

16th Annual Keller Cove Swim

For Kids' Sake

~~ 2-mile swim ~~

~~ 1-mile swim ~~

~~ ½-mile swim ~~

September 20, 2026

Keller Beach, Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline
Richmond, California

Presented by: Richmond Plunge Masters (RPM)/Richmond Sailfish

Sanctioned by: USMS/Pacific Masters Swimming

Lifeguard Services: East Bay Regional Park District

The Event

This open water bay swim is the 16th annual fundraising event to benefit the youth USA swim team ("Sailfish") program in the City of Richmond, based at the historic Richmond Municipal Natatorium ("The Plunge"). Proceeds from the event will be used for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. It will be held at Keller Beach, Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline, in cooperation with East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) who will provide water safety and lifeguard services for the event. The event includes open water swim competitions for youth (ages 8 to 17) and adult swimmers, at ½-mile, 1-mile and 2-mile distances, wetsuit and non-wetsuit. **This is the Pacific Masters' 2026 Open Water Championship and final event of the open water season.**

Event Sanctioning and Eligibility

The Masters swim events (½-mile, 1-mile and 2-mile) are sanctioned by Pacific Masters Swimming for USMS, Inc. All adult participants must be current 2026 registered members of USMS or may register and participate by paying an additional single-event fee (OEVT) of \$20 (see Entry Fees below). The youth swim events (½-mile and 1-mile) are open to all youth swimmers with parent/guardian consent. The swim is open to swimmers with disabilities; contact Head Coach John Schonder (richmondswims@gmail.com) regarding specific water assistance needs.

Swim Events

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|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ❖ Youth (8 to 17): | ½-mile & 1-mile swims | Non-Wetsuit and Wetsuit Divisions |
| ❖ Adult (Masters): | ½-mile & 1-mile and 2-mile swims | Non-Wetsuit and Wetsuit Divisions |

Note:

Youth swimmers may enter either the ½-mile or 1-mile swim (one swim only).

Adult (Masters) swimmers may enter: ½-mile only; 1-mile only; 2-mile only; ½-mile + 1-mile; or ½-mile + 2-mile.

Registration/Check-In

Registration must be completed online by September 18. THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE NO PAPER ENTRIES AND NO RACE-DAY ENTRIES. NO RACE-DAY CATEGORY SWAPS (you cannot change from wetsuit to non-wetsuit, or vice-versa).

NO RACE-DAY RACE SWAPS (you cannot change from the 2-mile to the 1-mile race, etc.). You may always withdraw from a race at any time, including on race day.

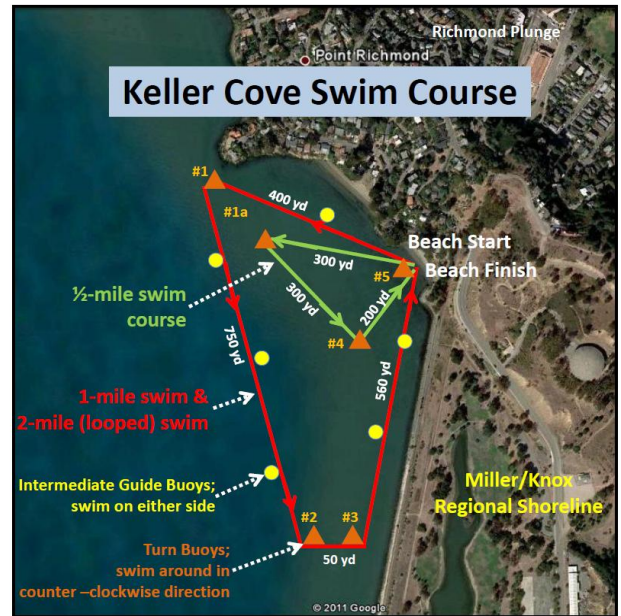
Check-in will open at 7:30 am and will close at 9 am for the ½-mile swim, and at 10 am for the 1-mile and 2-mile swims.

Schedule of Activities

- ❖ Swimmer Check-in (1/2-mile): 7:30 am - 9:00 am
 - ❖ Swimmer Check-in (1 & 2-mile) 7:30 am - 10:00 am
 - ❖ Welcome and Introductions: 9:00 am - 9:15 am
 - ❖ Race Instructions – ½-mile 9:15 am - 9:25 am
 - ❖ ½ -mile Swim 9:30 am - 10:15 am
 - ❖ Race Instructions- 1 & 2-mile 10:15 am - 10:25 am
 - ❖ 1 and 2-mile Swim: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
- ~~~~ Refreshments and Awards following Swims ~~~~

Swim Course

All swims will begin and end on Keller Beach and will follow a counterclockwise course marked by brightly colored buoys. The ½-mile swim will be run first as a separate event. After this is completed, the 1-mile and 2-mile swims will be run concurrently, beginning with the 2-mile swim wave, followed by the 1-mile swim wave. The 2-mile swim will consist of two loops of the 1-mile course. For swimmer safety, time limits will be 1 hour for the 1-mile swim and 2 hours for the 2-mile swim.



Water Temperature, Wetsuits & Water Quality

Water temperature for the swim is expected to be in the range of 62-66 degrees. Swimmers are encouraged to wear wetsuits unless they are accustomed to swimming without wetsuits at the expected water temperature and for the distances offered in this event. Water temperatures near Keller Cove can be checked at: <https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/stationhome.html?id=9414863>.

Water quality at Keller Beach is analyzed weekly by EBRPD with results published at: https://www.ebparks.org/about/stewardship/water/keller_beach_water_quality.htm

Awards

- ❖ Masters Non-Wetsuit Division: ½, 1 and 2-mile swims; top 3 places in each 5-yr age groups; Men & Women
- ❖ Masters Wetsuit Division: ½, 1 and 2-mile swims; top 3 places in 10-yr age groups; Men & Women
(Note: All swims are eligible for Pacific Masters Open Water Points Competition)
- ❖ Youth Non-Wetsuit Division: ½ and 1-mile swims; top 3 places by 2-yr age groups; Boys & Girls
- ❖ Youth Wetsuit Division: ½ and 1-mile swims; top 3 places; Boys & Girls

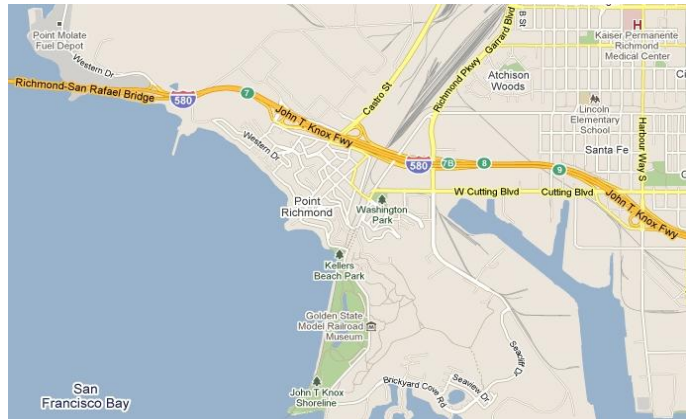
Entry Fees

Category	Deadline	Entry Fees		
		Youth	Masters	
		½ or 1-mile	Single Swim (½, 1 or 2-mile)	Two Swims (½ + 1-mile or ½ + 2-mile)
Early	8/18/2026	\$40	\$55	\$70
Regular	9/18/2026	\$45	\$60	\$75
NO RACE-DAY ENTRIES				
Additional one event (OEVT) registration for non-USMS entrants			\$20	

- All entries are non-refundable.

Water Safety & Lifeguard Services

Water safety and support will be provided under the direction of the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Aquatics Supervisor and lifeguards, including lifeguards, rescue boards, and two motorized boats. All EBRPD guidelines and criteria for open water swim events will be adhered to. The swim area (Keller Cove) is not subject to strong bay currents or significant boat traffic, as it lies off the main tidal channels in a relatively protected cove. Any boats in the area will be precluded from entering the swim area. All participants will be required to wear a brightly colored swim cap (to be provided) and will receive body-marking for swimmer identification. The use of swim fins, pull buoys or other swimming devices will not be permitted. Personal escorts will only be permitted for swimmers with disabilities, with approval from the EBRPD Aquatics Supervisor and RPM Race Safety Officer. Note: Under penalty of disqualification, swimmers may not make deliberate contact with craft, craft operators, and/or any physical features on or near the course during the swim.



Directions & Parking

Driving Directions. Keller Beach is located at the intersection of Western Dr. and Dornan Dr. in Point Richmond, adjacent to the south portal of the Dornan Dr. Tunnel. From Highway 580, take the Canal Blvd exit and turn south; turn right at W. Cutting Blvd; turn left at Dornan Dr./S. Garrard and proceed past “The Plunge” through the tunnel. Keller Beach is on the right upon exiting the south side of the tunnel.

Parking. Parking near Keller Beach is limited to curbside parking along the west side of Dornan Dr, which stretches for a distance of approximately one mile to the south (toward San Francisco). Come early for close-in parking. Other parking options include: (a) street parking in Point Richmond (near the Plunge) and walk through the tunnel (1/4 mile); (b) Main Parking Lot for Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline (1/3 mile); (c) Dirt parking area across from Main Parking Lot (1/3 mile); and (d) Overflow and South Parking Lot (1/2 mile)



Contact Information:

For questions and more information regarding this swim event, Richmond Plunge Masters and Richmond Sailfish youth team, or general information on Masters swimming contacts are provided below:

Richmond Plunge Masters and Richmond Sailfish:

Race Director: Norm Hantzsch (nhantzsch@questaec.com)
Race Safety Officer: John Schonder (richmondswims@gmail.com)
Masters Head Coach: Ron Taylor (rntylr@gmail.com)
Meet Referee: Mehdi Nourbakhsh (mehdi@richmondswims.org)
Website: <http://www.richmondswims.org>
Address: Richmond Swims, P.O. Box 70952, Richmond, CA 94807

USMS/Pacific Masters:

USMS Registration: <http://www.usms.org/reg>
Pacific Masters Swimming: <http://www.pacificmasters.org>

