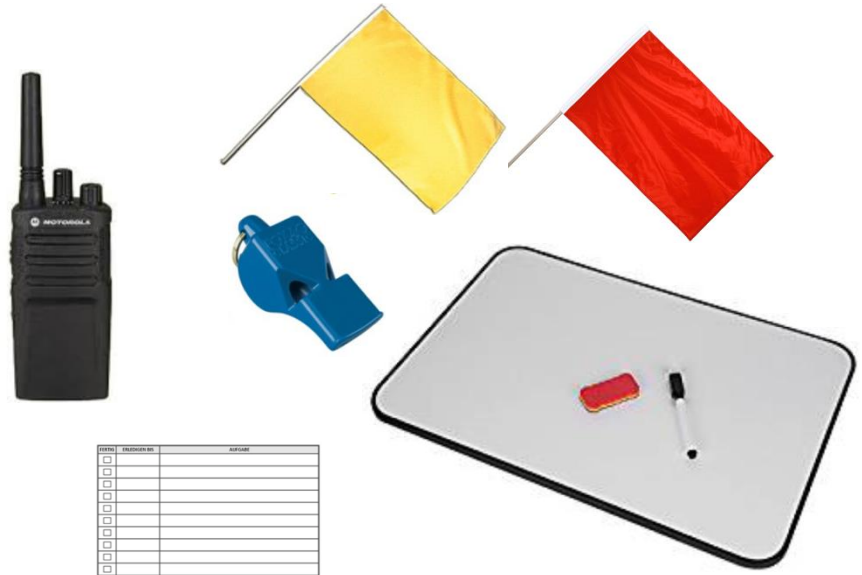






Assistant Positions – Assistant Referee

- Gather material to be used on the water:
  - Radio
  - Whiteboard, Pen, Wipe
  - Flags
  - Whistle
  - Start lists
  - Spare Transponders
- Assist your Referee in case of Flags (write Number, show Board)
- Note down relevant incidents (out of Water, infringements, …)
- Listen to radio and talk if demanded
- Use your chance to learn







Turn Judges

Turn Judges shall:

- *be **positioned** so as to ensure **all competitors execute the alterations** in course as indicated in the competition information documents and as given at the pre-race briefing.*
- ***record any infringement** of the turn procedures on the record sheets provided, then **immediately communicate** the infringement to the Chief Referee.*
- *promptly upon completion of the event deliver the signed record sheet to the Recorder.*

AQUA – Part Three – 3.9 + 9.1.3.2

*A clearly marked craft or platform, containing a Turn Judge, shall be positioned at all alterations of course in such a manner as **not to obstruct a competitor's visibility of the turn**.*

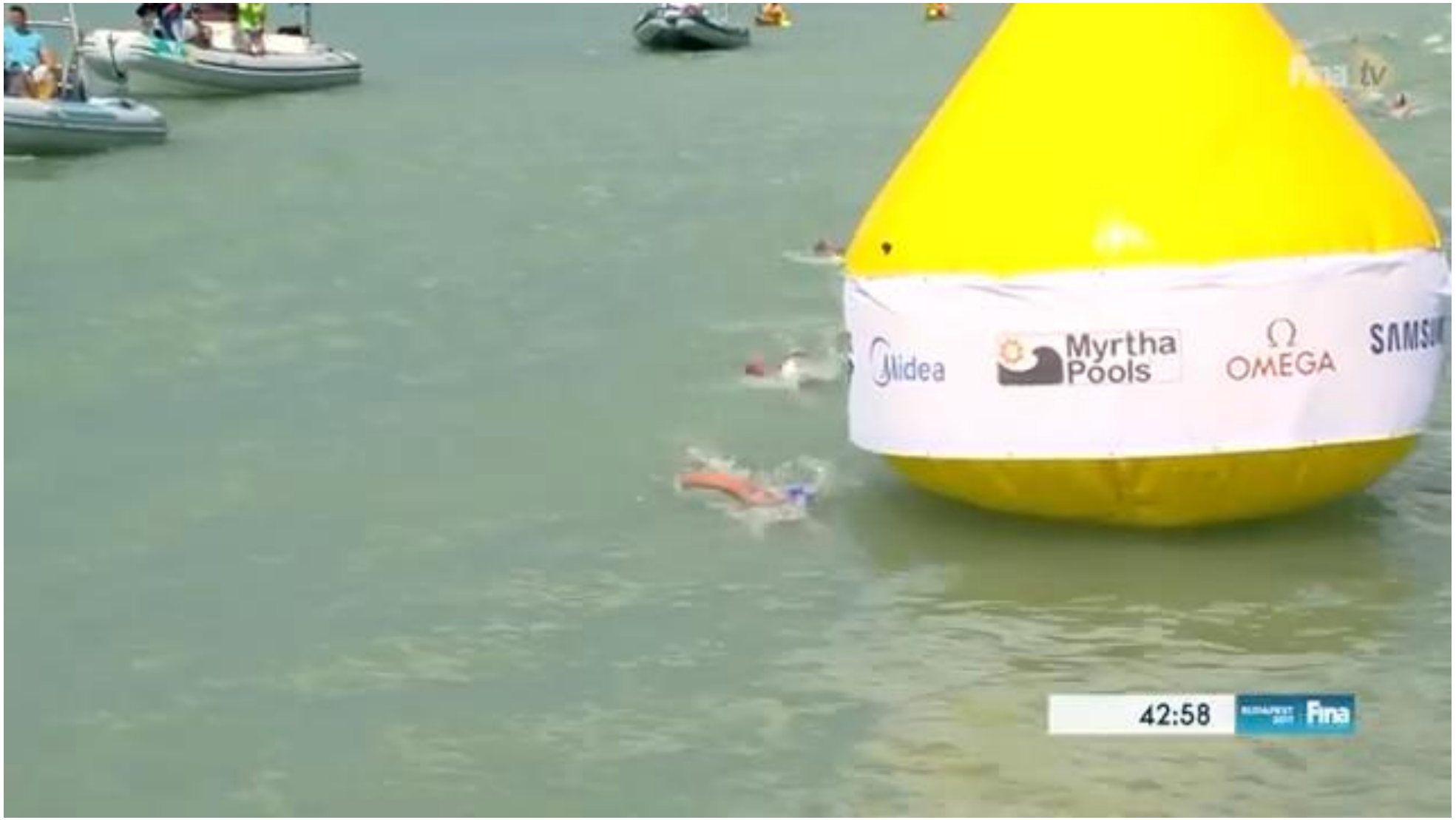


Critical Situations at the Turns







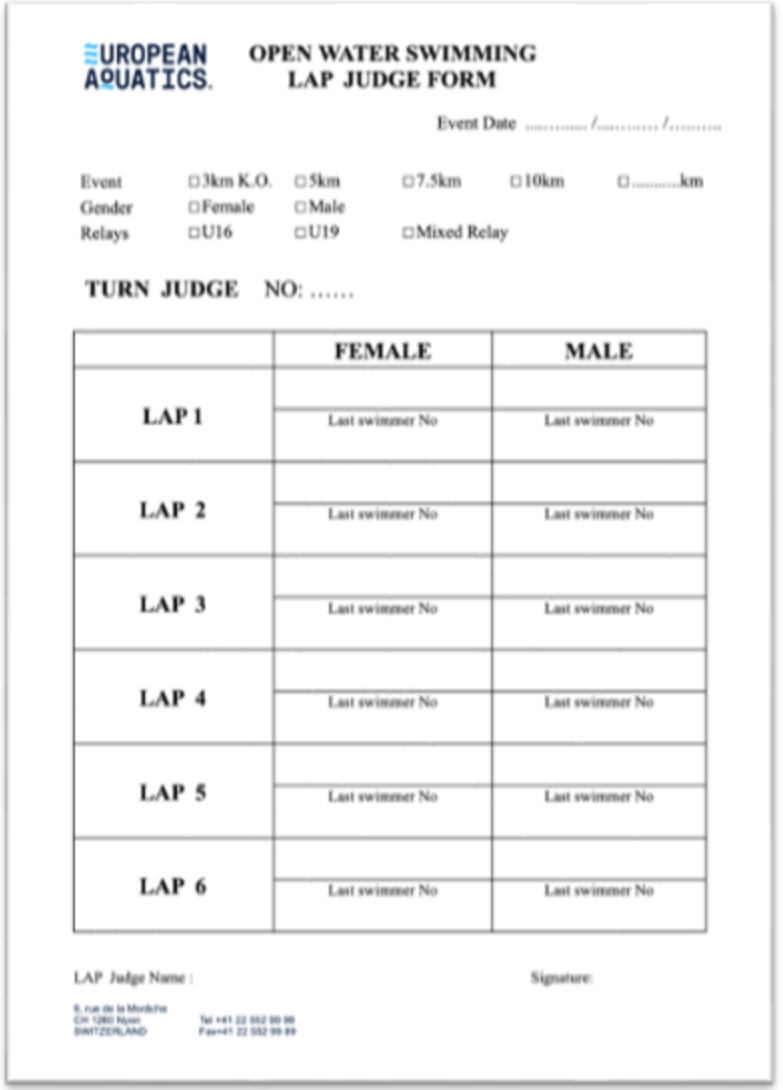


FINA World Championships Budapest 2017

Turn Judges – Practical Tips

- Positioning
  - Watch the correct direction without impeding other competitors
  - Be sure that all competitors can be seen (wind, current, tide)

  → About 5 m away from Turn Buoy (depending on number of competitors)
- Record the number of swimmers passing and race number of last swimmer and report to recorder via radio
- Report infringements immediately to Chief Referee
- Have start list with you (help to identify the competitor's number)
- Be vigilant in case of a swimmer in distress (report to safety officer if necessary)
- Don't give any hints / tips to swimmers



EUROPEAN AQUATICS

OPEN WATER SWIMMING
LAP JUDGE FORM

Event Date ...../...../.....

Event ☐3km K.O. ☐5km ☐7.5km ☐10km ☐.....km
Gender ☐Female ☐Male
Relays ☐U16 ☐U19 ☐Mixed Relay

TURN JUDGE NO: .....

	FEMALE	MALE
LAP 1		
	Last swimmer No	Last swimmer No
LAP 2		
	Last swimmer No	Last swimmer No
LAP 3		
	Last swimmer No	Last swimmer No
LAP 4		
	Last swimmer No	Last swimmer No
LAP 5		
	Last swimmer No	Last swimmer No
LAP 6		
	Last swimmer No	Last swimmer No

LAP Judge Name : Signature:

Messages from Turn Judge



Regular Message
→ Recorder

Recorder for Turn Judge 2

Thirty-five – THREE FIVE – swimmers have passed Turn Buoy 2 in Lap 1

The last swimmer is number Fifteen – ONE-FIVE



Remarkable Message
→ Chief Referee

Chief Referee for Turn Judge 2

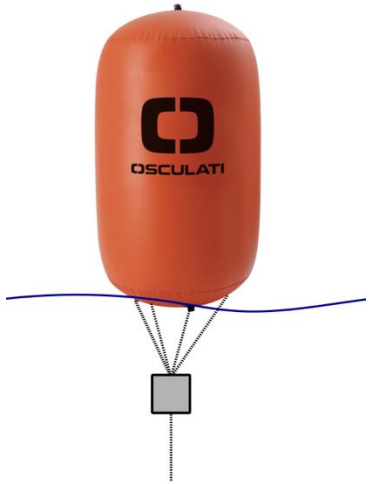
During the Turn there was an infringement. Swimmer number Fifteen – ONE-FIVE pushed another swimmer under the water

Diving under the Buoy – Infringement?

All Open Water Swimming competitions shall be Freestyle events and competitors are required to ***complete the whole course, respecting all designated turn buoys*** *and course boundaries.*

If in the opinion of the Chief Referee or Referees, any competitor, […], ***takes advantage by committing any violation of the rules*** *or by making intentional contact with any competitor, the following procedure shall apply*

AQUA – Part Three – 5.3 + 4.8





Interpretation:

Buoys are not only defined by a singular point

Last Briefing

Go around the buoy on the surface of the water (no diving) as only accepted course alteration



EUROPEAN AQUATICS

What is an infringement?

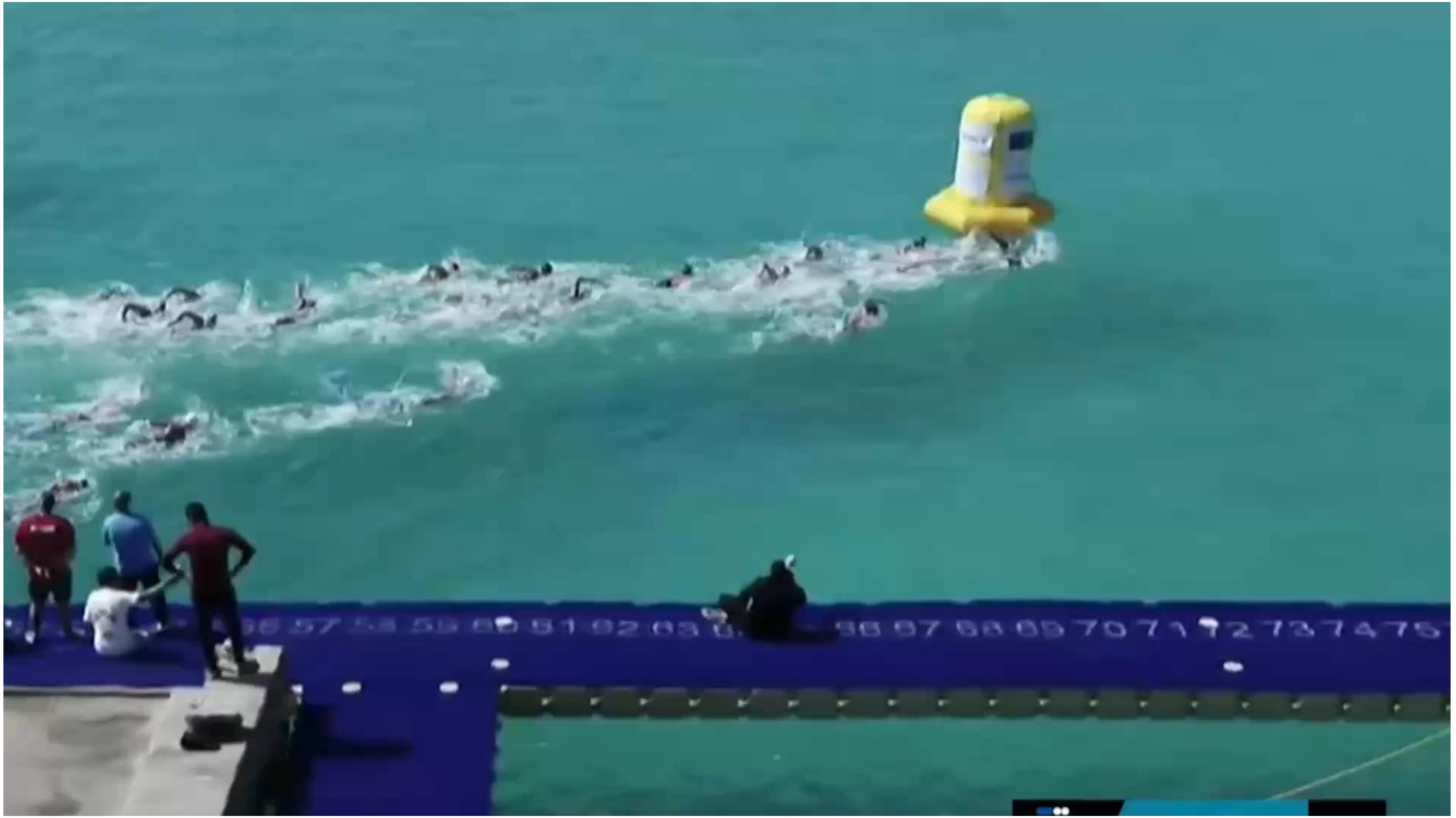
“Active” Diving → Infringement

- Swimmer was actively diving under the water (Butterfly wave)
- Swimmer tried to shortcut (inside the buoy)
- Swimmer tried to overtake other competitors with this shortcut

“Passive” Diving → no infringement

- Swimmer was pushed by other swimmer(s)
- Swimmer was pushed against the buoy by current or wave
- Buoy was pushed against the swimmer
- Buoy was lifted up

EUROPEAN AQUATICS



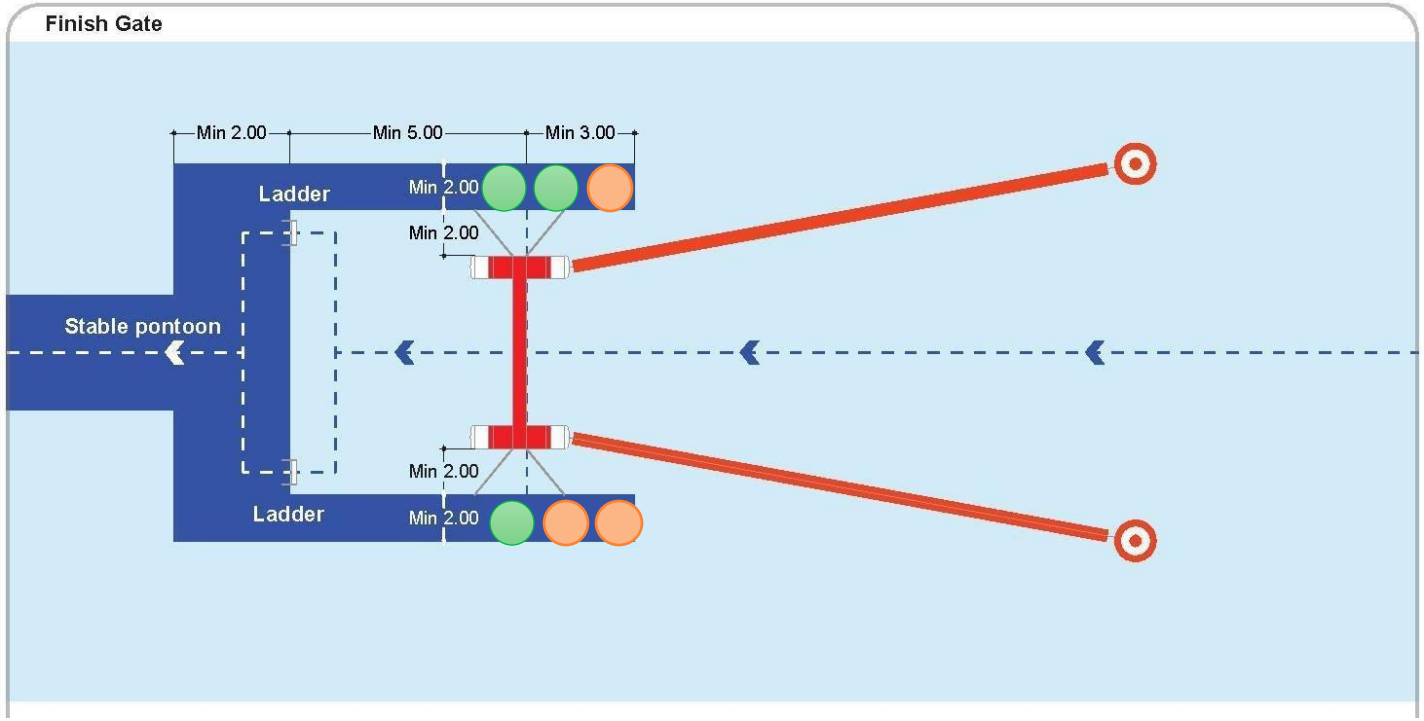
Decision on Infringements

If action of swimmer is interpreted (by Referee / Chief Referee) as the attempt to gain unfair advantage, this must be sanctioned:

- Fairness in sport / no unfair advantage for one swimmer
- Safety reasons
  - Turn judges can't count the swimmers
  - Risk of getting tangled up in the cables of the buoy

When in doubt, favour the athlete

Officials in the finish area

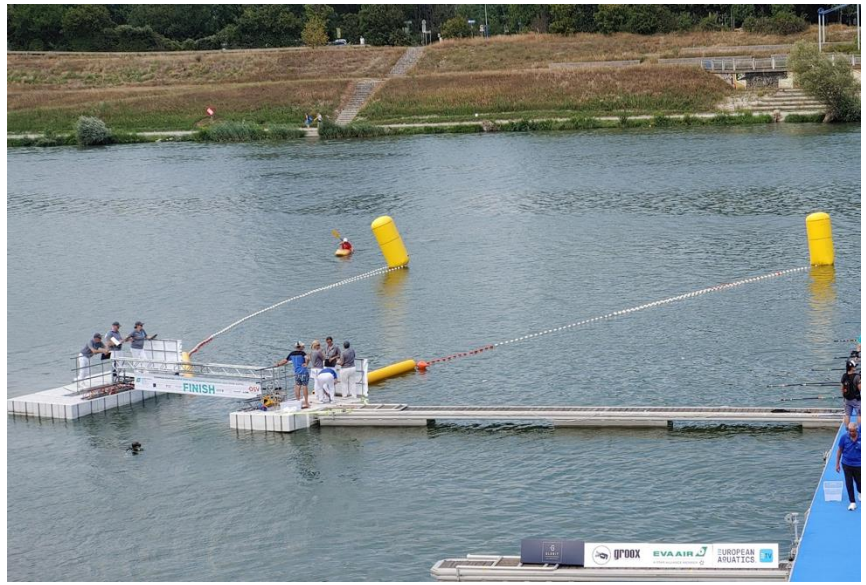


AQUA – Part Three – Appendix 4

Chief Timekeeper plus 2 Timekeepers

Chief Finish Judge plus 2 Finish Judges

On both sides



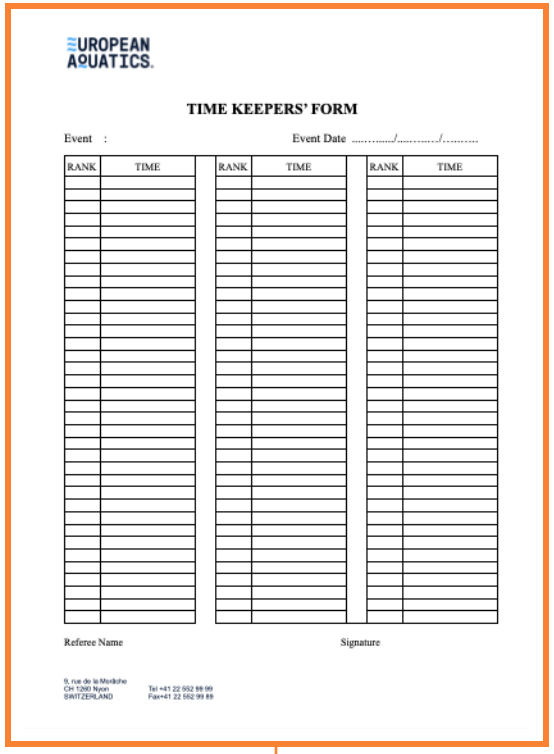
Timekeepers – Practical tips

- Have your own stopwatch with you
- Use lap/split time function to record times of all swimmers arriving
- Number of recorded times should coincide with number of athletes finished
- Add start number as often as possible to assist matching swimmer to time

- Algin with Timing Company concerning technology
- Use official sheet for recording
- Accuracy: EA: 1/100 sec, AQUA: 1/10 sec
- Have means of travelling to the finish area (Boat?)



EUROPEAN AQUATICS


EUROPEAN AQUATICS.

TIME KEEPERS' FORM

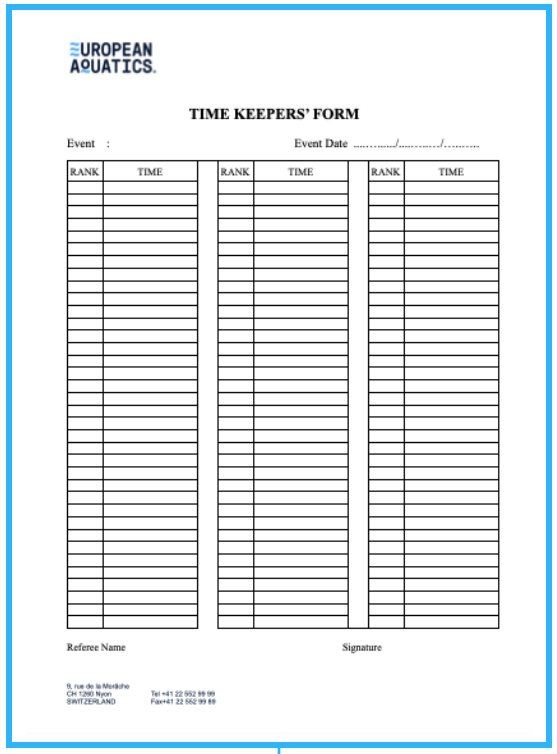
Event : Event Date ...../...../.....

RANK	TIME	RANK	TIME	RANK	TIME

Referee Name Signature

9, rue de la Morâche
CH 1260 Nyon
SWITZERLAND
Tel +41 22 552 99 99
Fax+41 22 552 99 89

Timekeeper 1


EUROPEAN AQUATICS.

TIME KEEPERS' FORM

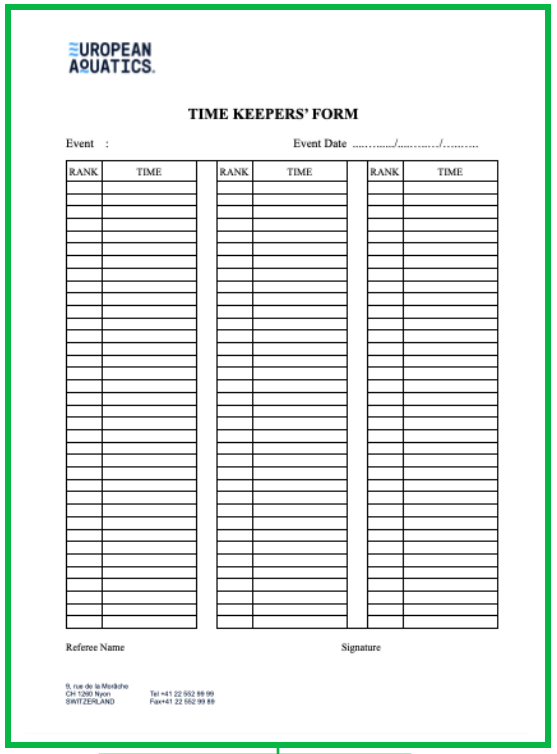
Event : Event Date ...../...../.....

RANK	TIME	RANK	TIME	RANK	TIME

Referee Name Signature

9, rue de la Morâche
CH 1260 Nyon
SWITZERLAND
Tel +41 22 552 99 99
Fax+41 22 552 99 89

Timekeeper 2


EUROPEAN AQUATICS.

TIME KEEPERS' FORM

Event : Event Date ...../...../.....

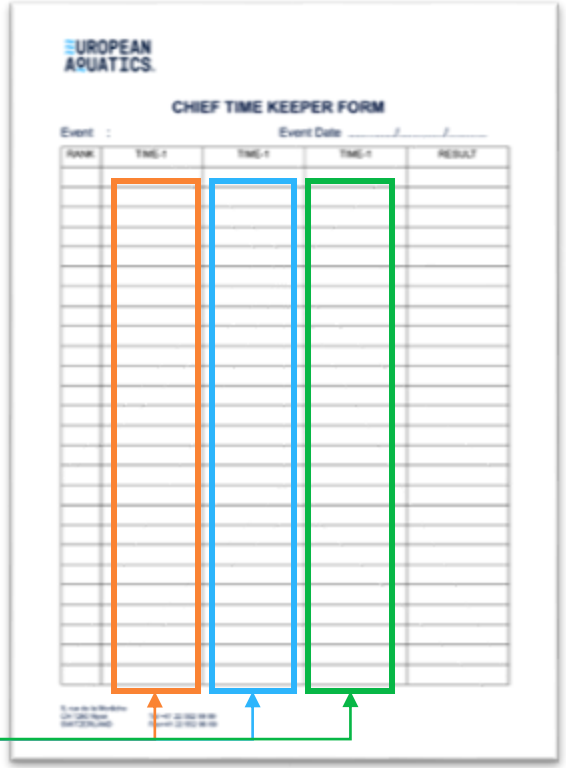
RANK	TIME	RANK	TIME	RANK	TIME

Referee Name Signature

9, rue de la Morâche
CH 1260 Nyon
SWITZERLAND
Tel +41 22 552 99 99
Fax+41 22 552 99 89

Timekeeper 3

Chief Timekeeper


EUROPEAN AQUATICS.

CHIEF TIME KEEPER FORM

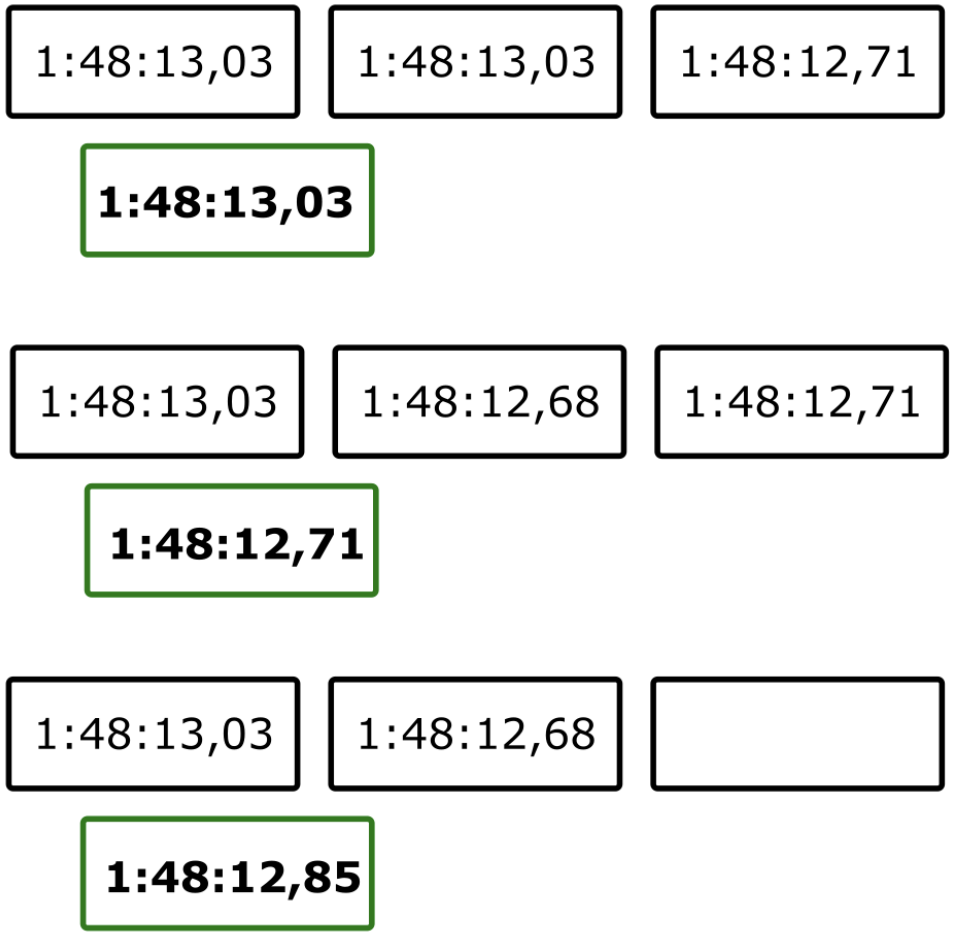
Event : Event Date ...../...../.....

RANK	TIME-1	TIME-1	TIME-1	RESULT

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Manual Timing

- 3 Timekeepers (Chief Timekeeper + 2 Timekeepers) necessary
- Precision:
  - AQUA: 1/10 sec
  - EA: 1/100 sec
- Determination of **Official Time:**
  1. Two watches show identical time
  2. Intermediate of three watches
  3. Average of two watches if third is not working (round off)



EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Practical Example: Determination of Time – 10 km Race

Timekeeper 1	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.29
2	1:57:58.15
3	1:58:48.38
4	1:58:49.08
5	2:00:07.15
6	2:01:58.38
7	2:03:26.91
8	2:03:29.44
9	2:09:38.14
10	2:11:18.87
11	2:15:47.69
12	2:16:28.92
13	2:17:36.63
14	2:28:34.52
15	2:29:39.14

Timekeeper 2	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.97
2	1:57:58.53
3	1:58:48.84
4	1:58:49.45
5	2:00:09.54
6	2:01:58.99
7	2:03:27.08
8	2:03:29.38
9	2:09:38.49
10	2:11:19.39
11	2:15:48.54
12	2:16:29.33
13	2:17:37.29
14	2:28:34.91
15	2:29:39.73

Timekeeper 3	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.62
2	1:57:58.80
3	1:58:48.69
4	1:58:49.33
5	2:00:07.43
6	2:01:58.70
7	2:03:26.76
8	2:03:29.63
9	-
10	2:11:19.26
11	2:15:47.43
12	2:16:29.33
13	2:17:37.26
14	2:28:34.88
15	2:29:39.51



Practical Example: Determination of Time – 10 km Race

1st Step: Compare Times

Timekeeper 1		Timekeeper 2		Timekeeper 3	
No	Time	No	Time	No	Time
1	1:57:28.29	1	1:57:28.97	1	1:57:28.62
2	1:57:58.15	2	1:57:58.53	2	1:57:58.80
3	1:58:48.38	3	1:58:48.84	3	1:58:48.69
4	1:58:49.08	4	1:58:49.45	4	1:58:49.33
5	2:00:07.15	5	2:00:09.54	5	2:00:07.43
6	2:01:58.38	6	2:01:58.99	6	2:01:58.70
7	2:03:26.91	7	2:03:27.08	7	2:03:26.76
8	2:03:29.44	8	2:03:29.38	8	2:03:29.63
9	2:09:38.14	9	2:09:38.49	9	-
10	2:11:18.87	10	2:11:19.39	10	2:11:19.26
11	2:15:47.69	11	2:15:48.54	11	2:15:47.43
12	2:16:28.92	12	2:16:29.33	12	2:16:29.33
13	2:17:36.63	13	2:17:37.29	13	2:17:37.26
14	2:28:34.52	14	2:28:34.91	14	2:28:34.88
15	2:29:39.14	15	2:29:39.73	15	2:29:39.51

No 5, Time 2 out of Range → calculate via Time 1 and 3

No 9, Time 3 not available → calculate via Time 1 and 2

No 12, Time 2 and 3 identical → official time



Practical Example: Determination of Time – 10 km Race

2nd Step: Determine Official Times

Timekeeper 1	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.29
2	1:57:58.15
3	1:58:48.38
4	1:58:49.08
5	2:00:07.15
6	2:01:58.38
7	2:03:26.91
8	2:03:29.44
9	2:09:38.14
10	2:11:18.87
11	2:15:47.69
12	2:16:28.92
13	2:17:36.63
14	2:28:34.52
15	2:29:39.14

Timekeeper 2	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.97
2	1:57:58.53
3	1:58:48.84
4	1:58:49.45
5	2:00:09.54
6	2:01:58.99
7	2:03:27.08
8	2:03:29.38
9	2:09:38.49
10	2:11:19.39
11	2:15:48.54
12	2:16:29.33
13	2:17:37.29
14	2:28:34.91
15	2:29:39.73

Timekeeper 3	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.62
2	1:57:58.80
3	1:58:48.69
4	1:58:49.33
5	2:00:07.43
6	2:01:58.70
7	2:03:26.76
8	2:03:29.63
9	-
10	2:11:19.26
11	2:15:47.43
12	2:16:29.33
13	2:17:37.26
14	2:28:34.88
15	2:29:39.51

Official Time	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.62
2	1:57:58.53
3	1:58:48.69
4	1:58:49.33
5	2:00:07.29
6	2:01:58.70
7	2:03:26.91
2	2:03:29.44
9	2:09:38.31
10	2:11:19.26
11	2:15:47.69
12	2:16:29.33
13	2:17:37.26
14	2:28:34.88
15	2:29:39.51

Practical Example: Determination of Time – 10 km Race
3rd Step: Check OTL

Official Time	
No	Time
1	1:57:28.62
2	1:57:58.53
3	1:58:48.69
4	1:58:49.33
5	2:00:07.29
6	2:01:58.70
7	2:03:26.91
2	2:03:29.44
9	2:09:38.31
10	2:11:19.26
11	2:15:47.69
12	2:16:29.33
13	2:17:37.26
14	2:28:34.88
15	2:29:39.51

Cap:

1:57:28.26

+ 30:00.00

= 2:27:28.62

Official Time		
No	Time	
1	1:57:28.62	
2	1:57:58.53	
3	1:58:48.69	
4	1:58:49.33	
5	2:00:07.29	
6	2:01:58.70	
7	2:03:26.91	
2	2:03:29.44	
9	2:09:38.31	
10	2:11:19.26	
11	2:15:47.69	
12	2:16:29.33	
13	2:17:37.26	
14	(2:28:34.88)	OTL
15	(2:29:39.51)	OTL

EUROPEAN AQUATICS



Chief Finish Judge and Finish Judges

Chief Finish Judge (may act as Finish Judge)

- ***assign*** *each Judge to a position.*
- ***record*** *and* ***communicate*** *any* ***decision*** *received from the Referees during the competition.*
- ***record and report*** *to the Chief Referee any* ***violation of the Rules within the Finish Funnel*** *observed personally, or reported by appointed Finish Judges.*
- ***collect*** *after the race,* ***signed results sheets*** *from each Finish Judge* ***and establish the result and placing*** *which shall be sent directly to the Recorder.*

Two Finish Judges

- *be positioned* ***in line with the finish*** *where they shall have at all times a* ***clear view*** *of the finish.*
- ***record*** *after each finish* ***the placing*** *of the competitors according to the assignment given.*
- ***record any violation*** *of the Rules personally observed within the Finish Funnel on the record sheets provided, then communicate the violation to the Chief Finish Judge.*

AQUA – Part Three – 3.6.1 – 3.6.4, 3.7



18. FINA World Championships Gwangju 2019

Finish Judges – Practical Tips

- May also act as turn judge, **not as timekeeper**
- Check finish area for clear view (Camaras, Media Team, …)
- Work together with clerk of course (record scratches / withdrawals)
- Report infringements
- Work independently
- Align with other judges during race if possible
- Leave gaps, when competitors arrive in pack and no chance to record all numbers
- Use finish video tape after the race if necessary
- Assure finish with touch of wall



Finish Judge 1



Finish Judge 2



Finish Judge 3

Chief Finish Judge



EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Practical Example: Determination of Placing

RANK	BIB / Judge 1	BIB / Judge 2	BIB / Judge 3		RANK	BIB / Chief
1	8	8	13		1	
2	13	13	8		2	
3	14	9	9		3	
4	9	7	14		4	
5	7	14	7		5	
6	2	2	2		6	
7	6	6	6		7	
8	1	1	1		8	
9	3	3	3		9	
10	5	5	5		10	
11	15	15	15		11	
12	12	4	12		12	
13	11	12	4		13	
14	4	11	11		14	
15	10	10	10		15	

Practical Example: Determination of Placing

RANK	BIB / Judge 1	BIB / Judge 2	BIB / Judge 3
1	8	8	13
2	13	13	8
3	14	9	9
4	9	7	14
5	7	14	7
6	2	2	2
7	6	6	6
8	1	1	1
9	3	3	3
10	5	5	5
11	15	15	15
12	12	4	12
13	11	12	4
14	4	11	11
15	10	10	10

RANK	BIB / Chief
1	8
2	13
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	

Twice 8 in front of 13

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Practical Example: Determination of Placing

RANK	BIB / Judge 1	BIB / Judge 2	BIB / Judge 3		RANK	BIB / Chief
1	8	8	13		1	8
2	13	13	8		2	13
3	14	9	9		3	9
4	9	7	14		4	14
5	7	14	7		5	7
6	2	2	2		6	
7	6	6	6		7	
8	1	1	1		8	
9	3	3	3		9	
10	5	5	5		10	
11	15	15	15		11	
12	12	4	12		12	
13	11	12	4		13	
14	4	11	11		14	
15	10	10	10		15	

- Twice 9 in front of 14 and three times in front of 7
- Twice 14 in front of 7



Practical Example: Determination of Placing

RANK	BIB / Judge 1	BIB / Judge 2	BIB / Judge 3		RANK	BIB / Chief
1	8	8	13		1	8
2	13	13	8		2	13
3	14	9	9		3	9
4	9	7	14		4	14
5	7	14	7		5	7
6	2	2	2		6	2
7	6	6	6		7	6
8	1	1	1		8	1
9	3	3	3		9	3
10	5	5	5		10	5
11	15	15	15		11	15
12	12	4	12		12	
13	11	12	4		13	
14	4	11	11		14	
15	10	10	10		15	

No inconsistencies

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

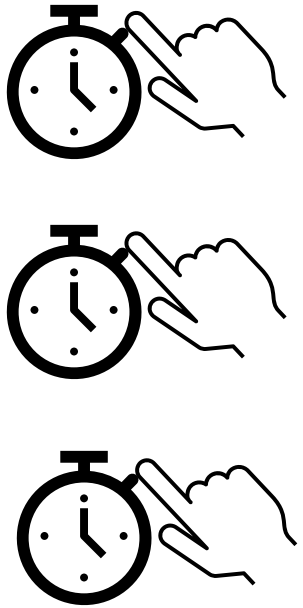
Practical Example: Determination of Placing

RANK	BIB / Judge 1	BIB / Judge 2	BIB / Judge 3		RANK	BIB / Chief
1	8	8	13		1	8
2	13	13	8		2	13
3	14	9	9		3	9
4	9	7	14		4	14
5	7	14	7		5	7
6	2	2	2		6	2
7	6	6	6		7	6
8	1	1	1		8	1
9	3	3	3		9	3
10	5	5	5		10	5
11	15	15	15		11	15
12	12	4	12		12	12
13	11	12	4		13	4
14	4	11	11		14	11
15	10	10	10		15	10

- Twice 12 in front of 4 and three times in front of 11
- Twice 4 in front of 11

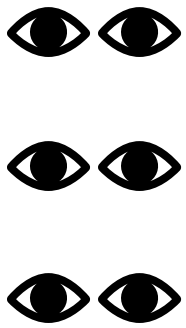
Placing and Timing

Timekeepers



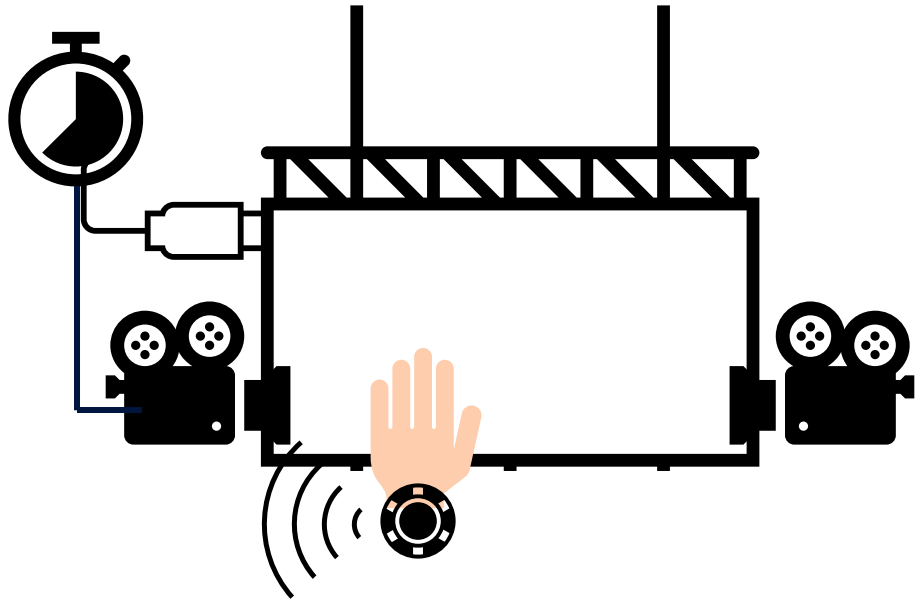
→ Manual Timing

Finish Judges



→ Manual Placing

Automatic Timing Equipment



→ Automatic Placing and Timing
→ Precedent!

Automatic Timing – Procedure for failures

- *Record all available Automatic Officiating Equipment times and places,*
- *Record all human times and places.*
- *The official place will be determined as follows:*
  - *A competitor with an Automatic Officiating Equipment time and/or place* ***must retain his/her relative order*** *when compared with the other competitors having an Automatic Officiating Equipment time and/or place within that race.*
  - *A competitor not having an Automatic Officiating Equipment place shall* ***have their place established*** *by the Chief Referee from the* ***video recording*** *of the finish of the race.*
  - *A swimmer having neither an Automatic Officiating Equipment place nor an Automatic Officiating Equipment time shall* ***establish their relative order by the place recorded*** *by the Finish Judges.*

AQUA – Part Three – 9.3.2

- Correct automatic times and places are not modified
- Competitor without correct placing must fit into order according to video tape
- Competitor without correct data: place according to finish judges, time: suitable to automatic overall results

EUROPEAN AQUATICS













EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Tasks / Responsibilities Feeding Platform Judge

Before the race / call room	Besides feeding	During feeding	Further tasks
Feeders' Check - Assignment Feeder – Athlete (max. 1 Feeder per Swimmer) - Hand out Coach card **Pole Check:** - Length of pole (≤ 5m) - No wires, sharp edges, … - Only national flag (30 x 20 cm) - Cups (biodegradable)	**Feeders' Check** - Check Coach Card - Check positions - Check cups (biodegradable) - No smoking / alcohol - No whistle - No videos - Fair behaviour - To take care of environment (clean space)	**Feeders' Check** - No throwing - Biodegradable cups - Feeding by pole or hand **Swimmers' Check** - Fairness during feeding - No jump / walk - No holding the platform	**Communication / Information to Feeder** - Out of water - Yellow / Red flags **Communication to Referee:** Distress of competitor





Recorder - Tips

- Make a Radio-check before the Race (~ 1 hour before the start)
- Check positions of Turn judges (~ 5 – 10 min before the start) → Course Officer
- Take position in Room of Timing Company to have relevant information on race time available
- Note down all relevant radio messages on the EA Form
- Confirm all messages addressed to him
- Check and inform referees about time limits (Note down Time of 1st swimmer)
- Log all swimmers leaving the water outside the norm and keep officials informed about it
- Collect all documents of other officials after the race

Recorder Form

- Record all relevant information communicated via Radio:
  - FROM: Sender
  - TO: Receiver
  - CONTENT: condensed to relevant information
  - BIB: Competitor's number (if applicable)
  - RACE TIME: preferred: actual time of the radio call
- Tips:
  - Use simple language
  - Write properly
  - Ask, if something is unclear
  - Highlight infringements and withdrawals
  - Be aware of number of competitors in the water
  - Align with Clerk of Course



EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Event: _____ Race number

Venue / Date: _____

EVENT/RACE COMMUNICATIONS

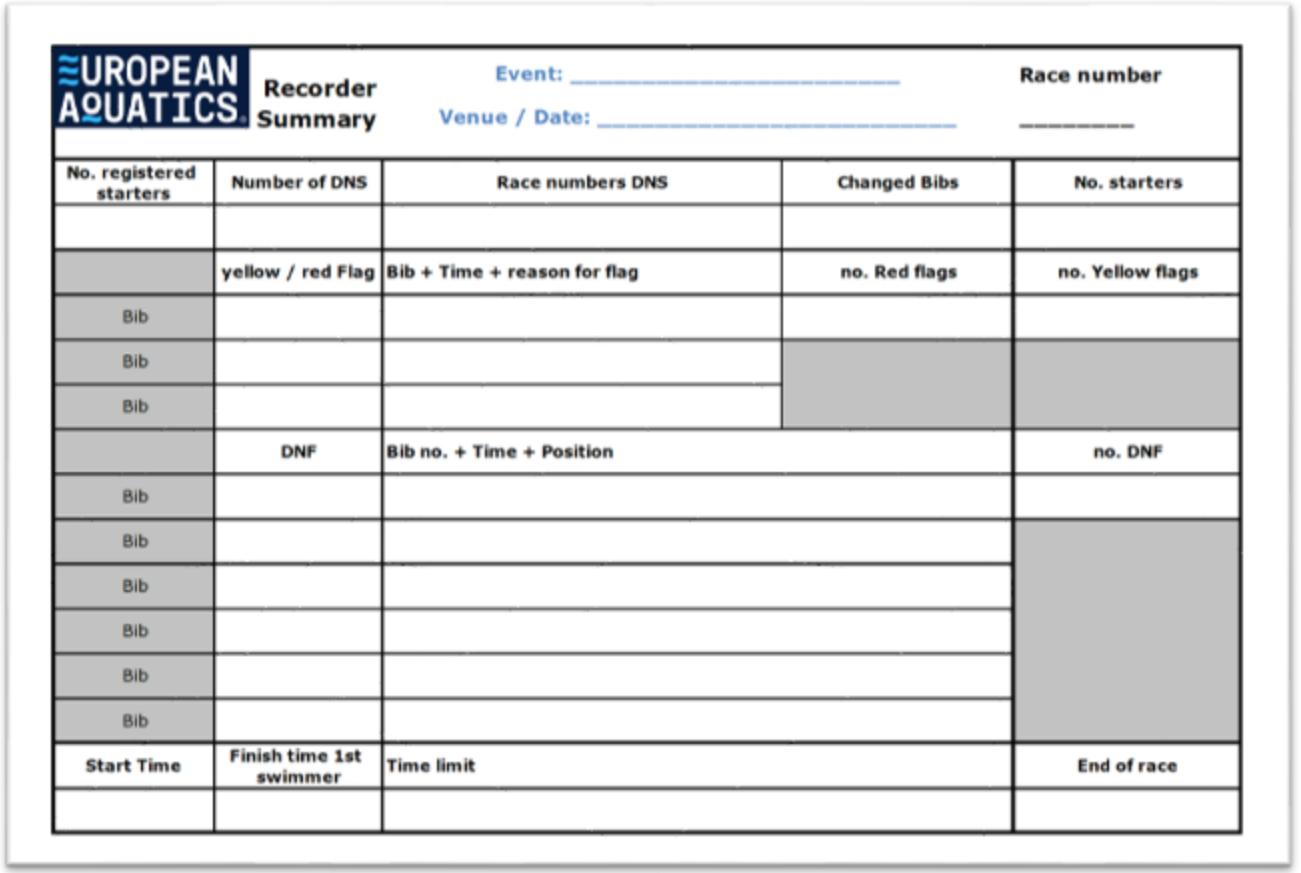
Recorder Report

FROM	TO	CONTENT	BIB	RACE TIME

Recorder Summary Form

Most important points → Useful for Chief Referee to sign the results:

- Number of Competitors
- DNS (did not start)
- DNF (did not finish)
- Yellow and Red Flags
- Time of first competitor
- Time limit
- Start and end time of race



EUROPEAN AQUATICS Recorder Summary		Event: _____ Venue / Date: _____		Race number _____
No. registered starters	Number of DNS	Race numbers DNS	Changed Bibs	No. starters
	yellow / red Flag	Bib + Time + reason for flag	no. Red flags	no. Yellow flags
Bib				
Bib				
Bib				
	DNF	Bib no. + Time + Position		no. DNF
Bib				
Bib				
Bib				
Bib				
Bib				
Bib				
Start Time	Finish time 1st swimmer	Time limit		End of race

EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Agenda

1 General Definitions

2 Organization of Events

3 Working on the Water

4 Officials and Tasks

5 Special Occurrences

- 5.1 Infringements
- 5.2 Time Limits
- 5.3 Emergency Abandonment

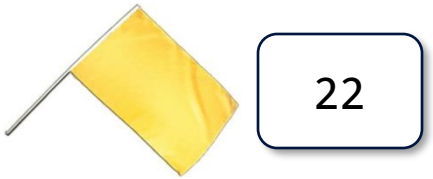
6 Further Race Formats

Disqualification Procedure – Intentional Contact

1st infringement:

yellow flag and a card bearing the **competitor's number**





2nd infringement, direct disqualification

red flag and a card bearing the **competitor's number**

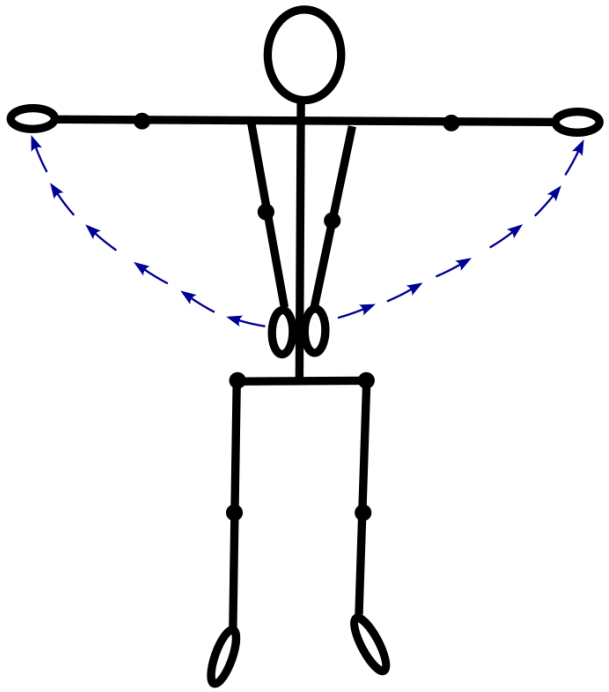


In case of unsporting behaviour (direct red flag)

- competitor **must leave the water immediately**
- take no further part in the race
  → **no influence on further race progression**

Interference / Separation





AQUA – Manual – Appendix 3

Part A: Arms extended Palms outward,
Part B: Move arms apart horizontally to separate the pack of swimmers
1) Warning 1: 3 short blasts of the whistle
2) Warning 2: 3 short blasts of the whistle and athletes number shown



FINA World Championships Budapest 2017

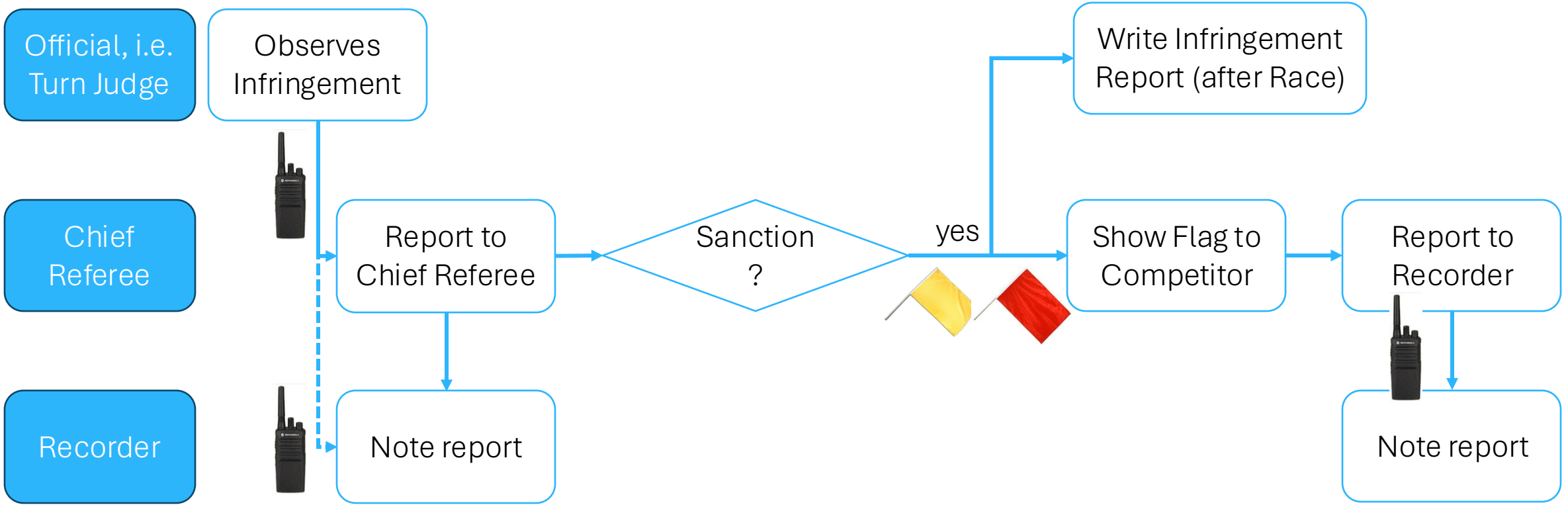

MARINHA DO BRASIL
1 NED 23 S. VAN ROUWENDAAL 1:56:32.1
FINISH
+0:05 1:56:32.1


Fina tv
1:47:28 Fina
Men's 10km


LAP 6 OF 6
FRONT OF THE RACE - WOMEN
Women
1:55:27
EUROPEAN AQUATICS.

DM 2025 Rostock

Infringement report



Time limits

- In all events, time limits shall apply as follows from the finish time *of the first competitors:*

  15 minutes per 5km (or part thereof) up to a maximum time limit of 120 minutes.

- *Competitors who do not finish the course within the time limit* ***shall be removed from the water*** *except that the* ***Chief Referee*** ***may allow a competitor outside the time limit*** *to complete the course but not be eligible for any points or prizes.*

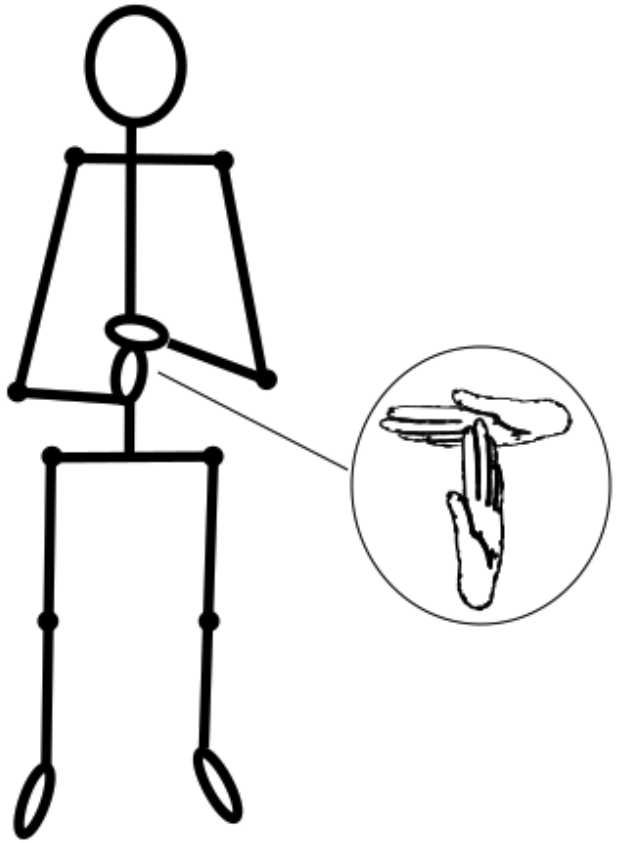
AQUA – Part Three – 5.14

Hints:

- Get in touch with recorder / timing company about exact time limit
- Think about effort to take someone out of water a few minutes before finish
- For multiple races (men + women) different time limits will occur
- Competitors' results (place or time) if finished out of time limit does not appear in result sheet, only **OTL**

Time limits

MIN	MAX	Time Limit
0 km	5 km	15 min
> 5 km	10 km	30 min
> 10 km	15 km	45 min
> 15 km	20 km	60 min (1 h)
> 20 km	25 km	75 min (1:15 h)
> 25 km	30 km	90 min (1:30 h)
> 30 km	35 km	105 min (1:45 h)
> 35 km		120 min (2 h)



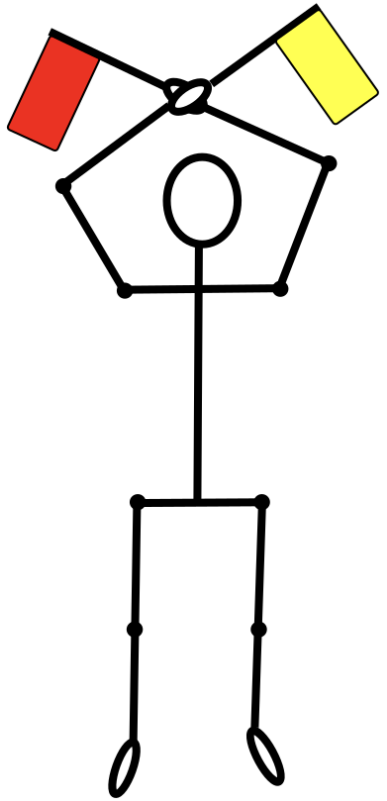
AQUA – Manual – Appendix 3

Right arm horizontal at 90 degrees with left arm vertical to form T shape.

Emergency Abandonment

- *In cases of emergency abandonment of **races of 10 km or less**, the race will be **restarted** from the beginning at the earliest possible moment.*
- *Where **a competitor/s has completed the race prior** to abandonment, the final ranking will be as **reported** by the Chief Referee having regard to those competitor(s) who have already finished*
- *In cases of emergency abandonment for any race **longer than 10km**, the **final ranking will be as reported** by the Chief Referee. If 2 hours of the race have not been completed, it will be restarted from the beginning at the earliest moment possible.*

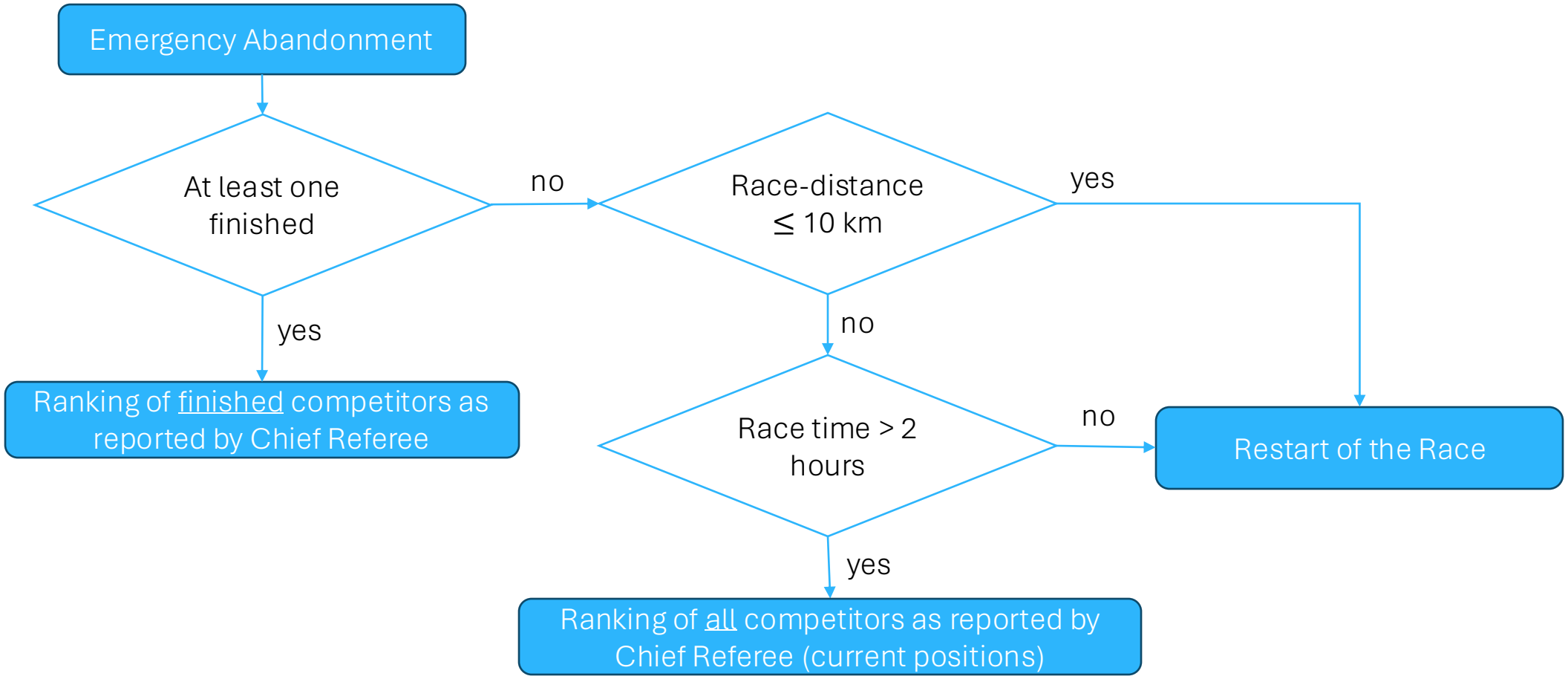
AQUA – Part Three – 5.15



AQUA – Manual – Appendix 3

Continuous short whistle blasts or sets of 3x short airhorn blasts

Emergency Abandonment – Chief Referee's Perspective



EUROPEAN AQUATICS

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6.1 Relay

6.2 Knockout Sprint

Relay Judge

*The **Relay Judge/s** shall manage the **activity on the Relay platform or change-over zone** to ensure all changeovers occur in accordance with the rules whereby the **arriving competitor completes their lap before the departure of the next competitor**.*

AQUA – Part Three – 3.11

Practical Tips

- Report violation of rules
  - Unsporting conduct / behaviour
  - Failure to touch (esp. if water-changeover)
  - Starting before preceding competitor finishes
  - Competitor swimming twice
- Watch finish and start
  - Alignment with other judges



EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Changeover in the water

Changeover procedure:

- Following competitor: in the water in starting position holding the platform (dedicated position)
- Visible touch with arriving competitor
  - Above the water
  - Anywhere between elbow and hand

Advantages

- Cheap, no additional platform necessary
- Easy to watch the changeover

Disadvantages

- Collision or obstruction of another team possible

Changeover via Platform

Changeover procedure:

- Dive start of following competitor:
  - From opposite site of platform (dedicated position)
  - Immediately after touch of arriving competitor (run and jump allowed)

Advantages

- Well ordered
- Similar conditions for all teams

Disadvantages

- More expensive, additional platform necessary

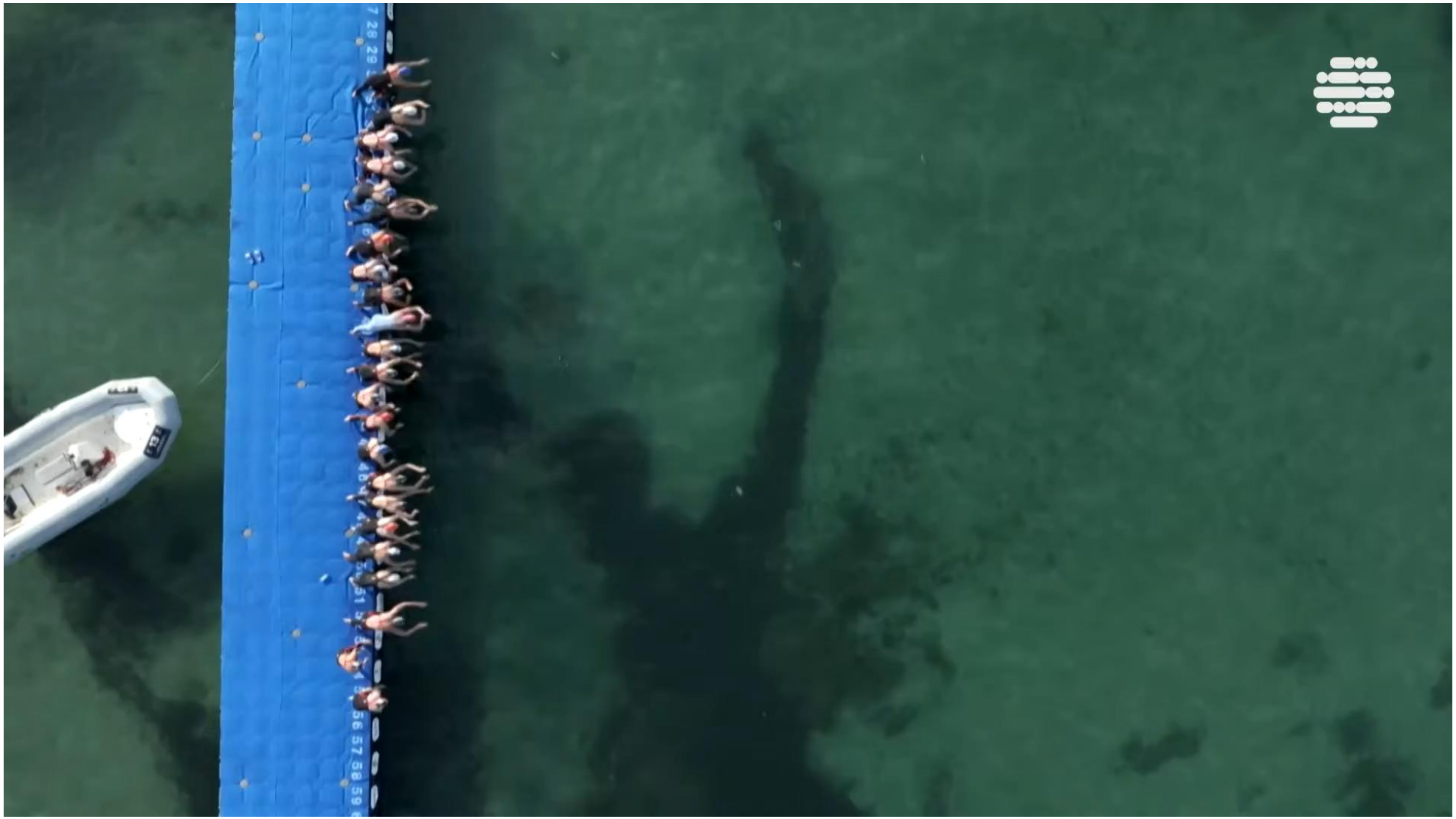
EUROPEAN AQUATICS

Water Changeover



Platform Changeover





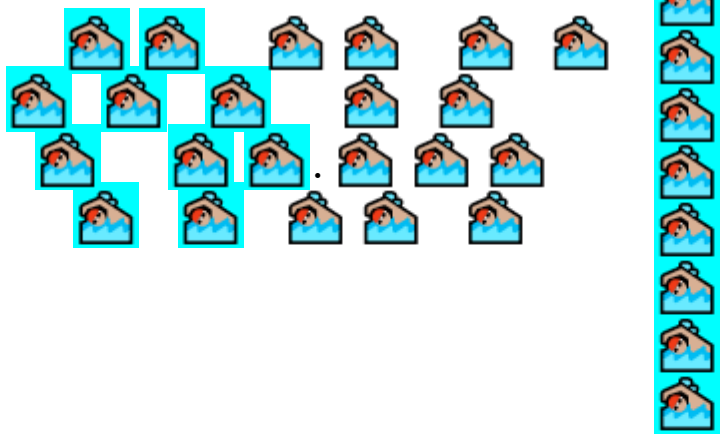
Howto: 3 km Knockout Sprint © World Aquatics

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDKtaMhtQmc

Knockout Sprint 3k

1st Round 1500 m	10 min Break	2nd Round 1000 m	10 min Break	3rd Round 500 m
Number of heats based on number of entries	10 qualifiers per heat	One or two semifinals	10 qualifiers per semifinal	One final



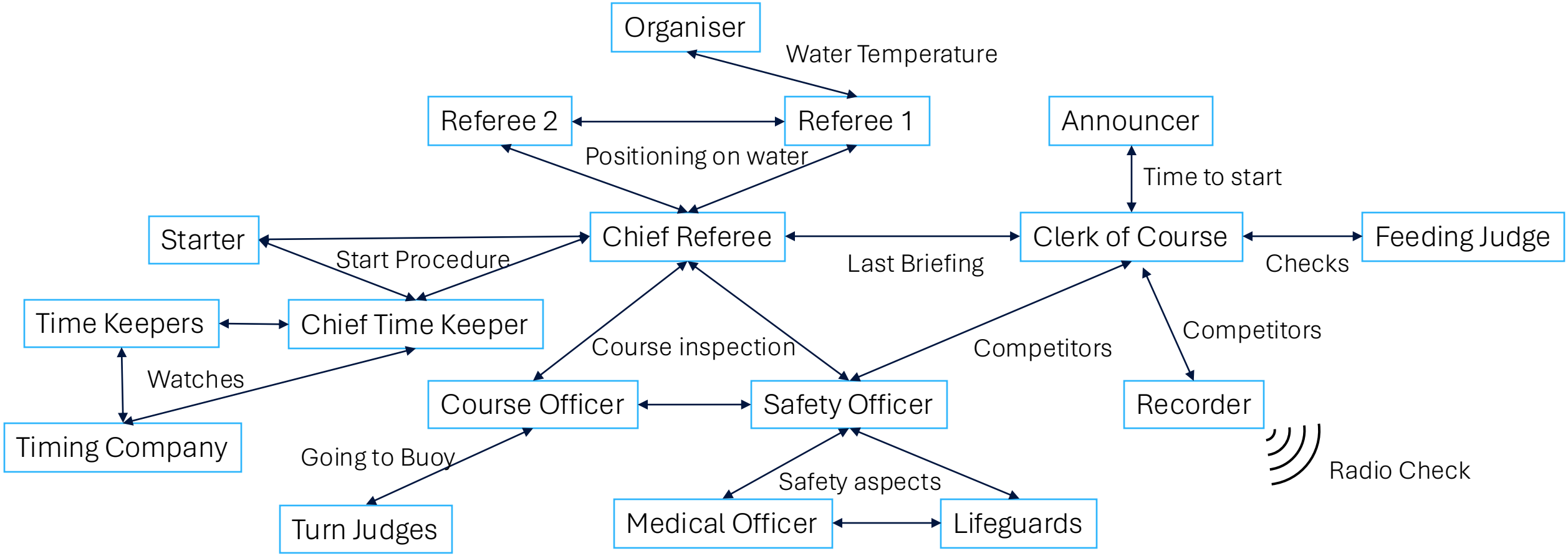




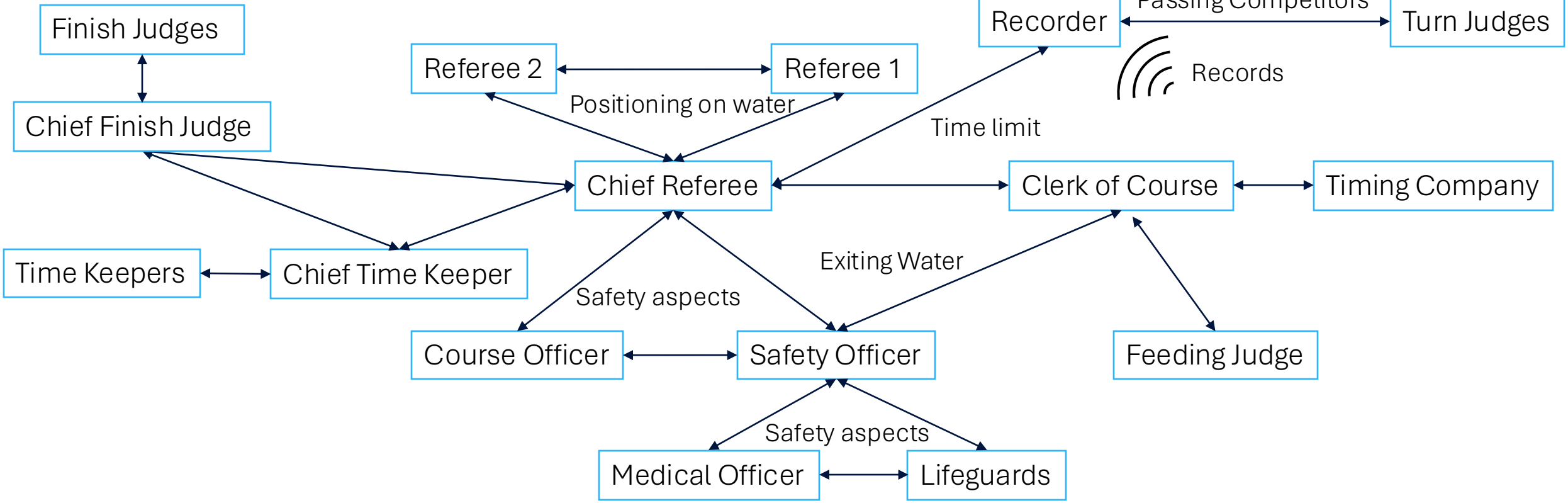
Backup

OWS Officials Clinic – Level 1

Working together – Before the race



Working together – During the race





Glossary – Part 1

Term	Definition
Acclimatisation	The process of adapting to warmer or colder water temperatures and conditions prior to a marathon swimming race.
Beeline	The most direct and straightest route to a specific point during a race.
Boxed-in	To get caught in between swimmers so as to not be able to swim in the direction or at the desired pace.
Breakaway	To speed up or increase the pace in order to create separation from the rest of the swimmers.
Call room	A designated indoor or outdoor area or room where the swimmers gather before the race, often to listen to pre-race instructions from race officials or to store their personal gear before the race.
Chop	Wave action at the surface of the water caused by wind. Small, frequent waves that are irritating to open water swimmers because they impede forward movement and can reduce visibility from the surface of the water.



Glossary – Part 2

Term	Definition
Corrected course	The most direct course to the next turn buoy accounting for drift due to actual or anticipated currents, wind and wave action.
Course	A direction or route taken by a swimmer. The path over which a race is run. The location in which a race is conducted.
Current	A portion of a large body of water moving in a certain direction.
Cut buoy	In the case of a swimmer who did not properly round a required turn buoy, a violation of the rule that requires the swimmer to return and correctly round the turn mark.
Directional buoys	Buoys on the line of the course between Turning buoys, which can be passed on either side. Usually smaller than Turning buoys and of a different colour.
Dive Start	The swimmers begin the race by diving off a fixed start platform.



Glossary – Part 3

Term	Definition
Drafting	To swim close behind another swimmer (or swimmers) in order to take advantage of their slipstream, especially in a race.
Escort boat	A boat or similar watercraft that accompanies or leads a swimmer for protection and/or guidance in the open bodies of water.
Feeding platform	A boat or other temporary or fixed floating structure used by coaches to provide fuel (i.e., food) or hydration (i.e., drink) to swimmers in a race.
Flag	A flag indicates: - Yellow flag - warning - Red flag - disqualification
Leading the pack	To swim ahead of a group of swimmers in an open water race.
Outside Time Limit (OTL)	Refers to swimmers that failed to complete the course within the statutory time limit of thirty (30) minutes after the first swimmer finishes the race.

Glossary – Part 4

Term	Definition
Starting platform	A dock or floating structure where the swimmers stand to start a marathon swimming race.
Splits	Intermediate times within a race.
Split rank	The swimmer's rank at intermediate (split) times in a race.
Touchpad	A narrow, flat area, which is placed above the water at the end of the race to record a swimmer's final time in an event. The touchpad contains an antenna which detects transponders as athletes finish.
Transponder	A device worn by a swimmer that identifies the swimmer as he/she touches the touchpad at the finish line, or passes an intermediate timing point.
Turning buoy	A buoy that must be rounded in order to complete the course (either clockwise or anticlockwise, depending on the course configuration).