

2024

participant packet

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Welcome to The Committee for the Great Salt Pond's annual swim, *The Great Salt Pond Swim – 9 (2024)* on **Saturday, July 27, 2024**. Please read the information below carefully as it contains important event-specific details.

About the Swim

This will be a (1) one mile swim (not a race – no timing chips) limited to 150 individuals, starting at Andy's Way Beach, swimming out toward Beane Point, and returning to Andy's Way Beach. The swimmer registration fee for this event is **\$60.00**, and on-line registration will open on **October 1, 2023 and close on July 26, 2024, 1:00 p.m.** On-site registration will be available the morning of the swim, July 27th, until 10:15 am, if space is available. **This is a great opportunity for first-time open water swimmers. The swim course is in a protected area with not much chop. In addition, the swim will take place along a straight line, marked by buoys. If you are intimidated by the idea of swimming (1) one mile, sign up for Wave 5 (56-90 minutes). In Wave 5, you can use fins, kickboards, snorkels, etc.** This swim is our annual fundraiser, serving to support our efforts to protect The Great Salt Pond, and provide funds for additional water testing in the recreational swim areas.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, July 27th

The Committee for the Great Salt Pond

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The Committee for the Great Salt Pond

The Committee for the Great Salt Pond
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Block Island, Rhode Island 02807

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Swimmer Qualifications

Swimmers must be 15 years of age or older, and in good physical condition, as specified in Waiver #1 Waiver of Responsibility. Swimmers younger than 15 years of age may be approved to swim by the swim director. In addition, if you are ages 15-17, you must also provide the following: Parent or legal guardian's signature (in addition to your own signature) must be entered on both the Waiver of Responsibility and the Town of New Shoreham Release in Full of All Claims.

Swim Waiver Form

The attached **Waiver Form (Page 3)** must be signed and turned in at swimmer registration, the morning of the swim, July 27th. Extra waiver forms will be available on site.

Fundraising

This is optional for swimmers. If you are a swimmer and would like to obtain sponsorships for this swim event, please fill out the attached **Sponsor Pledge Form (Page 4)**.

Predicted Water Conditions

Approximately 65 – 70 degrees Fahrenheit. This swim is located in a protected area with not much chop.

Event Gear

Wetsuits/non-traditional swim attire may be worn. Swim caps, picked up at swimmer registration, must be worn during the event. At swimmer check-in, you may also drop off a bag of personal belongings for safekeeping during the swim. Baggage tags will be distributed at swimmer check-in and should be securely attached to your bag. You should bring an inexpensive bag for your belongings and leave your valuables at home. **The Committee for the Great Salt Pond is not responsible for lost or stolen items. All bags must be picked up by 1:00 p.m.**

The Course

The swim course runs roughly parallel to Beane Point. Swimmers will swim out 1/2 mile from shore along a straight line marked by buoys and lines, with the buoy line to the left. At the 1/2 mile point, the Committee for the Great Salt Pond boat will be anchored a short distance away and perpendicular to the buoy line as a marker, and swimmers will turn to the left around the last buoy and continue back 1/2 mile to the shore. See the attached **Swim Map (Page 5)**.

Safety Boats

For your safety, safety boats, kayaks, and paddleboards will surround the course. They will have extra life jackets and watch for swimmers in distress. However, once you are in the water, use your best judgment. You are responsible for yourself. You will have 2 1/2 hours to complete the swim. If you are in distress, turn on to your back and wave. **DO NOT** attempt to swim back to shore.

The Great Salt Pond Swim 9

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waiver form

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Name (Please Print) _____

Please sign both waivers below.

WAIVER #1: WAIVER OF RESPONSIBILITY

Please enter me in **The Great Salt Pond Swim 9**, sponsored by The Committee for the Great Salt Pond, to be held on **July 27, 2024**. In consideration for your acceptance of this entry and in accordance with Chapter 7-6 of The Rhode Island General Laws, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, assigns, executors and administrators, assume any and all risks associated with or arising from my participation in this event, including, but not limited to any and all injuries to my person including death or permanent disability and/or property suffered by me arising from my participation in the event, and waive and release any and all rights, claims and actions for damages I may have against The Committee for the Great Salt Pond, its officers, directors, employees, agents, individuals or institutions associated with or assisting The Committee for the Great Salt Pond in this event, or any participant in this event.

If any item or provision of this Agreement shall be determined to be illegal or unenforceable, then all other terms and provisions hereof shall nevertheless remain effective and shall be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I further attest and certify that I am physically fit and capable of completing this event and that my physical fitness has been verified by a licensed physician or medical doctor within the past 12 months.

Signature _____ Date _____ Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

(required by participants under 18)

WAIVER #2: TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM RELEASE IN FULL OF ALL CLAIMS

In consideration of my use of the property located in the Town of New Shoreham, Rhode Island, and more particularly described as Andy's Way in said town which property is owned by the Town of New Shoreham, a municipal corporation, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, assigns, executors, and administrators, acknowledge that I assume any and all risks associated with or arising from my participation in this event, including but not limited to any and all injuries to my person including death or permanent disability and/or property suffered or sustained by me arising from my participation in this event, and waive and release any and all rights, claims and actions for damages that I have, or may have, against the Town of New Shoreham, its successors and assigns and, further, agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Town of New Shoreham, its successors and assigns, from any claims, demands or actions for damages of any type or nature resulting from any act or omission on my part arising or relating in any way to my participation in this event.

I further attest and certify that I have read and understood the above waiver and assumption of risk, that I am making this waiver and assuming all risks voluntarily, and that all information and signatures contained herein are accurate and genuine.

Signature _____ Date _____ Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

(required by participants under 18)

**The Committee for the Great Salt Pond
P.O. Box 1092
Block Island, Rhode Island 02807**

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The Great Salt Pond Swim 9

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sponsor pledge form *(optional)*

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Swim Participants

Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____ Email _____

If you would like to obtain sponsorships for this event (optional)

MAIL this form

along with sponsorship

money by

July 27, 2024 or you may bring this form with you the morning of the swim

to : The Committee for the Great Salt Pond

P.O. Box 1092

Block Island, Rhode Island 02807

Sponsor's Name	Address	Amount	Cash or Check



The Committee for the Great Salt Pond

The Committee for the Great Salt Pond

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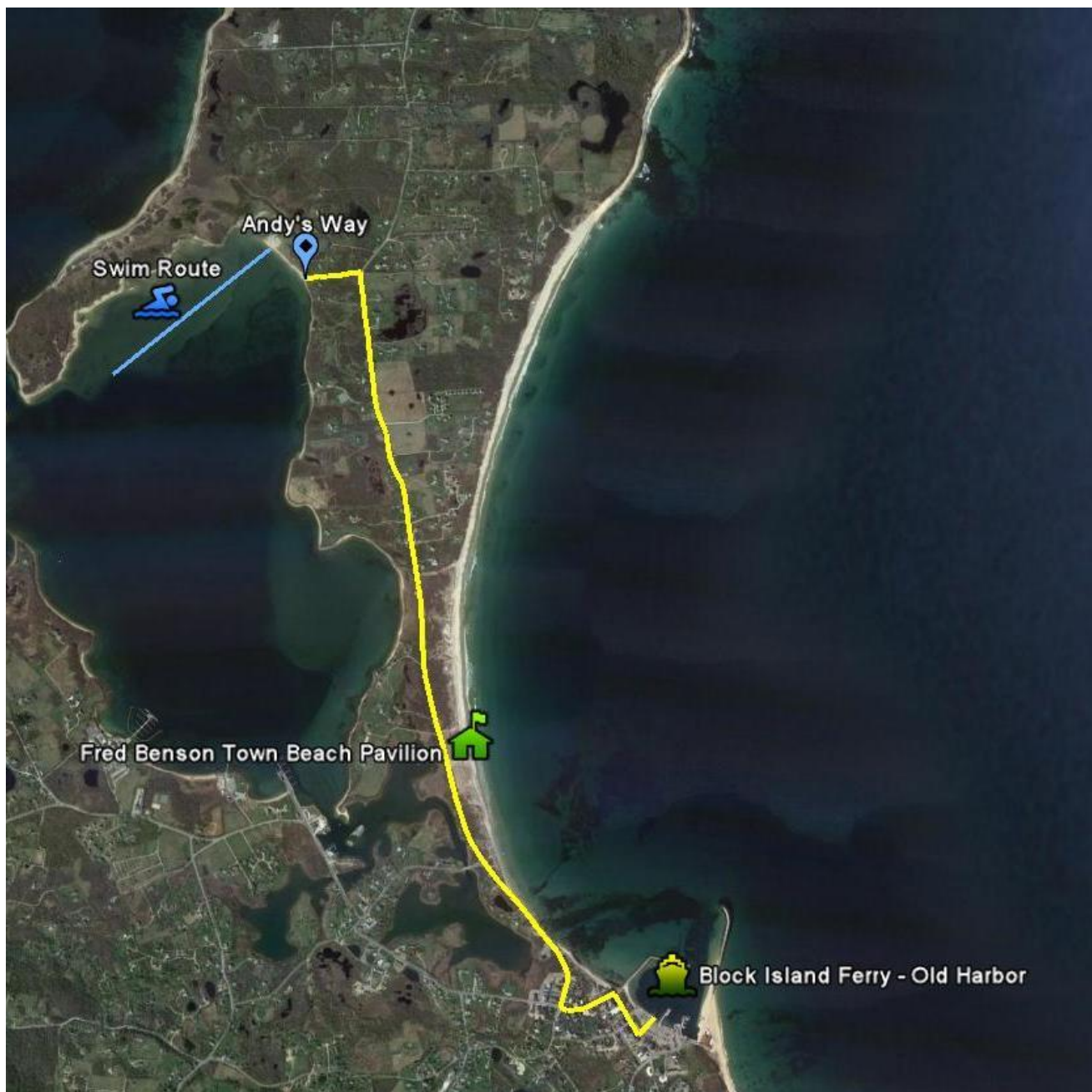
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swim map

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Transportation

Ferry Schedule

Schedule information for the ferry from Point Judith, RI, or Newport, RI to Block Island can be found at Blockislandferry.com. If you are bringing a car to the island, car reservations should be made some time in January 2024. For car reservations, call 866-783-7996. Schedule information for the ferry from New London, CT to Block Island can be found at goblockisland.com. When making travel arrangements, please keep in mind that swimmer check-in for the swim is between **8 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.** the morning of the swim. **The ferry dock is located approximately 2.5 miles from the swim event location at Andy's Way.**

Parking

There will be no parking at the site for swim participants and no spectator parking. Parking for this event will be available for the ambulance and for those with disabilities.

Bicycles

Bike racks are available on site for locking your bike.

Taxi Service

Taxi service is available from the Ferry Terminal at Old Harbor.

Swim Check-In

Please allow ample time to arrive at the swim check-in/start. You must bring a photo ID with you. All swimmers **MUST** check in at the start **AND** check out at the finish. We advise that you arrive early.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 10:15 a.m. Swimmers who have not checked in will not be permitted to enter the water. If you're not registered, don't swim. There will be a maximum of 150 swimmers registering for this event. Following check-in, all swimmers will have their arm/hand numbered, receive a T-shirt, water bottle, and swim cap that must be worn during the event. You may also drop off a bag of personal belongings for safekeeping during the swim. Baggage tags will be distributed at swimmer check-in and should be securely attached to your bag. You should bring an inexpensive bag for your belongings and leave your valuables at home. **The Committee for the Great Salt Pond is not responsible for lost or stolen items. All bags must be picked up by 1:00 p.m.**

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Safety Briefing

(10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.)

This is MANDATORY for all swimmers and will begin at 10:30 a.m. before the first Wave enters the water at 11:00 a.m. Participants will be made aware of emergency procedures and the safety regulations will be reviewed. As soon as the orientation is finished, swimmers should proceed to the water, get into ready position, and assemble according to their specific group.

The Swim (11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)

Swimmers will have a maximum of 2 1/2 hours to complete the swim. If a swimmer is still in the water after 2 1/2 hours, they will be instructed to get into one of the safety boats surrounding the swim course, to be brought ashore. Swimmers will enter the water at 15 second intervals, with 5 minutes between waves. **If for any reason, you do not get in the water or decide to get out before finishing, you MUST notify one of the volunteers (yellow vests) at the check-out table.**

Swim Wave	Time	Remarks
Wave 1	25 Minutes or Less	
Wave 2	26 – 35 Minutes	
Wave 3	36 – 45 Minutes	
Wave 4	46 – 55 Minutes	
Wave 5	56 – 90 Minutes	Swimming accessories may be used in Wave 5. Any swim equipment that you will be using (i.e. fins, paddles, kickboards, pull buoys, snorkels, etc.) must be presented at the registration area and will be subject to inspection.

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The Finish

Once you cross the finish line, volunteers (yellow vests) will be recording your numbers. Be sure to have your number recorded. **This is our only way of knowing that you have arrived safely!** Upon completing the swim, swimmers will receive a commemorative swim medal, and beach towel (t-shirts, swim caps and water bottles handed out at check-in). Water, fruit, granola/fruit bars, and pizza will be available on the beach for all participants. **Changing tents will be available for men and women.**

Schedule for Saturday, July 27, 2024

8:00 a.m.	Swimmer Check-In opens	Photo ID required
8:00 a.m.	Baggage Check opens	Attach Baggage Tag to you bag and place in Baggage Storage area
10:15 a.m.	Swimmer Check-In closes	
10:15 a.m.	Baggage Check-In closes	
10:30 a.m.	Safety Briefing	Mandatory for Swimmers
10:45 a.m.	Swimmers line up	Line up chronologically, in Waves
11:00 a.m.	First Swimmer enters the water	
1:30 p.m.	Last Swimmers arrive at finish	

Inclement Weather Plans

The Swim WILL be held if it is raining. The Swim WILL NOT be held if the turn-around point is not visible due to a low, heavy fog, or if there is lightning. If weather is hazardous the Swim will be cancelled, and T-shirts, caps, water bottles, commemorative swim medals, and beach towels will be available for pick up at the swim site. There will be no rain/fog date. The decision will be made the morning of the Swim at the starting site. If the weather is questionable on the morning of Saturday, July 30th, please check our website www.CGSPBlockIsland.org for a message regarding the status of the Swim.

Withdrawal Policy

The Committee for the Great Salt Pond incurs nearly all swim expenses before swim day. For that reason, we are not able to reimburse registered swimmers who wish to withdraw from the event.

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Swim Summary

Date	Saturday, July 27, 2024
Distance	(1) One Mile
Check-In	8:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Safety Briefing	10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Swim Start	11:00 a.m.
Swim Finish	1:30 p.m.
Time Limit	2 hours 30 minutes
No. of participants	150
Fees	\$60.00
Age Requirements	15 years and older (or by approval of the swim director)
Predicted water conditions	65 – 70 degrees Fahrenheit This swim is located in a protected area usually with not much chop, depending on wind conditions. Wetsuits/non-traditional swim attire may be worn



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