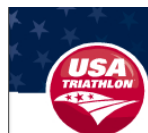




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PRODUCT REVIEWS

THE SIMPLE AND THE NOT-SO-SIMPLE

By Tom Barry



ISHOF SAFERSWIMMER

\$39.95; ishof.com/safety/ssd.htm

PREMISE: Designed to keep your stuff dry and your body safe, the SaferSwimmer float is ideal for both experienced open-water swimmers and beginners. Bright colors make you visible to boats and jet skis, while the watertight buoy keeps your belongings (ID, spare change, energy bars/gels, even a pair of shoes) snug and dry. In a worst-case scenario, the SaferSwimmer also can serve as a safety buoy, keeping you afloat while awaiting rescue.

TESTERS SAY: With any safety device, a product is only as good as the athlete's ability to use it properly. In that regard, SaferSwimmer gets an A+ for its easy setup and simple, user-friendly design that offers piece of mind to those new to open-water training. Our tester's initial concerns about possible drag from the buoy and waist belt were mitigated, as Tim noted the SaferSwimmer's attachment "fit just like a race belt." The buoy's bright colors provided better visibility of our swimmers from the shore and from the water than a brightly colored swim cap could do alone. With 100 percent of profits going to support the International Swimming Hall of Fame, your \$40 will be going to a good cause, making the SaferSwimmer one of those rare products that improves both your safety and your karma.