

## **Open Water report 25.11.2022.**

Open Water Championships 2022 was a great success.

The results have been published on the website.

We received very positive feedback on the way the event was organised and run.

There were a good number of officials, and it was very well supported. What the event was low on was the support from non-technical volunteers to assist with a number of different roles on the day and that also included support from the Counties to help with the distributing of medals.

The way the entries were taken this year was new and it went well. It was a lot of work for the Regional staff to take the information in and process it but as far as the event went the only filter that needs to be addressed is the Date of Birth needs to have a more direct wording.

The data was captured included medical issues for the swimmers. We need the same info for the Technical and non-technical volunteers when signing up for the event.

There was adequate safety personal out on the water but would be nice to have more for the 2023 event.

The one thing that didn't go well on the day was the producing of the results. The chip timing was able to produce a time for every swimmer and were able to put that information onto their website for each event quite swiftly. Chip timing were not able to filter out the results to what PK had asked for initially however they did eventually manage to produce usable data for the county results. It was the manual timing of the 1K which was the real problem and took almost all day to produce results.

Regional staff were thanked for their input and help on the day and after with producing the final results.

The company has learned what we need and has been provisional booked for 2023, PK will have a visit and will go through some draft data to see if they are able to filter to the requirements for the event and to do a dummy run before fully committing to them.

A discussion took place regarding the support from volunteers at the event, why there may be a lack of volunteers now and discussed ways of getting more volunteers to sign up.

I think Suffolk was well represented at the event and as in the past we were well organised with medals and trophies to give to our successful participants.

Going forward it would be nice to have more help and more clubs putting swimmers, officials and volunteers forward for the event. It is such a different experience form pool swimming and many who try it for the first time love it and keep coming back.