

# ROTTNEST CHANNEL SWIM ASSOCIATION INC.

## BYLAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

### General

1. In any Rottnest Channel swim attempt, no swimmer shall use or be assisted by artificial aids.

In any Rottnest Channel swim attempt, Swimsuits must comply with the Federation Internationale De Natation (FINA) Open Water Swimming Rules. Generally, FINA provides that a complying suit:

- a) Is of a woven textile material
- b) Does not cover the neck.
- c) Does not extend beyond the shoulders or ankles

FINA rules are subject to revision from time to time. It is the responsibility of each swimmer to ensure compliance.

The Rottnest Channel Swim Association (RCSA) provides the following guidance in the application of this rule for the purposes of any Rottnest Channel swim attempt:

You may:

- a) (for modesty) wear two suits so long as one suit comprises only briefs (men and women) or a bikini (women).
- b) grease the body before a swim,
- c) use goggles,
- d) wear two caps (your official cap must be the outer one worn) ,
- e) use a nose clip,
- f) use earplugs
- g) wear a rash vest / stinger suit

You may not:

- a) Wear any item with neoprene or any other buoyant material.
- b) Wear anything not within the spirit of FINA's rules or within the spirit of the RCSA exemptions.

2. For an attempt to be officially recognised as successful, a swimmer must enter the ocean from the natural connecting shore, swim across the Rottnest channel until he/she touches the opposite natural connecting shore and clear the water.
3. The RCSA shall not sanction attempts to swim the Rottnest Channel by persons under the age of fourteen (14) years as at the day of the attempt, whether as an individual attempt or as part of a team attempt.
4. The RCSA may appoint an employee or a member, as defined by the Constitution, to maintain the records for and on behalf of the Committee and the Association.

## Solo Crossing

5. During a solo crossing attempt, no supporting contact whatsoever shall be permitted by any person or object with the swimmer.
6. The RCSA Committee is required to keep a record of all solo crossings, whether made as part of a race as defined by bylaw 7 or as separate solo crossings. For each solo crossing the minimum information required to be recorded is as follows:
  - a) Date of the attempt
  - b) Name of swimmer
  - c) Date of Birth
  - d) Sex
  - e) Course taken
  - f) Time (hrs:mins:secs)
  - g) Age at swim

## During Event

7. The RCSA can, from time to time, organise a race across the Rottnest Channel and set rules and regulations for that race as required. Participants in the race will be bound to comply with the set rules and regulations of the race for their crossing to be recognised.

## Out of Event Solo Crossing

8. Multiple Solo Crossings - at the change in direction the swimmer must swim up to shallow water, walk to the most accessible dry land, clear the water (at which time the solo crossing time shall be recorded), and return immediately to the water. Once back in the water at not less than knee height, the swimmer can stand or sit for up to 10 minutes before recommencing the next leg of the multiple solo crossing. During this time the swimmer can't be assisted in any way except that they can be given food, water, grease (can be applied by someone other than the swimmer) and medication.
9. Subject to bylaw 3, any swimmers intending to attempt a Rottnest Channel solo crossing must have the necessary permissions from relevant authorities and have a safety plan to deal with key risk factors.
10. The observer of a Rottnest Channel solo crossing shall be in sole charge of the timing of the attempt, and shall be responsible for the interpretation of the rules, including the right to cancel the attempt in unsafe conditions and/or in conditions posing a danger to the swimmer.
11. A non-refundable fee will be charged by the Association prior to the swim attempt.
12. A solo crossing as defined by bylaw 9 will not be sanctioned during a race as defined by bylaw 7 but must be conducted on a day separate to the organised race day to be recognised by the RCSA.