

**GREAT CHESAPEAKE BAY SWIM 4.4 MILES and One Mile Bay Challenge
2019 4.4 OPEN LOTTERY NAME REGISTRATION GUIDELINES & DATES**

Swim Day: June 9, 2019

Hemingway's Marina at the Bay Bridge Marina Eastern Shores of the Twin Bridges, Exit 37 S. off Rt. 50 – Pier One Rd.,
Stevensville, MD 21666 *On the Eastern Shores of the Bay Bridges*

4.4 lottery process IS NOT FOR QUALIFIED "Early Bird" CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS PARTICIPANTS FROM THIS YEAR'S EVENT ON June 10, 2018. They will receive a special separate secured instructional email which will permit their direct on-line entry.

The designated Charitable Contributions "Early Bird" name list is posted and featured on LINMARK's home page under the **ANNOUNCEMENT** column. This entitlement was given in recognition to the level of charitable funds each one contributed to attain the charitable early bird designation. Only current swim entrants, from a year's current swim, are permitted to participate in the GCBS Champion's Challenge Charitable Contributions Program.

The charitable contributions form and guidelines are only available after we close out the 2019 lottery process, with completion of name selection rounds, and the closing of GCBS 4.4 swim 2019 entry process.

Be advised that after the swim entry closure, the event director will make a very limited amount of charitable swim slots at \$1,000. This amount includes 4.4 swim entry fee and qualifies the recipient as a 2019 Charitable GCBS Early Bird. GCBS is an I.R.S. approved 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity. Swim proceeds are donated to Maryland based groups which includes the Maryland Chapter of the March of Dimes as the largest recipient of funds.

To date, GCBS has donated over \$3+ million to its charitable groups.

ONLY 650 4.4 swimmers are permitted in the water event day. Consequently, we are limited to **combining lottery entrant's names with the 2019 charitable entrant's names.** We do select an overage of 30 names. This 30-person overage allows for 4.4 entrant's refund requests (refund deadline April 15, 2019), and those who do not swim on event day. **THERE IS NO WAIT LIST, NOR EVENT DAY ENTRY.** It is against swim safety guidelines prohibiting switching or selling of a swim slot – it will permanently void future event participation by each party. As you will read, there is a swim documentation rule in place, plus photo i.d. at packet check-in on swim morning.

- **DEADLINE: 4.4 lottery name sign-up process will be closed on JAN. 6, 2019, MIDNIGHT ALL LOTTERY NAME REGISTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION – PLEASE SAVE THAT EMAIL as proof you signed up as required to be in the lottery selection pool.**

>>> [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR NAME ONTO THE LOTTERY LIST.](#) <<<

2019 Consecutive Name Selection Rounds Will Commence According to the Following Schedule.

VERY IMPORTANT: IT IS EACH SWIMMER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO FOLLOW THE NAME SELECTION DATES TO SEE IF THEY WERE EMAILED A SELECTION NOTICE, AND IT IS NOT SITTING IN THEIR SPAM EMAIL BOX. EMAIL NAME SELECTION NOTICES ARE SENT TO THE EMAIL ADDRESS YOU TYPE WHEN YOU REGISTER YOUR NAME. BE AWARE THAT MANY WORK PLACE ADDRESSES COULD TREAT THE SELECTION NOTICE AS SPAM.

- **Registering your name onto the lottery name list does not constitute a swim entry.**

LINMARK Sports will, on-going, post a live link of names selected for a current round. It will be right under the homepage masthead. Each Name for a current Selection List should be posted within one hour of the selection time indicated for each round. Please be advised that it is a timely process to process and send out an email blast to each person. **EACH CURRENT ROUND OF SELECTED NAMES HAVE A SIX-DAY WINDOW IN WHICH TO CHECK FOR THEIR NAME AND PROCEED WITH ON-LINE ENTRY. THAT WINDOW WILL BE CLOSED SHUTTING OUT ANYONE TRYING TO ENTER AFTER A SELECTION ROUND'S ENTRY DEADLINE.**

>NAMES will not be re-selected for those who miss their selection round's entry deadline date.

ROUND ONE Selections Conducted WED. 1/9/2019: 9 a.m.

- Name Sign-up Deadline: Mon. 1/14: 9 p.m.

(Round One entry ability will then be closed to all those selected but did not proceed with entry by the dead line above.) No entry on-line forms will process without also successfully submitting the entry fee.

ENTRY FEE REFUND DEAD LINE: 4/15/2019 – minus \$60 processing fee to mail refund check to your address on record.

ROUND TWO Selections Conducted WED. 1/16/2019: 9 a.m.

- Name Sign-up Deadline: Mon. 1/21: 9 p.m.

(Round Two entry ability will then be closed to all those selected but did not proceed with entry by the deadline above.) No entry on-line forms will process without also successfully submitting the entry fee.

ENTRY FEE REFUND DEAD LINE: 4/15/2019 – minus \$60 processing fee to mail check to your address on record.

ROUND THREE Selections Conducted WED. 1/23/2019: 9 a.m.

- Name Sign-up Deadline: Mon. 1/28: 9 p.m.

(Round Three entry ability will then be closed to all those selected but did not proceed with entry by the dead line above.) No entry on-line forms will process without also successfully submitting the entry fee.

ENTRY FEE REFUND DEAD LINE: 4/15/2019 – minus \$60 processing fee to mail check to your address on record.

ROUND FOUR Selections Conducted WED. 1/30/2019: 9 a.m.

- Name Sign-up Deadline: Mon. 2/04/2019: 9 p.m.

(Round Four entry ability will then be closed to all those selected but did not proceed with entry by the deadline above.) No entry on-line forms will process without also successfully submitting the entry fee.

ENTRY FEE REFUND DEAD LINE: 4/15/2019 – minus \$60 processing fee to mail check to your address on record.

NOTE: No names are carried over from a current round after its deadline date. That round's posted name list will be replaced with the next scheduled round of names selected.

IT IS EACH PERSON'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PLEASE CHECK THE NAMES ON EACH ROUND'S POSTING within your email box and the current round's posted on-line listing. (Please double check your spam box.)

On each round's selection of names, those persons are **sent an individual email advising they were selected and can now proceed directly on-line to complete the entry form and submit entry fee.** Entry form WILL NOT process without successfully submitting the entry fee along with the complete entry form **no later than the round's posted entry deadline date.**

The selection notice email will contain a special coded link which will only permit the names of those selected for a current round. That code will change for each round. Plus, names processed must agree with the lottery registrant's names we program exactly as typed on their lottery name sign up form.

DEADLINE TO REQUEST AN ENTRY FEE REFUND: APRIL 15, 2019. There is a \$60 processing fee to cut and mail check directly to address on participant's entry form. **4.4 2019 ENTRY FEE: \$350**

INFO. TIMELINE REGARDING SWIM QUALIFICATIONS, LOGISTICS, DIRECTIONS, LODGING, VOLUNTEERS, for swimmers and spectators will be on-going posted on LINMARK Sports website. Links will be featured on their home page under the Announcement column. All on-going GCBS info. will also be featured on their EVENTS Calendar page where all events are listed in date order. Additionally, updates to swim day will also be mailed to 2019 entrants in coordination with on-line postings. PLEASE FOLLOW ON-GOING for on-line swim day announcements.

- **Email Questions:** Linda Toretsky, GCBS Swim Processing Coordinator, lindat@linmarksports.com

The One Mile Bay Challenge will open to direct live entry on February 1, 2019. Many who do not make it in to the 4.4 elect to participate in the one-mile bay swim, which is conducted while the 4.4 is underway. All one-mile swim info. will be posted on or by Oct. 25, 2018. **2019 ONE MILE ENTRY FEE: \$60** Opens to live on-line entry Feb. 1, 2019. There is no refund regarding the one-mile entry fee.

- **Finally, many are aware that they may be required to submit swim documentation if they have not completed either the GCBS 4.4 or GCBS One Mile Bay Challenge in the past two years i.e. 2017 or 2018.** If an entrant comes under this document submission rule it is mandatory to complete or entry fee will be refunded, and removed from ability to participate on swim day.
- **To view swim documentation guidelines for WHO, HOW, and WHY . . .** please click on this link: [GCBS SWIM DOCUMENTATION GUIDELINES AND MADATORY RULES.](#)

Basic Event Info.:

4.4 Swim Start conducted at Sandy Point State Park, a public recreation area located on Sandy Point at the western end of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. (located on the Annapolis side of the bridges)
Address: 1100 E College Pkwy, Annapolis, MD 21409

Swimmers will swim under the span of the twin bridges back to the eastern shore beach at Hemingway's Marina next to the bridges. A timeline, with all pre-swim info. regarding logistics, directions, parking, **shuttle bus schedule to transport 4.4 swimmers to Sandy Point State Park,** for their pre-swim meeting and swim start will be posted and emailed closer to event date. It will also include pre-swim packet pick-up, with mandatory i.d. guidelines, amenities, and awards. This info. will also give in water support info. **The timeline will include important spectator information.**

All 4.4 swimmers will park on the eastern shores in lots adjacent to Hemingway's Marina where signed shuttle buses will transport 4.4 swimmers to Sandy Point State Park. There will be no bus service back to Hemingway's after swim start at Sandy Point State Park. NO SPECTATORS permitted on shuttle buses transporting 4.4 swimmers to their swim start. Complete directions will be available when the final swim day timeline is sent to all swimmers and posted on-line.

Additional signed buses will transport one-mile swimmers and spectators to Hemingway's Marina to view the event. Shuttle buses will on-going transport all swimmers and spectators on-going to and from the parking lots through event conclusion.

The preceding swim day info. is only a basic general overview of in-depth swim day logistics and timelines to follow once we progress through the entry process to close out of GCBS 2019.

Thank you and Good Luck! Questions: Email lindat@linmarksports.com

Great Chesapeake Bay Swim Web Site: www.bayswim.com

Please visit for in-depth charitable information, sponsorships, related links, and much more!

Do know that on-going entry, logistics, timelines, are provided by and available at:

www.linmarksports.com

LINMARK Sports, Inc.

GCBS timers providing live on-site results including text to finishers cell phones.

On-line results also includes YouTube video of your event day swim finish.

To have a successful swim day is to be well informed regarding all event information.

Hundreds are working for participants safety in and out of the water.

To have a successful swim day . . . Is a winning day for everyone!

Good luck, as you begin the initial steps to GCBS 2019.

Race Director, Chuck Nabit

Event Manager, Sherri Tolley

Event Swim Processing Coordinator, Linda Toretzky

Event Timing and Info. Transmissions: LINMARK Sports, Inc.

Linda Toretzky & Mark Toretzky



Photo by LINMARK Sports, Inc.