

OPEN WATER ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT TEMPLATE

If a training session is promoted by a Triathlon Victoria (TV) affiliated club then these “Guidelines for the conduct of training events” should be used to determine the appropriate ‘water safety’ strategies.

GENERAL SWIM GUIDELINES

- i. All activities in supervised pools are acceptable
- ii. Open water swimming is acceptable in SLSA patrolled areas
- iii. Open water swimming in non-patrolled SLSA areas is acceptable provided that the club has completed the risk assessment and implemented an appropriate risk management plan which, as a minimum, considers the risk of a swimmer requiring outside assistance.

Activity Information	
Activity Type/Name	
Venue/Location	
Date	
Time	
Number of Participants	

Risk Assessment
<p>The following factors should be assessed when determining ‘water safety’ requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weather conditions - Surf/water conditions - Skill level of participants - Number of participants - Location of specific hazards - Presence of Lifeguards or SLSA patrol

Suggested equipment list:	
Swimmer register	
First Aid Kit	
Flag/ Marker on beach to sight position	
Mobile phone	
Water safety craft (if applicable)	
Other:	

Water Safety/Coach Supervisor
Name:
Signature:

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Management of Risks:				
Potential Risk	Specific Details (Please circle)	Rating (1-5) 1=Low Risk 5=Extreme Risk - Please circle-	Describe	Risk minimisation strategy (Select from the range of interventions as listed below)
Weather Conditions	Wind Storm/lightning Temperature	1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5		
Surf Conditions	Wave height / Wave type Water depth Tide / Currents / Rips	1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5		
Hazards	Aquatic marine life Pollution Exposed Rocks Jetty/Wharf Submerged logs/objects Unstable banks of river	1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5		
Skill level of participants	1 = Beginner group 3 = Mixed abilities group 5 = Professional / Elite group	1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5		
Qualified Supervision	Lifeguard/ SLSA Patrol – Yes / No Own Water Safety – Yes / No	1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5		
Many participants	10+ 20+ 30+ 40+			

- 1 - Safety briefing to swimmers
- 2 - Head count of swimmers in and out of water
- 3 - Swimmers will be paired using buddy procedure/system
- 4 - Assigned beach observer watcher with rescue equipment
- 5 - Swimmers grouped into small groups with designated leader

- 6 - Use of water craft to monitor swimmers
- 7 - Swimmers to use a personal floatation device (PFD)

Should the interventions not be able to adequately address the risks then you should - **Modify / Relocate / Delay or postpone / Cancel** the activity.