



## PRESS RELEASE

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# Lifeguards Compete At National Lifesaving Championships Ireland's leading lifesavers delighted with a return to competition

## National Surf Lifesaving Championships, Kilkee Co Clare

Juniors: Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct; Seniors & Masters:  
Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021

More than 250 of Ireland's best Lifesavers contended with challenging open water conditions in simulated emergency rescue scenarios designed to test their swimming and rescue skills. Throughout the year, Lifeguards qualify as the top competitors in their respective counties before progressing to the national competition and a chance to compete with other top Lifesavers. Junior aspiring Lifeguards and Masters who continue to hone their skills also compete in some gruelling tests of their skills.



"The National Lifesaving Championships made a welcome return this year after being cancelled due to Covid-19," commented Clare McGrath, Chair of Water Safety Ireland's National Sports Commission.

"Competitors were delighted to be back competing. It was later in the year than usual and there was a decent swell with some showers and wind but it was as exhilarating as it was tough. It certainly didn't deter the competitor's enthusiasm. They were delighted to be back competing again after Covid-19 lockdowns. Hotels and restaurants around Kilkee were equally delighted to host so many competitors and supporters over a weekend that felt very special for all, including all the local organisers."

"Lifeguards rescued over 470 people this summer and the efforts, skills and athleticism of the competitors is an example of the professionalism they display in their roles at Ireland's waterways throughout the lifeguarding season. After seeing the Junior Lifesavers in action, I am proud to say that the future of Lifeguarding in Ireland is in safe hands.", said McGrath.

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### Media Enquiries to:

Water Safety Ireland, The Long Walk, Galway; [www.watersafety.ie](http://www.watersafety.ie); Tel: 091-564400

Clare McGrath: 087-626. 0315 / [mcgrathclare@gmail.com](mailto:mcgrathclare@gmail.com)

John Leech: 087-6789600 / 091-534973 / [johnleech@watersafety.ie](mailto:johnleech@watersafety.ie);

Roger Sweeney 087-6789601 / 091-534976 / [rogersweeney@watersafety.ie](mailto:rogersweeney@watersafety.ie)