Ocean Lifeguard Swim Training Program

The program below is a general guide only. We recommend talking to a health professional before starting a new program, particularly if you have any pre-existing medical conditions.

See the following page for notes.

Session	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
1	Warm up: • 200m easy swim • 4 x 50m swim (25m hard, 25m easy)	Warm up: • 4 x 100m comfortable swim • 4 x 100m descend 1-4	Warm up: • 200m easy swim • 4 x 50m (25m hard, 25m easy)	Warm up: • 200m easy swim • 4 x 50m (25m hard, 25m easy)
	Main session: • 800m time trial • 200m easy swim	 Main session: 10 x 100m swim with paddles and buoy, 10 sec rest. 	 Main session: 8 x 100m at 75%, 15 sec rest 8 x 100m with fins at 75%, 15 sec rest 	Main session: (all at 800m time trial pace with 10 sec rest) • 4 x 50m swim • 4 x 50m paddles • 4 x 50m paddles and buoy • 4 x 50m maximum effort • 400m easy swim
2	 Warm up: 400m easy swim with fins 4 x 50m swim (explode 15m) Main session: 4 x 200m fins on 3:30 8 x 100m at 75%, 15 sec rest 	 Warm up: 400m easy swim with fins 4 x 50m, explode 15m Main session: 16 x 50m, 10 sec rest 4 x 200m with fins, 5 sec rest 	Warm up: • 4 x 100m comfortable • 4 x 100m descend 1-4 Main session: • 400m with fins (at 800m time trial pace) • 200m swim recovery • 200m with fins (at 800m time trial pace) • 100m easy swim	Warm up: • 6 x 50m build • 5 x 100m at 75% Main session: • 6 x 200m at 1-3 descend, 15 sec rest
3	 Warm up: 4 x 100m comfortable swim 4 x 100m descend 1-4 Main session: 4 x 100m with paddles and buoy 3 x 100m with buoy 2 x 100m with paddles and buoy 1 x 100m swim 15 sec rest between each 100m 	 Warm up: 4 x 100m comfortable swim 4 x 100m descend 1-4 Main session: 6 x 100m build to 80%, 15 sec rest 4 x 100m at 75%, 20 sec rest 	Warm up: • 4 x 100m comfortable • 4 x 100m descend 1-4 Main session: • 6 x 100m build to 80%, 15 sec rest • 4 x 100m at 75%, 20 sec rest	Warm up: • 400m easy swim with fins • 4 x 50m (explode 15m) Main session: • 2 x 400m with paddles and buoy • 2 x 300m swim • 3 x 200m with fins • 2 x 100m hard swim • 2 x 50m with fins at 70% 20 sec rest after each repeat
4	Warm up: • 6 x 50m build • 5 x 100m at 75% effort Main session: • 8 x 100m (on 1:30 – 1:45 aim for 10 sec rest) • 16 x 50m as 4 x easy, 4 x moderate, 4 x hard, 4 x very hard	 Warm up: 6 x 50m build 5 x 100m at 75% effort Main session: 16 x 50m swim (at 800m time trial pace), 10 sec rest 	Warm up: • 6 x 50m build • 5 x 100m at 75% Main session: • 800m time trial • 200m swim down	Warm up: • 400m easy with fins • 4 x 50m (explode 15m) Main session: • 4 x 200m with fins on 3:30 • 8 x 100m at 75%, 15 sec rest

Notes

Build means to increase pace at equal amounts over the course of the distance. For example for a 4 x 100m descend, (1) start easy, (2) increase to moderate, (3) 80%, and (4) maximum effort.

Descend means decreasing pace in equal amounts over a distance, for example from maximum effort to 80%, moderate, then easy.

Paddles and **buoys** are swim aid devices available at sport stores.

Explode means swimming at a faster than usual pace over a short distance.

Recovery means a very easy warm-down swim.