

## **Open Water Championships 2026**

### **Information in case of abandonment of racing**

The safety and wellbeing of swimmers and officials is our priority. These notes provide the actions that will be taken in the event of the event being abandoned.

In the event of inclement weather, the race may be stopped or shortened.

In the event of a thunderstorm the race will be called off, and all swimmers will be required to clear the water;

- The evacuation signal will be given by whistles or air horns and will consist of a series of 5 short blasts of 2 seconds duration, a wait of 15 seconds, then repeated. Referees will show crossed flags.
- Swimmers will be recovered from the water by the safety craft and taken back to the finish area for a head count and return of 'Tally Bands'
- Swimmers furthest away from the water exit will be picked up first. Swimmers close to the finish may be allowed to complete the swim.

Where an event is abandoned, results will only be announced and medals presented where all competitors in an age group had the opportunity to complete their swim, or, if in the view of the organiser, those not able to complete their swim would not have influenced the outcome.

In the event of cancellation by the Swim England South East Region Open Water Committee full refunds will be offered.