

MMAD SWIM - Policy for the Cancellation of the Event

Rationale

The MMAD Swim is an open water event held in high summer. As such, it is subject to extreme variations of climatic conditions and other emergency situations on both land and sea. The safety of swim participants, lifeguards, spectators and race personnel is paramount. As a result, the Mount Martha Life Saving Club (MMLSC) has determined that the following protocols will be observed in the determination of whether the race will proceed or be cancelled.

Assessment – Race Conditions

The Event Conditions will be assessed at 4pm on the day before the event; at 6am on the day of the event; and again at 10am on the day of the event. In the event of a change in weather, sea conditions, perceived threat by sea animals, fire alert or severe weather warning, then MMLSC will consult during an actual race.

Factors Considered - Cancellation

Warnings from relevant authorities: Life Saving Victoria (LSV), Country Fire Authority (CFA), Police, Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), Department of Health and Human Services; Victorian Chief Medical Officer and Bureau of Meteorology issued on the day before the event or on the morning of the event: for example bush fire risk;, extreme winds and extreme temperatures, water quality, shark sightings wind strength of 15 knots or above from the direction of south-west, west, north west; and wave heights of 1 metre or above.

Notification of Cancellation

Participants will be notified via the MMAD swim website, Facebook and by the event announcer on the day.

Cancellation can Occur During the Race

The Event Organiser can decide that swimmers, race safety personnel, or spectators are potentially at risk then a race (or wave) or the entire event will be cancelled, and the following examples are provided:

1. **On Water** could include: a change in the weather; a change in sea conditions; a change in water quality; a shark sighting.
2. **On Land** could include: a bush fire alert; a severe weather warning.

No Refunds - Generally

Mount Martha Life Saving Club will not refund an entry fee in the event of a cancellation due the above reasons.

Refund - Cancellation due to COVID-19 as Declared by the Chief Health Officer

If the cancellation of the event is due to COVID-19 restrictions issued by the Victorian Chief Health Officer or the Victorian Government, then in 2021 there will be a full refund of any payments made to enter the MMAD Swim.

Refunds due to Declared Health Emergency

Refunds due to other declared Health Emergency will be considered by the MMAD Organising Committee and a decision will be made dependent upon the prevailing circumstances.