

2008 Cayuga Lake Triathlon - Athlete Race Instructions

USA Triathlon 2008 Sprint National Championship

Presented by BorgWarner Morse TEC

Sunday, August 3, 2008

Welcome to the sixth annual Cayuga Lake Triathlon, a USA Triathlon (USAT) sanctioned race, organized by the Ithaca Triathlon Club with assistance from the staff at Taughannock Falls State Park. If you need help on race day look for individuals in the following colored t-shirts: Race Crew (Green), Medical Crew (Red), and Volunteers (Yellow).

Race Day Schedule:

5:30am: Athlete parking opens

6:00am: Transition Area opens

6-7am: Athlete registration in the Park

7:30am: Mandatory Pre-Race Meeting

8:00am: First swim wave starts (waves are 10 minutes apart)

12pm: Awards ceremony (approximate start time)

Each participant is solely responsible for knowing and following the prescribed race course. Enlargements of the maps for the swim, bike and run sections of the race will be posted by the registration area.

General

- We reserve the right to disqualify participants for USAT rule infractions and/or sportsmanship violations.
- Please read the "Most Commonly Violated Rules & Penalties" USAT handout distributed at packet pickup.
- Please familiarize yourself with the course. Turns will be marked with traffic cones, pavement arrows, signs and/or volunteers.
- Head phones/iPods/Radios cannot be worn/used at any time during the race.
- Please don't litter on the race course.
- **If you are unable to finish the race, PLEASE tell the Score This staff at the timing trailer and return your chip to them.** This is critical for our computer results as we must account for everyone who starts the race.

Race Day Parking

There will be designated parking for the athletes, where space permits, in the South Entrance of the Park (**note cars will not be permitted to leave this space before 11:30am; park in the North Entrance if you want to leave before 11:30am**). Overflow parking for athletes and spectators will be in the North Entrance of the Park.

Getting Settled at the Park on Race Day

- Transition area opens at 6am. You'll need to show your yellow wrist band to get into the transition area.
- Body Marking - you need to get body marked before the start of the race.
- Go to the Score This trailer/table to pick up your timing chip (you'll need your running bib #). The Relay team's runner picks up the chip for their team, and then gives it to the swimmer.

ChampionChip Timing

- There will be five splits recorded (swim, T1, bike, T2, run).
- Timing chips must be worn on your ankle (do not put them in your pocket). If you lose your timing chip notify the **Score This** staff or race crew immediately.
- There will be volunteers at the finish line to collect your ankle chip.

Results

- If you do not see your name on the results, contact the **Score This** staff (look for their trailer).
- Please contact the Head USAT Official on race day if you have any concerns about your results and/or penalties.

Medical Team

Please contact the medical and race crew if you need medical assistance at any time. The medical crew will be set up in a tent near the finish line.

Relay Teams

- There are designated bike racks in the transition area for relay teams for each distance race.
- Relay teammates are to meet the next person on his/her team where the cyclist's bike is located in the transition area to transfer the ankle chip. Please leave the transition area after your race leg is done.

Swim

- We will have eight (8) swim waves which will be 10 minutes apart. See posted signs for wave assignments. Your swim cap is color coded for your wave.

- Swimmers must wear the swim cap provided by the race. However, if you are uncomfortable in the water and want to be easily identified by the life guards, you can request a green cap from the registration staff on race day.
- The swim start will be in the water (you can go up to your waist).
- There will be life guards and kayakers on water craft along the swim course. The NYS Park Police and Coast Guard Auxiliary will have motor boats in the water to pick up swimmers if necessary.
- Swimmers may use any stroke to propel themselves through the water, and they may tread water and float.
- If you want to be pulled out of the swim, raise an arm overhead and pump it up and down or call or seek assistance. You can hang on to a buoy if you need to rest as long as you do not proceed in a forward motion.

Transition Area

- There are designated areas in the transition area for the individual and relay team competitors.
- ATHLETES ONLY will be allowed in the transition area until 12:30pm. Please have your equipment set up in the transition area by the pre-race meeting. Access to the transition area is through a designated side entrance/exit at all times except while racing.
- Athletes may not be assisted during their transitions.
- Cyclists must reduce their speed to an acceptable and safe level when returning to the Park and approaching the transition area. Failure to do so shall result in a variable time penalty.
- Entering cyclists must fully dismount their bicycle at the dismount line and walk/run with it over the entrance timing mat.
- Exiting cyclists must walk/run their bicycle over the exit timing mat and continue to walk/run their bike to the mount line on the Park service road.
- Equipment retrieval may begin after the last runner begins their run. The number on the athlete must match the number on bike. Transition area security is not provided after 12:30pm.

Bike

- Approved helmets are required. Your helmet must be fastened securely before you mount your bicycle and the chin strap must be buckled tightly at all times when on your bicycle. The chin strap must not be buckled before you put your helmet on.
- You must have your bike number properly displayed on your bike.
- No drafting is allowed - USA Triathlon Officials will be patrolling the course on motorcycles to make sure this rule is being followed. Keep at least 3 bike lengths of clear space between you and the cyclist in front. If you move into the zone of another bicycle, you must pass within 15 seconds.
- Blocking is not allowed (i.e., riding on the left side without passing anyone and interfering with other cyclists attempting to pass).
- All participants must obey traffic laws while cycling the course. Passing other cyclists can only be done on the left side.
- No assistance may be accepted on the race course other than that offered by the race and medical officials.
- Cutting the course is an obvious violation. Cyclists shall not cross the double center traffic line for any reason.
- There are mile markers every 3 miles (e.g., 3, 6, 9, 12, etc.) along the bike route.

Important Bike Course Details

- Review the posted bike map for details of the course.
- Cyclists make a sharp left out of the transition area on the grass and mount their bikes once they reach the Park service road, then follow the service road around the Kiosk to get to NYS Rte. 89 (this is different from 2007). Cyclists return from NYS Rte. 89 into Park on the grass to the service road (review this path before the race).
- When you leave the Park, cyclists will make a right turn heading north on NYS Rte. 89. There will be Park Police Officers managing traffic at this intersection.
- Please take extreme caution at the turn-around on NYS Rte. 89 and Hickok Road (7 miles north of Taughannock Park) and follow the directions of Police and volunteers.
- Cars will be offered a detour on NYS Rte. 89 and Cayuga View Road (about 1.5 miles north of Taughannock Park). Cyclists must stay to the right of the cones at this detour; cars to the left.
- **Please use CAUTION as you return to the Park on the final descent on NYS Rte. 89-South.**

Run

- Your run bib number must be worn in front.
- The run is a 5K loop within the Park (on grass or packed gravel).
- When you exit the transition area, you will veer slightly to the right and head out onto the grass and follow the course markers.
- Runners cross two bridges on the run. The bridges are "no passing" zones. Use caution as you go up and down the stairs on the Marina bridge.
- There will be volunteers stationed at each turn on the run to help direct you.
- There will be two aid station tables on the run that will have water and Gatorade available. One station is by the Rte. 89 bridge and the other one is at the Falls turn-around.
- Part of the run course follows the Gorge Trail to the Falls turn-around. Runners stay to the left on the Gorge Trail; the turn-around is clockwise. The Gorge Trail will only be open to runners and race crew while the race is in progress.
- There will be a timing mat at the Gorge Trail turn around.

**Our volunteers go out of their way to help us ensure a safe and fun race for you.
Please go out of your way to say thank you to them every chance you get!**