

Instructions for the Maggie Fischer Memorial Great South Bay Cross Bay Swim

**Please read these instructions carefully before
beginning the application.**

**Applications should be filled On-Line,
printed and signed.**

Application Process

120 swimmers will be accepted. Registration is closed when we reach this number. There will be no swimmer substitutions, no wait list.

Only completed applications will secure a berth. An application is complete when signed swimmer and kayaker forms and \$125 are received.

All applicants (swimmer and kayaker) must be 16 years or older on the day of the Swim. There are no exceptions.

We will reserve a limited number of sponsor-level positions for a fee of \$5000. These will be available until sold out, or until June 15.

Filling out the Application

1. Fill out the application ON LINE, then print and sign, include \$125 fee and send to the PO Box 332, Brightwaters NY 11718. If you must complete the form by hand, please print legibly! We especially need a legible email address since all of our communications will be done by email.
2. If you and your kayaker are applying separately, each must fill out the application ON LINE, print and sign, and cross-reference one another on the form. The \$125 entrance fee is for BOTH the swimmer and the kayaker ! Registration fees are non-refundable. The entrance fee covers our expenses of organizing the swim.

3. Each swimmer is expected to attain a sponsorship level of \$500 or greater . The Maggie Fischer Memorial Cross Bay Swim is a 501.c(3) not for profit organization. Sponsorship forms are available on our website. There are also links to two online fundraising sites. FirstGiving allows a swimmer to setup a personal fundraising site with your own personal goals and statistics. Network For Good accepts donations through an online dialog. Both provide us with information to credit each swimmer with fundraising activity.

4. Swimmer and kayaker shirts are ordered when registration closes. You will receive the shirt sizes you designate on the registration form. There will be no substitutions. If in doubt, order larger!

5. If you wish to place your kayak on the Fire Island Ferries, please indicate this on the application. Inflatable kayaks will not be allowed. Drop off for kayaks will be on Thursday, July 12 between 6PM and 8PM at the Ocean Beach Terminal, Maple Avenue, Bay Shore.

6. We request that all swimmers use our tracking service, RaceJoy, which utilizes the swimmer's GPS enabled device (iPhone or Android). The cost of the service is borne by The Swim. Your device will be carried by your kayaker. Your position and other useful information will be available to all on the internet. Please acknowledge your use of RaceJoy on the application. Further details on installing and enabling the app will follow by email. Please note: this is for informational purposes only, and is not a safety service.

Other Matters

7. On the morning of the Swim, buses will carry swimmers and kayakers from Gilbert Park, Brightwaters to the Fire Island Ferries terminal, where a boat will provide transportation to Fire Island. Please refer to the timeline for this schedule, which will be followed precisely.
8. Permission has been granted by the NYS Parks Department on the day of the Swim for drop-off at the turn around at Robert Moses just east of Field 5. This provides easy access for a swimmer and kayaker to the start of the Swim. Kayaks can be walked to the bay along a short path on the side of the Parkway. **For a view of the area showing the car turn-around and path to the bay, [click here](#) .**
9. Each swimmer must always have a kayak operator in close proximity. Each kayak operator must have on board:
 - Fresh water and food for swimmer and operator(s)
 - Hand held horn or whistle
 - Life preservers for swimmer and operator(s)
 - Sea anchor strongly suggested

10. If you must withdraw from the Swim please notify us by email or phone as soon as possible.

Important Information

There will be a mandatory swimmer/kayaker meeting Friday July 6, at 7:00 PM at the Great South Bay YMCA. It must be attended by either the swimmer, the swimmer's kayaker, or a representative.

The swim course is approximately 5.5 statute miles of open water that finishes at Gilbert Park in Brightwaters. Refer to the course map on our website. It is the swimmer's and the kayaker's responsibility to be properly prepared for the physical rigors and navigational challenges that this event presents. It is each swimmer's responsibility to procure an experienced kayaker with a kayak.

All swimmers should be strong swimmers with open water experience. All kayakers must have strong skills: kayakers should be confident that you can accompany your swimmer the entire distance regardless of conditions. **PLEASE CHOOSE YOUR KAYAKER CAREFULLY!** Conditions can be more difficult for the kayaker than for the swimmer. Your kayak is your support! An unaccompanied swimmer will be removed from the course.

Swim aids of any kind (flippers, hand paddles, etc.) are not allowed. Wetsuits are allowed. Accommodations for special situations will be made by the committee on a case by case basis upon request.

The event will be considered complete 4 hours after the start. **Any swimmer remaining in the water at this time will be picked up by a patrol boat.**

THE SWIM IS 'WEATHER PERMITTING'. THE ORGANIZERS HOLD THE RIGHT TO CANCEL IT AT ANY TIME, IN THE INTEREST OF SWIMMER SAFETY. THERE IS NO RAIN DATE.

Please mail completed applications to:

**Maggie Fischer Memorial Cross Bay Swim
PO Box 332
Brightwaters, NY 11718**