

SEALINK



TOWNSVILLE OPEN WATER SWIMMING ASSOCIATION



**masters
swimming**
QUEENSLAND



2026 MSQ State Championships

Sealink Ship to Shore

Open Water Swim

Cleveland Bay, Townsville

Sunday 19th July 2026

MSA/Q Sanction Q7/26

Event	Distance	Stroke
1	3km	Freestyle
2	1.5km	Freestyle

Event Limit: One (1) event only	Event Director: John Barrett	Entry fee: \$50 plus transaction fee
Check-in 8.15am – 8.45am at Sealink Terminal	Email: magneticislandswim.jb@gmail.com	Entries Open: June 2026
Compulsory briefing: 9.15am on board ferry	Mobile: 0419 655 940	Entries Close: Friday 10 July 2026
Wave starts: 9:30am (3km) & 9:40am (1.5km)	MSQ Sanction Number: Q7/26	Register: Online via my.raceresult.com accessed directly or from: https://states2026.mastersswimmingqld.org.au/ows/register

Entry: Sealink is able to carry 200 swimmers onboard the vessel and therefore early registration is recommended. MSQ will close-off entries once capacity is reached.

Parking: There is limited parking at the Terminal. Nearby street parking is available.

Check-in, Boarding, Bag Drop: Collection of caps, timing chips and numbering will start at 8.15am at the Sealink ferry terminal. Swimmers (with minimal baggage) will commence boarding the Sealink ferry at 8.50am with the final briefing conducted onboard the vessel. Swimmers' bags will be collected and taken to the finish line. There will only be room for swimmers, crew and officials on the vessel. The vessel will proceed to a spot 750m off the Rockpool end of Strand Beach.

Event Distances: Swimmers will have a choice of a 1.5km or 3km swim which will start in separate waves. Each wave will start in the water and proceed towards the beach and around a series of buoys, finishing at Strand Park Beach. IRBs and other craft will provide water safety.

Event categories: Swimmers who choose to wear a wetsuit will relinquish their eligibility for age-group placings.

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WELCOME!

On behalf of Masters Swimming Queensland, Townsville Open Water Swim Association and the Arcadian Surf Life Saving Club, welcome to the 2026 State Open Water Championships. We are very excited to be hosting an open water event for the masters swimming community, and we hope you enjoy the day. Thank you to Sealink for supporting the event.

Eligibility

This event is open to Masters Swimming Australia (MSA) registered swimmers initially, with 100 entries reserved for MSA members. **This event will also be open to Non-Members 2 weeks after opening of entries or once the 100 reserved spaced are filled.**

Age

Age as at 31 December 2026.

Minimum age is 18 years on the day of competition.

Entries

Masters Swimming Australia members

Entries are to be submitted online via Race Results: my.raceresult.com. Entries open early June. You will need to enter your MSA ID number which you will find on your Swim Central profile.

Entry fees

\$50 plus any transaction cost for MSA members

\$55 plus any transaction cost for non-MSA members, inclusive of insurance levy.

The entry fee includes a swim cap, insurance, fruit post swim and medals for age-group placegetters.

Late Entries

No late entries will be accepted. No entries on the day.

Qualifying / Cut-off Times

(MSA rules: 30min per 1km)

The 3km event must be completed within 1.5 hours of race start.

The 1.5km event must be completed within 45mins of race start.

All swimmers are to have completed their swim and exited the water by 11:00am.

Course Map

The swim will take place over a course adjacent to The Strand Beach.



2026 Tidal predictions

	Saturday July 18th	Sunday 19 th July Event day
LW	06:45am / 1.19m	7:50am / 1.29m
HW	12:01pm / 2.42m	1:15pm / 2.28m (0.99m incoming)
LW	6:01pm / 1.15m	
HW	12:22am / 3.11m	

Rules

All MSA open water guidelines, by-laws and rules apply. By nominating to participate in this swim meet, all swimmers thereby authorise the Event Director, Meet Referee and Arcadian Surf Lifesaving Club to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event of an emergency, and persons involved accept responsibility for all costs arising from such action.

Water temperature and Swimsuit ruling

The water temperature shall be measured within 30

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minutes before the event starts. Historically the average water temperature at Cleveland Bay in July is 21.1°C and can range between 20.1°C and 22.5°C.

Wetsuits are permitted but in wearing, swimmers relinquish their eligibility for event awards. If the water temperature is below 18°C, the use of wetsuits is compulsory.

Entry List and Timeline

The Entry List will be available on 2026 States website and TOWSA website by 6pm Saturday 11th July 2026. An email will be sent to participants after the closing date to confirm and check entries. All competitors must check their entries thoroughly and submit discrepancies to magneticislandswim.jb@gmail.com by 6:00pm, Monday 13th July.

Event Schedule

Subject to change. Entrants will be notified of any changes prior to event day.

8.15 – 8:45am	Check-in opens at Sealink Terminal
8:50am	Boarding Sealink Ferry Event briefing on board - Compulsory all swimmers
9:30am	Start 3.0km event
9:40am	Start 1.5km event
11:00am	Cut-off time - All swimmers exit water
As soon as results are ready	Presentations at Picnic Bay SLSC

Swimmers will be counted as they enter the water from the Ferry. Swimmers will then make their way to the in-water start line.

Records

As this is an open water swim no records are available.

Multi Class events

Multi Class swimmers are always welcome, however

there will be no separate Multi Class categories.

Event Awards

Medals will be presented at the conclusion of the event for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Female & Male placegetters in each 5 year age-group for MSA members only.

Results

Full results will be advised after the event via <https://my.raceresult.com/403399/info> and <https://states2026.mastersswimmingqld.org.au/>

Event changes, withdrawals and refund policy

A refund will only be considered prior to the closing date. If you are withdrawing from the event entirely, you will need to email the Event Director (magneticislandswim.jb@gmail.com) to request a refund and provide a reason. If approved, a refund will be granted, minus the administration fee(s).

No refund will be granted after the entry closing date – Friday 10th July.

First aid

A First Aid station will be located at the finish line on Strand Park Beach. Any accident or injury should immediately be brought to the attention of the Event Director.

Water Safety

Sufficient safety will be provided for the number of swimmers including powered craft and kayaks. Both water safety and shore safety personnel will be in communication by two-way radios.

Tickets and programs

Entry to this meet is free for spectators. No programs will be available other than the start list.

Emergency Evacuation

By nominating to participate in this swim meet, all swimmers thereby authorise the Event Director, Event Referee and Arcadian SLSC volunteers to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event of an emergency, and persons involved accept responsibility for all costs

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arising from such action.

In case of an emergency, swimmers will be directed by water safety to leave the water and go to the muster point which is adjacent to the registration tent and await instructions. If asked to evacuate, please do so immediately.

Participant Safety / Other important information

- NO devices aiding speed, endurance or buoyancy (except wetsuits) are permitted.
- NO WATCHES OR JEWELLERY TO BE WORN.
- FINGERNAILS AND TOENAILS ARE TO BE TRIMMED
- Open water swimming has risks and dangers. All swimmers participating do so at their own risk. It is a swimmers responsibility to ensure they are physically prepared and have appropriate training including open water experience and may need a medical check before participating.
- Based on numbers and combination of entries received, the Event Director reserves the right to make changes where necessary.
- MSQ note that the information provided is correct at the time of publishing, however, is subject to change.
- Deliberately obstructing or impeding other swimmers is prohibited and will result in disqualification.
- Swimmers should exercise caution when swimming around marker buoys and passing other swimmers.
- Swimmers are expected to display good sportsmanship. Any acts of unsportsmanlike conduct will lead to disqualification, at the discretion of the Event Director.
- Swimmers must comply with the directions and instructions of all event officials and public authorities.

Photo/video release

All attendees agree they may be photographed or videoed, and the material may be used by TOWSA AND MSQ's discretion, or by others to promote activities of the club or branch, or for personal use including social media.

How to get to Sealink Breakwater Terminal

Sir Leslie Thiess Drive, Townsville

Venue Facilities & Parking

- Limited public carpark are available
- A larger public carpark adjacent to
- Public toilets are located inside the Terminal.

Contacts

Meet Entry:

Via <https://my.raceresult.com/403399/info>

The link can also be accessed at:

<https://states2026.mastersswimmingqld.org.au/ows/registration>

Event Director: magneticislandswim.jb@gmail.com

MSQ Events Co-ordinator:

events@mastersswimmingqld.org.au

MSQ Business Manager:

admin@mastersswimmingqld.org.au

MSQ website

<https://mastersswimmingqld.org.au>

Important dates

Entries open	June 2026
Closing date	10 July 2026
Entry list available	11 July 2026
Entry list finalised	15 July 2026