

# Swim Ireland Open Water Safe Supervision Guidelines



## Education

Swim Ireland Qualification	Participants	Age	Maximum Coach: Participant Ratio*	Safety Requirements	Comments
Swim Ireland Level 2 Open Water Swimming Coach with Level 2 Swimming Teacher <b>AND</b> Swim Ireland 4 x Teaching in Open Water CPD	Non Swimmer / Beginner / Improver	Under 18 <b>AND</b> 18 and Over	1:12	Beach Lifeguard <b>OR</b> First Aider/Pool Lifeguard and Kayak/SUP support Tow Floats should be worn	Wetsuits always recommended
	Competent Pool Swimmer <b>AND</b> Beginner Open Water Swimmer	Under 18 <b>AND</b> 18 and Over			
Swim Ireland Level 2 Open Water Swimming Coach	Beginner Open Water Swimmer	Under 18 <b>AND</b> 18 and Over	1:20	Beach Lifeguard <b>OR</b> First Aider/Pool Lifeguard and Kayak/SUP support Tow Floats should be worn	Wetsuits always recommended
	Competent Open Water Swimmer	Under 18 Aged 18		Beach Lifeguard <b>OR</b> First Aider/Pool Lifeguard and Kayak/SUP support Tow Floats should be worn	Wetsuits recommended – swimmer discretion
		Over 18		Tow Floats should be worn Kayak/SUP support is recommended Spotter on land (this can be the Level 2 OW Coach)	Wetsuits recommended - swimmer discretion
	Water Polo Players	Under 18	1:20	Beach Lifeguard	Wetsuits recommended

\*Please note these are MAXIMUM ratios. Ratios are dependent on weather and water conditions and should be risk assessed prior to any participation in open water swimming. In some situations it may be necessary to reduce numbers dramatically to ensure the safety of all participants.

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Swim Ireland Level 2 Water Polo Coach <b>AND</b> Swim Ireland 4 x Water Polo in Open Water CPD				<u>OR</u> First Aider/Pool Lifeguard and Kayak/SUP support	
		18 and Over	1:30	Kayak/SUP support is recommended Spotter on land (this can be the Level 2 OW Coach)	Wetsuits recommended – swimmer discretion

\*Please note these are MAXIMUM ratios. Ratios are dependent on weather and water conditions and should be risk assessed prior to any participation in open water swimming. In some situations it may be necessary to reduce numbers dramatically to ensure the safety of all participants.