

Busselton Jetty Swim 2024

Swimmer Briefing for Solo Swim, Team Swims and One Mile Swim to Shore



The following information is subject to change. Updated 4 February 2024

Welcome

The organisers and sponsors welcome you to the Busselton Jetty Swim 2024. For an enjoyable and safe event please adhere to the following:

The Course

3.6 km swim around the Busselton Jetty starting on the East side and finishing on the West. The route is marked with yellow buoys; you should swim between the buoys and the Jetty.

Today's swimming conditions are: *TBA - Weather Briefing for Swimmers to be announced.*

Rolling / Beach Start - 3.6km Solo swimmers and Team swimmers.

Gold Cap solo swimmers will start together on the beach at the water's edge on a gun shot at 8:00 am.

Other solo swimmers and first swimmer of each team will start with a rolling start on the beach under the arch commencing at 8:01 am in the following order:

1. Solo swimmers - Silver swim cap
2. Solo swimmers – Dark green swim cap
3. Solo swimmers - Purple swim cap
4. Solo swimmers – White swim cap
5. Solo swimmers – Pink swim cap
6. Solo swimmers - Aqua swim cap
7. 2 person relay – Orange caps
8. 4 person relay – Lime green caps
9. One Mile Swim to Shore – Yellow caps

You must wear the swim cap provided. It indicates your estimated swim time and should enable you to swim with swimmers of similar ability.

Gold and Silver cap swimmers, please assemble on the beach by 7:45 am. Dark green cap swimmers, please go the holding area next to the start area. Purple caps go to holding area at 8:00 am. Beach marshals will direct you. Please allow enough time to move into place.

Timing Bands and Race Number Tattoos

- Swimmers will be timed and checked-in and out of the swim electronically with their timing band. Your time will start recording as you cross the timing mat at the start line.
- Please check **NOW** that your band is secure on your left wrist and that your race number tattoo is applied and visible. If you do not have your timing band and tattoo, please return to check-in following this briefing.
- Marshalls will be checking for compliance.

Relay Swimmers

- Relay swimmers should be aware that all landings are accessed by ladders.
- Relay swimmers should know which relay point they are to start from and proceed there after this briefing.
- Spot your teammate as you walk to your landing.
- Please watch out for swimmers below as you enter the water.
- If you need a towel, clothing or water bottle at the end of your swim leg, ask your teammate to bring them to the landing.

The four changeover points are:

Jetty Platform East	1.0 km	4-person relay change
Allies Landing	1.4 km	2-person relay change
Underwater Observatory Ramp	2.0 km	4-person relay change
Jetty Platform West	2.6 km	4-person relay change

Relay change-over points

- The 2-person relay changeover at Allies Landing is marked with BLUE banners.
- The 4-person relay changeovers are marked with WHITE banners.
- Swim out from the landing to tag your team mate. By tagging your team-mate you are vouching for their safe arrival.
- If you are not changing over at a relay point, please swim **away** from the landing where swimmers will be jumping in.
- Marshalls will monitor swimmer conduct and safety.

One Mile Swim to Shore

- Yellow caps. 9:30 am start.
- Swimmers walk One Mile out along the jetty and enter the water at the Underwater Observatory Ramp on the West side of the Jetty and swim back to shore.
- It is a self-seeded, rolling start.
- Please allow a minimum of ½ hour to walk to the end of the jetty to the start area.
- Wear SunSmart clothing and bring a water bottle. There are free refill points and a free water bottle collection.
- There is a bag drop for belongings (gold coin donation). Only the bags provided may be used.

Evacuation

- The on the water emergency evacuation signals are: 3 short air horn blasts; raised red flags by spotters on the Jetty; and continuous whistles by surf ski paddlers.
- If you see or hear any of these signals, please exit the swim as directed by SLS personnel.
- There are ladders every 75 metres along the Jetty marked with green feather banners.
- Please follow directions given by SLS personnel on the water or via the public address system on land.
- The emergency muster area is the amphitheatre in front of the main stage, west of the Jetty.

The Finish

- The finish is marked with two large, chequered buoys. Use these to line up the finishing chute and finish arch on the beach.
- Your time will be recorded as you pass through the electronic timing point on the beach.
- Assistance will be available for swimmers having difficulty getting up the beach.
- Please move promptly through the finish area to keep it clear for following swimmers.
- Timing bands must be removed prior to entering the recovery area.
- Continue up the ramp to the recovery area for your finisher towel, fruit and water.
- Relay swimmers exiting via the Jetty will hand in their timing band and receive their towel at the Jetty exit.
- Provisional times will be available at the swimmer recovery area.
- Official race times will be available at the presentations and at www.busseltonjettyswim.org.au

Withdrawal - DNF – DNS (did not finish / did not start)

- If you withdraw or decide not to swim you must notify the Check-In crew as soon as possible and return your timing band.
- Safety - Considerable effort goes in to maximising the safety of participants in this event.

On-water safety

- Surf Life Saving (SLS) will be attending to on-water safety. SLS have jet skis, IRB's, surf skis, board paddlers, spotters on the jetty, life-saving equipment and radio communications.
- They are highly trained for this role and will be highly visible.
- They are your first option if you need help in the water; raise your arm to attract attention.
- Please stay inside the yellow buoys but keep a safe distance away from the Jetty. If you stray too far off course SLS will guide you back.
- Tired swimmers may hang on to a ski or a float. You will not be disqualified unless your forward progress is aided.
- Swimmers or support craft are not permitted to go under any part of the Jetty unless directed by race officials.
- This event has been granted exclusive use of the waters surrounding the Busselton Jetty for the event. Unauthorised craft and personnel may not enter the swim exclusion zone (within 250m of the Jetty).

Helicopter patrol

The surrounds of the swim will be patrolled prior to and during the swim. A trained Surf Life Saving Club spotter will be in continuous radio contact with the Water Safety Coordinator (Busselton Surf Life Saving Club).

Personal support craft

Must be pre-approved, attend the SLS briefing and wear the Hi-Viz vest provided.

Bag Drop

- For a gold coin donation to a local community group, there will be a bag drop available for all swimmers on the foreshore and at the One Mile start.

- Only the bag provided may be used. It will fit a water bottle, t-shirt, hat, thongs and phone.
- Please no valuables
- If you are a fast swimmer you may need to wait a while for your bag to return to the foreshore

The Jetty Structure

- Footwear is recommended when walking on the Jetty.
- Watch out for the railway tracks.
- The Jetty Train will commence operating at 11:00am.

First Aid

- There is a first aid post with a paramedic and ambulance adjacent to the recovery area. If you need help, please go there.
- SLS also has first aid and resuscitation equipment on the beach, near the finish area.

Stingers

Concerned swimmers should be prepared and take personal measures for protection, such as wearing a rash vest or applying stinger cream. If stung, please see a Surf Life Saver or visit the medical tent near the swimmer recovery area.

Fluid and energy replacement

Water and fresh fruit are available at the finish.

Sun

Please use sunscreen, which is available at the Healthway Fuel to Go & Play Marquee. Wear hats; cover up and seek out shade.

Smoking, alcohol, drugs

Busselton Jetty Swim 2024 is a non-smoking (including vaping and e-cigarettes), zero alcohol and drug free event.

Personal responsibility

- This is an ocean swim. You swim in an uncontrolled, natural environment. The weather, sea conditions, sea life, your own exertions and other factors introduce an element of risk.
- Organisers go to considerable lengths to keep you safe but ultimately it is your choice to swim today. Your welfare is your personal responsibility or the responsibility of your legal guardian.
- If you are not officially entered in Busselton Jetty Swim 2024 please do not swim while the event is in progress.

Further Information - Please ask one of the event crew in the Green Crew shirts.

END