



Qualification Specification

STA Level 2 Award in Aquatic Teaching – Mermaid and Mono Fin Swimming



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This qualification is regulated by Ofqual (England)

STA Level 2 Award in Aquatic Teaching – Mermaid and Mono Fin Swimming

Qualification Number: 603/5318/1

Unit Structure

This qualification consists of 1 mandatory unit.

Unit Title	Code	Unit Level	GLH
Planning, Delivering, Assessing and Evaluating Mermaid and Mono Fin Session	K/617/8899	2	8

GLH = Guided learning hours

Total Qualification Time: 8 Hours

Qualification Delivery

The recommended contact hours for this qualification are 8 hours, which includes direct teaching and assessing but excludes breaks.

This course may be run over a day, but can also be delivered over a period of weeks, with the minimum of each training session being 2 hours.

The ratio for this qualification is a maximum of 12 learners to 1 tutor.

Introduction

Swimming teachers / synchronised swimming coaches are able to enhance their skills and knowledge to offer an additional aquatic experience. Mermaid and mono fin instructors are responsible for planning, delivering and evaluating progressive and fun mermaid and mono fin sessions. Mermaid and mono fin instructors are responsible for ensuring the lesson area and appropriate equipment is safe and promote good teaching and learning.

Qualification Objective

Holders of the STA Level 2 Award in Aquatic Teaching - Mermaid and Mono Fin Swimming aims to produce instructors that can instruct up to 8 participants within a session and teach a range of core fundamental and safety skills such as floating, rotation, dolphin leg action.

Target Learners

This qualification is for learners who wish to deliver mermaid and mono fin swimming sessions, to help develop a swimmers' abilities in an aquatic environment. To undertake this qualification learners will need to hold a Level 2 Award in Teaching Swimming or synchronised coaching qualification. This qualification could appeal to those already employed within a leisure environment or swim school who are looking to offer alternative aquatic experiences.

Industry Standards

This qualification has been designed in line with the following industry standards:

- PAS 81:2011 Specification for the management of a swimming school
- HSG179 Managing Health and Safety in Swimming Pools
- STA Swimming Teaching Code of Practice.

Entry Requirements

- Be 16 years of age
- Hold current membership of STA (for teachers in the Republic of Ireland - hold Water Safety Ireland membership or acceptable equivalent)
- Hold STA Level 2 Award In Teaching Swimming or acceptable equivalent.

Please note Swim England Level 1 Teaching Aquatics and Level 1 Synchronised Swimming Coach qualifications are not accepted.

Special Considerations and Reasonable Adjustments Policies

For further information on these, please refer to the policies section on the Safety Training Awards website:

<https://www.safetytrainingawards.co.uk/policies/>

Awarding Organisation Policies

A full list of awarding organisation policies are available on the website:

<https://www.safetytrainingawards.co.uk>

Any Other Requirements

Qualification certificates will not be issued until all entry requirements have been met / supplied.

Assessment Format

Competent / Not competent.

Assessment Methods

The STA Award in Aquatic Teaching – Mermaid and Mono Fin Swimming is tutor assessed through practical teaching assessments of mermaid and mono fin swimming and completion of a multiple-choice assessment paper.

All practical elements must be completed and performed independently by the learner without prompting by the tutor.

The multiple-choice assessment paper is to be completed independently by each learner and completed in exam conditions, with the tutor or approved person, acting as the invigilator.

On successful completion learners will have completed and been assessed on:

- Developing 1 x session plan, covering mermaid and mono fin swimming without a tail skin and mono fin
- Developing 1 x session plan, covering mermaid and mono fin swimming with a tail skin and mono fin
- Completing 1 x risk assessment for mermaid and mono fin swimming
- Completing 1 x session evaluation form following the practical session
- Delivering a minimum of 2 hours practical teaching covering the safety skills and mermaid and mono fin swimming which includes the 20 minute practical assessment.

All learning outcomes and assessment criteria in the units must be achieved in order for the learner to be deemed competent and pass the qualification.

Re-Assessment

If a learner is unsuccessful in the end of course assessment, then the learner is only required to re-sit the required element. The retake of the MCQ paper or practical assessment must be completed within six weeks from the failure date.

Tutor / Assessor Requirements

All tutors / assessors must have the skills, knowledge and experience to be able to teach and demonstrate the subject.

Each tutor / assessor must be approved by Safety Training Awards and provide evidence of:

1. Holding a minimum of STA Level 2 Award in Aquatic Teaching – Mermaid and Mono Fin Swimming (or acceptable equivalents)
 2. Holding a formal level 3 (or higher) tutoring and assessing qualification
 3. Maintaining their technical competence within the subject area and provide evidence of continuing professional development (CPD).
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IQA Requirements

Internal Quality Assurers (IQA) of this qualification must have knowledge and competency in mermaid and mono fin swimming as well as knowledge and competency in internal quality assurance.

An IQA must hold:

1. STA Level 2 Award in Aquatic Teaching – Mermaid and Mono Fin Swimming (or acceptable equivalent)
2. Hold a Level 4 IQA qualification or acceptable equivalent.

Note: IQAs cannot quality assure a course for which they were a learner, the tutor and / or assessor.

Resource Requirements

Course resources:

- STA Teaching Mermaid and Mono Fin Swimming resource manual – Each learner is required to have their own copy of the resource manual to have access to theoretical knowledge of the qualification.
- A range of mermaid and mono fin teaching equipment:
 - Tail skin
 - Mono Fin
 - Toys / Sinkers
- In order to fulfil the practical requirements of this qualification, access to an appropriate swimming facility is required. The facility should meet the required temperature and depth requirements for teaching participants
- Room size: Adequate space for all learners on the course to undertake theory and practical work
- Seats: One per learner
- Writing surfaces: Adequate for each learner to take notes
- Toilets: Separate facilities for male and female learners
- Ventilation: Should be adequate
- Lighting: Should be suitable for reading, combining a mixture of natural and artificial light
- Heating: Should maintain a 'short sleeve' environment, minimum temperature 16 degrees
- Access / exits: Should be safe, well lit and cater for people with special needs
- Floor coverings: Should be carpeted or mats / blankets provided for use during practical sessions
- Cleanliness: Maintain a clean, tidy and hygienic environment
- Noise: Consider whether there is noise that may distract learners from training
- Electrical items: When projectors and other electrical equipment are used, the equipment must be checked to ensure it is in safe working order. It is important to be aware of trip hazards associated with electric cables in order to reduce such risks.

Unit Specification

Unit Title	Delivering, Assessing and Evaluating Mermaid and Mono Fin Session	
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	
1. Be able to complete a risk assessment for a mermaid and mono fin session	1.1	Perform a risk assessment for a mermaid and mono fin session
2. Be able to produce a session plan for mermaid and mono fin swimming	2.1	Develop a 30-minute session plan for a participant without a tail skin and mono fin
3. Know the type of equipment which can be used within a mermaid and mono fin session	3.1	Identify the types of equipment which can be used within a mermaid and mono fin session
4. Understand session organisation within mermaid and mono fin session	3.2	Identify the safety considerations of using equipment
5. Be able to teach progressive practices leading to swimming in a tail skin and mono fin	4.1	Identify how to group participants within a mermaid and mono fin session
6. Be able to teach mermaid and mono fin skills	4.2	Identify safe methods of manual support when delivering a mermaid and mono fin session
7. Understand the scientific principles of mermaid and mono fin swimming	5.1	Demonstrate teaching basic safety practices prior to the introduction of tail skin and mono fin
8. Be able to assess participants in a mermaid and mono fin session	5.2	Demonstrate teaching progressive practices leading to swimming in tail skin and mono fin
9. Be able to carry out a mermaid and mono fin session in a professional manner	6.1	Demonstrate teaching mermaid and mono fin skills
10. Be able to evaluate a mermaid and mono fin session	7.1	Describe how a participant floats in water when wearing a tail skin and mono fin
	8.1	Demonstrate assessing participants in a mermaid and mono fin session
	9.1	Demonstrate a professional manner during a mermaid and mono fin session
	10.1	Perform an evaluation of a mermaid and mono fin session