

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

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

120 Applications will be accepted On-Line,

Application Process

120 swimmers will be accepted by lottery. There will be no swimmer substitutions, no wait list. In the future, we plan to be 100% online registration.

A small number of swimmers may be accepted on traditional paper application waiver forms at committee discretion. Instructions for filling the paper applications are located after the online instructions.

Only completed applications will secure a berth. An application is complete when signed swimmer and kayaker forms and \$150 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.

1. *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. Our registration provider RunSignup provides each swimmer with a personal website where donations can be accepted on your behalf.

2. 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!

3. If you wish to place your kayak on the Fire Island Ferries, please indicate this on the application. Inflatable kayaks will not be allowed. Kayak drop-off will be on Thursday, July 23 between 6PM and 8PM at the Ocean Beach Terminal, Maple Avenue, Bay Shore.

4. 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 and a waterproof casing for the phone 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. Detailed instructions on installing and enabling the app are available on our site. Please note: this is for informational purposes only, and is not a safety service.

5. On the morning of the Swim the Fire Island Ferries will provide transportation to Fire Island. Please refer to the timeline for this schedule, which will be followed precisely. It is your responsibility to be on the boat when it leaves. Parking is available at the terminal.

6. 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](#).**

7. 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

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

9. There will be a mandatory swimmer/kayaker meeting Tuesday July 17, at 7:00 PM via ZOOM. It must be attended by either the swimmer, the swimmer's kayaker, or a representative. Zoom login matters will be sent out beforehand.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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. IF JULY 20 MUST BE CANCELLED WE WILL HOLD THE SWIM ON JULY 21.