



## SAFETY IN THE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT

The Safe Water Sports ([www.safewatersports.com](http://www.safewatersports.com)) non-profit organization has been active since 2015 with the main goal of preventing accidents and drowning incidents taking place at sea. The actions of the Organization, in cooperation with the Private and Public sector, aim at enhancing safety in the aquatic environment as well as informing and raising awareness among the public, especially children and young people, on issues related to their safety in the water, the sea, the water sports and other water activities. Greece ranks 11th globally in the list of countries with the largest coastline (13,676 km). In our country every year, on average, **344** people lose their lives at sea. 50,000 European citizens are injured while participating in water sports and / or boat activities. Drowning is the second leading cause of death for infants up to 14 years of age.

# CONTENTS

Coast Guard Information System	3
Digital Port Police Surveillance For Leisure Activities At The Sea	4
Legislative initiatives	5
Accident Observatory	6-9
Lifeguard Rescue mobile app	10
Safe Water Sports mobile app	10-11
International cooperations	12-13
Information campaign for safety at sea for the elderly	14
Citizen awareness actions	15-16
Distinctions of the organization	17
<b>EDUCATION</b>	
Educational program of Primary and Secondary education	18
Interactive games - E-learning platform	19
Sea-guards Conference	20
Lectures in schools	20
Interactive educational film on safety in water sports	21
Children's story and cd	21
Educational briefcase	22
<b>Information-Educational Projects</b>	
Company Certification for Safety	24
The milestones of 2021	25
Cooperation with Ministries and Public Bodies	26-27
National Day For The Prevention of Accidents And Drowning Incidents At Sea	28



## COAST GUARD INFORMATION SYSTEM

Safe Water Sports has developed and granted to the Coast Guard, at absolutely no cost to the Greek State, an Integrated Pan-Hellenic Information System of Controls & Inspections concerning a wide range of activities carried out at sea.

Through the system, which currently operates in all port authorities of the country as well as in the central service (Ministry - Coast Guard Headquarters), both in Greece and in Cyprus, the port authorities now manage electronically:

- All permits issued to water sports and leisure companies and other professional sea-based activities
- The lifeguard coverage of the beaches.
- The controls and inspections that take place at sea (by vessels of the Coast Guard), or in land.
- The violations and the fines imposed.
- The performance of the port authorities and possible gaps in controls across the country.

- The availability of lifeguards on the beaches where their presence is mandatory.

### Information System Modules

#### ► Professional permits for maritime activities

- Beach lifeguard coverage
- Water sports & leisure companies
- Diving services companies
- Small speedboat rental companies
- Day cruises and day trips

#### ► Registers

- Beaches
- Port authorities
- Marina & fishing shelters
- Shipwrecks

#### ► Control system and inspections

- Water sports & leisure activities professionals
- Private yachts

#### ► Sea Accident Observatory

#### ► Legislation

#### ► Dashboard - Statistics

The processing of information is done in real time, on a 24/7 basis, completely decentralized, without the need for any communication or document between the Central Service and the regional port authorities.

In February 2018, Safe Water Sports signed an agreement with the Port Police of Cyprus to extend the action on the island, so that the safety net of the Organization's initiatives can be extended beyond the Greek borders. The Information System also includes the Accident Observatory, where from 2017 until today, all drowning incidents and other accidents that take place in the Greek seas are recorded in detail. The Organization has undertaken the study and processing of the data of the Observatory in order to draw up a national policy to strengthen prevention.

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/675877173>

## DIGITAL PORT POLICE SURVEILLANCE FOR LEISURE ACTIVITIES AT THE SEA


In 2020 the Information System acquired new operational capabilities related to the control of companies, professionals and individuals, using special software developed and provided by the Organization.

The controls on lifeguards, water sports companies, motor boat and small boat rental companies, diving service providers, but also on private yachts, are carried out using portable devices (tablets) and special software that is part of the Safe Water Sports Information System.

The special software enables the port authorities the quick, safe, efficient and, above all, on-site inspection of the companies and professionals they control, by formulating the control report electronically on the spot, entering its findings at the time of the inspection and not upon their return at the office. In this way the inspection regarding the observance of the foreseen security measures is digital, direct, as the port police on the beach or at the sea has online access to all the information needed to complete it, while any infringements are also recorded in real time.

Thus, the software monitors the inspections performed throughout the country, identifies potential gaps and facilitates the planning



Powered by  
 ALPHA BANK

*The digital inspection software was developed courtesy of Alpha Bank.*

of the audit process for each port authority.

This Information System dramatically upgrades the operational efficiency of the controls carried out by the port authorities, while the on-site registration of the inspection sheets frees up valuable administrative time and saves significant resources



### CREATION OF A PREVENTION ACTIONS COORDINATION OFFICE

The Office of Digital Management of Activities and Safety at the sea, a special office within the Port Police Directorate of the Ministry of Shipping was created and staffed to support the increased requirements of operation and operational support

of the Port Authority Information System (provided by Safe Water Sports) and the information actions implemented by the port authorities throughout the country (at schools, municipalities, etc.) in cooperation with the Organization.

## LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Safe Water Sports proposes, participates and contributes systematically to issues of modernization of the wider institutional framework related to aquatic safety. To date, the Organization has contributed and actively participated in the following important legislative and regulatory initiatives:

► **PD 71/2020** of the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy (as well as the older Presidential Decree 30/2020) for the operation of lifeguard schools and lifeguard coverage on the beaches

► **General Port Regulation no. 20 "Speedboats (high-speed) and other sea-based recreational vehicles"** of 2018 and 2021 of the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy

► **Law 4688/2020 "Special forms of tourism, provisions for tourism development and other provisions"** of the Ministry of Tourism

► **Law 4597 / 28-2-2019** of the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy for **the establishment of the National Day for the Prevention of Accidents and Drowning Incidents At Sea.**

Important points of Regulations, PDs and laws that came into force:

**PD 30/2018, PD 71/2020 Lifeguard Schools, lifeguard licensing, compulsory recruitment of lifeguards on organized or unorganized beaches.**

- Compulsory lifeguard Coverage for all busy beaches regardless of whether or not they are exploited for financial purposes.
- The characterization of a beach as crowded takes place in the 1st fortnight of August, after an autopsy by a special committee. The committee shall decide whether a beach is crowded, taking into account, as an example, the average daily attendance of at least three hundred (300) bathers,

along the coastline up to one km (as well as for each corresponding, after the first kilometer, length of coastline) during peak periods, any accidents that have occurred in the past, reasons that are related to the particularities and peculiarities of each area. If the beach is over 400 meters long and is busy, then a second lifeguard is required. If it is more than 800 meters, then the addition of a third lifeguard is required and so on. The special three-member committee includes the representative of the local port authority, the representative of the relevant Health District and the representative of the Municipality

- Compulsory lifeguard coverage on beaches changed from three months to four months, that is, from June 1st to September 30th each year.

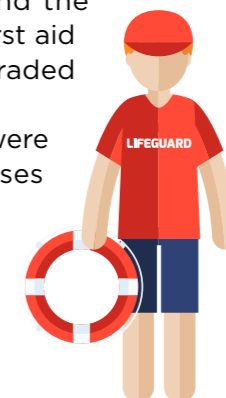
- Each lifeguard controls the shoreline within a radius of 200 meters on either side of the stand where they are located

- The lifeguard coverage of the beaches was extended by one hour, (from 10.30-17.30 - 7 hours to 10: 00- 18:00 - 8 hours), with a parallel provision for the competent local authorities to have the possibility of further extension of the hours.

- The training program for lifeguards from the schools has been upgraded

- The equipment available to lifeguards on the beaches for rescues and the provision of first aid has been upgraded and enriched.

- Large fines were imposed in cases of non-placement of lifeguards provided by law on the beaches.



**General Port Regulation no. 20 "Speedboats and other sea-based recreational facilities" (years 2018, 2021)**

- Mandatory presence of a 2nd person (observer) in all sea-based recreational activities that involve pulling by a speedboat
- Increased professional experience requirements for the issuance of a water sports business permit
- Prohibition of water sports and recreational facilities under certain weather conditions (wind intensity)
- Definition of specific specifications for lifebuoys, pulled inflatable sea-based recreational means, technical characteristics of speedboats that pull, engines, etc.
- Large fines were imposed in cases of serious breaches of safety regulations.

**Law 4688/2020 "Special forms of tourism, provisions for tourism development and other provisions" of the Ministry of Tourism**

- For hotels with more than fifty (50) beds and with a swimming pool of more than 1.5 meters deep, the pool lifeguard must, during its opening hours, be on standby at the pool and not perform any other service.

- The training program for pool lifeguards has been upgraded by the schools

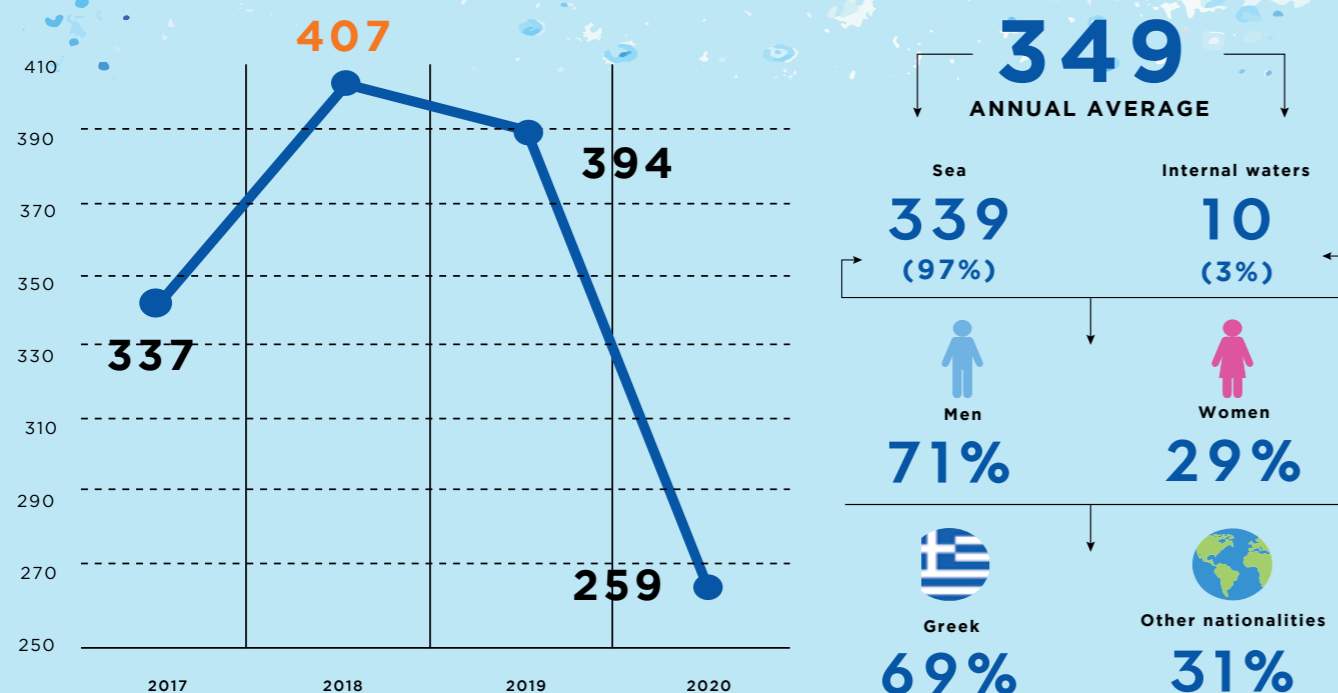
- The equipment of the lifeguards in the swimming pools of hotels for rescue and the provision of first aid has been upgraded and enriched.

- Large fines were also imposed in cases of non-placement of lifeguards

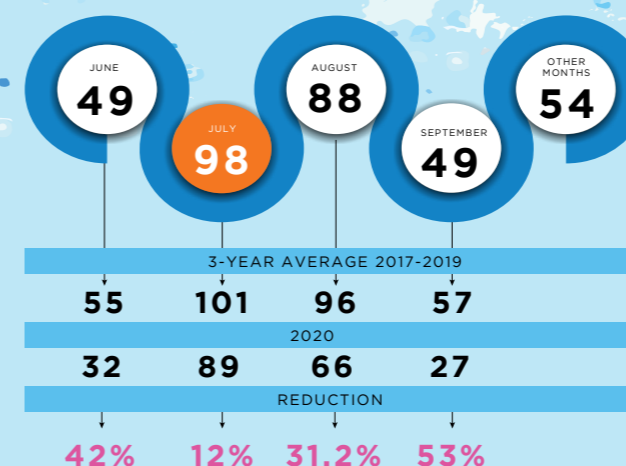
## ACCIDENT OBSERVATORY

Safe Water Sports has developed and operates in cooperation with the Coast Guard and the Hellenic Police, the "ACCIDENT OBSERVATORY", which collects, processes and analyzes data related to incidents of casualties and injury in the aquatic environment of the country (sea and inland waters).

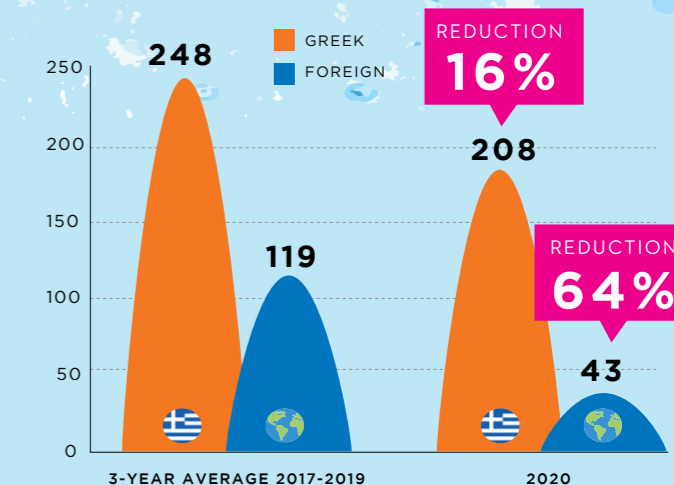
### ACCIDENTS AT SEA RECREATION ACTIVITIES 2017-2020



### TIME PERIOD (MONTH)

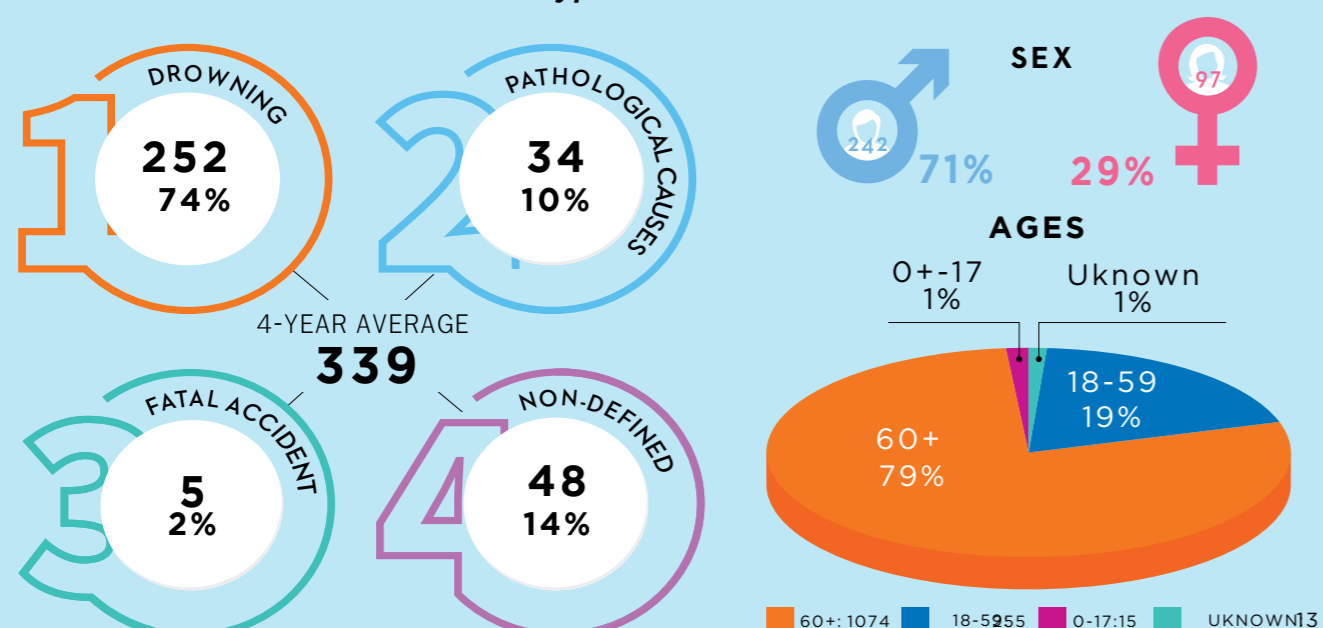


### NATIONALITY



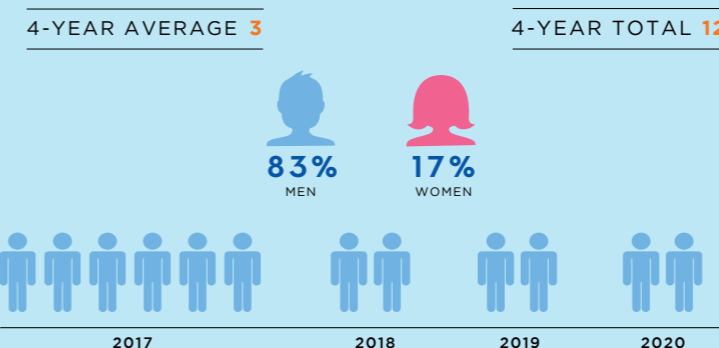
### ACCIDENTS AT SEA: RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Type of fatal accident

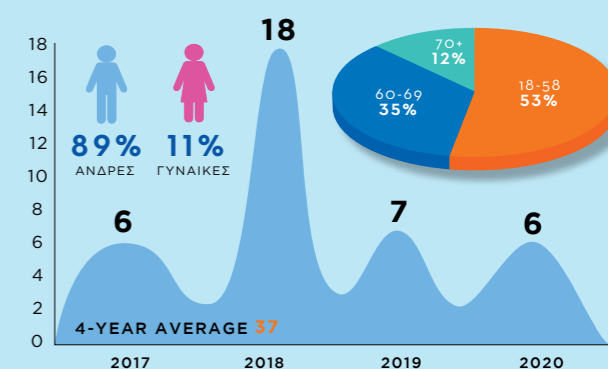


### FATAL ACCIDENTS DURING SEA RECREATIONS

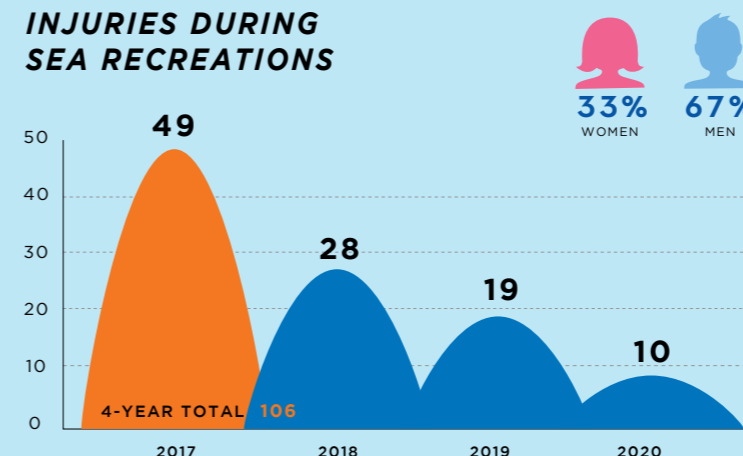
#### SEA SPORTS



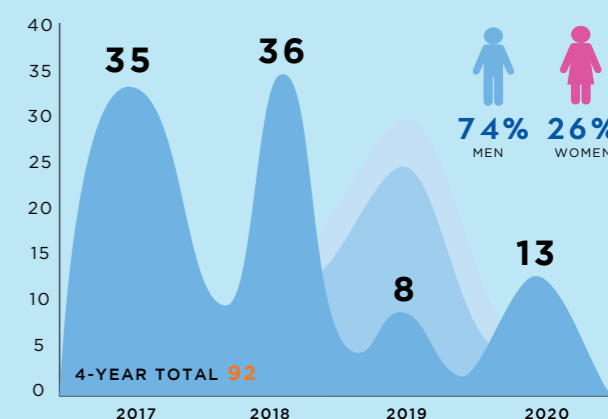
#### INVOLVING A SPEED BOAT



#### INJURIES DURING SEA RECREATIONS

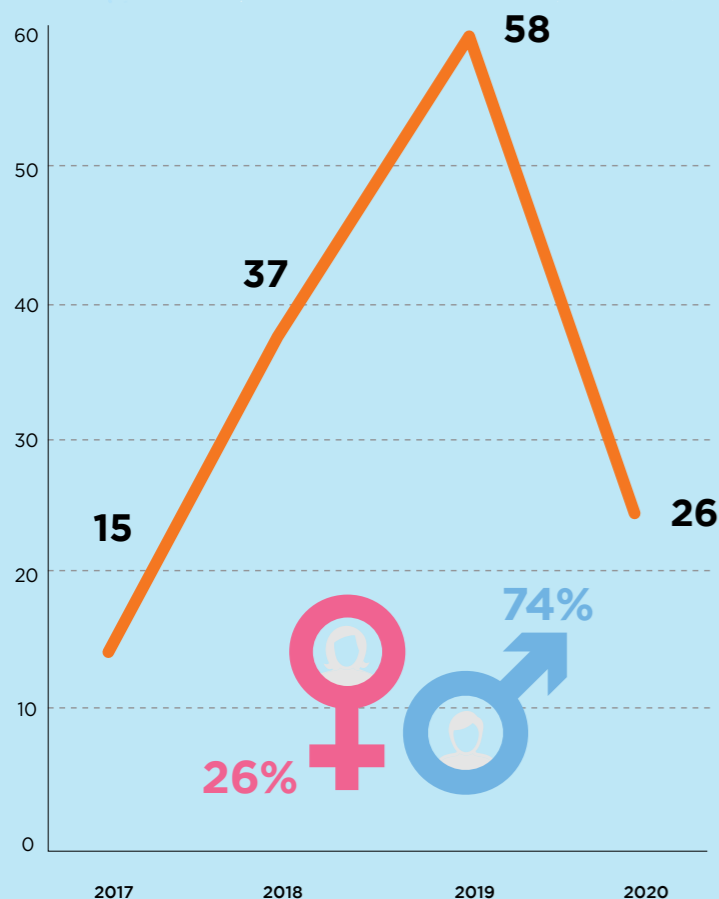


#### INVOLVING A SPEED BOAT

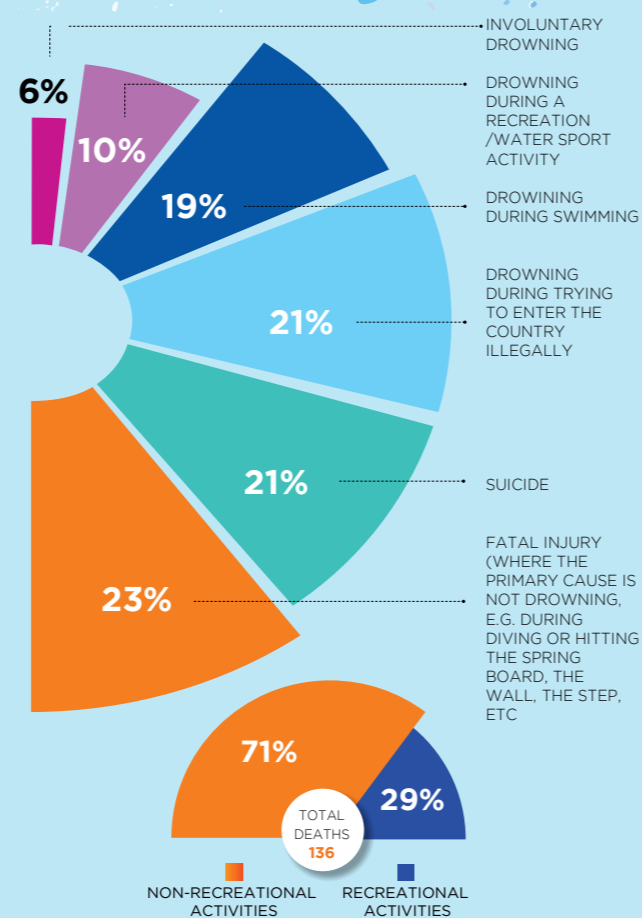


## ACCIDENTS IN INTERNAL WATERS 2017- 2020

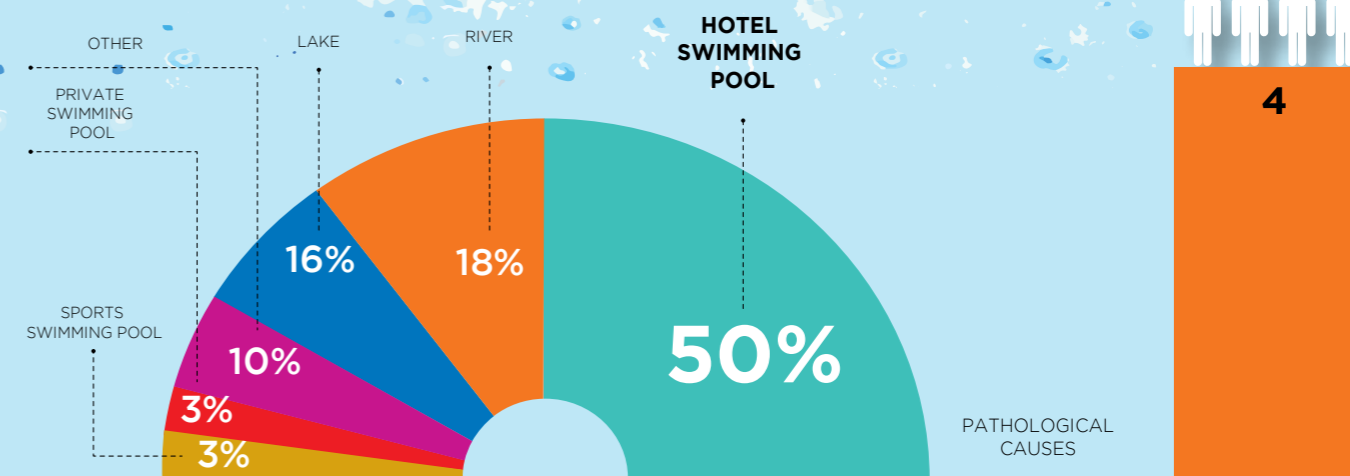
### DEATHS



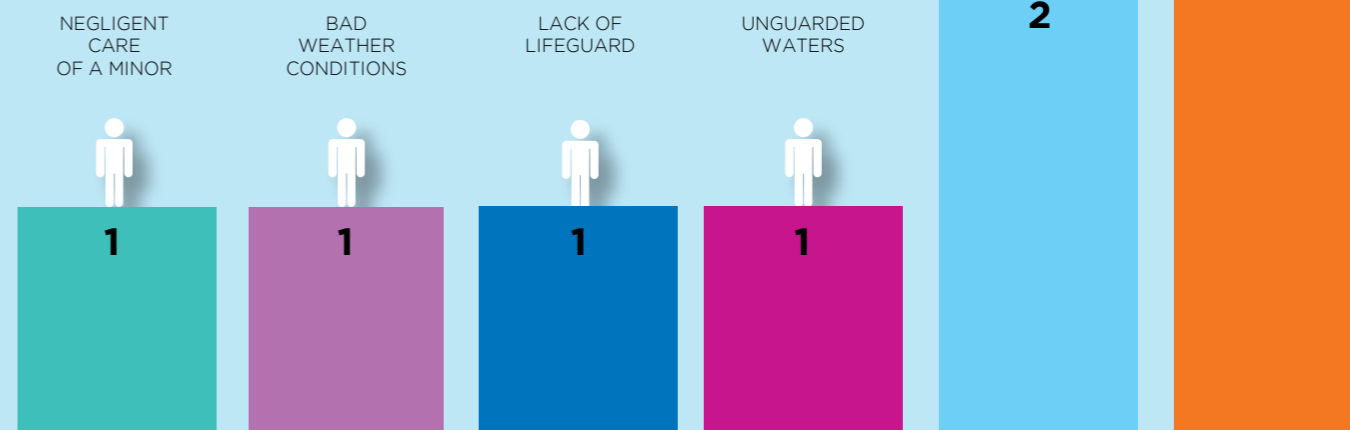
### TYPE OF ACCIDENT



### LOCATION

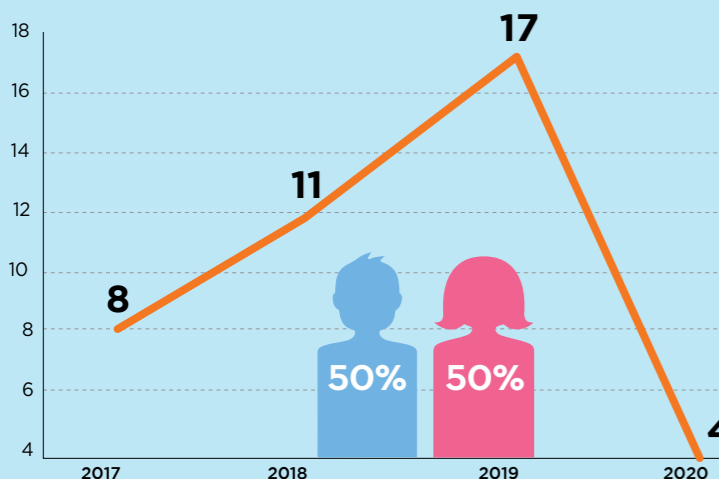


### CAUSES OF THE INCIDENT

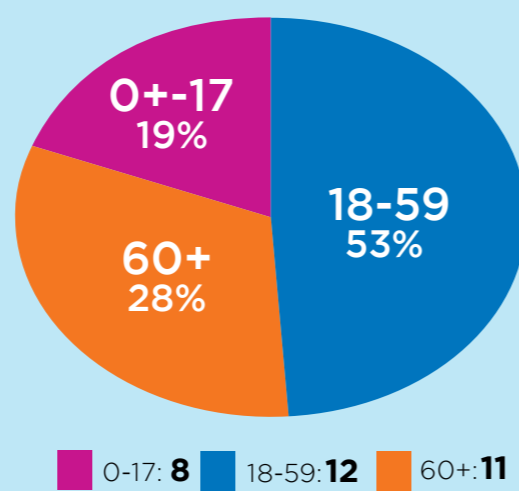


## RECREATION ACTIVITIES

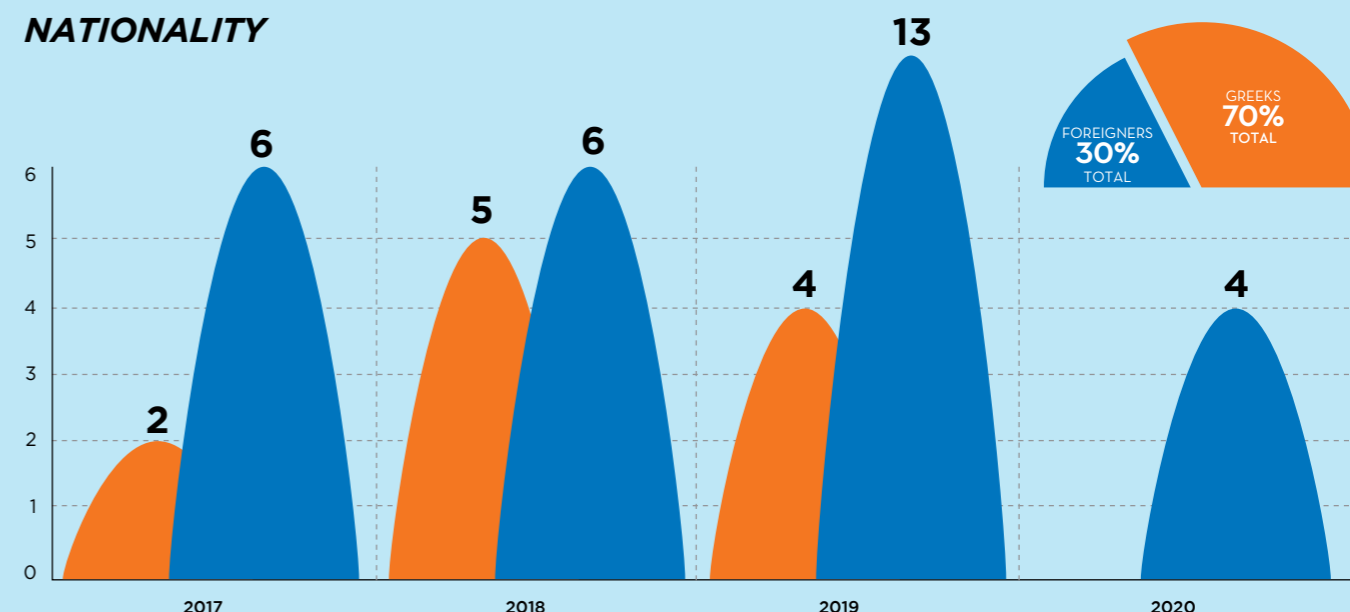
### DEATHS IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES



### AGES



### NATIONALITY





## LIFEGUARD RESCUE MOBILE APP

The Safe Water Sports (SWS) non-profit organization and the Hellenic Lifeguard Schools Association, joined forces to record and monitor the rescues and cases of first aid provided by lifeguards on Greek beaches. The project, which is a global innovation, was designed to take advantage of the modern tools offered today by technology and informatics.

Safe Water Sports has developed a software for mobile devices that enables the easy and immediate recording and sending of rescue and first aid data by lifeguards.

Each portable lifeguard device with pre-installed software (Lifeguard Rescue app) records the basic data related to rescue and first aid events such as time, location, medium used for rescue, medical equipment used for first aid, if transported to hospital / Health Center, etc.

The port authorities and the Headquarters have access to this information, which is complementary to the Accident Observatory, which is already operational and contributes significantly to the effort to reduce the number of accidents that occur every year in the Greek seas.

*The Lifeguard Rescue mobile app was implemented courtesy of Cosmote*

## Safe Water Sports mobile app

Safe Water Sports has developed an online citizen information platform, which is currently available on the Internet (via the Organization's website: [www.safewatersports.com](http://www.safewatersports.com)), but mainly via applications (apps) for all mobile phones, which are offered completely free of charge. With this platform, which is available in Greek, English and French, the citizen can easily, with the push of a button, find useful information about Greece and Cyprus, such as:

» ALL and ONLY the licensed water sports **services companies** (waterski, scuba diving, tubes, kitesurf, etc.).

» The 3,350+ accessible beaches that the Organization has jointly mapped with the Coast Guard, in which citizens can swim as well as their characteristics in terms of safety (i.e., if they have a lifeguard, deep / shallow waters, the type of beach - e.g. sandy, with pebbles, etc.-, the length of the beach, if it is organized with sunbeds and umbrellas, if there is access for the disabled, food service establishments, parking, etc.), an indicative photo, their location and other useful information.

» All hospitals and health centers with full contact info.

» The port authorities located throughout the country with contact details.

» The marinas and in general the locations where the mooring of boats is allowed as well as the services they offer.

» Boat rental companies of all types, for recreational purposes.

» The current safety regulations (legislation) for all water sports and activities at sea.

» The weather in every area where water sports are offered.

» The day-trip boats

» Many other information that is directly or indirectly related to activities at sea and on the water.



Citizens can also use their mobile phones and the Safe Water Sports mobile app to:

✓ denounce, report any infringing or illegal activity at sea that endangers the safety and physical integrity of citizens, and through the electronic platform of the Organization, to inform the Coast Guard so that it intervenes where necessary.

✓ Comment and rate a water sports - **recreational activities company**, and, thus, reward excellent companies and help others improve by providing safe services for citizens.



The Safe Water Sports mobile app is available for FREE on the Apple Store and Google Play Store. To download the application on your mobile use the following links

**iPhone / iPad:** <http://apple.co/21rYZyx>

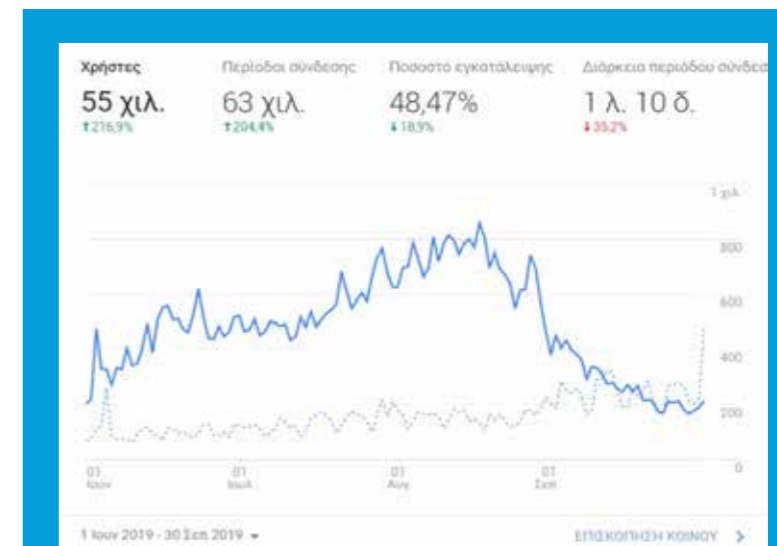
**Android:** <http://bit.ly/1UFT4kl>



**Απόλαυσε τη θάλασσα και τα σπορ με ασφάλεια!**

Καλοκαίρι, θάλασσα, παιχνίδι στην παραλία και στο νερό. Θαλάσσια σπορ, tubes, σκι, βόλτες με μηχανοκίνητα σκάφη, extreme sports με flyboards για όσους αναζητούν μοναδικές στιγμές με την αδρεναλίνη να χτυπάει κόκκινα ή χαλαρωτικές περιηγήσεις με θαλάσσια ποδήλατα, κανό, κλπ.

Ξέρετε όμως αν μια επιχείρηση ή σχολή είναι νόμιμη; Γνωρίζετε τους κανόνες ασφαλείας;



In addition, the latest version of the Safe Water Sports mobile app includes a part of the educational material that has been developed with the donation of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. The application includes a section (Greek and English) with the general title "LEARN / PLAY" in which children can be informed about the rules of safety at sea, beach and water sports and solve various quizzes based on what they have learned.

Regarding the use of the website and the mobile app, for the period from June 1st to September 30th, 2021, users totaled 68,000 and logins around 100,000.



**Enjoy the sea and watersports in Greece with safety!**

Summer, sea, fun beach games. Water sports, tubes, skiing, rides on speed boats, extreme sports with flyboards for those seeking unique moments with the adrenaline pounding and or a relaxing pastime with pedal sea bikes, canoes, etc.

But do you know if a watersports centre is licensed? Are you aware of safety regulations?



Every year the Safe Water Sports Organization achieves through informative actions aiming at safety at sea and water sports to inform:

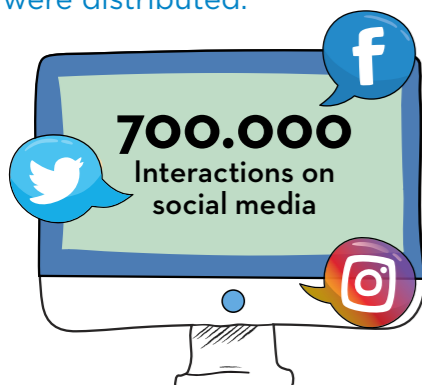


40,000 students all over Greece with the new Safe Water Sports educational program

100,000 new users through the Safe Water Sports app

children and adults through 2,100 displays of TV and informative videos on TV

and, finally, 200,000 citizens to whom the Safe Water Sports app brochures were distributed.



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIONS

Since 2018, Safe Water Sports has signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Port Police of Cyprus with the aim of developing cooperation in areas that will enhance safety at the sea. In the context of the memorandum, the Organization has donated the Information System that it has developed in order for it to be used by the Port Police of Cyprus.

At the same time, in cooperation with the CTO, the Safe Water Sports mobile app was enriched with information about the water sports firms of the island, the beaches, the marinas and many other useful elements that are of interest to the residents of Cyprus, but also to all foreign visitors.

In cooperation with the French Embassy in Greece and the French Institute in Greece, Safe Water Sports is developing joint initiatives aimed at informing the French-speaking population living or visiting Greece as well as developing cooperation and dialogue with institutions and organizations operating in France.

In fact, the latest version of Safe Water Sports mobile app is now available in French as well, as the French Institute of Greece undertook and completed its translation.

In addition, in cooperation with the British Embassy in Greece, Safe Water Sports informs British citizens of our country as well as tourists about water safety through the official social networks of the Embassy. In July 2020, the British Embassy together with Safe Water Sports organized an online event in the presence of the Minister of Shipping, Mr Giannis Plakiotakis, where they discussed their joint actions for a safe summer in the Greek seas.

Finally, both the French and the British Embassy in Greece have included on the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of their country, the recommendation that the visitors of these countries use the Safe Water Sports mobile app, during their stay in Greece, in order to enjoy the sea and water sports with safety.

## EUMED DROWNING PREVENTION INITIATIVE

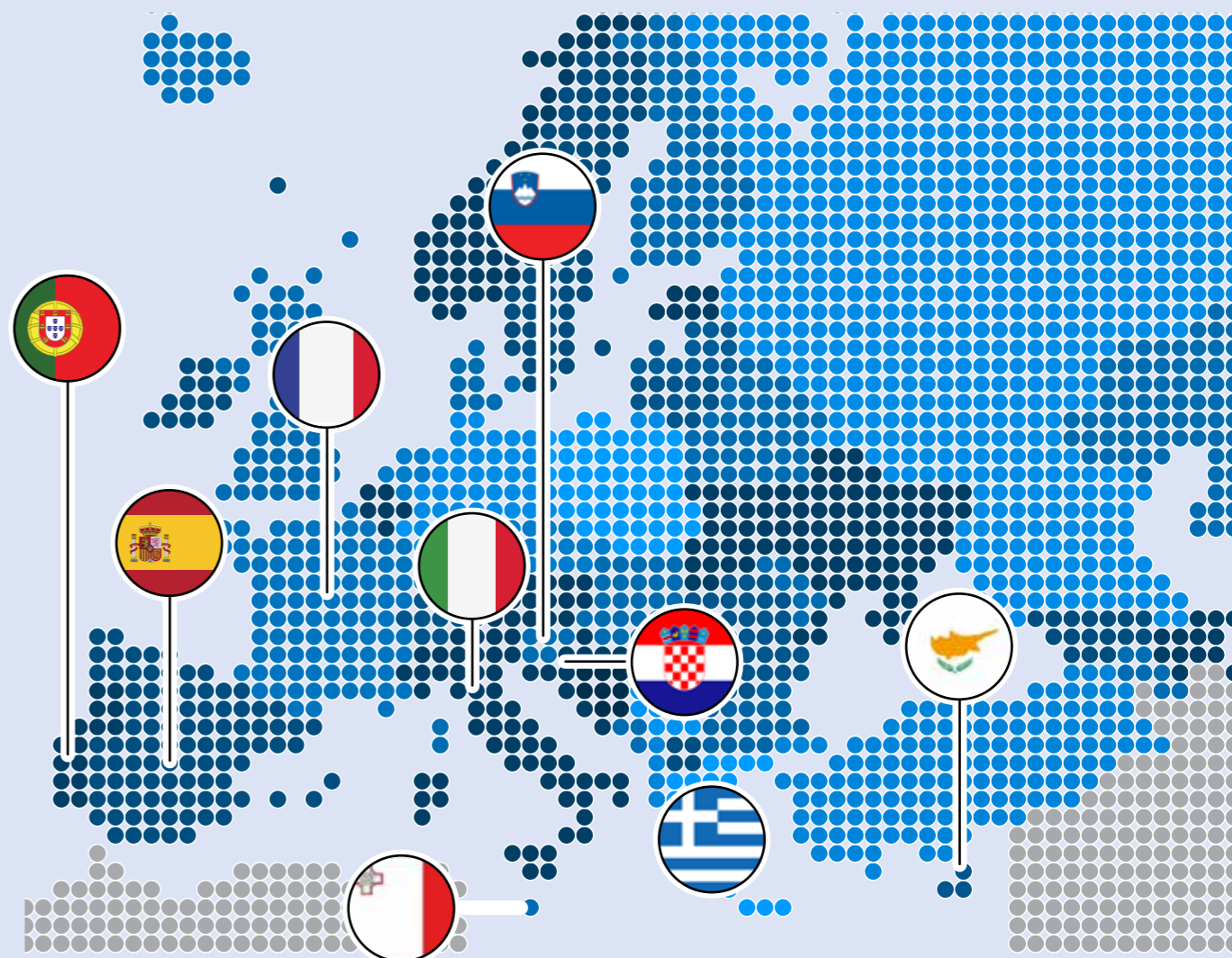
### INITIATIVES FOR THE PREVENTION OF DROWNING INCIDENTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN EU COUNTRIES

Every year, about 360,000 people die from drowning around the world. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than half of these deaths involve people under the age of 22, of whom children under the age of 5 are most at risk. Drowning is the second leading cause of death worldwide for people aged 5 to 14. Despite these tragic events, drowning prevention receives relatively little attention with few resources. Given that the Mediterranean is by far the most touristic region in the world in terms

of international and domestic tourism, with at least 20% of tourists worldwide visiting it during their holidays, Safe Water Sports has launched the EUMedDrowningPrevention initiative targeting at the coordination of a common reaction of the Mediterranean countries that belong to the European Union to the problem of drowning incidents and, in general, fatal accidents that occur in the aquatic environment. EUMedDrowningPrevention is an open initiative calling on public administrations, individuals, communities and organiza-

tions to set more detailed and measurable targets for death toll reduction, and to regularly monitor the progress of this target.

In the framework of this initiative, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, Mr K. Fragkogiannis, Safe Water Sports met with the officials of the Embassies of the Mediterranean countries (Cyprus, Italy, France, Spain, Croatia, Slovenia, Portugal, Malta) belonging to European Union, to present this initiative and its objectives



## INFORMATION CAMPAIGN FOR SAFETY AT SEA FOR THE ELDERLY



1 ~~I always swim under the supervision of a lifeguard or with a friend, who's a good~~

2 ~~I always swim under the supervision of a lifeguard or with a friend,~~

3 ~~I always swim under the supervision of a lifeguard o~~

4 ~~I always swim under the supervision of a lifeguard or with a friend, who's a good swimmer~~

5 In the water I **risk** hypothermia -  
Out of the water I **risk** dehydration  
and heat stroke

6 I do not swim after eating or drinking.

7 Listen to your heart.  
Do not overestimate it.  
If you have chronic problems  
always do consult your doctor.

8 I have all the necessary information, in  
consultation with the doctor, if I am taking  
medicines that require special precautions  
or need to be modified.

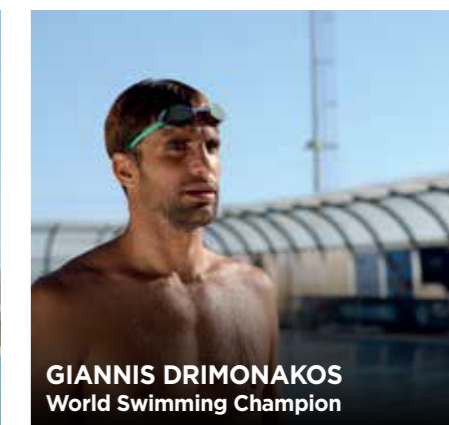
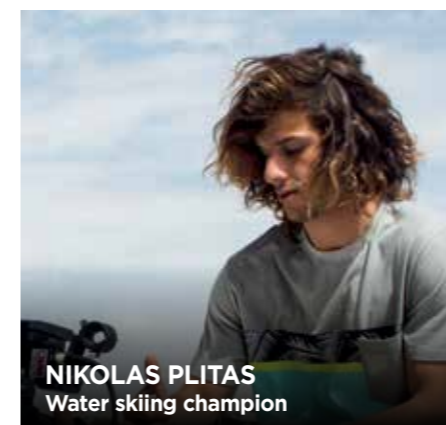
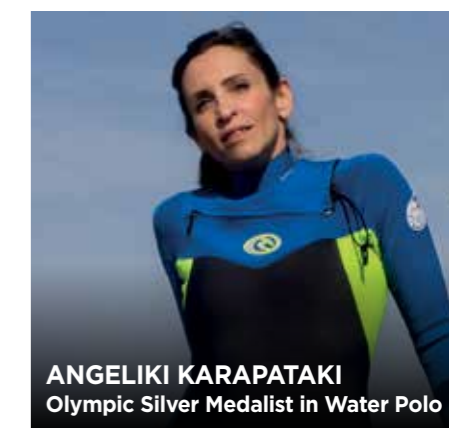
9 If you have dementia, Alzheimer's  
or other neurological conditions, it is  
important to always be accompanied  
by someone close to you.

10 I do not go out or enter the water abruptly,  
but gradually and with stops.

11 If during the bath I feel any symptoms (e.g. cramps, dizziness) I ask for help from  
anyone close to me and I try to get out of the water calmly and slowly, keeping my  
composure.

Under the auspices of  
the Ministry of Shipping  
& Island Policy, of the  
Coast Guard, with the aid  
and support of the Ministry of  
Health, and, finally, with the kind  
support of the John S. Latsis Public  
Benefit Foundation and the Neraida  
Floating Museum, the campaign  
on safety at sea for the elderly  
organized by Safe Water Sports,  
consists of a series of tips for safe  
swimming and staying at the beach.  
The most important of these are:

## CITIZEN AWARENESS ACTIONS



### INSPIRATIONAL VIDEO OF OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS

Courtesy of the Neraida Floating Museum of the John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation and the donation of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Safe Water Sports has created a ~~special~~ series of inspirational videos featuring top Greek Olympic medalists and champions. This audiovisual material is part of the educational content used in the framework of the Safe Water Sports program approved by the Ministry of Education with optimal results and positive **reviews**.  
~~If during the bath I feel any symptoms (e.g. cramps, dizziness) I ask for help from anyone close to me and I try to get out of the water calmly and slowly, keeping my composure.~~



#### INFORMATION SIGNS

The marking of the beaches of our country is a means of informing citizens about their safety at sea and the activities carried out on it. Thus, Safe Water Sports created the Sea Code Behaviour with the aim of illustrating the basic safety rules ~~with explanation in Greek and other language, and of being easily recognizable.~~

Today the signs of Safe Water Sports are placed in: **3** beaches of the Municipality of Vari-Voula-Voulagmeni, **7** beaches of the Municipality of Saronikos Attica (A. Nikolaos Lagonisiou, Galazia Akti, Saronida, Mavro Lithari, Alikes Anavyssos and Palea Fokaia), **16** of the Municipality of Mykonos (P. Gialos, Panormos, Elia, Super paradise, Paradise, Paraga, Ornos, Kalafatis, Agia Anna, Psarrou, Agios Ioannis, Agrari, Ftelia, Lia, Agios Sostis, Kalo Livadi) and **444** beaches of Central Greece.

#### FERRY COMPANIES

Safe Water Sports works with ferry companies such as **Minoan, Hellenic Seaways, Blue Star Ferries and Sea-jets** with the aim of distributing brochures daily to ships of all lines. The promotion of the work and purpose of the Organization is also achieved through special features in the magazines of the companies, posts on the

social networks and the projection of informative videos of the Organization on the screens of ferries etc.

#### COOPERATION WITH INTERBUS

The Organization works with the outdoor advertising company, Interbus, to display information posters about the Safe Water Sports mobile app, indoors and outdoors at the Airport.

#### COOPERATION WITH PATAKIS, DPAM RETAIL STORES

(placement of Safe Water Sports mobile app brochures), **Kotsovolos** (display of informative videos starring the renowned Greek athletes-ambassadors of the Organization), **Arena-Intersport** (placement of Safe Water Sports powered by Arena products in Intersport stores), **Korres** (creation of a series of products for pharmacies), **Moustakas** (Safe Water Sports products by Arena in Moustakas toy stores).



#### INFORMATION BROCHURES Aegean Airlines

Since the summer of 2019, Safe Water Sports "flies" with Aegean Airlines through the specially designed for children, entertainment-information booklet of activities, which includes a series of games for water and sea safety, available in Greek &

English, on domestic / international flights. Also, all passengers have the opportunity to be informed about the free Safe Water Sports mobile app through the ~~specially configured entry~~ in the Aegean magazine, which is available during the flights.

#### COOPERATION WITH FRAPORT GREECE

In the summer of 2021, Safe Water Sports started its cooperation with Fraport Greece, informing all citizens and tourists through the 14 websites of the regional airports of Greece, about the Safe Water Sports mobile app.

#### COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL

**GEFYRA LEITOYRGIA SA.** (distribution of Water Sports mobile app brochures)

**OLYMPIA ODOS** (distribution of Safe Water Sports mobile app brochures to 11 Motorway Service Stations along the motorway)

#### COOPERATION WITH ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT "ELEFTHERIOS VENIZELOS"

From 2018 the **International Eleftherios Venizelos Airport of Athens** enables the Organization to inform all tourists, Greeks and **from abroad**, ~~before boarding the aircraft bound for our numerous islands~~, about the Safe Water Sports mobile app and its use. During the summer, specially trained volunteers of the Organization inform **daily through** the Safe Water Sports mobile app **brochures**, but also through a mobile phone in real time, about the functions of the application and the useful information that it includes.

In support of this effort, Safe Water Sports is additionally promoted through the official website of the Airport, ~~promoted on~~ social networks, ~~at the airport screens and promoted by the information platform through~~ the Airport magazine, 2Board



## DISTINCTIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Safe Water Sports non-profit organization has been awarded with some remarkable and very honorable distinctions and awards for its action, which aims to protect human life and reduce accidents and drowning incidents that occur in the aquatic environment.



#### HONORARY AWARD AT AMVER AWARDS 2021

On December 14, 2021, during the annual AMVER Awards organized by The International Propeller Club of the United States, International Port of Piraeus in cooperation with the US Embassy in Greece and the United States Coast Guard, **was awarded the Safe Water Sports Organization and their President, Mr Panagiotis-Michael Paschalakis** for his action in the field of enhancing safety at sea.

#### AWARD FROM THE ACADEMY OF ATHENS

On December 19, 2019, at the annual Festive Session of the Academy of Athens, the highest spiritual institution of the country, the particularly honorary "CLASS OF ETHICAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES" award was awarded to the President and Founder of the Safe Water Sports non-profit organization, Mr Panagiotis- Michael Paschalakis, by the President of the Academy, Mr Vasileios Petrakos for his contribution to the society.



#### PRESENTATION OF SAFE WATER SPORTS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

The Safe Water Sports **training** program was presented in 2018 under the auspices of the former President of the Republic, **Mr Prokopis Pavlopoulos** at an event held at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center. Speeches by Undersecretaries, the Coast Guard and the Organization's Olympic ambassadors took place at the event.

#### HONORARY AWARD AT THE MOBILE EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2018

At the Mobile Excellence Awards 2018 ceremony powered by DIS, organized by Boussias Communications and the "ELTRUN" Workshop of the Athens University of Economics and Business in cooperation with the Association of Mobile Application Companies of Greece, an award for the innovative Safe Water Sports mobile app was awarded to the President of the Organization, **Mr Panagiotis-Michael Paschalakis**.



#### GOLD AWARD AT EDUCATIONAL LEADERS AWARDS 2018

Safe Water Sports stood out in the **Education** Leaders Awards powered by RDC Informatics and Boussias Communications that took place on Friday, May 18, 2018, winning the Gold Award for the creation of the **Training** Program for safety at sea, the beach, water sports and the swimming pool.

## EDUCATION

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

Since September 2020, the Safe WaterSports educational program "Safety at sea, water sports and swimming pool" has been included in the "Skills Workshops" of the Ministry of Education which are part of the compulsory timetable of primary education and more precisely of the unit "I live better-Well-being (Primary school) - Self-care, Safety and Prevention, Road Safety, which is addressed to students of the 2nd - 6th grade of Primary School.

According to the Ministry of Education, Skills Workshops, are implemented in all schools in Greece during the weekly timetable, utilizing methods of exploratory learning and with the main goal of providing students with life skills, soft skills, digital literacy, technology and science skills combined with the design of a modern program framework with a structure of Open, Live Curricula and Procedures.

The Skills Workshops are an innovative didactic and educational action, which consists in the pilot



addition of new thematic cycles in the Kindergarten and in the compulsory timetable of the Primary School.

Currently, the program of Safe Water Sports is official, it is communicated by the Ministry of Education to schools, and teachers attend seminars on how to teach this subject to their students, following the instructions of the Organization.

The necessary educational materials derived from the specially designed platform of the Institute

of Educational Policy, entitled "Platform 21+" and includes educational material and / or teacher's guide, audiovisual educational material and / or worksheets, suggested school actions for the workshop and experiential approach of the subject, evaluation and self-evaluation sheets and, in some cases, information material for parents, appropriately graded by class.

<https://elearning.iep.edu.gr/study/course/view.php?id=2003>

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

From September of 2021, the Safe Water Sports training program is part of the "Skills Workshops" of the Ministry of Education which are part of the compulsory timetable of secondary education and specifically of the section "Live better - Wellbeing (High School) - Self-care, Safety and Prevention, Road Safety" which is addressed to high school students.

The necessary educational material is drawn from the specially designed platform of the IEP, entitled "Platform 21+" and includes interactive educational

and audiovisual material together with a teacher's guide, utilization of various subjects during the school hour, such as Informatics, Mathematics, Modern Greek Language, etc. in order to develop the workshop and experiential approach to the subject with the ultimate goal of informing students about the rules of safety in the aquatic environment.

<https://elearning.iep.edu.gr/study/course/view.php?id=2003>

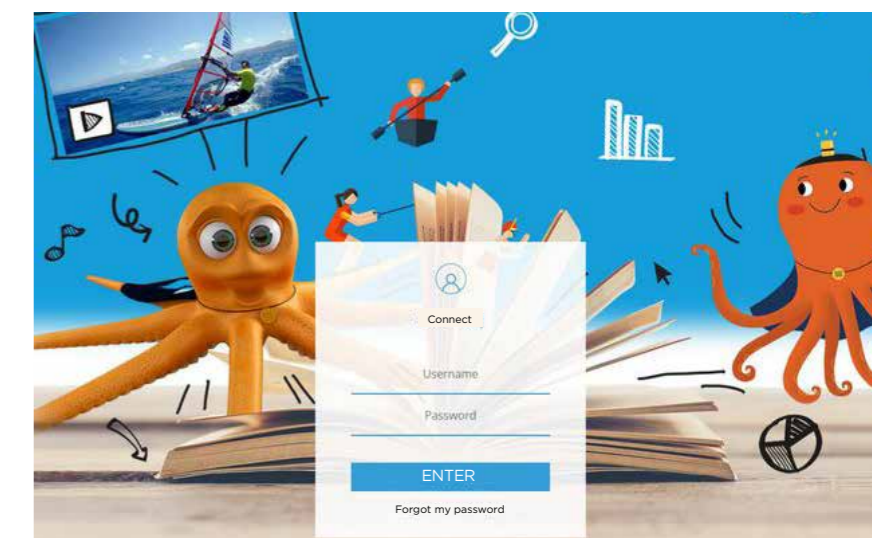


### ACADEMY (E-LEARNING)

Safe Water Sports has launched a remote online platform which includes information and educational programs specifically designed for children. Through the platform one can access the educational program of the Organization for primary and secondary education, approved by the Ministry of Education as well as information material suitable for presentations and lectures in schools, camps, swimming pools or for personal use, etc. The aim of these programs is to inform-educate children on safety issues in the swimming pool, the beach, water sports as well as recreational activities that take place in the sea and water.

Through these programs the child learns to respect and not be afraid, acquires knowledge and correct behavior for their contact with the liquid element, which are a basic supply for their protection throughout their life. This result is achieved by utilizing the tools of modern technology, through an enjoyable, digital environment that includes illustrations, videos, quizzes, games, etc.

<http://e-learning.safewaterports.gr>



### INTERACTIVE GAMES

Safe Water Sports has designed a range of recreational and educational, interactive, digital games designed to pique children's interest in many different ways, taking advantage of the importance of technology and informatics. The interactive games are presented through the e-learning platform of the Organization where each user has the opportunity to choose the language they want, the level of difficulty and to access an online world of games that aims to inform children for safety rules at sea, the swimming pool and water sports.



### WHAT IS SAFE WATER SPORTS ACADEMY?

Safe Water Sports is a non-profit organization that has created an online platform of education, which consists of informational and educational programs specially designed for children. Through this platform, someone can have access to our educational program, which is approved by the Ministry of Education and addresses the primary education, but also to all the informational material that is suitable for presentations and lectures in schools, camps, swimming pool centers or for personal use. The goal of these programs is the awareness - education of children on topics related to safety in swimming, the beach, water sports and water-related recreational activities. Through these programs, children learn to respect and not to be afraid; they obtain knowledge and learn how to behave while in the water and all these factors play an important role for children's protection for the rest of their life. Such result is attained by using high technology tools through a pleasant, digital environment that includes illustrations, videos, quizzes, games etc.

#### SCHOOL/ TRAINING ORGANIZATION

Schools (both public and private) are organizations with high sensitivity in the safety of their pupils. Safe Water Sports presents a new training program educating children and adolescents on safety issues while at the sea and/or participating in water sports through an innovative online e-learning platform.

#### INDIVIDUALS

Prevention and awareness is surely a personal case, an obligation we have towards ourselves, our families and children and the people around us. Safe Water Sports Academy is the ideal online platform for educating children and adolescents on their safety while at the sea and water sports.

#### HOTELS/CAMPS

Summer is a worthwhile attraction for tourists and every year more and more visitors come to our country, mostly for the sea and sea-related activities. This fact alone should render us responsible for water safety issues. Safe Water Sports Academy is the ideal online platform for educating children and adolescents on their safety while at the sea and water sports.



### ANNUAL SEA-GUARDS CONFERENCE

Every year, on the first Saturday of October, the annual conference of Sea-guards is organized in Athens, in which 13 school groups participate, one from each Region of the country and one group from each region of Cyprus. The group of each Region, whose travel and subsistence expenses are covered by the Organization, comes from the school that implemented the highest number of the program activities last year and consists of the Volunteer Teacher who was the head of the Group and the leader of the Group (student) accompanied by their parents. The duration of the conference is one day and the works of the students are presented, awards are given and opinions, experiences and best practices are exchanged between students and teachers from all over Greece and Cyprus, aiming at the constant improvement of the educational program.

### LECTURES IN SCHOOLS

In cooperation with the Coast Guard, the Port Police Department and the Ministry of Education, the Organization designed an informative lecture program in schools across the country called **I PAY ATTENTION - I LEARN - I CARE**. This information, which has as its main object the presentation of the safety rules for sea and water sports, concerns the students of Primary and Secondary Schools and is usually carried out in the period March-June of the school year on a nationwide scale. To redesign the information program, the Safe Water Sports team volunteered and provided the Coast Guard with the rules it needed to present to children (depending on

their age) for safety in the sea and water sports, educational videos, interactive power points, animations and quizzes, so that the information is effective and targeted. In addition, part of the educational material is a series of inspirational videos created by the Organization, in which the following participate: N. Kaklamanakis, S. Gianniotis, C. Afroudakis, S. Papadopoulou, A. Karapataki, N. Plytas, S. Malkogeorgou, E. Papazoglou, E. Platanioti, Ath. Tsola, G. Panagiotakis, I. Drymonakos and A. Tsapatakis.



Overall, in 2019 Safe Water Sports informed- educated 40,000 children, while in total since 2016 it has informed- educated 250,000 children.



### EDUCATIONAL VISITS TO THE FACILITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION

Safe Water Sports organizes at its premises a pioneering and innovative fully digital and interactive educational program for primary education, approved by the Ministry of Education, on the safety of children in swimming pool, sea and water sports. Students have the opportunity to participate in recreational activities using technology and informatics, with the aim of better understanding the basic knowledge they need to enjoy water and sea safely.

*The participation of school units in this is completely free thanks to the support of the "Little Heroes" program and Stoiximan.*

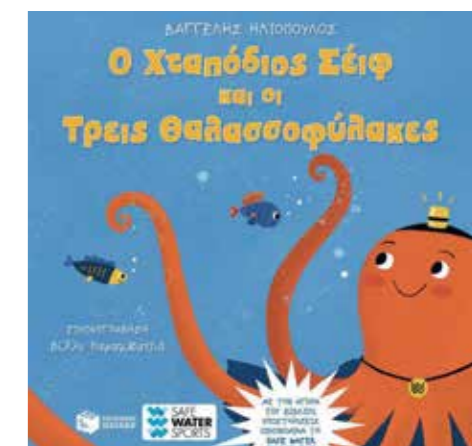


### INTERACTIVE EDUCATIONAL FILM FOR SAFETY IN WATER SPORTS

Part of the secondary educational curriculum

The Organization has created a comprehensive interactive film, part of the curriculum for secondary education - which concerns safety in water sports and enables students-spectators to shape the course of the film themselves through questions, having the opportunity - ability to choose the right answer, in which case the story goes on smoothly, or the incorrect scenario development, in which case they see the risk involved. The aim is for students to understand experientially the rules of safety in water sports and recreation by actively participating in this interactive way of learning.

<https://bit.ly/3rllhWi>



### CHILDREN'S STORY AND CD

Safe Water Sports, in order to reach more children and inform them about the rules of safety at sea, created a child hero as part of a story, who informs children through its stories.

In the implementation of this idea, the author V. Iliopoulos and the illustrator V. Karabatzia created the children's didactic story "The Octopus Safe and the three Sea-guards" from Patakis publications.

Finally, Safe Water Sports in cooperation with Minos Emi and the support of many artists such as: E. Papparizou, P. Mouzourakis, Tamta, A. Babali, T. Marantinis, P. Baltatzi and N. Kontogeorgi, contributed to the creation of the first music CD of the Organization, entitled "dive into the blue" composed by D. Sougioul with the lyrics by B. Iliopoulos, because "we must love the sea" and because "water is joy"!





### EDUCATIONAL BRIEFCASE

The interactive play, especially for young children, is the most effective means of education. For this reason, the Organization created an "educational **briefcase**" approved by the Ministry of Education, which includes games with Playmobil (representation of beach and sea-related activities), activity cards, illustrated cards with the rules of safety at sea, the pool and water sports, color books, story cubes (cubes that trigger children's imagination) bingo, memory game, unscramble the rules game, and much more, for the purpose of informing - educating children through games and fun. The educational **briefcase** is suitable for schools, **children's** camps, hotels, swimming pools, etc.



## INFORMATION - EDUCATIONAL CENTERS

Safe Water Sports in cooperation with the local government (municipalities) operates every summer information - educational centers on beaches with the aim of educating our little friends on issues related to their safety at sea and water sports, through play and entertainment. Since 2017, when this initiative started, four information-educational centers have been created on the beaches: Mikro Kavouri (Municipality of Varis - Voula - Vouliagmeni), Dilesi beach (Municipality of Tanagra), Kalo Livadi beach (Municipality of Mykonos) and Koukounaries beach (Municipality of Skiathos). At the information centers, which operate daily during the summer period from 11.00 to 18.00, children have the opportunity to participate in activities such as: goals game, music pillows, bracelets creation and constructions, painting, bingo, memory game, board games, the find the mistakes game, etc., always aiming at the understanding and consolidation of safety rules at sea and water sports.





## COMPANY CERTIFICATION FOR SAFETY

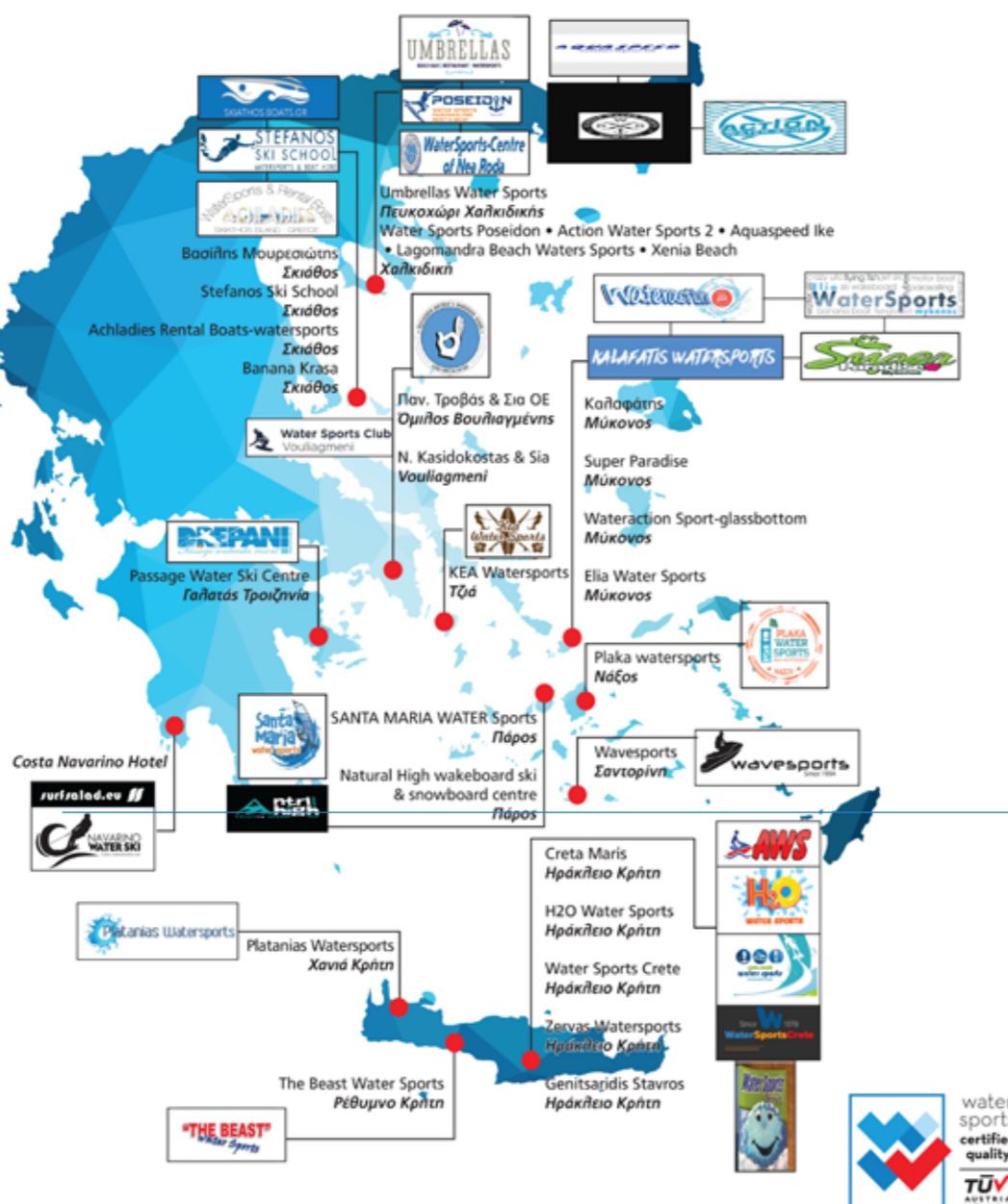
Safe Water Sports in cooperation with TÜV AUSTRIA HELLAS, as an independent control and certification body, has joined forces with the main purpose of enhancing the safety of citizens in water sports. The two parties have established a Private Certification Standard for Water Sports Rental Companies, according to which the respective companies can be certified, provided they meet specific safety standards and receive the Watersports Certified Quality Mark. The Water Sports Certified Quality emphasizes the functional requirements for water sports and recreational vehicles companies, focusing on the quality of the services provided and the service of their customers.

In total, 31 water sports companies have been certified with this model.

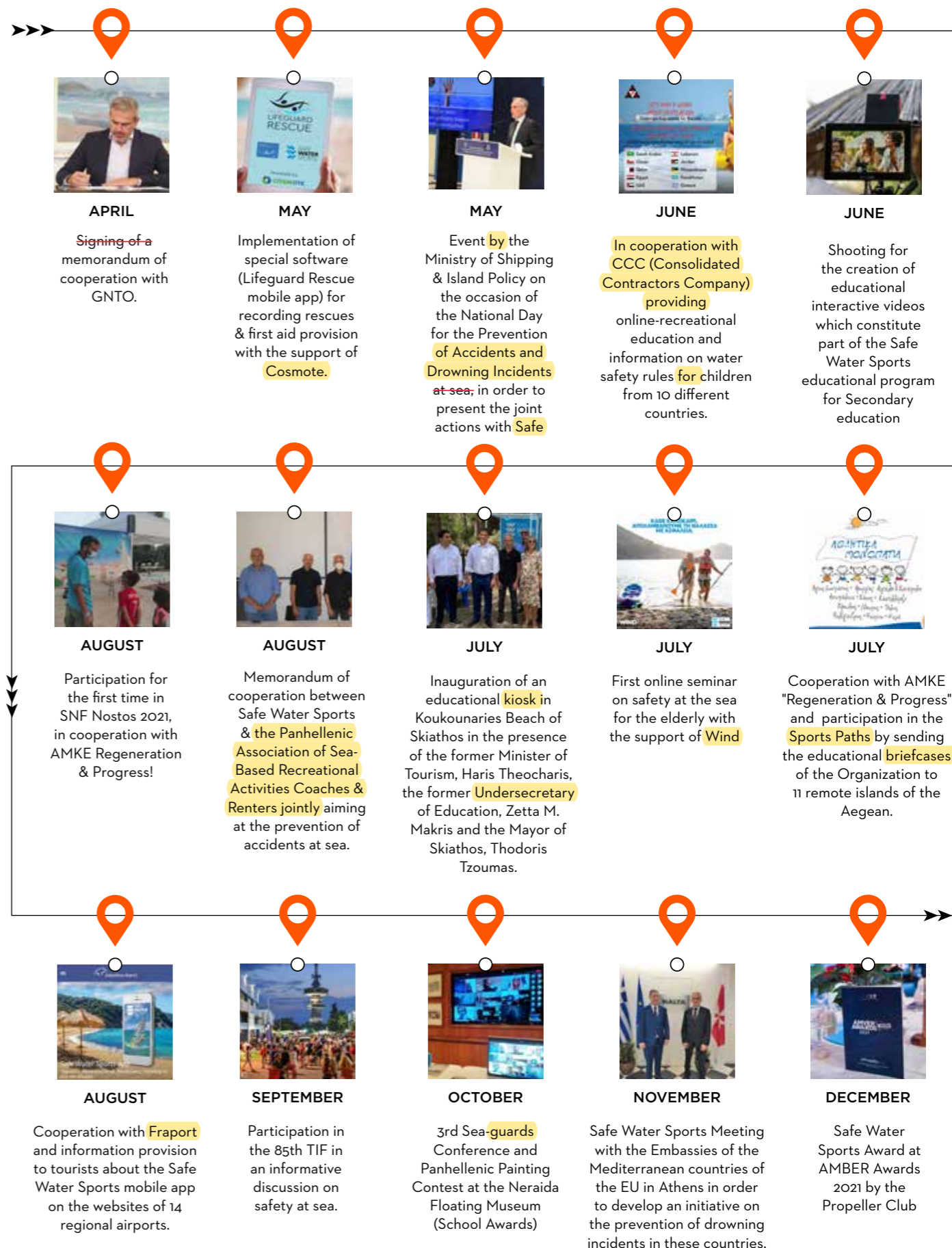
The purpose of the protocol is to set out the specifications and conditions, as the basic requirements of a Private Protocol, which will concern:

Conditions of the place of activity, infrastructure, safety equipment, equipment and vehicles used for water sports and leisure, education, skills and training of staff for the use of equipment and the provision of services etc.

The goal of the Private Protocol is to be the first and most specialized Greek Private Compliance Control Scheme for the Marking and Promotion of water sports rental companies that are approved and compliant with the relevant requirements. Finally, according to a decision of the Ministry of Tourism, the existence of certification of facilities and equipment for the leasing of means for recreational purposes, such as the "Water Sports Certified Quality" of TÜV Austria Hellas, participates in the scoring for the ranking of each hotel based on the stars.



## THE COURSE OF THE ORGANIZATION 2021



## COOPERATION WITH MINISTRIES AND PUBLIC BODIES

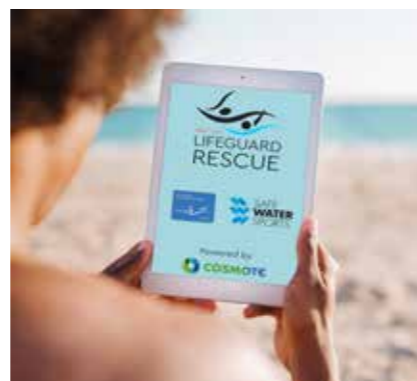


### SWS EVENT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRIME MINISTER, MR KYRIAKOS MITSOTAKIS

The event of the Ministry of Shipping & Island Policy was held with great success in cooperation with the Municipality of Vari, Voula, Vouliagmeni and the non-profit organization "Safe Water Sports" on "Education - Information - Prevention for safety at sea" at the Municipal Theater "Sofia Vembo" on June 12th, 2020, in the presence of the Prime Minister, Mr Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the Minister of Shipping and Island Policy, Mr Giannis Plakiotakis, the former Minister of Health, Mr Vassilis Kikilias, the former Minister of Tourism, Mr Haris Theocharis and the former Undersecretary of Education, Mrs Sofia Zacharaki. During the event, the importance and magnitude of citizens' safety in the aquatic environment was highlighted. As the Prime Minister of Greece characteristically stated, "we need to treat the sea with the necessary respect, which must be shown not only by those who swim, but also by all companies that are active in the field of water sports and we will be extremely strict with those who violate the existing legislation regarding safety at the sea."

### ASSOCIATION OF LIFEGUARD SCHOOLS

Safe Water Sports partners with the Association Of Lifeguard Schools, which is responsible for the training of lifeguards in the seas and swimming pools as well as the provision of lifeguard services to municipalities. The cooperation concerns fields such as: joint legislative initiatives as well as the development of an innovative application (Lifeguard Rescue mobile app), which was developed by the Organization and records in real time all rescues and cases of first aid provision by lifeguards on all the beaches of our country. This information is an important aid in designing an even more effective nationwide lifeguard coverage in the years to come.



### CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF GREECE

A Memorandum of Cooperation has been signed with the Central Association of Municipalities of Greece (and the Association of Lifeguard Schools of Greece which aims to develop joint actions to reduce drowning incidents and accidents at sea in cooperation with local authorities. The result of this cooperation is the development of a pilot study regarding the cost of lifeguard coverage throughout the country as well as the creation of a model contract and a proclamation for the supply of lifeguard services by local authorities. The bodies also cooperate on legislative initiatives to enhance safety in the aquatic environment.



### MINISTRY OF CIVIL PROTECTION

A memorandum of cooperation was signed in 2020 between Safe Water Sports and the Ministry of Civil Protection and the Greek Police with the aim of developing joint actions including: the recording of accidents occurring in inland water activities, the spreading of the know-how by the Organization in relation to international practices and regulations in the field of water safety and the implementation of joint actions to raise awareness and inform the public, prevent and enhance safety in water sports and recreational activities.



### MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND ISLAND POLICY

Safe Water Sports has signed since 2016 a memorandum of cooperation with the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy and the Coast Guard - Hellenic Coast Guard, for a number of areas for the development of joint initiatives such as: the support of the Coast Guard through IT and technology for a more efficient management of permits and inspections of lifeguards and professionals / sea-based recreational activities companies, the modernization of the legislation on the safety of the citizens at sea, the implementation of educational - informative actions in schools, the awareness of the citizens in matters of safety at sea, the operation of the Accident Observatory, etc.



### MINISTRY OF SPORTS

In 2020, a memorandum of cooperation was signed between Safe Water Sports and the Ministry of Sports with the aim of developing joint actions that include: the spreading of know-how by the Organization in relation to international practices and regulations in the field of safety in water (aquatic centers and swimming pools), sea and water sports, the exchange of information data contained in the electronic platform of the Organization and the services of the General Secretariat of Sports in order to capture the services offered in the field of water activities (sports and recreation), the implementation of joint actions to raise public awareness, prevent and enhance safety in water sports activities. Safe Water Sports also participates in the action "Live an Athletic Life", where renowned athletes of Aquatic Sports inform and give their own advice on water safety and issues of education of students in schools. Also, in cooperation with the General Secretariat of Sports, the regular sending of information from the General Secretariat of Sports to the Ministry of Shipping (Safe Water Sports Information System) has been established, in order to make the inspections on the qualifications of the employed water ski coaches in water sports rental companies more effective.



## COOPERATION WITH MINISTRIES AND PUBLIC BODIES

### MINISTRY OF TOURISM

A Memorandum of Cooperation between Safe Water Sports and the Ministry of Tourism was signed in 2019 with the aim of developing joint actions that include: the spreading of know-how from the Organization in relation to international practices and regulations in the field of water safety ( swimming pools, tourist ports, etc.), sea and water activities and recreational facilities, the use of the information contained in the electronic platform of the Organization (Safe Water Sports app / website) of maritime tourism, the implementation of information programs and actions for children and young people who live in our country or visit it, on the subject of safety at sea and



in water as well as the protection of the sea-based environment and the cultural resources of the country.

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations for Sustainable Development and, in particular, the Sustainable

Development Goals 14 "LIFE IN THE WATER" and 17 "COOPERATION FOR THE GOALS", are of primary importance as they are mentioned in combination with all aspects related to water life and the promotion of synergies between the State and Civil Society.



### HELLENIC TOURISM ORGANIZATION

A Memorandum of Cooperation between Safe Water Sports and the **Hellenic Tourism Organization** was signed in 2021, for the undertaking of joint initiatives that include: the utilization of all information on the Safe Water Sports mobile app platform, on the **Hellenic Tourism Organization** website and social networks, the provision of integrated maritime

tourism services, but also the awareness of tourists, and the cooperation and participation in international exhibitions and events, in which the **Hellenic Tourism Organization** participates, and, finally, the joint elaboration of promotional programs and actions in domestic and foreign tourism-related bodies (e.g., tour operators).

### COOPERATION WITH NPHO

Safe Water Sports and the National Public Health Organization have agreed on a number of joint initiatives to enhance safety in the aquatic environment and reduce drowning incidents and fatal accidents. The partnership of the two bodies creates the conditions for enhancing safety at sea and water, a safety that for the first time enters into a solid foundation through initiatives and many actions such as: controls and marking on beaches, strict rules in water sports companies, awareness of the public regarding the safety and morphology of all Greek beaches, epidemiological surveillance of accidents in water activities as well as an **information** campaign on the safety of the elderly at sea.



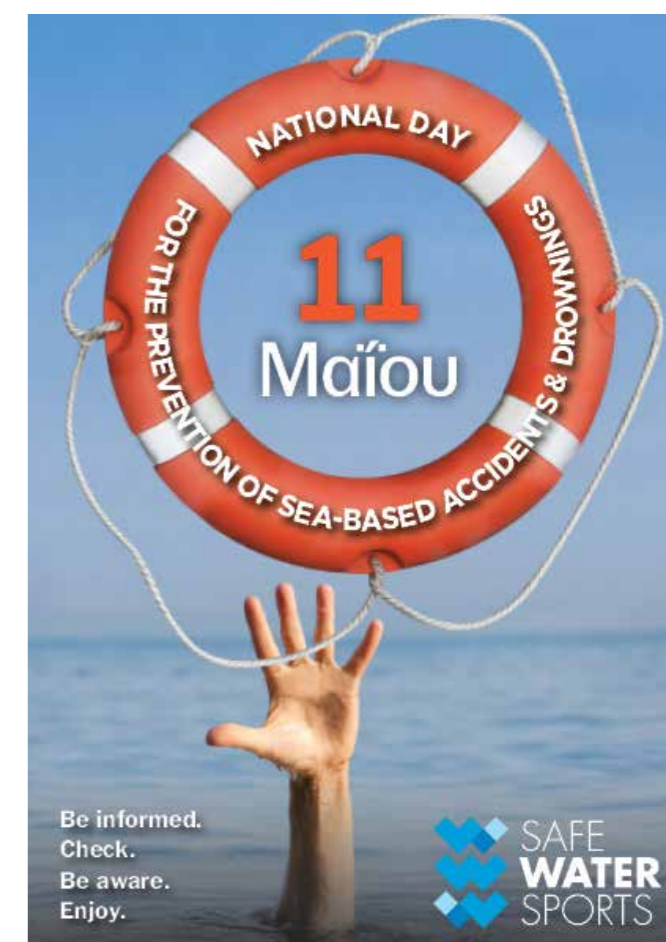
## NATIONAL DAY FOR THE PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS AND DROWNING INCIDENTS AT SEA

A joint initiative of the Ministry of Shipping and Safe Water Sports, as Greece is the first country to establish the "National Day for the Prevention of Accidents and Drowning Incidents at sea".



www.safewatersports.com

Konitsis 11B,  
Maroussi 15125, Athens



### DONOR-



### GRAND SPONSOR



ΕΘΝΙΚΗ ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑ

### SPONSORS - SUPPORTERS

