

# 2026 Eastern Zone Open Water Championships

Beesleys Point, NJ | Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>



**Entry Deadline:**

11:59 PM Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## **\*\*Preliminary Race-Day Timeline**

### **Date of Meet:**

Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### **2.5 K Race**

Women's Race Time – ~ 8:00 AM

Men's Race Time – ~ 9:00 AM

### **5 K Race**

Women's Race Time – ~10:00 AM

Men's Race Time – ~11:30 AM

### **1.25 K Race**

Men's Race Time – ~1:00

Women's Start Time – ~ 1:10

\*\*Race start times are subject to conditions and safety the morning of the race. Any changes to schedule will be communicated by the Race Director to athletes and coaches prior to the race. Final times will be announced prior to the race.

In accordance with USA Swimming 2026 Rule Book Part 701.2.5 the allowance "shall apply as follows for the finish time of the first swimmer". For age group swimmers the time is "not less than 30 minutes following the finish time of the first finisher". For this race we will be allowing 30 minutes after the finish of the first swimmer in each event.

**Sanctioned by: Middle Atlantic Swimming, USA Swimming**

**Hosted by: Egg Harbor Township Seahawks  
Sanction Number: TBD**

## 1. Qualifying Times / Entries

<b>2026 Eastern Zone Open Water Championships Qualifying Times</b>							
<b>5K</b>		<b>400 LCM</b>	<b>500 SCY</b>	<b>800 LCM</b>	<b>1000 SCY</b>	<b>1500 LCM</b>	<b>1650 SCY</b>
	<b>Men</b>	4:46.39	5:15.79	9:54.79	11:01.59	18:58.49	18:22.79
	<b>Women</b>	5:04.49	5:43.69	10:32.39	11:53.99	20:11.59	19:56.49
5K qualifying times are based upon USA Swimming's 15-16 A Motivational Standards							
<b>2.5K</b>		<b>400 LCM</b>	<b>500 SCY</b>	<b>800 LCM</b>	<b>1000 SCY</b>	<b>1500 LCM</b>	<b>1650 SCY</b>
	<b>Men</b>	5:10.19	5:42.09	10:44.39	11:56.99	20:33.39	19:54.69
	<b>Women</b>	5:29.89	6:12.39	11:25.09	12:53.49	21:52.49	21:53.59
2.5K qualifying times are based upon USA Swimming's 15-16 BB Motivational Standards							
<b>1.25 K</b>		<b>400 LCM</b>	<b>500 SCY</b>	<b>800 LCM</b>	<b>1000 SCY</b>	<b>1500 LCM</b>	<b>1650 SCY</b>
	<b>Men</b>	5:53.89	5:37.29	12:22.99	11:45.89	24:00.99	19:38.39
	<b>Women</b>	6:04.79	6:08.19	12:42.89	12:47.09	24:14.99	21:09.59
2.5K qualifying times are based upon USA Swimming's 11-12 BB Motivational Standards							

Junior National Open Water Qualification: To be announced at a later date.

Swimmers With a Disability: Swimmers with a disability are welcome to compete. The athlete (or their coach) is responsible for providing advanced notice for any desired accommodations needed on race day. **(NOTIFY MEET DIRECTOR & MEET REFEREE UPON REGISTRATION)**

Age Group Rules and Eligibility: In accordance with World Aquatics rules, a swimmer must be fourteen (14), fifteen (15), sixteen (16), seventeen (17), or eighteen (18) years old as of December 31st in the year of the race 2026 to be eligible for that age group.

Entry Fees & Registration: **NO ON-SITE OR SAME-DAY MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION**

\*All participants must be USA Swimming Members in **good standing** to enter and compete\*

5K - \$60.00

2.5K - \$50.00

1.25K \$40.00

Timing and Results: Timing will be conducted by Split Second Racing. Results will be available at [splitsecondracing.net](http://splitsecondracing.net).

Team Entries: USA Swimming clubs should enter swimmers as a group using the electronic file found on the Eastern Zone Website ([www.Easternzoneswimming.org](http://www.Easternzoneswimming.org))

DUE BY 11:59 PM FRIDAY, MAY 29<sup>th</sup> via email to [ehtseahawksswim@gmail.com](mailto:ehtseahawksswim@gmail.com)

Make payment by check payable to: EHT Seahawks

Mail to: 8 Oakview Drive East, EHT, NJ, 08234

Before submitting entries, please check that your team's name, address, and contact information are listed correctly in the file (this should match what is in USA SWIMS). Also, include a phone number to be used by the **Meet Director** in the event of an entry or recon issue.

Individual Entries: We request individual entries via electronic file ([www.Easternzoneswimming.org](http://www.Easternzoneswimming.org)). If unable to submit an electronic file you must fill out a google form via this link ([click here](#)) and contact the Meet Director ([ehtseahawksswim@gmail.com](mailto:ehtseahawksswim@gmail.com)). Individual entries are also **due by May 29th at 11:59 PM**. There is an additional \$10 fee for individual manual entries.

## **2. Administrative Staff**

Race Director: Brian Elko, [seaelk@hotmail.com](mailto:seaelk@hotmail.com) (609) 457-2196

Meet Director: Andrew Duff, [ehtseahawksswim@gmail.com](mailto:ehtseahawksswim@gmail.com) (609) 350-0337

Meet Referee: Chris Neuman, [chrisneuman26@msn.com](mailto:chrisneuman26@msn.com) (609) 425-3555

Safety Monitor: John Schreiner, [spnjhky10@comcast.net](mailto:spnjhky10@comcast.net) (609) 226-5379

Officials: Volunteer Open Water Officials are welcome and encouraged to officiate. Contact Meet Referee, Chris Neuman.

### 3. Course Description

Venue: 912 Rte. US 9 North, Marmora, NJ 08223

This is an open water bay swim. The weather and water conditions are unpredictable; please use good judgment if you are uncertain about swimming in open water.

The course consists of a 1.25K loop (see map below). The swim will go clockwise around the course (right shoulder turns around buoys). The 1.2 will be one loop around the course, the 2.5 will be two loops around the course, and the 5k will be 4 loops around the course.

Anticipated Conditions: This is an open water bay being conducted in the Great Egg Harbor Bay, at Beasleys Point, New Jersey. The water temperature is expected to range between 70-77 degrees Fahrenheit; the air temperature is expected to range between 65-90 degrees Fahrenheit.

Weather Contingency The race will be swum rain or shine. If conditions are deemed unsafe, at the discretion of the Race Director and Safety Monitor, the race will be rescheduled for the next day, Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Course Map:



#### 4. Race Day

##### Race Day Schedules:

<b>Distance</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Check in</b> All check-ins will last 60 min from time listed	<b>Mandatory Race Briefing</b>	<b>Race Start</b>	
<b>2.5</b>	W	6:30 AM	7:45 AM	8:00 AM	
<b>2.5</b>	M	7:30 AM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	
<b>5</b>	W	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:00 AM	
<b>5</b>	M	10:00 AM	11:15 AM	11:30 AM	
<b>1.25</b>	M/W	11:30 AM	12:45 AM	1:00 PM (M)	1:10 PM (W)

Warm-ups: Will be open before the start of each event at the discretion of the Safety Monitor and ocean rescue staff.

Race Day Check-in: Stations will be available for each event. The times for each event's check-in are available in the table above. All check-ins will last for one hour (60 minutes). If check-in time is missed, participation will be left up to the discretion of the Meet Director.

At check-in every swimmer must have a handler named. The handler's cell number will be recorded at swimmer check-in and made available to meet staff on a printed list. If a swimmer can't be found, the first call will be to the handler. A handler may be responsible for more than one swimmer. This handler may be a Coach, but is not required to be a Coach.

Rules & Safety: Current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations will govern this event ([See Part 7 of USAS R&R](#)) Finger and Toenails should be neatly trimmed and not extend past the finger/toe, to prevent injury to others. Race Officials may require nail trimming to compete. No shaving is permitted at the competition site. No glass containers are permitted within the facility. Swimmers (Under 18) must be under the supervision of a coach. If a swimmer arrives at the event without a coach, the swimmer should notify the referee before he/she warms up. The referee will assign the swimmer to a registered coach for warm-ups. Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted in changing areas, restrooms, or locker rooms. All participants will be recorded by meet management during entry and exit to the course.

Liability: Liability USA Swimming, the LSC, the venue, and the host organization shall accept no responsibility for liability or injuries sustained by any individual, athlete, coach, official, meet volunteer, or spectator while traveling to and from or while participating in these events. Damage to the venue, when proved, will cause the offending participant, if unattached, or the

offending swimmer's club, if attached, to be held accountable for repairs. All participants and guests must adhere to all rules and coaches must supervise their swimmers. Children must be supervised.

Awards: Top 8 in each event will receive an award.

## **5. Race Safety and Emergency Information**

Supervision: Races will be supervised by open water certified lifeguards. Guards will be positioned along the course at the discretion of the Safety Monitor. Guards will have rescue paddle boards as well as motorized safety crafts to assist in monitoring athletes.

Accounting for Swimmers: Competitors will have pre-assigned race numbers. All swimmers will be marked with their race number at check-in. The number of swimmers in a race that have entered the water will be announced to all officials and safety personnel prior to the start of each race. Each swimmer is required to have a handler present at the meet. The handler's cell number will be recorded at swimmer check-in and made available to meet staff on a printed list. If a swimmer can't be found, the first call will be to the handler. Each swimmer will be assigned a unique number and will receive a "ticket", that will include the number matching their body marking and will need to be presented for water entry for their race.

Communication: Meet officials will have direct radio communication with each other, the Safety Monitor, and the Meet Director. If the lifeguards on the course do not have radio communication, non-verbal communication will be used to indicate a swimmer in distress or an emergency. The non-verbal communication will whistle blasts as well as hand signals.

EMTs & Hospitals: \*\*AtlantiCare EMTs will be on site the day of the event\*\* Shore Memorial Hospital, 1 E New York Ave, Somers Point, NJ 08244 (5.6 miles from venue) Cape Regional Urgent Care, 8 US-9, Marmora, NJ, 08223 (1.3 miles from venue)

Medical Equipment: First aid will be available near the start/finish line. Lifeguards will have basic first aid on hand.

Thermal Safety: Natural shade (trees and other shrubbery) is accessible at the race site. There will be several hospitality tents, as well as room for teams to set up their own tent if desired (**if your team plans to bring more than one 10'x10' tent, or a single tent larger than 10'x10', please contact the Meet Director to obtain permission to do so**). Bottled water will be available for athletes' post-race, however athletes are strongly encouraged to bring their own water supply as well.

## 6. Hotel Information

<b>Hotel</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Distance from Venue</b>	<b>Number</b>
Sonesta ES Suites Somers Point	900 Somers Point-Mays Landing Road Somers Point, NJ 08244	5.3 miles	(609) 927-6400
Economy Motel	21 Macarthur Blvd. Somers Point, NJ 08244	7.3 miles	(609) 927-2514
Pier 4 Hotel	6 Broadway Somers Point, NJ 08244	7.1 miles	(609) 927-9141
Residence Inn by Marriot	3022 Fire Road Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234	13 miles	(609) 813-2344
Hampton Inn Egg Harbor Township	6708 Tilton Road Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234	13.4 miles	(609) 641-4500

## 7. Sponsors

Will be updated