

Hello 2019 GCBS 4.4 and One Mile Entrants!

First kudos to all who participated on June 9, 2019. Under threat of heavy storm conditions, a complete venue change in under 24 hours . . .resulting with the 4.4 Swim being revised to a 2.2 mile swim. – starting and finishing on the eastern shores next to the bridges, at Hemingway’s Marina. All shuttle buses from the outer parking lots did on-going pick-ups and drop-off only to Hemingway’s Marina. Pre swim check-in, with both start and finish were conducted at the same venue. Both the One Mile Bay Challenge and the 2.2 – newly designed to permit the longer distance swim, shared the same logistics. What else would we expect from the 28th Annual Great Chesapeake Bay Swim. Let’s get right into wrap up info. both events:

Statistics:

**4.4 converted to the 2.2 Swim: Entrants 673 567 Started, with 553 finishers
Not a repeat loop. An enlarged triangle shaped course.**

One Mile Entrants 334 Started 252, with 243 finishers

Q & A:

1. **Not present at Awards Ceremony – how to receive award:**
Mail \$8 check payable to GCBS (postage and boxing)
to Sherri Tolley, Executive Assistant to C.J. Nabit
GCBS Award, 20 Commerce Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Please include name of person receiving the award, award division. Include mailing address.

2. **Did I Qualify for a Longevity Award?**
Email Sherri Tolley stolley@spfg.net
3. **Was Not at Awards Ceremony for Longevity Award – follow same instructions for #1 above.**
4. **LOST & FOUND:** Email Sherri Tolley stolley@spfg.net
Please describe item, and if you know where it might have been lost.
5. **HOW TO PARTICIPATE GCBS CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS PROGRAM**, and how to receive the participation incentive to BY-PASS the entire 4.4 lottery entry process? The general public cannot participate in this program. Only one mile or 4.4 swim ENTRANTS, current year, may participate. **Do know that any entrant who requested and received an entry fee refund, may not participate.**

A 2019 4.4 or One Mi. entrant, who did not complete the swim/pulled, or was a “no show on swim day packet pick-up, i.e. no refund” *they are considered an active entrant for all future emails and entitled to participate in the charitable program.* Since all funds, from an entrant, which includes their entry fee are credited as charitable, this is also credited toward the total charitable amount granting the charitable Early Bird level/Status, *permitting 4.4 lottery by-pass for the 2020 Swim, with special ability for direct 2020 on-line entry.*

CLICK HERE TO BRING UP THE GCBS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION DONOR FORM:
<https://linmarksports.com/special/ebform2019.pdf> Instructions on the form.

Note that GCBS has donated over \$3 million dollars to its Maryland based, charitable contributions fund recipients. Again, the donor form contains detailed info.

6. **How to purchase GCBS store items such as t-shirts, 4.4 stickers, other memorabilia:**
Please email Cathi Calato ccalato@spfg.net

7. **Official Event Photographer Info.:** Chris Bernacchi, Enduro Photo, www.endurophoto.com
Chris now has all assigned numbers, your swim event, name, email. He will also be sending out an email to all with instructions on how to view photos, and purchase info.

8. **As clearly stated in all GCBS communications” In the event - if GCBS is cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control, THERE ARE NO REFUNDS.** All funds are placed into the GCBS Charitable Contributions program. A 501c3 IRS tax-exempt foundation. This statement is also within the entry-form release which all sign, when submitting entry form and fee payment. **Additionally, there are no rollovers, or special selections for those who did not participate.** To date, GCBS has donated over \$3 million to its Maryland based charitable contributions fund. The sole reason why GCBS exists under the direction of Chuck Nabit.

GCBS POST SWIM WRAP-UP was posted early morning 6/9/2019 featured at the top of LINMARK's home page right under the masthead. *THANK YOU ALL ENTRANTS, VOLUNTEERS IN AND OUT OF THE WATER, SPONSORS,* and a hard-working coordinating staff "in and out of the water."

YES, A TOUGH SWIMMING DAY for all swimmers as the Chesapeake Bay threw in strong currents coupled with strong wind. The depth and experience of the GCBS safety fleet was so evident. GCBS a class act from start to finish. Most important, swimmer accountability was 100%. From initial scanning on water entry, those pulled, and finishers were matched one by one. In addition to finish line reading of chips, swim caps were pulled along with numbered i.d. strips worn under swim caps, and timing bands removed. This procedure was also done for all those removed from the water and brought to the dnf pier. A finish line video of all who crossed over the finish line treads was ongoing from first finisher to last. Not the best of conditions, but it's there.

>>RESULTS<< INCLUDES YOU TUBE POSTED VIDEO OF OUR FINISH LINE RECORDING IN SYNC WITH FINISH RESULTS. A brief video of "Linda's View on Swim day is posted. [Plus, an immediate link on the home page & YOU CAN CLICK HERE NOW TO VIEW LINDA'S OVERVIEW NOW.](#)

Please be reminded that it is very important to follow periodically at www.linmarksports.com regarding each step of on-going GCBS pre and post swim. Especially if your email transmits through a work server - which may block or place the message in spam. Many home systems also see email blasts as spam. Please set our

link as a safe sender of emails to your system. OR PLEASE, CHECK AT LEAST TWICE A MONTH, RIGHT AT THE TOP OF OUR SITE'S HOME PAGE FOR ALL ON-GOING GCBS PRE AND POST UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS. It is your responsibility to follow, or email LINMARK with any questions or problems. 24 hours prior to swim event, is not a good time to inquire if you are a confirmed entrant.

2020 initial entry information and instructions, for both events, will begin initial postings Oct. 1, 2019.

In Reply to some immediate concerns and questions posed:

1. **We are aware there was an issue with some swim caps tearing.** That has already been resolved for next GCBS. Sorry some were advised there were no extras to replace but they were available. Do know on short notice, and space availability, not all knew where they were. Will not be a problem next swim.
2. **"SWIM SUGGESTIONS – COURSE & buoy suggestions for next GCBS 2020:** Please, know that the entire 4.4 was transferred and a 2.2 course designed in under 24 hours. Many also worked late into the night . . . making it work in the morning, for swimmers, when they all arrived in the morning for their check-in process.

This also will not be an issue next swim, as we are looking forward to GCBS 2020 4.4 being conducted from its home base swim -- check-in, and swim start back at Sandy Point State Park.

The suggestions for course changes for this year's "2.2" should be moot.

On behalf of Chuck Nabit, GCBS Director, our coordinating staff, volunteers, sponsors, we send our thank you for continued participation, support, **and understanding how disappointed we all were.** It is a testament to all support staff in water and land, it all went forward due to their years of experience, knowledge, and their dedication to the Great Chesapeake Bay swim. GCBS is a national - consistently ranked long-distance swim, ranked in the top 3-5 - national amateur long-distance swims – every year. We all take pride in that distinction.

Swim safe, smart, have fun, and continue to support your fellow swimmers.

Linda Toretzky
GCBS, Swim Processing Coordinator
Web: www.linmarksports.com

For Your Main On-Going Resource Pre & Post GCBS Info. & Updates

Please – follow periodically, for all on-going GCBS info. It is consistently featured.