

Dear sportsfriends,
The Flemish Lifesaving Federation invites you to:



INTRODUCTION

We kindly invite you to the 21st Flanders International Lifesaving Competition Open Water (FILCOW).

FILCOW – Competition: 5 & 6 July 2025

Finally, the week is crowned with an international Lifesaving competition where the best athletes in Europe compete against each other. In situations where time is of the essence, FILCOW wants to prepare rescuers in an exciting competition to give the best of themselves at any time.

1. PROGRAMME (PROVISIONAL)

FILCOW – Competition: 5 & 6 July 2025

Saturday 5th of July

AM (first start at 8.30)

Heats Board race

Heats Surf ski race

Heats Beach flags

Heats Oceanman Youth

Finals beach run

Finals Surf race youth

PM

Heats Rescue board rescue

Finals Rescue board rescue

Finals Surf race masters/youth

Finals Board race

Finals Surf ski race

Finals beach flag

Sunday 6th of July

AM (first start at 8.30)

Heats Oceanman

Heats Beach sprint

Finals Beach sprint

Heats 4x90m Beach relay

Finals 4x90m Beach relay

Heats Surf race

Finals Beach sprint youth

PM

Finals Surf race

Finals Oceanman

Final Oceanman relay

Heats Rescue tube rescue

Finals Rescue tube rescue

2. LOCALISATION

17 Oktoberstraat, 8400 Oostende – Belgium



3. COMPETITION AREAS





4. COMPETITION

4.1. Eligibility

Athletes have to be born before 2015. There are three age groups in each gender:

- 2015 – 2011
- 2010 – older
- 1985 – older

4.2. Events

Individual events (7 events):

- Beach flags
- Beach sprint
- Beach run
- Surf race
- Board race
- Oceanman
- Surf ski race

Team events (5 events):

- Rescue tube rescue
- Board rescue
- 4x90m Beach relay
- Ocean(wo)man relay
- Mixed ocean Lifesaver relay

In this competition 7 individual and 5 team events are scheduled. All events except for the Beach run and Oceanman relay are held in series and finales. There will be a ranking per event. The results will be made up per gender, per event and in different age groups.

4.3. Classifications

Individual Classification

- There is a ranking per event in each gender and in three age groups.

Team Classification

- There will be a ranking per event and the composition of each relay can therefore differ. For the relays we only have two different age groups:
 - Youth category (only athletes from BY 2015 – 2011)
 - Open category (all ages allowed)
- Each event will be held with series but we will only run the A-finales

5. REGISTRATION

5.1. Terms of inscription

- Athletes can participate in all 7 events.
- All athletes have to be member of an ILS recognised Lifesaving Club.
- In case the team consists of two genders, they will be ranked in the male category.
- One club can register maximum 2 teams within the same age category, within one event an athlete can only be member of one team.

5.2. Registration

Registration can be done via the website of FILCOW: <https://redfed.be/Filcow/en/Competition>

You can register from the 15th of April until the 5th of June for:

- Athletes, officials, team managers
- all the events (individual-team)
- all your food
- number plates

5.3. Entry fee

The registration fee is **7,5 €** per individual event and **7,5 €** per team event and has to be transferred before the 5th of June 2025 to:

Vlaamse Reddingsfederatie

- IBAN: **BE31 0682 1966 9055**
- BIC code: **GKCCBEBB**
- Account of RedFed with announcement: **“FILCOW 2025 + name of the club”**.

5.4. Late Registration

Late registration can be done via email filcow@redfed.be until the 5th of June.

Clubs that haven't paid the entry fee before the 5th of June 2025, will not be taken into account for drawing up the heat lists.

Registration of events after the 5th of June will cost 15 euro per individual event and 20 euro per team event. Withdrawal of an event will not be refunded.

Note!

At each event you should marshal half an hour before the start of the first heat with the appointed referee for the Marshalling.

All heats of one event will be marshalled together.

5.5. Refunds

- Withdrawal of an event will not be refunded.
- Disqualification from an event will not be refunded.
- Cancellation of an event due to weather conditions are not refunded.
- Cancellation of the total event due to government regulations are refunded (example Covid-19,...)

6. RULEBOOK

The most recent **Technical rules** of the ILS rulebook (www.ilsf.org) will be applied at all the events. With the tidal differences the distances and set-up of boys can be different from race to race.

7. CRAFT

RedFed will not provide an equipment pool. Your own craft must be in good state so that injury and danger is eliminated for all participants. Your craft must be according to the standards of the ILS-Rulebook.

There is a possibility to leave the craft on the beach during the weekend. There is no overnight security. Leaving your craft is at your own risk. The organising committee cannot be held responsible for damages or a loss of craft.

8. SECURITY PROCEDURES

A safety handbook and, if needed, a covid-19 protocol will be send to you after your registration.

Accidents

There is a full equipped First Aid Post for minor accidents at the Registration Office.

Within a reach of 30km you can find four Hospitals:

1. AZ Damiaan Campus St.-Jozef – Gouwelozestraat 100, 8400 Ostend.
2. AZ Sint-Jan Oostende AV campus Henri Serruys – Kairostraat 84, 8400 Ostend.
3. AZ Sint-Jan Brugge – Ruddershove 10, 8000 Bruges
4. AZ Sint-Lucas – Sint-Lucaslaan 29, 8310 Bruges

Hypothermia

Wetsuits are allowed:

- Underneath 16° C water temperature from 2010-older
- Underneath 20° C water temperature from 2015-2011
- On command of the Chief Referee

Wetsuits are obligated:

- Underneath 13° C water temperature from 2010-older
- Underneath 16° C water temperature from 2015-2011

There are also isothermal blankets to be found in the First Aid Post at the Registration Office.

Drowning prevention

RedFed will provide a Rescue Team in and out of the water. There will be several lifeguards in position on the beach and 3 boats at sea. An oxygen providing system and a defibrillator are positioned in the First Aid Post at the Registration Office.

For safety reasons the wearing of a high visibility lycra will be mandatory during the ocean events (not for the beach events). The visibility will be much higher.

Via the website www.filcow.be, there is a possibility to order customized FILCOW Lycra's for 20 euro's. Deadline is 15th of May 2025.



Cancelling events

The chief referee can, after deliberation with other judges, the organising committee, and the responsible Lifeguards, decide to cancel the competition or events due to severe circumstances. The club coaches however remain responsible to judge if certain conditions are too difficult for the members of their team. We appreciate your effort to accompany your youngest or less skilled athletes with skilled athletes on a rescue board or in a surf ski.

9. OFFICIALS

To ensure a good competition we ask all teams to provide the following number of officials. Registration of the officials must be done on the registration form.

Belgian clubs

- 1 athlete = 1 official
- 10 athletes = 2 officials
- 20 athletes = 3 officials

Foreign clubs

- 1 official per club

10. TRANSPORT

10.1. Getting to Ostend

- By Airplane
 - Airport Ostend - www.ost.aero
 - Airport Brussels - <http://www.brusselsairport.be/en/>
 - Airport Charleroi - <http://www.charleroi-airport.com/>
- By Train - <http://www.belgianrail.be/en/Default.aspx>
 - Connection from Airport Brussels
 - Connection from Airport Charleroi
 - Connection from HST in Brussels
- By Boat - www.cheapferrytickets.com
 - Connection from Dover
- By Car

10.2. Local transport

- Taxi – <http://www.taxibond.be>

Rates

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| ▪ Getting on | 2,75 euro |
| ▪ Price per kilometre (your distance) | 2,3 euro |
| ▪ Price per kilometre (distance to get to you) | 1,15 euro |
| ▪ Price for waiting per hour | 30 euro |
| ▪ Night rate | 8 euro |

Price from airport Ostend to Competition Area is approximately 10 euro.

- Tram - <http://www.delijn.be/dekusttram/en/index.htm>
- Bus - <http://www.delijn.be/en/index.htm>

10.3. Parking

This year the city of Ostend installed ANPR cameras to detect number plates. Only the vehicle towing the trailer will receive temporary approval to drive on the boulevard. If you drive up the boulevard without an approval you will be fined. There will be **no parking spaces** this year.

Your car can be parked on several spots in the area.

- In front of the competition area (you will have to take a ticket = 3 euro/4 hours)
- Along the street (you will have to take a ticket = 3 euro/4 hours)
- At the cinema Kinopolis opposite the competition Area.
- Free parking:
 - Randparking Maria-Hendrikapark at Mercatorlaan Ostend – 2km distance
 - Maybe free parking at Troonstraat across the Henegouwenstraat – 0,7km distance

11. LODGING

Teams must organise their own board and lodging. We will however be glad to help you with your accommodation if you encounter any problems.

The organisation can recommend the following accommodation:

1) Aparthotel “Zon en Zee”

- Address: Vakantiestraat 1, 8434 Westende
- Distance: Approximately 13km from competition area
 - Nice but simple apartments for 2-6 people with kitchen
- Website: www.zonenzee.be
- Email: vakanties@zeester.com
- Telephone: +3258230855

2) Holiday Residence “De Zeekameel”

- Address: Lombardsijdelaan 235, 8434 Lombardsijde-Westende
- Distance: Approximately 14km from competition area
 - Nice but simple rooms for 2-6 people
- Website: www.dezeekameel.be
- Email: info@dezeekameel.be
- Telephone: +3258241319

3) Campingsite “Mijn Plezier”

- Address: Duinenweg 489, 8430 Middelkerke
- Distance: Approximately 10km from competition area
- Website: www.mijnplezier.be
- Email: park@mijnplezier.be
- Telephone: +3259303020

4) Vayamundo

- Address: Zeedijk 290-330, 8400 Oostende
- Distance: Approximately 2km from competition area
- Website: www.vayamundo.be
- Email: contactcenter@vayamundo.be
- Telephone: +3278156100

5) Other accommodation can be found on the World Wide Web.

12. FOOD & DRINKS

You can order all your food on the website. Orders can be made until 5th of June.

Lunch 5 - 6 July

You can order prepared foot long sandwiches, which cost 5€ per sandwich.



There is a Beach bar (Budha Mar Bar) where you can get all kinds of drinks and food.

13. Shops

3 shops will be glad to help you out with your needs:

- Swimouest
- Wetiz: lifesaving equipment
- Fine Design: Personalized t-shirts, hoodies,...

14. Toilets

There will be toilets available for registered athletes, coaches, volunteers and officials.

We hope to see you on the Beach in Ostend.

Kind regards



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