

Busselton Jetty Swim 2026

Swimmer Briefing for 3.6km Solo Swim



The following information is subject to change. Updated 4 February 2026

Welcome

Welcome to Busselton Jetty Swim 2026. We thank you for being part of this iconic event and wish you a safe, enjoyable swim.

Please read the following information carefully.

The Course

- 3.6km swim around the Busselton Jetty
- Start on the east side and finishing on the west side
- The course is clearly marked with buoys
- Swim between the buoys and the Jetty at all times

Start Procedures

This event uses a beach start with a combination of wave and rolling starts.

Gold Cap Swimmers

- Start together at the water's edge at 8:00 am on the sound of the starting gun

Rolling start (from 8:01 am)

Swimmers will enter the water under the start arch in the following cap colour order:

- Silver
- Mint
- Red
- White
- Dark green
- Sky blue
- Orange

Important

- You must wear the swim cap provided
- Your cap colour reflects your nominated swim time and helps group swimmers of similar ability

Assembly times

- Gold caps: assemble on the beach by 7:30 am
- Silver caps: assemble in the chute on the beach by 7:45 am
- Mint caps: assemble in the chute on the beach by 7:45 am
- Red caps: prepare to walk down the ramp to the beach by 7:45 am

Beach marshals will assist you into position. Please allow plenty of time. It will be crowded.

Timing Bands and Race Number Tattoos

- All swimmers are electronically timed using a timing band
- Your race time starts when you cross the timing mat at the start
- Timing bands must be securely worn on your left wrist

If you are missing either, return to check-in.

Marshalls will be checking for compliance.

Emergency evacuation

Evacuation signals include:

- Three short air-horn blasts
- Red flags raised by jetty spotters
- Continuous whistle blasts from surf ski paddlers

If you see or hear any of these signals:

- Exit the water immediately as directed by Surf Life Saving personnel
- Ladders are located every 75 metres along the Jetty and marked with green feather flags
- Follow instructions from Surf Life Saving or the public address system

Emergency Muster Area:

Amphitheatre in front of the main stage.

The Finish

- Finish is marked by two large chequered buoys
- Line up with the finish chute and arch on the beach
- Your time stops when you cross the electronic timing point

After finishing:

- Assistance is available if needed
- Move promptly through the finish chute
- Remove your timing band before entering the recovery area
- Proceed up the ramp for water and fruit

Results

- Official results available at presentations and online at
www.busseltonjettyswim.org.au

Withdrawals

If you decide not to start or decide to withdraw:

- Notify the Check-In team or an event official as soon as possible
- Return your timing band to the finish area

On-Water Safety

Surf Life Saving (SLS) provides comprehensive water safety coverage.

- Resources include jet skis, IRBs, surf skis, boards, jetty spotters, rescue equipment and radio communications
- If you need assistance, raise one arm to signal for help

Important Safety Rules

- Stay inside the yellow buoys and maintain distance from the Jetty
- If you drift off course, SLS will guide you back
- You may rest by holding a ski or float (no disqualification unless assisted forward)
- Do not swim under the Jetty unless directed by officials
- The swim zone (within 250m of the Jetty) is closed to unauthorised craft

Helicopter Patrol

A helicopter will patrol before and during the swim, with a trained SLS spotter in continuous radio contact with the Water Safety Coordinator.

Personal Support Craft

- Must be pre-approved
- Attendance at the SLS briefing is mandatory
- Hi-Vis vest must be worn at all times

Bag Drop

- Available for all swimmers (gold coin donation supports local community group)
- One Mile swimmers must use the official bag only
- No valuables
- One Mile bags available for collection from 10:30am (fast swimmers may experience a short wait)

The Jetty

- Footwear is recommended when walking on the Jetty
- Be aware of the railway tracks
- The Jetty Train will commence operation at 11:00am

First Aid

- Main medical post with paramedic and ambulance located inside the Swimmer Recovery Area
- Second post located near the base of the Jetty
- SLS first aid personnel and equipment also available near the finish

Stingers

Concerned swimmers should consider personal protection such as rash vests or stinger cream.

If stung, seek assistance from a Surf Life Saver or visit a medical tent.

Hydration, Sun & Recovery

- Water and fresh fruit provided at the finish
- Sunscreen available at the Information Tent
- Wear hats, cover up and seek shade where possible

Smoking, Alcohol & Drugs

Busselton Jetty Swim is a smoke-free (including vaping), alcohol free and drug-free event.

Personal Responsibility

- This is an ocean swim in a natural, uncontrolled environment
- While extensive safety measures are in place, participation is at your own discretion
- Your welfare is your responsibility, or that of your legal guardian
- Only registered swimmers may enter the water during the event

Further Information

Please speak to any event crew member wearing Green Crew shirts if you require assistance.

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