

34th Annual Swim Around Key West (12.5 miles)

June 26th, 2010

Start/finish: Smathers Beach.

First wave: 7:30AM

Second wave: 8:00AM

Swimmers,

This is the official announcement of the 34th Annual Swim. This swim is the original swim started by Anna Fugina Penella almost 34 years ago. We are happy that Anna continues to participate in this event and that she gives us her positive input.

Last year's swim was a great success and we received high marks from the local U. S. Coast Guard Sector. Our date approved by the USCG is Saturday, June 26th. We plan to return to the Smathers Beach start/finish venue. For any solo swimmer who needs more time to get through critical tidal areas we will have an early first wave start. Any solo swimmer who chooses to start in the first wave will be eligible for a finisher's medal but not be eligible for a placement award. There will be a limit of eight hours from 8:00AM to complete the course.

As a show of appreciation to all who entered last year's swim we have a special Returning Early Bird offer. If you were a registered swimmer on the June 6th, 2009 33rd Annual Swim Around Key West, regardless of category (i.e. solo, 2 person or 3 person relay), you may enter this 2010 swim at last year's registration cost.

Any returning swimmer in the:

- a) Solo category will pay \$125.00.
- b) 2 Person Relay will pay \$210.00.
- c) 3 Person Relay will pay \$285.00.

To be eligible for these fees any relay team must have at least one returning swimmer from the 2009, June 6th swim. This offer is only valid until **December 31st, 2009** and must send in a hard copy of the application by mail with a check for the full amount. Any applications received after that requesting the Returning Early Bird offer will be returned and the swimmer must reapply with the new registration fees. This offer is not available on active.com

All other swimmers will pay the new registration fees:

- a) Solo category will pay \$135.00.
- b) 2 Person Relay will pay \$230.00.
- c) 3 Person Relay will pay \$300.00.

We will receive hardcopy applications with your check or you may apply with a credit card at active.com.

Any application sent in after April 15th, 2010 must add an extra \$10.00 to each category.

Please note that no applications will be received after June 10th, 2010

We are happy to announce that the Radisson Hotel will once again be our Official Headquarters. We have worked out special rates for our swimmers and friends of the swim at the Radisson Hotel; the Comfort Inn; The Days Inn and the Holiday Inn. All of these hotels are within walking distance to the Radisson. Please see our website for more information on lodging.

Our mandatory pre race swim meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel on Friday, June 25th, 2010. This meeting will begin promptly at 6:00pm and will last approximately one hour. You may sign in as early as 4:00PM. There will be no more signing in after 6:00PM.

All swimmers must have a support/escort vessel. This is to provide you with protection and your food supply. Normally solo swimmers opt for a kayak. Kayak may be rented from local outfitters. Information may be found on the website swimaroundkeywest.com Kayaks are usually dropped off before the event and picked up after at the start/finish line. The committee who governs the 34th Annual Swim is not responsible for support/escort vessels. This is your responsibility. We will help find kayakers and this will be on a first come basis. We will not attempt to find a kayaker for a swimmer who is not registered in our event.

Relays usually opt to go with motor boats. These may be located by contacting business on our website. As with the kayak the organizing committee takes no responsibilities for these support/escort vessels. Swimmers will want to make sure that your support/escort vessel is on site by 7:00AM at the very latest. This swim start time is tided to the tides and so we start on time. If you do not have a support/escort vessel you will be disqualified.

This swim is an in water start. All relay members must be in the support/escort vessel. There is no land access for relay swimmers. Transition points for relay swimmers will be clearly marked and must be entered from the vessel as the previous swimmer exits the water into the vessel.

We do not have a fin and snorkel category. We do not allow wet suits or technical suits. Each swimmer is allowed a swim suit, goggles and a swim cap and nothing more.

This is warm water swim. The water temperature could be as high as 85 degrees. You must have plenty of skin protectant and liquid. See the website for tips and pointers. Swimaroundkeywest.com

There is no alternative date for the event. If the U. S. Coast Guard determines the conditions are too dangerous the event will be cancelled. There will be no refund of entry fees for any reason.

We are happy to report that the two years ago, after we paid pour bills, we were able give \$1000.00 to the Key West High School Cross Country Team. This year we were able to contribute \$1,500.00 to the Cross Country team. We hope in the 2010 we will be able to give even more.

May the Lord grant us success in our 34th Annual Swim.

Sincerely,

Bill Welzien
50 completed swim around Key West
Organizer
34th Annual Swim Around Key West (12.5 miles)