



LAKE GEORGE MARATHON SWIM

**Minutes from
phone call
5/9/16**

We had about 50 people join us for a conference call. Representing the Marathon Swim were:

Bob Singer	Event Director
Deb Roberts	Referee
Anne Green	Emergency Coordinator
David Dammerman	Pod Leader
Alex Meyer	Co-Director

Bob went through the [Participants' Guide](#) focusing on the following:

- [Quiz](#). This is mandatory for all Swimmers and Volunteers. A perfect score of 120 is required.
- Volunteers. If everyone who has verbally told one of the event organizers or swimmers that they are willing to help out shows up we have enough, but we can't run the event by seeing who shows up. We need the commitment of filling out a Volunteer Form, signing the Waiver, and taking the quiz. We are short over 40 committed volunteers and all teams were asked to help get people to confirm their commitments.
- Medicals for solo swimmers and relays of 2-3 swimmers. Required by July—make your appointments now.
- Housing. We recommend using Lake George Village as your base. See the Guide.
- Boats. See the Guide for rentals or information about launching. Once we get more volunteers we will be assigning local boats, first to solo swimmers, then relays traveling from far away.
- Balance of payments. [RunSignUp](#) is open or make checks to Lake George Marathon Swim.
- Fundraising. [on the agenda but skipped] Use [Crowdrise.com](#) for your fundraising. If your account is not set up tell Bob which charities you wish to support. He will set you up.
- Friday 9/16/16 activities.
 - Bob described the “Fun Swim” as a chance to swim in the Lake for a while, practice with kayaks, or let crew swim (if they are USMS members). The entire Million Dollar Beach will be ours for this event from 11:00 to 12:30.
 - The Marathon Swimming Forum will be a chance to talk about goals, perseverance, and the zen of distance swimming with top world class athletes. We are being hosted by the LG Historical Association from 3:00-4:30.

- The Dinner Cruise aboard the *Adirondac* will be from 5:00-7:30. We will get halfway up the Lake in comfort. Cost is \$37 per ticket, via check or the Store at [RunSignUp](#)

After these highlights from the Participants' Guide, we fielded some Q & A.

1. Several swimmers expressed difficulty with finding the "class" on the QuizStar site: <http://quizstar.4teachers.org/indexs.jsp>. More detailed directions are being posted on a new version of the Participants' Guide. The key to finding the "class" is to enter "Lake George Marathon Swim 1" and press Exact Match. The server seems slow, so give it a minute to find it. The new version of the Participants' Guide includes some screen shots that may help
2. Is there a chance for congestion during the vent? Since we are starting in waves of 5-6 swimmers, except for the very beginning of the course it is likely you will not be near other swimmers for the whole swim.
3. When will pods be assigned? Not until August. We need to get seed times from all the swimmers. If there is another swimmer or team you'd like to be with let Bob know early.
4. Can a swimmer switch pods if they are caught from behind or if they swim through to another pod? Although that is an appealing proposition to keep the pods together, the potential to have a swimmer dropped from both pods is large enough that we will keep pod assignments the entire event, even if this means that the pods may get stretched out over miles.
5. Why can't we start early in the morning to avoid swimming at night? The swim is 32 miles long, and most swimmers will swim at about two miles an hour. Some teams or swimmers may get done in as little as twelve hours, but some will take most of the 24 hours we allow. Heavy chop will make it much slower. To do the finish and start in daylight, we have to start late in the afternoon. The fastest swimmers may finish just after dawn, and the slowest swimmers may finish toward the end of the day on Sunday. This puts the bulk of the swim at night, which has several advantages:
 - a. Winds usually die down at night
 - b. Non-participating boat traffic is way down
 - c. Rental boats (except us) are prohibited from operating at night
 - d. Nobody can see you using the port-a-potty
 - e. Swimming at night is fantastic! There will be a full moon if it's clear.
6. What happens if we encounter a belligerent non-participating boater? If we can't talk somebody down, we will call one of the enforcement agencies on the Lake, who will be on patrol with us all night and are very supportive of our event.
7. What can we do about lights for kayaks? If you are borrowing a kayak, you'll need to bring along temporary lighting. Lots of ideas and pictures are provided in the Participant's Guide. Please consult that for lighting of the kayaks and the swimmers, and bring some glo-sticks for backup.

We agreed to host another call in July.

Bob Singer, 5/10/16