

2023 SZ OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIP



Hosted by SANDHILLS SANDSHARKS AND NC SWIMMING June 3-4, 2023 Held at Lake Echo, Seven Lakes (West End), NC 27376

Held under the Sanction of USA Swimming, Inc., issued by North Carolina Swimming, Inc.

NC Sanction #NC23091OW

MEET DIRECTOR	MEET ENTRY COORDINATOR
Scott Gainey	Scott Gainey
OPENWATER@SANDSHARK.ORG	OPENWATER@SANDSHARK.ORG
910-420-4149	PO BOX 657
	SOUTHERN PINES, NC 28388
MEET REFEREE	MEET MARSHAL
Thornton Burnette	Jim Riggs (male)
THOR8550@AOL.COM	JSRIGGS11@GMAIL.COM
	Lindley Fleurey (female)

CONDITION OF SANCTION As a condition of this sanction, Sandhills Sandsharks agrees to comply and to enforce all COVID 19 health and safety mandates and guidelines (including face coverings, social distancing, and mass gatherings) of USA Swimming, North Carolina Swimming, the State of North Carolina, local jurisdictions, and the Sandhills Sandsharks Meet Plan detailed below. Meets conducted in violation of these requirements and safety plans are subject to having the sanction revoked and will not be issued sanctions for future meets during the COVID 19 sanctioning period.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK DISCLAIMER Sandsharks has taken enhanced health and safety measures for athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, and others participating in this meet. You must follow all safety instructions in the following meet sanction. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. Senior citizens and those with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. By attending this meet, you assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.

COVID-19 RELEASE USA Swimming, Inc., cannot prevent you (or your child(ren)) from becoming exposed to, contracting, or spreading COVID-19 while participating in USA Swimming sanctioned events. It is not possible to prevent against the presence of the disease. Therefore, if you choose to participate in a USA Swimming sanctioned event, you may be exposing yourself to and/or increasing your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19.

BY ATTENDING OR PARTICIPATING IN THIS COMPETITION, YOU VOLUNTARILY ASSUME ALL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 AND FOREVER RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS USA SWIMMING AND NC SWIMMING AND EACH OF THEIR OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM ANY LIABILITY OR CLAIMS INCLUDING FOR PERSONAL INJURIES, DEATH, DISEASE OR PROPERTY LOSSES, OR ANY OTHER LOSS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CLAIMS OF NEGLIGENCE AND GIVE UP ANY CLAIMS YOU MAY HAVE TO SEEK DAMAGES, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, FORESEEN OR UNFORESEEN, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

SANDHILLS SANDSHARKS COVID 19 MEET PLAN

NORTH CAROLINA SWIMMING FACE COVERING STATEMENT: NCS recommends the proper use of face coverings at all NCS activities and expects all participants, coaches, officials, volunteers, and spectators to comply with all club and facility-specific COVID-19 safety requirements and guidelines from USA Swimming, North Carolina Swimming, the State of North Carolina, and local jurisdictions.

- **FACE COVERINGS** All meet participants coaches, officials, administrators, spectators, vendors, and athletes (between events) will comply with recommended, current guidelines (as of race day) for masks and social distancing.
- **LOCAL PROTOCOLS** Athletes will be under the supervision of coaches the entire time they are on site. There will be no changing areas on site. Swimmers are expected to arrive and leave in their suits. **Speed limit is 25 MPH on the entire property.**
- **ENTRY & EXIT PROCEDURES** Swimmers will be divided into waves based on safety protocols for group sizes, if applicable.
- **SWIMMER LIMITATIONS** Waves may be limited in size; meet management reserves the right to adjust wave sizes.
- **SPECTATOR LIMITATIONS** No spectators allowed to gather or set up:
- 1 on the far side of the dam (to keep the roadway clear for emergency vehicles).
- 2 no gathering in the grass area around the start / finish lines.
- **PARENTAL ACCESS FOR SAFE SPORT** Parents may attend and will be within view of swimmers and are encouraged to volunteer for the event.
- **FACILITY** Lake Echo is a spring fed lake in the Seven Lakes North community of West End, NC. The start will be in the water, with a land finish. FS Series Timing will use chip timing in conjunctions with their timing software for the races.
 - Warm up and cool down areas will be available close to short on the outside of the race-course.
 - The races will be swum around a 1 K triangular course.
 - The competition course has not been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4).
 - Deck changing is not permitted; swimmers should arrive in their suits.

MEET FORMAT This is a timed final Age Group/Senior, pre-seeded meet. AGE UP DATE IS June 3, 2023 TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH USA Swimming.

DEADLINE AND MEETING SUMMARY:

Day, Date	Time	For
Wed, May 24	11:00 PM	Entry deadline
Sat, June 3	7:00 AM	Officials Briefing
Sat, June 3	7:30 AM	Coaches/General Meeting

ELIGIBILITY: All swimmers must be registered with USA Swimming Inc. and selected by LSC. Each

LSC may enter up to six swimmers in individual events and up to two Team Pursuit

Relays in each event.

EVENTS: Friday: Welcome Clinic / course familiarization

Saturday: 11/12 2K; 13/14 5K; 15/16 5 K; Senior Open 5K; Lunch Buffet

Sunday: 14 & Under Girls 2K Team Pursuit

14 & Under Boys 2K Team Pursuit Open Women's 2K Team Pursuit Open Men's 2K Team Pursuit

Team Pursuit: The Team Pursuit event will feature teams of three to six similar gender athletes departing at 30 second intervals outfitted in team caps. At least three athletes must complete the course and the team finish time will be determined when the third swimmer touches the finish. Teams to be single gender. Order for teams to be picked at buffet.

AWARDS: Top eight medals for individual events

Top three Team Pursuit Relays will receive awards

TEAM AWARDS: Top 3 teams

SCORING: Top 24 Finishers Score

Individual events 32, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22 20, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2,1

Top 16 Finishers Score

Team Pursuit Relays 40, 34, 32, 30, 28, 26, 24, 22, 18, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2

DEADLINES AND FEES: Wedn, May 24. \$85. Saturday lunch will be a separate charge based on the catering company charges. This information will be sent to Zone coaches as soon as confirmed.

SAFETY

The NCS Safety Program is in effect for this meet. Coaches are advised to closely supervise their swimmers at all times. NO running or horseplay will be tolerated. All volunteers and swimmers must stay off far side of dam.

Each zone team should submit at least 2 volunteers to assist with safety and operations.

ALL SWIMMERS MUST CLIP NAILS prior to check in—little to no white

Average water temperatures for June are 78-80 degrees F; air temperature is 80-90 degrees F. Safety boats will be provided in accordance with the Southern Zones Safety Plan (attached at end of this document).

Medical Information—Closest hospital is First Health Regional in Pinehurst. Approximate transport time is 18 minutes.

MAAPP All adults participating in or associated with the meet acknowledge that they are subject to the provisions of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy ("MAAPP"), and that they understand that compliance with MAAPP is a condition of participation in the conduct of this competition.

RACING STARTS NA

RULES This meet will be conducted in accordance with the current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, except where rules therein are optional, and exceptions are stated.

Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms.

Deck changes are prohibited.

Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present.

Swim Suit policies—no tie back suits are permitted. Two piece suits (triathlon style) are permitted as long as they do not have a tie back.

Tech suits, approved by FINA, are permitted for ages 13/over.

There will be no feeding stations.

Participants/volunteers may not enter the venue prior to check in time and are expected to leave promptly at the end of their race to allow room for following events/swimmers.

Designated areas for pre-race staging will be set up along the dam area by waves within races. Swimmers only in these areas. Swimmers should be under coach supervision until an announcement to report to pre-staging area.

- **SWIMMERS WITH DISABILITIES** Sandhills Sandsharks welcomes all swimmers with disabilities as described in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, Article 105, to participate in our meets. Coaches entering swimmers with disabilities that require any accommodations are required to provide advance notice in writing to the Meet Director by the entry deadline accompanying t heir meet entry file, including the need for any personal assistants required and/or registered service animals. Failure to provide advance notice may limit Sandhills Sandshark's ability to accommodate all requests.
- ENTRIES Entries submitted in electronic format require no hard copy entry forms. Email is preferred for electronic entries; however, disks are also acceptable. A completed and signed Entry Summary Sheet and payment in full must be received by the Meet Entry Coordinator by the first day of the event. A swimmer's age as of the first day of the meet) will determine their age for the entire meet.
- **ENTRY VERIFICATION** An email will be sent to the person submitting the entry confirming receipt of the entry within 48 hours of receipt.
- **ENTRY DEADLINES** The Meet Entry Coordinator must receive entries by the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary (May 24, 2023) Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Meet Referee with double entry fees. There will be no on-site entries.
- **ENTRY FEES** Make checks payable to: Sandhills Sandsharks; All fees are non-refundable Individual Entry Fee: \$85
- CHECK-IN: Positive check-in at the registration table will start once the preceding race has begun. GPS chips and race numbers will be issued at check in. Should the GPS system not be available, race numbers, written on swimmers' left arms, will be the primary means of determining race finish order. Swimmers with long nails will not be permitted to check in. PLEASE CLIP NAILS SO NO WHITE IS SHOWING. A REFEREE WILL BE AT THE REGISTRATION DESK CHECKING NAILS.
- PRE-RACE MEETING Official briefings will be held 15 minutes prior to each race for the meet director review the course diagram will all the swimmers in that race. All swimmers should attend.

 NOTE: Athletes straying from the course will only be corrected when safety is an issue.
- **COUNTDOWN** 30 minutes to each race, the announcer will count down the start of the race in 5-minute intervals. 10 minutes before each race, a GPS check in will be conducted to ensure that all swimmers are recorded entering the water, in accordance with USA Open Water Swimming

Safety guidelines. Any swimmer missing this check in will be disqualified. 1 minute intervals will be announced for the last 5 minutes until the start of the race.

START The start will be in the water. Waves will be structured to provide appropriate distance between swimmers. All races are counter-clockwise. All events of equal distances will be swum at the same time in waves. Swimmers will enter the water by walking over pads to register their chips.

FINISH One chute with 2 pads. Swimmers must swim through the designated channel and run across the 2 pads. Numbers will be punched as back up and recorded manually. Swimmers are expected to clear the water and leave the venue as soon as possible following their races.

PROTESTS Must be filed in writing on the designated form with the Clerk of Course / Meet Referee within 45 minutes of unofficial results being posted.

ESCORTS Paddlers and escort boats will be spaced throughout the course under the supervision of the race committee to provide help to swimmers as needed. If a swimmer touches any escort craft, he/she must withdraw from the race.

SCRATCHES There will be no penalty for scratching.

RESULTS Results will be posted on FS Series' website at FSSeries.com; a link to the site will be posted on the race site, accessible through Sandshark.org within 24 hours of the meets conclusion.

COACHES All coaches on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming. Meet

Management will require all coaches to show proof of such by prominently displaying their
registration card or be prepared to show their Deck Pass virtual membership card upon request.

There will be a coach/general meeting at the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting
Summary. Other meetings may be held at the meet referee's discretion. Meet Management
requests that at least one coach representative from each team attend all coaches' meetings.

OFFICIALS/TIMERS/VOLUNTEERS There will be a need for officials. Sandhills Sandsharks welcomes and encourages anyone willing to volunteer to contact the Meet Referee by email prior to the meet or sign in once you arrive at the meet. All officials on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming and will be required to show proof of such to the meet referee by displaying their registration card or be prepared to show their Deck Pass virtual membership card upon request. A certification card showing the official's level of certification must also be presented. Any official's assistance will be greatly appreciated and will help to ensure a great meet for the

swimmers. Official briefings will be held in the hospitality area at the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary.

HOSPITALITY/CONCESSIONS Water and food will be provided for meet officials and coaches.

WARM-UP In accordance with USA Swimming guidelines, there will be a published warm-up procedure for all swimmers and coaches attending the meet. A warm up area will be available before each event. Swimmers will be monitored entering the area to ensure social distancing. Coaches should oversee all swimmers who are warming up at any point to ensure proper social distancing. The Marshal will ensure all teams, coaches, and swimmers follow all warm-up procedures. Meet Management reserves the right to change warm-up times according to the number of entries. There is to be no diving or horseplay in this area. The warm up area will be cleared prior to the finish of any race in the water.

WAIVER/RELEASE As a team entered in this meet, upon entry you are verifying that all of the swimmers and coaches listed on the enclosed entry are registered with USA Swimming. You acknowledge that you are familiar with the Safety Rules of USA Swimming, Inc. and North Carolina Swimming, Inc. regarding warm-up procedures and meet safety guidelines, and that you shall be responsible for the compliance of your swimmers with those rules during this meet. Sandhills Sandsharks, Seven Lakes Landowners Association, North Carolina Swimming, Inc., and USA Swimming, Inc., their agents, employees, and coaches shall be held free and harmless from any and all liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of illness or injury to anyone during the conduct of this meet. You acknowledge that by entering this meet, you are granting permission for the names of any or all of your team's swimmers to be published on the internet in the form of Psych Sheets, Meet Results, or any other documents associated with the running of this meet.

IMAGE RELEASE: All participants agree to be filmed and photographed by the host club approved photographer(s) and videographers and to allow the right to use names and pictures before, during, or after the meet such as in public psych sheets, heat sheets, and results or featured on the host club or NCS website or social media or in public broadcast of the event via television or webcast. Parents and guardians of minor swimmers who do not wish their swimmers to participate in interviews or have individual pictures featured on any media should inform their team's head coach and the Meet Director prior to the meet.

Check In	Pre-race	Women/Men	Distance	Start time
<u></u>	Meeting			<u></u>
Friday 3:30 PM	<u>4:15 PM</u>	Open swim course	<u>1K</u>	<u>4:30 PM</u>
				(sent in waves for
				safety) –
				swimmers can
				enter as many
				waves as desired
Saturday 7:00 AM	7:30 AM	#1 (Open)	<u>5K</u>	7:45 AM
		<u>#3 (15/16)</u>		(3 waves)
		<u>#5 (13/14)</u>		
Saturday 8:30 AM	9:00 AM	#2 (Open)	<u>5K</u>	9:15 AM
		<u>#4 (15/16)</u>		(3 waves)
		<u>#6 (13/14)</u>		
Saturday 10:00	10:30 AM	<u>#7 & 8 (11/12)</u>	<u>2K</u>	<u>10:45 AM</u>
<u>AM</u>				(2 waves)
				(L Waves)
Sunday 7:15 AM	7:45 AM	9 (Open)	Team Pursuit	8:00 AM
		-	<u>2K</u>	(waves TBD)
Sunday 8:00 AM	8:30 AM	<u>10 (Open)</u>	Team Pursuit	8:45 AM
or after Open Girls			2K	(waves TBD)
have checked in				
Sunday 8:45 AM	9:15 AM	11 (14/UNder)	Team Pursuit	9:30 AM
or after Open			<u>2K</u>	(waves TBD)
Boys have		-		1
checked in				
Sunday 9:45 AM	10:15 AM	12 (14/UNder)	Team Pursuit	10:15 AM
			<u>2K</u>	
or after 14 & Unders Girls have		-	ZK	-
checked in				(waves TBD)
CHECKEU III				

	SZ Open Water			
Water Quality Certification	Process: Monthly by Seven Lakes Landowners Assoc.		SAFETY PLAN	
On Site Medical Personnel	Lead Name(s): Heather Milkowich	Mark one: MD DO EMT-P X NP PA	Experience in extreme events: Open water medical volunteer for past races	EMS/EMT on Site: Seven Lakes Rescue Squad Back up units & response time: Fire & rescue 0.25 from venue; additional squads 4.5 miles away
Lifeguards & Emergency Care (include location of all on map)	Type: ARC Lifeguards X USLA YMCA Equivalent water certified 1st responder:	Number & Location on course: 6 + Hours on duty: 3:30-6:30 Fri; 7:00 to end of day Sat.	Medical Tent location & procedure: EMS & medical personnel located at Start/Finish area. Shade available.	Local Med facility/type: First Health Regional, Pinehurst Distance: 10.5 miles Transit time: 18 min.
Water Craftlist types/number for all categories (ie., john boat, SUPs, pontoon, Jet Skis, Kayaks, etc). Mark locations on course map.	Safety Craft: (min. 1 motorized, plus 1 driver & two 1st responders) Pontoon/john boat	Officials craft: 2 Feeding Stations: NA Locations: at turns	Race Supervision: By lifeguards & volunteers in kayaks, SUPs. 2-3 per leg of race (triangular); 1 lead; 1 tail; 1 in middle of course. Escorted events: NA Locations: middle & all legs of course	Emergency Signal Flag MANDATORY for ALL water craft on course COLOR: RED
Athlete Accountability	Body Numbering location (Mandatory): Left arm & leg Electronic (Rec): Chips by FS Series (timing company)	Cap colors by gender/Age: Bright caps will differentiate genders.	Accountability plan before/during/end of race: Max athletes on course: 200 Chip check on entry into water & manual count. Swimmers w/drawing from race will check in w/ race admin. Chip finish w/ race numbers both punched & written	Warm up/Warm Down Plan: Area by start/finish & race admin to be used; lifeguards on site.

			down; videotaping start/finish. Head counts into and out of the water also will be used.	
Communications Plan (radios, Cell	Meet Officials: Primary: radios	All Race Personnel:	Communications: Meet officials to be in	
phones,	Secondary: cells	Primary: radios	contact via radio &	
megaphones, etc.)	Secondary, cens	Secondary: cells	cell.	
Contingency Plans	Individuals empowered to order race abandoned, postponed, or to implement			
	Emergency Action Plans:			
	Meet Referee: The	ornton Burnette	Safety Officer: JP P	ayne
	Independent Safe	ty Monitor: John Ro	y Water Safety Super	visor: Ed Hill

On Course Emergency Care/Rescue Plan: Distribution & actions of safety craft, use of communication devices Radios and Cell phone numbers to be distributed among all race personnel. Coaches' & other handlers' numbers to be collected for emergency contact. A complete list of athletes by race number will be kept in Clerk of Course. Swimmers will check in by walking over finish pad to register chips; back up will be done by counting swimmers manually. On exit, chips will register on finish pad; race numbers will be punched and written upon exit. All swimmers will be videotaped entering and exiting the water.

Emergency Action

Plans:

Swimmer in Distress: Lifeguards will activate water rescue protocol, flagging the safety boat and guiding swimmer to shore or safety craft. Information will be radioed by race personnel to admin; coach/handler will be contacted via cell phone or announcement. Swimmer will be brought to medical tent if needed and will check in with Clerk Of Course. EMS will provide transportation to First Health Regional if needed. Missing Swimmer: EMS, lifeguards, and Sandhills Sandsharks coaches will activate underwater search and recovery. Concurrently, meet operations will contact coach/handler, check chip check in list and video, along with withdrawal list.

Abandonment of Race:

Race Control will relay via radio and cell phone to the safety boat to signal abandonment.

Official Boats--5 short blasts, followed by 1 long blast

Lifeguards--5 short blasts, followed by 1 long blast

Swimmers should: 1. Discontinue Swimming 2. Look for directions from Officials/Water Safety

Personnel 3. Check in with Admin Ref once on beach

Severe Weather: Is a lightning detector or weather radio on site?

Severe weather plan: Evacuation of spectators to cars/fitness center. No race will be held if lightning is in the vicinity or moving toward the area.

Site evacuation plans: If swimmers are in the water, 3 whistles will be blown go signal an end to the race; no leg is far from shore. Boats can be used to pick up swimmers if needed.

Contingency Plans for course adaptation/rescheduling:

Course shape may be changed to run parallel to shore or as a narrow rectangle; distances may be decreased.

Races may be postponed until later in the day or rescheduled for the following day.

Summary of Fees/Release Form

Complete and email or mail this form along with entry fees to (checks payable to Sandhills Sandsharks): SANDHILLS SANDSHARKS

PO BOX 657

SOUTHERN PINES, NC, 28388 OPENWATER@SANDSHARK.ORG

Team Name				
Club Code				
Coach				
Coach Phone				
Coach Email				
Team Address				
Item		Total Number	Cost per	Total
Individual Entries			\$85 per swimmer	
Total Fees Due				
the enclosed entry Rules of USA Swimmeet safety guidelicules during this meand USA Swimming and all liabilities or of this meet. I also any or all of my tea	coach or to are registe ming, Inc. a nes, and the eet. Sandh g, Inc., thei claims for acknowled m's swimr	eam representative ered with USA Swand North Carolin hat I shall be resp hills Sandsharks, So ir agents, employed damages arising dge that by enter mers to be publish	ve, verify that all of the imming. I acknowledge ha Swimming, Inc. regar onsible for the complia seven Lakes Landowner ees, and coaches shall by reason of illness or in this meet, I am gran	swimmers and coaches listed on that I am familiar with the Safety ding warm-up procedures and ance of my swimmers with those s, North Carolina Swimming, Inc., be held free and harmless from any njury to anyone during the conduct atting permission for the names of the form of Psych Sheets, Meet neet.
SIGNATURE (Coach or Club Representative)			CLUB	
TITLE				DATE

All rooms are reserved under "Open Water Zones" or "Sandsharks Open Water"

Comfort Inn, Pinehurst: 9801 US 15-501, Pinehurst, NC, US, 28374 Phone: (910) 215-5500; 18 rooms (\$114.00-2 double beds).

Springhill Suites: 2 Night Minimum- 10024 U.S. 15, Pinehurst, NC 28374
Phone: (910) 695-0234; 20 rooms (\$179 per night) DEADLINE MAY 10
Reservation link

Residence Inn: 105 Brucewood Rd, Southern Pines, NC 28387 Phone: (910) 693-3400; 20 rooms (\$179/1 bedroom; \$239/2 bedrooms)

Holiday Inn Express: 155 Partner Cir, Southern Pines, NC 28387 Phone: (910) 693-2280 (\$128/room)

Hampton Inn: 200 Columbus Dr, Aberdeen, NC 28315 (\$182 per night)

Phone: (910) 693-4330 MAY 3RD DEADLINE

Booking Link:

https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=SNPNCHX&groupCode=CHHOPZ&arrivaldate=2023-06-02&departuredate=2023-06-04&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT

Another way your guests can book their reservations is by calling our Hilton Reservations toll-free number at 1-800-HILTONS, have your guests mention the **Open Water Zones Group Block** at Hampton Inn & Suites Southern Pines-Pinehurst or the unique code **OPZ** to receive your group rate.

Airport Information

Raleigh (RDU): 1 hour

Greensboro Triad (GSO): 1 hour 15 min.

Charlotte (CLT): 2 hours 15 min.

Fayetteville (FAY): 1 hour

PARKING AND VENUE REGISTRATION

Key to picture

Red "X" = parking at the fitness center located at 114 Edgewater Drive, Seven Lakes, NC

Yellow "X" = venue registration

Orange dash – path to and from parking to venue.

