



2023 Orangetheory NZ Open Water Swimming Championships

Saturday 14 – Sunday 15 January 2023

Lake Taupo
9 Ferry Road, Taupo 3330

Event Information Booklet

Contact Information

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Event Manager

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Purpose

This meet is held in conjunction with the publicly-available Epic Swim at the idyllic Lake Taupo. The 2023 Orangetheory NZ Open Water Swimming Championships will crown the national respective open water championships and is the pinnacle open water event for swimmers to swim on the national stage.

Good Sports

Please note that this is a Good Sports event. Swimming NZ is proud to partner with and join the Good Sports movement. This program aims to help parents provide the best sporting experience to their kids.

[Click here to learn more about Good Sports](#)

Entry Information

Swimming New Zealand rules and regulations govern this competition. This meet is open to financial, registered (at the time of competition) Swimming New Zealand competitive swimmers and foreign swimmers registered with foreign FINA affiliated swimming federations. All participants must agree to comply with the Sports Anti-Doping rules.

Entry Deadline

Entries	Timeline
Entries Open	Tues 12 October
Individual Entries Close	Tues 13 December
Relay Entries Close	Wed 15 December

Entry Process

All entries must be submitted via the SNZ national database. Individuals will be able to access and complete their entries online via their Fast Lane page.

There is no limit on the number of individual event entries.

Late entries will be accepted for 24 hours, as per SNZ Policy 006. A \$50 (NZD) fee will apply.

Entry Fees

Location	Individual Entry Fee	Relay Team Entry Fee
Domestic	\$50	\$75
International	\$50	\$75

Entry fees must be paid prior to the start of the meet. If they have not been paid it could result in the withdrawal of swimmers. Clubs that have not paid the required entry fees at the closing date of entries will be invoiced by Swimming NZ.

No refunds for any withdrawals after entries close or during the meet. Refunds for any medical withdrawals will be considered if a signed medical certificate is supplied.

Qualification Criteria

Age as at 14 January 2023

Please note there is no qualifying period or qualifying times for this event.

Para Athletes

The 2023 Orangetheory NZ Open Water Swimming Championships are open to Para swimmers who have a classification – provisional, national or international. Swimming NZ is wanting to grow Para swimmers involvement at all levels and variations of swimming.

Medals will be awarded based on who finishes first regardless of disability type or extent.

If you have any questions about Para athletes please contact Cameron Leslie, Disability & Para Swimming Participation Manager, cameron@swimming.org.nz.

International Entries

Visitors will be able to submit entries using either the TM File or spreadsheet available on the event website. These need to be emailed to entries@swimming.org.nz by the entry deadline date specified above.

Foreign entries also need to be accompanied with a signed Travel Authorisation Form/Letter from the national federation. Foreign clubs are required to provide a proof of entries report upon submission of entries. There is no limit on international visitor foreign entries.

Please note that SNZ will monitor and follow government advice for international attendance and withholds the right to refund entries.

Psych Sheets

Psych sheets will be posted on the event page of the SNZ website in the days following entries closing.

Corrections and changes to psych sheets are to be sent to entries@swimming.org.nz by 11.59pm on Sunday 18 December.

Event Specifications

Distance	Gender	Age Groups	Day
10km	Male, Female	15-17, Open	Saturday Morning
7.5km (run with the 10km)	Male, Female	13-14, 15-17	Saturday Morning
5km	Male, Female	13-14, 15-17, Open	Sunday Morning
2.5km	Male, Female	13-14, 15-17, Open, Para	Saturday Afternoon
4 x 1km Relay	Male, Female, Mixed (2x2)	16 & Under (13-16), Open	Sunday Morning

Please note: As the 7.5km is run in conjunction with the 10km participants may only enter one of these races. Teams can also enter the Epic Swim 4 x 500m Relay at epicswim.co.nz

Event Schedule

Event Number	Event	Age Groups	Gender
1	10km	15 – 17, Open	Male
2	10km	15 – 17, Open	Female
3	7.5km	13 – 14, 15 – 17	Male
4	7.5km	13 – 14, 15 – 17	Female
5	2.5km	13 – 14, 15 – 17, Open, Para	Male
6	2.5km	13 – 14, 15 – 17, Open, Para	Female
7	5km	13 – 14, 15 – 17, Open	Male
8	5km	13 – 14, 15 – 17, Open	Female
9	4 x 1km Relay	13 – 16, Open	Male
10	4 x 1km Relay	13 – 16, Open	Female
11	4 x 1km Relay	13 – 16, Open	Mixed

Race Course

The race course is a 1.25km rectangular set-up and can be found below. Swimmers must swim anti-clockwise around the course (refer to the course layout diagram).

Swimmers must pass the turn buoys on their left shoulder.

For the 10km race, swimmers must swim the course 8 times.

For the 7.5km race, swimmers must swim the course 6 times.

For the 5km race, swimmers must swim the course 4 times.

For the 2.5km race, swimmers must swim the course 2 times.

Swimmers will be required to swim through a finish gate when completing the race.

Athlete Information

Pre-Meet Training

Date	Pre-Meet Training
Friday 13 January	2pm – 5pm

The course will be set up for training during this time, including two IRB safety boats conducting water safety on the course during this time. The safety of swimmers outside of this time is the responsibility of the individual swimmer.

Key Times

Event	Registrations Open	Briefing Time
<i>Saturday 14 January</i>		
10km	6.30am – 7.45am	7.45am
7.5km	6.30am – 7.45am	7.45am
2.5km	10.30am – 11.30am	11.45am
<i>Sunday 15 January</i>		
5km	7am – 8.30am	8.45am
4 x 1km Relay	10am – 11am	11.15am

Event	Competition Start Time	
	Male	Female
<i>Saturday 14 January</i>		
10km	8am	8.05am
7.5km	8am	8.05am
2.5km	12pm	12.05pm
<i>Sunday 15 January</i>		
5km	9am	9.05am
4 x 1km Relay	11.30am (mixed, male and female)	

Registration

Swimmers must present at registration for each event and be allocated their timing chip and number for the swim at this point. Swimmers are to race in their club branded swim cap.

All competitors are advised to:

- Ensure that all jewellery items have been completely removed
- Ensure that all acrylic nails have been completely removed
- Ensure that their finger nails and toe nails have been trimmed so that they do not extend passed the tip of the finger/toe
- Ensure that they present themselves to registration either with or in their race suits.
- Leave both shoulders and upper left and right arms free of grease or sunscreen, as

their competitor number will be tattooed on these areas. Care should be taken when applying grease to ensure that the competitor numbers remain legible.

At the swimmers first registration they will be given a pass. All swimmers must report with this pass at that start of each of their events and also when they register for subsequent events.

Please note: For the 10km and 7.5km, feeders will be required to report to registration with the swimmer – please refer to feeder information on following page.

Electronic Timing

SNZ will have electronic timing for the 2023 Orangetheory NZ Open Water Swimming Championships. Timing chips will be worn on both wrists; these will be given out at registration. Swimmers will be required to return both transponders at the completion of the course. If the transponder is lost/not returned, the swimmer will be required to pay \$50.00 per chip.

Race Briefings

The briefing location will be in one of the marquees on the lake front. The briefing must be attended by all competitors and will include details of the race format, start, race course, finish and race rules.

Caps

Swimmers are to wear their club caps during the event. This is to ensure they are visible from the shore and to the officials. Swimmers wanting to wear a second swimming cap under their club one must ensure that it is a white cap.

Wetsuits

FINA rules allow the use of wetsuits in Open Water competitions in the following conditions. When the water temperature taking on the day of the competition is:

- From 16°C and below 18.0°C, wetsuits are mandatory, and an approved wetsuit must be worn
- From 18.0°C and below 20.0°C, swimmer may wear may use either an approved swimsuit or approved wetsuit
- From 20.0°C, wetsuits are not allowed, and all swimmers must wear an approved swimsuit

For the purpose of these rules, wetsuits are swimsuits made of material providing thermal insulation. Wetsuits for both men and women shall completely cover torso, back, shoulders and knees. They shall not extend beyond the neck, wrists and ankles. Further details of appropriate wetsuits will be available on the event page of the SNZ website.

Abandonment

If a race must be abandoned the 10km event shall have precedence over the 5km event. The 5km event may be rescheduled to a later start time, and/or date.

Results

Results for the 2023 Orangetheory NZ Open Water Swimming Championships will be posted on the SNZ website as soon as practicable after the event.

Victory Ceremonies

Medals shall be awarded for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd New Zealanders in all events. Visitor medals shall be awarded to any international competitor who places in the top three.

Medal Ceremonies will take place as soon as practicable after the finish of each event. These ceremonies will be held on the grass area in front of the Yacht Club. If for any reason there is a delay in the results being available, the medal presentation for that event will take place as soon

as possible.

Dress Standard for victory ceremonies:

- Club or regional t-shirt, jacket or sweatshirt
- No caps or goggles
- No towels to be wrapped around the waist

Photography & Videography

Photos and videos will be taken throughout the competition. All athletes have agreed to allow photographs, videos and audio recordings to be taken by accredited SNZ contractors to be used for any legitimate purpose by SNZ. If you have any concerns, please contact the Event Manager.

Merchandise

Merchandise for this event is provided by SNZ partner Teamline and is available for pre-purchase. In addition, wet suits are available for purchase or hire as well as race suits and other swim products are available from Teamline on their online store. Teamline will also be in set up and in attendance at the event.

[Click here to visit the Teamline website](#)

Team Managers Information

Accreditation

Whilst there is no accreditation required to be on the beach at the event, can Team Managers please complete the link provided below so communications can be shared.

Event Communication

During the meet, SNZ will use the multi-txt system to communicate to coaches and team managers during the meet. Please ensure your contact details are correct on the Team Manager online form.

[Click here to complete form](#)

Managers Meeting

There will be a team manager's meeting held on **Friday 13 January at 5.30pm, Great Lake Centre.**

Team Managers will be given a brief run-down of meet activities, expectations of swimmers and clubs and general delivery of the event. Each club must have at least one representative at the meeting to ensure all information is delivered back to the swimmers.

Race numbers, timing chips and feeder bands will be given out at the registration prior to each race.

Event Packs

Event packs will be available for collection on Friday 13 January from 2pm - 5pm at the Great Lake Centre.

Feeders

A designated feeding area will be provided for the feeding of swimmers during the 7.5km and 10km events. This area will be the only place on the course where a swimmer may be fed. Please note feeding does not occur for the 2.5km and 5km events.

- Each swimmer is allowed one (1) handler, who will be required to check in with the swimmer at the time of registration. Once registered, the handler will be given an event specific wrist band. Failure to display this wrist band will result in the handler being denied access to the feeding area.
- Feeders will be required to access the feeding boat from the docking ramp behind the event site. Feeders will not be ferried to the feeding boat if they miss their departure from the dock.

- Feeders are only permitted to feed using a feeding pole. As per FINA OWS rule 6.12 feeding poles are not to exceed 5m in length when extended. No objects, rope or wire may hang off the end of the feeding pole. The feeding pole must be available for inspection when the swimmer is attending registration.
- All entrants are responsible for organising their own handlers.

Withdrawals

Swimmers withdrawing from the event must inform Swimming New Zealand prior to 5pm Thursday 12 January, please contact entries@swimming.org.nz.

Any swimmers withdrawing from the race after numbering are required to inform the Clerk of the Course of their withdrawal and may face penalty fees.

Protests

Protests must be submitted to the referee, in writing, on the protest form by the team manager only within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective event. This needs to be accompanied in cash by the \$100.00 protest fee.

If conditions causing a potential protest are noted prior to the event a protest must be lodged before the signal to start is given.

All protests shall be considered by the referee. If the referee rejects the protest, they must state the reasons for their decision. The Team Manager may appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeal whose decision shall be final.

If the protest is rejected, the deposit will be forfeited to SNZ. If the protest is upheld the deposit will be returned.

Disqualifications

Failure to complete the race with at least one timing transponder will result in disqualification from that event.

Medical Information

Service	Address	Phone
Taupo Health Centre (A&E)	113 Heuheu St, Taupo	07 378 7060
The Dentists	7 Motutaiko St, Taupo	07 378 8112
Unichem Pharmacy	113 Heuheu St, Taupo	07 376 5246
Life Pharmacy	35-37 Heuheu St, Taupo	07 378 6100
X-Ray, Lakes Radiology	115 Heuheu St, Taupo	07 377 3372
Physio, Fox Physio	6 Motutaiko, Taupo	07 378 2123
Taupo Hospital	Kotare St	07 376 1000
Emergency – Fire, Police, Ambulance		111
AED	Water Safety Team – Lakefront Reserve Taupo District Council – 21 Story Pl, Taupo Taupo Library – 4 Story Pl, Taupo	