

Missing Person at Sea Officials Reflex Tasks

The continuous sounding of air horns & whistles, and waving of flags to competitors, **confirms** that a **competitor is missing at sea.**

OFFICIALS' response and responsibilities.

1. Immediately close and clear the water arena of competitors and craft, by...
2. The continuous sounding of air horns & whistles, and waving of flags to competitors, until all competitors are out the water.
3. With the assistance of supporters immediately clear competitor's equipment from the beach within the affected arena/s then keep supporters and all competitors, who are **not** part of the competitor search party (CSP), out of the affected arena/s.
4. Arena Referees (AR) with assistance of officials and team managers/coaches, assemble the designated CSP into orderly lines, with fins & goggles/masks, ensuring each are "buddied up," and with lifeguard (LG) support, (preferably 1X10). LGs must have fins and a tube.
5. Arena Referees (AR) to 'standby' on their allocated radio channels for instructions from the Event Safety Officer (ESO) who will confirm the location and timing for the deployment of the CSPs.
6. When requested, deploy the CSP to sea, then observe and monitor progress of the CSP and their safety. AR to provide feedback to ESO only where necessary and only as radio traffic permits. AR should continue to 'standby' their radios for further information and instructions.
7. Officials may be called upon by the ESO to call for volunteers, (qualified LGs, whom are competent swimmers, and whom have fins, goggles/mask, and preferably a wetsuit vest) from supporters, who are able and willing to take part in the search upon completion of a suitable briefing, to form supporters search parties (SSP). Officials may only deploy SSP after cleared to do so by the ESO or their delegate, and only when the ESO or their delegate is satisfied that the SSP have been adequately briefed of their roles, safety procedures, and the potential hazards and risks.