



# 2023 SAA-TAMPA SWIMMER & VOLUNTEER PACKET

# EVENT TIMELINE

\*Event Day Schedule is subject to change. Please arrive before Check In closes at 7:30 am.

Event Day Timeline
<b>6:00 am:</b> Volunteers arrive
<b>6:45 am:</b> Registration Opens (Closes at 7:45 am)
<b>7:30 am:</b> Welcome Program & Guest Speakers
<b>8:00 am:</b> National Anthem
<b>8:15 am:</b> Mandatory Safety Speech
<b>8:30 am:</b> 2 Mile Swim Start
<b>8:40 am:</b> 1 Mile Swim Start
<b>8:45 am:</b> ½ Mile Swim Start
<b>8:50 am:</b> Watermelon Dash Start
<b>9:30 am:</b> Post Event Celebration Begins on Pool Deck

\*\*\*Course cut off is 10:15 AM.

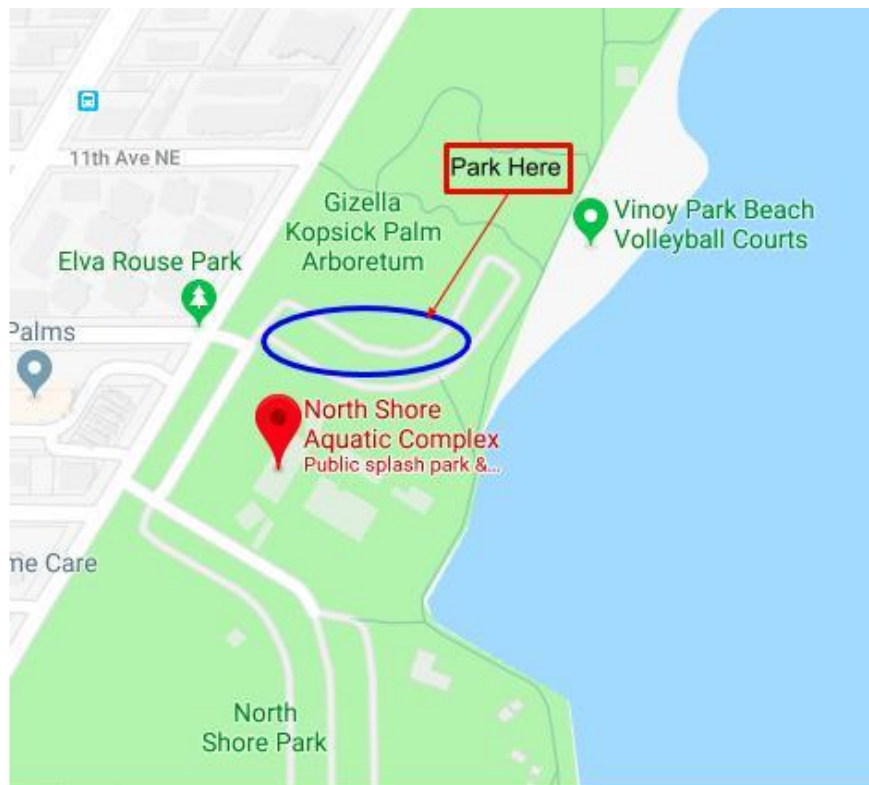
# VENUE & COURSE MAPS

## Swim Location

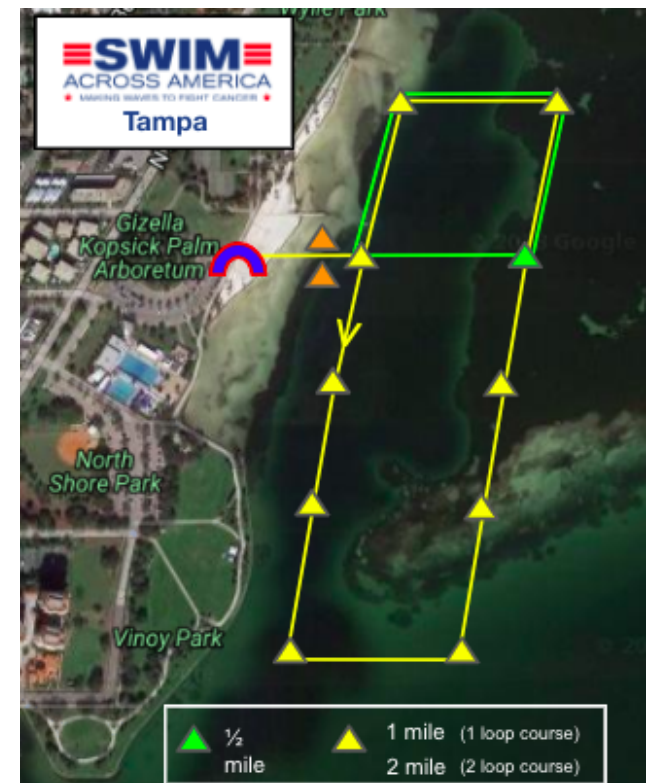
### North Shore Park

901 North Shore Dr. NE.

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701



## Course Map



# CHECK-IN & WHAT TO BRING

Upon arrival, please park and proceed directly to North Shore Pool, where you will find the Registration Area, which will be clearly marked. Registration opens at 6:45am and closes at 7:45am.

Be sure to follow the signs and check in *as soon as you arrive* to receive your cap, safety chip, t-shirt and get your body marked. **All swimmers and volunteers must check in** and sign a [waiver](#).

Once positively checked in, we invite you to visit our Merchandise table and purchase raffle tickets for some of our incredible giveaways! Don't forget to check out our online silent auction and get your bids in early: <https://www.32auctions.com/SAA2023>

We invite you to visit our tattoo table, sign a Why I Swim flag and check out the Wavemaker table (for our Wavemakers!). Help yourself to snacks at the food table. Be sure to tag **@saatampabay** in any photos you take!

Try out an Endless Pool after you check in! Sign up at registration to try the endless pool with Coach Kim Brackin. She will give you some feedback on your stroke. For everyone that tries the pool, Swim Across America - Tampa Bay will receive \$20 from Endless Pools.

## What to Bring

1. **DONATIONS** - Please bring any additional donations you have in a sealed envelope labeled with your name clearly written on it, as well as the total amount, to present at Registration check in. We also accept credit card donations.
2. **WAIVER** - Please print, fill out LEGIBLY and COMPLETELY and bring with you in order to swim. If you are under 18, your legal guardian must sign your waiver. [Click here for waiver form](#).
3. **WATER BOTTLES** - SAA - Tampa Bay continues to do our best to be green. We strongly encourage you to bring your own reusable water bottle to refill at water fountains on deck and at the coolers near the beach. If you would like a drink other than water, please bring it with you.
4. **OTHER ITEMS** - Directions, swimsuit, 2 pair of goggles, wetsuit (optional), Vaseline or BodyGlide (for under the arms, neck area), sunscreen, folding chair or blanket if desired, and money for SAA merchandise.

Each finisher will receive a beach towel when they come out of the water, compliments of our beneficiary: **Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital!**

**Communication - Important! Please follow us on social media to get weather-related event changes.**

Any updates leading up to the event will be posted on the SAA - Tampa Bay [website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [Instagram page](#). Be sure to follow us if you are not doing so already! Additionally, in the event of a cancellation due to extreme weather or an emergency, an email will be sent out to all participants as quickly as possible. Additional event information is available on our website but is not updated as rapidly as on our social media feeds.

Special thank you to all of our sponsors: CFLFOA, Hooters, ReMax The Deaton Team, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LightBody, ICI, Warren Averett, Watermelon Swim, Emerson Straw Injury Law, Endless Pools, Event Heroes of Tampa Bay, Farina Orthodontic Specialists.

# VOLUNTEERS

## Volunteers

Thank you for helping us Make Waves to Fight Cancer!

Upon arrival, please park and proceed directly to the pool deck, where you will find a dedicated Volunteer check-in table. **All volunteers must check in** and sign a [waiver](#).

Land Volunteers: All volunteers are expected to arrive by **6:00am** on event day. Event tear down/clean up volunteers please arrive **no later than 10:00am**. Should you have any questions or need to update us on your status for Saturday, please email our Volunteer Coordinator, Nicole Porter immediately: [nicole\\_luciaporter@yahoo.com](mailto:nicole_luciaporter@yahoo.com).

Water Volunteers: Suggested arrival time is **6:45am**. This allows for enough time to check in at Registration, sign the [waiver](#), and prepare your vessel. There is a **mandatory water safety meeting at 7:30am**. You will also receive an email with specific information in regards to your role and where to deploy your vessel. Should you have any questions or need to update us on your status for Saturday, please email Spencer immediately: [William.McDermott@stpete.org](mailto:William.McDermott@stpete.org).

# SAFETY

**Safety** is our top priority at all SAA events and we ask that you comply with all SAA safety personnel and procedures\*.

- All swimmers are **required** to sign a waiver at Registration Check-in.
- 18 & under swimmers -- You must have a parent/guardian sign your [waiver](#). We recommend that you **print the waiver IN ADVANCE**, have a parent/guardian fill out, sign the waiver and bring the completed waiver with you to Registration check-in.
- **All swimmers are required to attend the Mandatory Safety Talk.**
- All swimmers are **required** to wear the safety chip distributed at check-in.
- All swimmers must wear the correct cap color assigned at registration.
- All swimmers must be body marked.
- All swim distance groups will begin at the direction of the Event Safety Liaison. For the safety of ALL, swimmers should only enter the water when specifically instructed to do so by SAA personnel.
- If a swimmer decides to exit the water onto a boat on his/her own accord, or if a swimmer is removed from the water by Swim Across America personnel for any reason; that swimmer will not be allowed to re-enter the water. ALL swimmers must adhere to the discretion of SAA safety personnel.
- All swimmers are **required** to visit the Check-out table after swimming to sign out, so that ALL Swimmers are properly accounted for.
- Angel Swimmers will be present to help support swimmers less comfortable in open water. If you are concerned about your ability to swim in open water, please contact Julia Lamb at [julia@swimacrossamerica.org](mailto:julia@swimacrossamerica.org)

\*Swim Across America reserves the right to remove or move a swimmer's position along the course via approved safety methods and personnel as determined appropriate, or make any other operational changes thereof. All swimmers must follow the directions of SAA personnel. Noncompliance may endanger the participant or others, and may make the participant ineligible to participate in future Swim Across America events.

# POLICIES

## **Water Temperature and Wetsuit Policy**

Expected water temperature is around 80°. Wetsuits are permitted between 76.1° F - 83.7° F, thus are considered optional for Saturday's swim. Swim skins are permitted.

## **Inclement Weather Policy**

The safety of our events is our top priority. Due to the nature of open water swimming events taking place outdoors, safety concerns, including inclement weather, can necessitate a change to the original event plan. In the event of adverse weather conditions, the Event and Safety Directors, in conjunction with SAA National, local safety entities and/or law enforcement, may delay the event, modify the course, cancel the event, or move venue location. If safety concerns necessitate a change to the original event plan, Swim Across America will promptly notify participants via the event website, email and social media.

If you have questions about our policies regarding inclement weather, swim equipment or wetsuits, please consult our [Policies page](#).

# FUNDRAISING REMINDERS & TOOLS

## Fundraising reminders

Thanks to all of you for your fabulous fundraising efforts so far! Please remember that this event is about 'Making Waves to Fight Cancer' and your commitment to meeting the **fundraising minimum** when you registered for the event. **(Swimmers 18 years of age and over: \$500; Swimmers under 18: \$200)**. Please bring any donated checks delivered directly to you or cash in a secure envelope with your name, amount, and donor details to the swim on Saturday. We also accept check(s), cash or credit cards on event day.

## Facebook Fundraising is LIVE!

You can link your participant center to Facebook and ***automatically sync donations made to your SAA personal fundraising thermometer!*** Find this when you [log in](#) to your participant center and follow the directions to connect and reach your Facebook network. It will automatically begin fundraising for you - watch your donations add up! Have you checked if all your donors have secured potential [matching gifts](#) from their companies?

## SAA Fundraising Mobile App

Fundraising gets easier with the [SAA Mobile App](#). With a few clicks, you can reach out to your donor contacts via text message, email or social networks and have a larger impact.

## Be A WaveMaker at Your Swim

This year we are pulling out all the stops for our \$1,000+ fundraisers known as our WAVEMAKERS! If you have raised \$1,000 by Saturday, you are a WAVEMAKER! Make sure to stop by our **WaveMaker table** to get your [special SAA WaveMaker prize](#).

## Get Social and Win with @SwimOutlet

**Contest Details:** Want to show your love for Swim Across America and win a \$100 SwimOutlet.com gift card. It's as easy as taking an awesome SAA-spirited photo and tagging [@saaswim](#) and [@swimoutlet](#) when you post on Instagram. Show us the best the SAA community has to offer and we'll select the best [Instagram](#) photo that's posted from the swim.

## Top Fundraiser Wins an SAA x Gill Aqua Parka

This year, the top individual fundraiser will receive an SAA-branded [Gill Aqua Parka](#). Get to the top of the leaderboard to win yours!

# YOUR IMPACT

SAA - Tampa Bay funds benefit [Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital](#). Established in 2012, SAA - Tampa Bay has donated over \$1 million to our local beneficiaries.

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital provides expert pediatric care for infants, children and teens with some of the most challenging medical problems in our community and around the world. The hospital is ranked by U.S. News & World Report in eight pediatric specialties, more than any other Florida hospital, and provides access to the most innovative treatments and therapies. Taking part in pediatric medical education and clinical research helps us to provide expert care in more than 43 pediatric medical and surgical subspecialties.

Learn more about our beneficiary and your impact [here](#) or on the SAA-Tampa [homepage](#).

