

# SWIM IRELAND SAFETY STATEMENT - ISSUES

**Safety is the responsibility of every individual involved in the sport.**

**Risk identified must be reported to either a Club or Meet Official and formally reported to the Facility Operator.**

**All accidents must be formally reported.**

## **General**

- 1) By Law all facilities are required to have a Safety Statement in operation. Clubs and Meet Organisers should satisfy themselves that this is the case.
- 2) Any accidents, however minor, must be reported to Swim Ireland (a standard Accident Report Form is included in the Club Handbook and A4 versions are available on request).
- 3) ALL volunteers who work/help at Swim Ireland events are advised to read the Swim Ireland Safety Statement which is available upon request from the Office.

## **Clubs**

- 1) All Clubs should obtain and read a copy of the Safety Statement of the pool they are hiring.
- 2) It is recommended that clubs identify risks and formally report them in writing to the relevant personnel at the facility.

## **All Meets**

(Club, Regional and National)

- 1) Following a meet at which an incident/accident occurred, the Organiser and Race Referee must complete a Meet Accident Report Form and include their contact details.
- 2) All who attend meets are urged to report any accidents to either the Meet Organiser (who immediately reports to the Referee), or to the Referee directly. Where an accident occurs, Swim Ireland must be informed as soon as possible with a full report presented.
- 3) "Safety at Swim Meets" must be included in all Programmes for all Meets run under Swim Ireland rules. It must also be read out at the start of every season with emphasis placed on item 3 above.
- 4) Officials should be advised by the Race Referee to report any concerns they have over possible risks at the facility and to ensure that reporting procedures are followed.
- 5) Under FINA Law the Referee is in total control of all persons attending the meet and the Referee should take all reasonable steps to ensure their safety.

# SAFETY AT SWIM MEETS

**All accidents, however minor must be reported, in writing, to Swim Ireland.**

We would ask the co-operation of swimmers, coaches, spectators and clubs in the application of the following safety measures.

They are in place for everyone's safety.

1. ***General;***

- i. Everyone attending Meets must familiarise themselves with the locations and operation of emergency exits.
- ii. Anyone observing anything they consider to be a safety hazard should report it to a meet Official.
- iii. Everyone attending Meets, must take all steps to ensure their own safety and the safety of others.
- iv. All walkways must be kept clear of bags, equipment, etc.

2. ***Starting;***

- i. It is the responsibility of competitors, coaches and clubs to ensure that all swimmers are sufficiently competent to dive start from competition starting blocks. Alternatively, swimmers are reminded that they may start from the poolside.
- ii. In the event of a false start, swimmers should perform a safe entry and Not fall into the water.

3. ***Warm-Up;***

- i. Swimmers and coaches must ensure that they (and swimmers in their charge) take no action that would endanger themselves or others.
- ii. The instructions of those in authority must be obeyed immediately.
- iii. Swimmers are not permitted to dive or jump into lanes other than sprint lanes and then only when the area is sufficiently clear to make a safe entry.
- iv. Do not start sprinting in a sprint lane until non-sprinting swimmers have cleared it.
- v. On finishing a sprint immediately clear the way for the following swimmer(s).

4. ***Around the Pool*** (e.g. spectator area, foyer area, etc.)

- i. Swimmers are not permitted to enter dry areas without first having changed and put on footwear.
- ii. Where there is a balcony or rail – swimmers are not permitted to climb over it.
- iii. Glass bottles are not permitted outside designated refreshment areas.

***Thank you for your co-operation in making the Meets a safe experience for all.***