

Be Active Busselton Jetty Swim 2010 - Race Briefing

The following information is subject to change

Welcome

The race organizers & sponsors take this opportunity to welcome you to the Be Active Busselton Jetty Swim 2010.

For the event to run smoothly & safely it is important that you attend to the following points.

The Courses

There will be 2 separate swim courses in this year's event:

- A 3.6km solo swim around the jetty
- A 1km solo short course swim on the West side of the jetty

There are no relay swims in this year's event.

3.6km Solo Jetty Swim (08:00 start time)

The swim starts on the East (Bunbury) side of the Jetty, rounds the end of the Jetty & finishes on the West side on the beach under the Finish Gate, a total distance of approximately 3.6 km.

The shortest route is marked with buoys; you should use these as a guide.

For your safety you must keep a good distance away from the Jetty.

Swimmers and support craft are not permitted to go under any part of the Jetty except in the event of an emergency or unless directed to do so by the Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC).

Wave Starts

Swimmers will start in 5 waves, 2 minutes apart (approx. 200 swimmers per wave).

Note: the final number of waves will be determined once entrant numbers are confirmed

08:00	Wave A	Yellow swim caps
08:02	Wave B	Orange swim caps
08:04	Wave C	Green swim caps
08:06	Wave D	Pink swim caps
08:08	Wave E	White swim caps

Swimmers will wear a cap indicating their start wave. The swim cap must be worn.

All swimmers will also have been marked with a start wave letter. (A to E)

New Start Area arrangements

To further improve safety we will be trialling a pre-race audit of swimmers using the swimmers timing bands.

The start area will be cordoned off with an electronic recording mat at the entrance. Swimmers are required to walk over the mat to record that they are in the start area. Once in the start area, swimmers need to remain there until they start the race. Please check that you have your timing band on the left ankle prior to entering the start area.

If you wish to warm up in the water please do this prior to entering the start area.

Please move into the start area as soon as called (or earlier). This is a first for us and we don't want last minute congestion at the entrance to hold up the start.

1km Solo Short Course Swim (09:00 start time)

The swim is a clockwise course starting 50m west (Dunsborough side) of the Jetty swim finish line. Participants swim straight out for 475m, turn right for 50m and turn right again for the final 475 metres back to shore. The home leg of this swim will merge with the home leg of the 3.6km swim.

Swimmers must swim around the 2 seaward buoys at the 475m and 525m marks. Other buoys on the course are a guide only.

Wave Starts

Swimmers will start in 2 waves, 2 minutes apart (approx. 200 swimmers per wave).

Note: the final number of waves will be determined once entrant numbers are confirmed

09:00	Wave F	Blue swim caps
09:02	Wave G	Purple swim caps

Swimmers will wear a cap indicating their start wave. The swim cap must be worn.

All swimmers will also have been marked with a start wave letter. (F to G)

Each wave will start in the water & will be called up 1 minute before starting. Please move promptly when called.

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The Finish

Swimmers will be timed electronically using a timing band worn on the ankle.

All swimmers must wear a timing band on the left ankle.

Please check now that your band is secure.

Note that there is a \$25 replacement fee for lost timing bands.

The finish gate will be some metres out of the water & your time will be recorded as you pass through the timing gate. Assistance will be available for swimmers having difficulty getting up the beach & such assistance will not be grounds for disqualification.

Please move promptly through the finish gate & keep the finish area clear for following swimmers

Upon finishing it is important that you hand in your timing band before leaving the fenced area, and then make your way to the check-in desk to receive your completion trophy.

Official race times will be available at the presentation & at www.busseltonjettyswim.org.au

Withdrawals

It is the responsibility of any swimmer withdrawing from the event to notify check-in as soon as possible & to ensure that their timing band is returned.

Safety

Considerable effort goes in to maximising the safety of participants in this event.

On-water safety - The Busselton, Bunbury, Binningup and Dalyellup Surf Life Saving Clubs will be attending specifically to on-water safety. They have a motorized inflatable boat, a number of surf skis, life saving equipment & radio communications. They have a high level of accredited training for this role & will be highly visible. They should be your first option if you have any on water safety concerns. If you require assistance please raise your hand to attract attention.

Support craft - As well as the SLSCs there are numerous support craft, surf skis etc, which are encouraged to remain in close contact with swimmers, without hindering them. If you are tired, you may hang on to a ski or a float. You will not be disqualified unless your forward progress is aided. Support craft; you are here to support a specific swimmer or team but if you are the closest, please render assistance to whoever requires it, this goes for swimmers also. We are all here to enjoy a great swim in company & in safety. Please look out for one another.

This year's event will be closely monitored by a Department of Planning & Infrastructure (DPI) patrol vessel for compliance with the Navigable Waters Regulations. The race organizers have sought & been granted, a part exemption from these regulations for bona fide support craft. Accordingly all support paddlers must be identified by the wearing of coloured wrist bands. Bands will be issued at the support craft briefing near the start line shortly after this briefing.

All support paddlers must attend this briefing.

Stingers - are always a consideration. If you are concerned by or are sensitive to stingers, wear a stinger suit, rash vest & apply a barrier cream.

First Aid - St John's personnel are at the event today & there is a first aid tent next to the check-in tent. Should anyone require first aid they should seek help to summon a St John's officer or if possible proceed to the first aid tent. The SLSC officers also have first aid & resuscitation equipment. The St John's officers can call for an ambulance if required.

Fluid & energy replacement - Bottled water & fresh fruit are freely available at the finish.

Sun - Please use sunscreen, which is freely available at the first aid tent. Wear hats, cover up & seek out shade.

Smoking – The Be Active Busselton Jetty Swim 2010 is a smoke free event; enjoy the clean air of Geographe Bay.

General Emergency – A continuous air horn blast is the on-water emergency signal. Should there be a need to evacuate the water or the land area of the event you will be directed via the SLSCs on the water or via the Public Address system on land.

For general on-water emergencies 4 muster points have been created. These are the 4 large silver and pink buoys spaced around the jetty. Competitors may be directed to assemble at the muster buoy nearest to them.

Personal responsibility -The Be Active Busselton Jetty Swim 2010 is an ocean swim. You swim in an uncontrolled, natural environment. The weather, sea conditions & sea life, your own exertions & numerous other factors all introduce an element of risk. The race organizers go to considerable lengths to maximise your safety but ultimately it is your choice to swim today. Your welfare is your personal responsibility or the responsibility of your legal guardian.

The Jetty Structure – The entire jetty structure is under repair. Swimmers and support craft should keep a distance of 15 metres clear of the jetty.

Further Information - For assistance during the day please ask one of the event crew in the Orange Crew Safety Vests or Crew T shirts.

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