

We want everyone to understand that we hold safety first and foremost in our plans. On the water and on the shore.

This year may present special challenges. We have no way of knowing what the status will be on July 24, but we are ready to adapt to whatever conditions are in effect at the time.

Registrants for the Swim should be aware that as conditions change we will adapt to those changes. Please remember that this is a Swim: a local, casual, friendly neighborhood event that has grown to attract a large following around the country and around the world. We are very proud of our success but we realize that success can not be sacrificed to a loss a safety.

Please also keep in mind that this is a charitable event. Your registration fee and your fundraising supports the Hospice Care Network, an organization that is more important now than ever before. Your registration fee can be considered a donation, as we do not offer refunds.

Please be aware that we may need to make changes to our procedures depending on local conditions in July. Among those possible changes are the following:

- We may need to forego the use of busses for transport to the Fire Island Ferries. In that case, swimmers and kayakers will be responsible for getting to the Ferries or to the Lighthouse.
- We may need to start in shifts rather than the shotgun start
- We may need to control the rate at which swimmers arrive at the finish line
- We may ask swimmers and kayakers to handle their equipment at the finish line
- We may cancel our After-Party
- We may have minimal facilities at Gilbert Park

We do not anticipate drastic measures at this time, but we want you to know that we are prepared to safely adapt to the conditions in July.

We caution anyone planning to register for The Swim to consider these matters. This may not be a good year for non-open water swimmers, or those who have no experience in the Great South Bay, or those with vulnerable medical conditions.

Please follow this site and our FaceBook page frequently. We will post updates as we get clarity on the situation. Thanks and Good Luck!