The Great Chesapeake Bay Swim 2014
Kayaking Related Information
June 8, 2013

Items of Interest for 4.4 Mile Swim

- Kayakers supporting this swim may enter the Sandy Point State Park free of charge, courtesy of the Safety Fleet Committee. You will need to download the Parking Permit for the park which can be found on the top of the CPA Calendar of Events listing for this event.
- **There will be a pre-launch kayakers meeting at 9:30 AM at the Small Craft Launch Site. We will launch at 10:00 to 10:15 AM and be in place to follow the swimmers as they enter the water starting at 10:30 AM.**
- There may be some red flags (on posts) will be available to you if you have a way to hold it on your kayak and wish to do so. It is not a requirement. Although it makes you more visible to the power boaters supporting the event. These will be available at the 7:00 am meeting. Otherwise, it is advisable to make yourself as visible as possible by wearing bright stuff on the water.
- Parking in Sandy Point State Park will be at the Small Craft Launch Beach or in the corner of the adjacent parking lot. Please try not to crowd or usurp the Small Craft Parking. It is not a far distance to park in the adjacent lot.
- We tentatively plan to use VHF radios on channels 68, 6 and 78. These are race communication channels for the event.
- Remember that the crossing is a SLOW 4 1/2 miles. Plan if you need to cross a second time to return to your car. You can easily expect to paddle 9 or more mile and be on the water for 5 or more hours if you support the entire 4.4-mile race.
- The take out/put in on the Eastern side of the Bay will be at the very end of the channel within the Bay Bridge Marina. CAREFULLY enter the channel to the right of Hemmingway's Restaurant and follow the marina to the right, all the way to the back. There will be two floating wooden docks on either side of a mechanical boat loader. Take your kayak to the grass above the docks.
- You can rest; get some food, and a free t-shirt at the celebration area. Walk from the take out on the Eastern Side of the Bay around the Marina to the Swimmers Beach. Find the 1 Mile Swim Coordinator to receive your t-shirt. Ask the volunteers who are manning the food stations, if you can have any of the food, since you are a support kayaker in the event.
- When returning across the Bay to Sandy Point State Park, PLEASE try to cross in groups. There will be more than normal numbers of motor craft trying to cross the channels after the swim is complete. Good attention and good visibility will prevent any accidents on the open water!

- **During the 9:30 am meeting, everyone will be assigned a mile (i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4) to patrol looking for swimmers in distress. Your duty will be to paddle back and forth beside the swimmers over that mile watching for distressed swimmers and re-directing swimmers heading out of the lanes (the Bridge Spans). If you have been assigned to 'Mile 1', you will patrol from the start up to the first mile marker; if you have been assigned to 'Mile 2', you will patrol from the 1 mile marker until the second mile marker. When all swimmers have passed your assigned mile, move up to the next mile and patrol or begin looking for distressed swimmers falling behind.**
- **When the swimmers first enter the water ALL 4.4 Mile support kayaks are needed initially to line the lane leading the swimmers under the Bridge. This lane will be marked by two large orange floats. Remember that swimmers have a hard time seeing ahead of them from the water line and are notorious for going the wrong way. You will spend most of your time ushering swimmers back into the lanes so that they do not get disqualified.**
- We need 4 strong volunteers to position themselves, one at each of the 4 main channel pilings. These volunteers will ward off swimmers from getting too close to the dangerous undercut pilings.
- When you arrive, please add your name, contact phone or email and emergency contact name, phone or email to the sign in sheets (if it is not already there) when you arrive. Be sure you are checked on the sheet as launching.