



# Maui Channel Swim

## Established in 1972

**DATE OF SWIM: Saturday, September 4, 2010**

The MAUI CHANNEL SWIM is the original Masters distance relay race in open water. It begins on the Island of Lanai and ends at Kaanapali Beach on the Island of Maui. In between are some fine rough water and a lot of competitive long-distance swimming. Six-person teams on individual escort boats trade off swimmers after successive half-hour legs, then switch to ten-minute legs until the finish line is reached anywhere from 3 to 7 hours later depending upon sea conditions. Individuals will swim the whole race. The total distance is over nine miles.

### **RULES & REGULATIONS**

#### **1. Entrants & Eligibility**

- 1.1. An official team may be entered by six individuals, or as an individual. **A maximum of 20 individual swimmers on a first come first serve basis will be accepted.** All swimmers are cautioned that swimming the channel can be very challenging due to winds and currents. As such, a swimmer who cannot complete 2,000 yards in under 40 minutes should not consider entering as a solo competitor. If you have any doubts, please contact the race director. All competitors, team and solo, must finish the race within 8 hours (8:00 AM to 4:00 PM) in order to have an official time and to be eligible for applicable awards.
- 1.2. All swimmers must be at least **19** years old. Date of birth for each team member will be listed on the entry form. There are six (6) swimmers to a team. Swimmers are advised that they may jeopardize their amateur standing under FINA rule GR1, if they participate in Masters competition. There are no age group divisions for the individual category.
- 1.3. All participants must be currently registered with U.S. Masters Swimming. If a team's Official Entry and Roster Form does not indicate each team member's 2010 U.S. Masters Swimming Registration number along with a copy of their USMS card, the entry will be rejected. Foreign swimmers may compete if they are registered with their FINA-approved governing body. A team shall be comprised of six swimmers.
- 1.4. An official entry must include (A) complete Official Entry and Roster Form, (B) copy of USMS card for all participants, (C) Liability Release Form executed by all participants and (D) entry fee. **Partially complete applications will be rejected and returned.**

#### **2. Divisions**

- 2.1. Divisions are as follows, with appropriate division determined by the combined age of all team members:
  - OPEN
  - MAKULE (240+)
  - SENIOR MAKULE (300+)
  - GRAND MAKULE (360+)
  - WOMEN'S OPEN
  - MIXED OPEN
  - INDIVIDUAL/SOLO (maximum of 20 entrants)

The famed Maui Channel "DUKE BOWL" will go to the first team overall. Combined ages will determine the age division of a team. Thus some members of a team may be younger than the age total divided by 6 ( $150/6=25$ ). However the minimum age is 19 years. The teams in the "open" division may be any combination of sexes. A "mixed" team consists of 3 men and 3 women.

#### **3. Competition**

##### **3.1. General**

- 3.1.1. Each team or individual swimmer **must** be accompanied by an appropriate escort boat flying a team flag, approximately 3 feet by 5 feet. All teams are to display a banner or sign on the side of their boat with the team name.
- 3.1.2. Each swimmer's first leg is 30 minutes. Succeeding legs are 10 minutes per person, except for the Kaanapali Beach finish leg. If the swimmer has passed or is close to the final buoy and has reached the end of their 10 minute leg, the captain may elect to have this swimmer complete the race. If the team captain chooses to switch the swimmers, under no circumstances will the escort boat be allowed to enter the area between the buoy and the shore. Any escort boat that enters this restricted area will automatically disqualify the team.
- 3.1.3. The starting sequence of swimmers must be maintained throughout the race. If a swimmer cannot take his or her turn for any reason, he or she cannot be replaced by an alternate.
  - 3.1.3.1. If a person cannot finish his or her leg, the boat is allowed to keep its motor on only to keep present position for the duration of that swimmers leg. If the next swimmer enters the water before the proper time, the team will be disqualified.

3.1.3.2. If a team has to pull a swimmer for any reason, they may choose to motor sideways to get away from that area, but they may not motor forward.

3.1.4. NO PACING; NO PADDLEBOARDS: Rubber rafts are allowed if fixed to the escort boat. Swimmers must swim on either the left or the right side of the boat. NO DRAFTING WILL BE ALLOWED. Drafting is defined as "the carrying of a swimmer by the wake of the escort boat or another swimmer." If any team engages in drafting, and a complaint by another team is upheld, the drafting team will be disqualified.

3.1.5. SWIMMER'S RIGHT OF WAY: The swimmers safety is the first priority. In all cases, escort boats must give way to the swimmer. Boat captains are cautioned to maintain safe distances from all swimmers including those on other teams. If any team's boat becomes a threat to the safety of a swimmer and a complaint is filed with the Race Director and upheld, the violating team will be disqualified.

Competitors, team and solo, must finish the race within 8 hours (8:00 AM to 4:00 PM) in order to have an official time and to be eligible for applicable awards. It is up to boat captains as to whether a swimmer is pulled from the water due to, among other items, significant currents.

3.1.6. On the start and finish legs, swimmers must wear a visible cap. Caps are optional on other legs.

### 3.2. Start

3.2.1. When escort boats arrive at the starting area, only the lead swimmer is to swim to the beach for the start of the race. Team members wishing to warm up are to ask their boat to move further down the beach where there are no boats in the area. This is a safety concern to prevent any accidents from occurring. Even the lead swimmer who is swimming to the beach must be aware of other boats in the area.

3.2.2. To start the race, an official starter, standing on the pier, will raise a red flag, then a green flag, so all swimmers will have a fair and equal start. Any swimmer or group of swimmers who start before this signal will automatically disqualify their team. The official starter is solely vested with the authority to start the race. This authority includes holding up the start of the race in order to assure all teams have crossed the channel to Lanai.

3.2.3. The race will start from a beach on Lanai. Swimmers will immediately enter the water and begin swimming. RUNNING ALONG THE BEACH AND ENTERING THE WATER AT ANY PLACE OTHER THAN THE DESIGNATED STARTING AREA IS PROHIBITED. If any swimmer enters the water at any place other than the designated starting area, the entire team will be disqualified. The race will start at approximately 8:00 A.M. from Lanai.

3.2.4. Team captains are to instruct the boat captains to position their boats at least 25 feet apart for an imaginary channel to allow swimmers to swim out at the start without being obstructed by boats. Further, boat captains should be instructed to stay outside the various packs of swimmers for the first 20 minutes or so of the race. This will allow the swimmers to gain separation and allow all swimmers in the "imaginary channel" to have the benefit of clean water. Please be on the lookout for other swimmers in the water; SAFETY IS OUR FIRST PRIORITY.

### 3.3. Finish

3.3.1. The finish line will be in front of the Kaanapali Beach Hotel, immediately below the "MAUI CHANNEL" banner. At the finish line, the finishing swimmer shall give the team name and number to the race official. At the finish there will be an orange buoy in the water in front of the Kaanapali Beach Hotel. Please swim between the buoy and Black Rock (i.e., the buoy is to be on your right shoulder), finish on the beach under the banner. Please bring a black **waterproof** marker and write the team number on your finishing swimmer's left arm and on your starting swimmer's bathing cap to assist in identification at the start and finish of the race. Your race number, T-shirts and banquet tickets will be given out at the pre-race meeting.

3.3.2. The area between the orange buoy and the shore line is to be considered restricted in order to protect finishing swimmers and spectators. Team captains are to instruct the boat captains that under no circumstances are escort boats allowed to enter this area. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification of the team. Similar to the start, escort boats are to position their boats a safe distance apart in order to establish an imaginary channel to allow swimmers to approach the finish remembering that swimmers will be coming from south as well as north of the orange buoy. Escort boats may drop their other swimmers south of the orange buoy.

## GENERAL LOGISTICS

4. ENTRY FEE: The entry fee for a team is \$720.00. The entry fee for an individual/solo swimmer is \$140.00. Entry fees include the price of the buffet banquet for each member of a team (or the solo swimmer) and one official Maui Channel Swim t-shirt for each team member. The entry fee is to be paid by check made to MAUI CHANNEL SWIM and mailed along with a **complete** Official Entry and Roster Form, and copies of USMS cards and executed Liability Release Form for **all participants**:

Ian Emberson

P.O. Box 690169

Makaweli, Kauai, HI 96769

5. ENTRY DEADLINE: All entries must be received by Tuesday, July 20, 2010. **If received after this date, the entry fee will be \$880.00 for a team and \$190.00 for an individual/solo.**
6. ESCORT BOATS: Each team is responsible for negotiating the price of an escort boat and paying for its charter. The average fee is \$500.00 - \$700.00 per boat. If assistance is required in securing an escort boat, the Race Director will assist the team in identifying possible escort boats. Regardless, it is the team's responsibility to confirm the boat and all other details. The Race Director has NO responsibility to insure that the boat will show up on time at a location specified. This is the responsibility of the team.
7. TEAM CAPTAIN: Each team shall have an appointed team captain who is responsible for knowing all the rules and details of the race. The Citizens Band (CB) channel for boat communication will be CB 35 VHF and VHF 68. **Please call in if you are pulling out of the race.**
8. USMS REGISTRATION: Your registration and membership in U.S. Masters Swimming provides you with accident insurance for all properly sanctioned events and supervised practices of member clubs. Pacific Masters registration chairperson is Nancy Ridout, 580 Sunset Parkway, Novato, CA 94947-4810 (PHONE: (415) 892-0771). Southern Pacific Masters registration chairperson is Julie Heather, 957 North El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91104 (PHONE: (626) 296-1841). For Hawaiian Association U.S. Masters Swimming, contact: Toni Sinnott, 321 Pukalani St., Makawao, HI, 96768 (PHONE: (808) 298-3269 or EMAIL: [HIRegistrar@usms.org](mailto:HIRegistrar@usms.org)).  
  
For Hawaii residents, a one-day registration will be available for this event for 2010. This single-event registration does not include a subscription to SWIM MAGAZINE. When requesting registration application, specify whether you want full membership or single-event. Pacific and Southern Pacific Masters contact your local registrar for availability of single-event registration.
9. SANCTION: This event is sanctioned by the Hawaii Masters Swimming Association for USMS, Inc. The official sanction number can be obtained from the Race Director.
10. CAPTAINS' MEETING: There will be a mandatory organizational meeting at the Kaanapali Beach Hotel, at 5:00 P.M. on the evening of Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, near the pool, which will serve as the banquet area on Saturday night. **TEAM CAPTAINS OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH TEAM ARE REQUIRED TO BE AT THIS MEETING** to go over any last minute changes, instructions for the start of the race and to pick-up official t-shirts. **NOTE:** Additional t-shirts and hats will be available for purchase at this meeting and during the banquet on Saturday evening.
11. BANQUET: The banquet on Saturday night will also be held at the Kaanapali Beach Hotel, beginning at 5:30 P.M. The team and individual entry fee covers the cost of the banquet for each participant.  
  
Non-participants who wish to attend the banquet may purchase banquet tickets for an additional fee of \$40.00 per person. Please indicate the number of additional tickets on the Official Entry and Roster Form and include the additional fee with the team's entry. If you plan to have extra people attend the banquet, it is mandatory you pay ahead of time so we can have an accurate headcount to give the hotel.  
  
Parking for the banquet on Saturday night at the Kaanapali Beach Hotel is limited at the hotel. We ask for your assistance to park near Luigi's Restaurant, the Whaler's Village parking complex, or walk, if you are nearby.  
  
Due to swimmers wanting to leave early to participate in the Waikiki Roughwater Swim, the Awards ceremony will start at 6:00 PM. The Waikiki Roughwater Swim will be on Monday, September 6, 2010, and the Annual 2.4 Mile Maui 'Au Makua Swim will be on Monday, September 6, 2010. Please indicate if you will not attend the banquet.
12. ACCOMMODATIONS: A special rate is available for Maui Channel Swimmers, please contact reservations at the Kaanapali Beach Hotel, it is best to contact them directly. Their phone number is (808) 661-0011, Toll Free Number: (822) 262-8450, Web Site: [www.kbhmaui.com](http://www.kbhmaui.com). Hawaii residents may request a Kama'aina rate.
13. RACE DIRECTOR: The Race Director with ultimate authority over the conduct of the competition is:  
  
Ian Emberson  
P.O. Box 690169  
Makaweli, Kauai, HI 96769  
Home: (808) 338-0722  
Cell: (808) 639-1109 Primary – Coco  
(808) 652-4740 Secondary – Ian  
Fax: (808) 241-7287  
Email Address: [CocoEmberson@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:CocoEmberson@hawaii.rr.com)  
Web Site: [www.MauiChannelSwim.com](http://www.MauiChannelSwim.com)
14. OTHER QUESTIONS: If you have further questions about anything not covered here, or about anything that remains unclear after reading all of this, please contact the Race Director. Please call between 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. **HAWAIIAN TIME** (be courteous; Hawaii time is 3 hours earlier than California). Since we are swamped with telephone calls concerning the MAUI CHANNEL SWIM, we would appreciate it if you would write, email or fax whenever possible.



**LIABILITY RELEASE FORM**

I, the undersigned participant, intending to be legally bound, hereby certify that I am physically fit and have not been otherwise informed by a physician. I acknowledge that I am aware of all the risks inherent in Masters Swimming (training and competition), including possible permanent disability or death, and agree to assume all of those risks. AS A CONDITION OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THE MASTERS SWIMMING PROGRAM OR ANY ACTIVITIES INCIDENT THERETO, I HEREBY WAIVE ANY AND ALL RIGHTS TO CLAIMS FOR LOSS OR DAMAGES, INCLUDING ALL CLAIMS FOR LOSS OR DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE, ACTIVE OR PASSIVE, OF THE FOLLOWING: UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING, INC., THE LOCAL MASTERS SWIMMING COMMITTEES, THE CLUBS, HOST FACILITIES, MEET SPONSORS, MEET COMMITTEES, OR ANY INDIVIDUALS OFFICIATING AT THE MEETS OR SUPERVISING SUCH ACTIVITIES. In addition, I agree to abide by and be governed by the rules of USMS. Finally, I specifically acknowledge that I am aware of all the risks inherent in open water swimming, and agree to assume those risks.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 5. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

A. Entry Information:

- a. Team Name and Division \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Participant Data \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Escort Boat Data \_\_\_\_\_

B. Copy of USMS Card       1     2     3     4     5     6

C. Executed Liability Release Form     1     2     3     4     5     6

D. Check for Entry Fee      \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETE or APPLICATION WILL BE REJECTED & RETURNED**