

OPEN WATER SWIM – 2019 - Page 1

GUIDING BODIES

World Police and Fire Games Federation (WPFGF)
8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., # 107, San Diego, CA 92111 USA
Tele. (858) 571-9919; Fax: (858) 571-1641; E-mail: worldgamesinfo@cpaf.org

EVENTS

INDIVIDUAL: MEN
 WOMEN

Men's and Women's events shall be offered in the following age categories:

18+	50+
30+	55+
35+	60+
40+	65+
45+	

OFFICIALS

Sport Coordinator

PERSONNEL

Timer:

An experienced Open Water Swim or Triathlon timer shall be obtained.

Safety Boat or Paddleboard Personnel:

A minimum of 10 paddleboard safety personnel with lifesaving training and safety boat personnel must be provided (No swimmer should ever be farther than 50 yards/meters from a safety boat or paddleboard.)

MEDICAL

Ambulance: An ambulance must be on scene before the race may begin. Basic medical supplies, such as a First Aid Kit, will be provided by the Host at the venue. Communications shall be available at the venue and preparations made in case it is necessary to summon additional emergency services.

OPEN WATER SWIM – 2019 - Page 2

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS:

Two EMTs (or equivalent, qualified medical personnel) must be on scene before the race may begin. One EMT stationed at the ambulance near the start/finish area, and another on a safety boat at the farthest part of the course from the start/finish. They will be in radio contact with each other, the coordinator and other safety boats/spotters as needed.

COURSE

Minimum of 2 mile (3.2 Km) course, with the starting point and finish point at the parking area. Large brightly colored buoys shall be used to mark the course and all swimming will be between those buoys and the shoreline. Smaller buoys may be used to mark the course between the large distance buoys. The buoys must not drag or move. The finish line must be clearly visible (especially as the swimmers approach the finish). The timing line may be slightly farther up from the start/finish point. (See General Sport Rules-Finish Line for details). The course configuration shall be approved by the WPFGE Director for Open Water Swim.

EQUIPMENT

Safety boat and paddle boards for all safety personnel (minimum of 10)

Tables for timer; scoring, refreshments, check-in

Timing equipment. Triathlon type timing is mandatory with a multi-stop timing computer with tape readout, where competitors are identified individually as they come out of the water. Experienced timers are very important.

Large buoys: To mark the ends or corners of course. Minimum 6' (2 M) in diameter, with anchors. Test corner buoy anchoring to assure they will not drag under existing conditions.

Course buoys: between 16 to 30 depending on course; 3' (1 M) in diameter, with anchors. Test course buoy anchoring to assure they will not drag under existing conditions.

Poles: With bright flags, for marking Start/Finish [minimum 10' (3 M) high] or an inflatable Open Water/Triathlon finish line tunnel.

Tape to mark Finish Chute

Swim Caps for every competitor in safety colors. Host will provide as many different colors as possible to assist swimmers in distinguishing those they are competing against. At a minimum each age group of men/women must have different colored caps.

Water, Fruit and other Refreshments

Public Address System or Bullhorn

Communications Equipment: for Start/Finish, Safety Boats, and Coordinator.

OPEN WATER SWIM – 2019 - Page 3

Starting Gun/Whistle or Starting Horn connected to the timing equipment

Awards Stand for presenting awards

Site Identification Signs

Changing Area: Tent/Locker Room

Restrooms (may be of portable type)

SCHEDULING

This is a one day Sport, and should take about 5 hours; from beginning of site check-in to the conclusion of medals' presentation.

This Sport should be scheduled so there is one day between the Triathlon and Open Water Swim and one day between Open Water Swim and Swimming.

The event director shall determine the course and type of start for open water swim, keeping in mind the safety of the swimmers. The course shall be measured as accurately as possible.

At the discretion of the event director, swims may be started in waves in which each wave is separated at the start from other waves by a time interval. Swimmers' times shall be adjusted by the starting time interval and their order of finish shall be determined on the basis of the adjusted time.

The WPFG Open Water Swim Director must approve the course and type of race start.

SCORING

Total time taken at or near the finish line with the finish order decided at the water line.

GENERAL SPORT RULES for Open Water Swimming

It is estimated that the water temperature in Montreal will be above 70 degrees therefore, wet suits will not be allowed.

Estimated water temperature and course location shall be provided to all competitors in the Confirmation Letter.

Each competitor will be required to wear a bright colored cap. Caps will be provided by the Host. Caps will be marked with the swimmer's number in a contrasting color to that of the cap. This number will be marked once on the top and is primarily for official's use.

No floatation devices of any kind. No fins allowed. No devices on the hands allowed.

OPEN WATER SWIM – 2019 - Page 4

Timing: Computer chips must be used.

Competitors will be advised that a raised hand indicates trouble or withdrawal from competition and when given aid, or picked up by a safety boat, results in disqualification.

The sport may be postponed, rescheduled or cancelled if unavoidable for stormy conditions or high waves.

No aid may be given to competing swimmers until they have crossed the finish line.

Finish line shall be at the water's edge to eliminate medal-place changes out of the water. If for any reason the finish line is removed from the water's edge, swimmers must be escorted physically (by the arm if competitors are close) from the water's edge to the finish line to avoid any position change out of the water. In this case, a Waterline Judge and enough Host personnel to handle several swimmers leaving the water at one time are required.

A time limit of 2 hours will be given the swimmers. After that, all remaining swimmers will be asked to leave the water or be picked up by safety boats.

By the time the last swimmer leaves the water, all results should be tabulated and the awards ceremony should begin.

Paddleboards with safety personnel must be in the water before the race starts. One paddleboard will lead the lead swimmers at a comfortable distance (at least 20 yards), around the course. The other paddleboards will be stationed in positions to observe as many swimmers as possible. Paddleboards may move to be in the best place to provide help if needed. One paddleboard must follow the last swimmer. Paddleboards must not interfere with swimmers but stay approximately 10 yards off the swimmer's path. On courses with parallel lanes, paddleboards should stay between the lanes to be able to watch both directions. If a swimmer raises their arm or needs help, the paddleboard nearest will go to the location of that swimmer and provide assistance. The paddleboard will summon help from the safety boat. The swimmer will only be transported by the safety boat. The safety boat will remain away from the swimmers unless needed because the fumes from the engine drifts on top of the water and is toxic to breathe when swimming. The safety boat will contain at least a driver and an EMT, and have radio communications with the Sport Coordinator and the other EMT at the ambulance. Paddleboarders will be briefed regarding the course and will report the competitor number of a swimmer that they observe cutting the course, to officials at the end of the race. It will be up to the officials to interpret this information.

AWARDS

Medals are awarded First through Third Place (1st – 3rd). A maximum of 18 sets of medals will be required. WPFGE will advise you of the number of sets needed based on total entries, plus a reasonable margin.

ATTENTION COORDINATORS

**THE WPFGE GENERAL RULES APPLY TO ALL SPORTS.
YOU MUST BE FAMILIAR WITH ITS CONTENTS.**

**PRECISE RESULTS MUST BE FORWARDED
TO THE HOST COMMITTEE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE
CONCLUSION OF THIS SPORT**

The WPFGE Director assigned to your sport is knowledgeable and experienced in providing assistance during the preparation and running of the sport. Questions, a detailed accounting of your preparations, and any area requiring approval of the WPFGE shall be submitted in a timely manner to this WPFGE Director.

The WPFGE Directors want to work with you to make your sport a success.

PLEASE USE THE WPFGE DIRECTORS AS A RESOURCE.