



Distance

Olympic Distance Aqua Bike – 1.5km Swim/ 37km Bike

Information To Competitors

Congratulations on rising to the challenge and participating in The Fugitive Olympic Distance Aqua Bike.

In order to make your race day go as smoothly as possible, please take the time to read the following instructions very carefully. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the event organisers on enquiries@f3events.co.uk

Event Location

Higginson Park, Lower Pound Lane, Marlow, SL7 2AE

How To Get There

Marlow is best approached from either Jct4 of the M40 or Jct8/9 of the M4. Both take you onto the A404 (Marlow Bypass). Follow this to the Bisham roundabout and head through Bisham to Marlow Bridge. Cross over the bridge and turn left at the mini roundabout into Pound Lane. Higginson Park can be accessed either from the public car park at Court Garden Leisure Centre or by carrying on another 100m and turning left into the cricket club.

Parking

Parking will be available on the football pitch behind the cricket ground/ sports centre for a fee of **£5 per car**.

Address: Higginson Park, Lower Pound Lane, Marlow, SL7 2AE



OFFICIAL CAR PARK £5 PER CAR



NOTE: CASH ONLY - Please bring the correct £5 change to avoid any queues and delays.

Alternative parking is available in the public car park, next to Higginson Park Leisure Centre.

Timings

Please note that event timings are non-negotiable! We ask you to be in the right place at the right time. Timings will proceed as follows, with or without you!

SATURDAY	
14:00 – 18:00	Event Car Park & Village Open
14:00 – 18:00	Athletes Registration
SUNDAY	RACE DAY
05:00 – 15:00	Event Car Park & Village Open
05:00 – 06:45	Transition & Bike Racking Open (SUNDAY ONLY)
07:15	Olympic Distance Event Briefing
07:45	Olympic Distance Athletes Start
Circa 11:00	Prize Presentation

Please remember that REGISTRATION can be done on SATURDAY.

BIKE RACKING can ONLY be done on SUNDAY in the morning before the race.

Race Registration

Registration will be open from **2:00pm – 6:00pm** on **SATURDAY** and SUNDAY from 6am.

Race Registration is located in the Main Event Marquee in Higginson Park, Marlow.

Here you will be issued with your race numbers, bike stickers & timing chip. You must have your numbers visible at all times during the race. If we cannot see your number, you may not get a time.

Your timing chip is allocated to your race number. This chip will be affixed to a velcro band. On race day, you must place the velcro band around your ankle. (Either one) **Not your wrist.**

IMPORTANT: Wear your timing chip before starting the SWIM!

NO TIMING CHIP = NO TIMING SPLIT OR FINISH TIME

If you lose it, we will charge you £10, SO DON'T LOSE IT.

If you lose your timing chip during the race, you will not receive timing splits, but we will endeavour to record a finish time for you if you **shout your race number** as you cross the finish line.

Please note: It is advisable to arrive at least one hour before your start time. This then gives you plenty of time to understand the layout of the event and take in the event atmosphere.

Transition

To help with security, only competitors with numbers will be allowed in transition.

Please use the number provided at registration to label your bike and keep your race number to enable collection of your bike after the race. There are 2 access points to the transition area –Swim In/Bike In, Bike Out/Run Out. These are to be used only during the competition.

Whilst we will do our best to keep your bike secure, we cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage.

NOTE: PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE REGISTERED AND HAVE ALL YOUR EVENT ITEMS READY WITH YOUR STICKERS AND TIMING CHIP ON YOUR ANKLE BEFORE ENTERING TRANSITION AREA.

Relay Teams

Each team will be issued with just **ONE NUMBER & ONE TIMING CHIP**, which will have to be handed over from one team member to another where the bike is racked in the transition area.

The team member doing the swim will start with the timing chip, after the swim the timing chip will be handed over to the next team member in the transition area doing the bike section.

The bike must be racked at the time of handover.

Swim Course – 1.5km

The swim will be in the River Thames

The swim is designed for every type of swimmer from beginners to experienced competitors.

Wetsuits are compulsory, and must be fit for purpose, unless the water temperature is above 21.5 degrees or you are able to swim the distance under 25 mins. They must also be within the terms & conditions of the event, as set out by the Event Organisers under BTF rules & regulations.

The River has hardly any flow downstream for the event. The swim will start by Higginson's Park Riverside and swim upstream (**keeping the Large Swim Buoys to your LEFT**).

You will then turn **LEFT** at the **first set of Swim Buoys** across the river and swim back downstream towards the finish.

You will be helped out of the water by the Safety Marshalls on the exit, which will be clearly marked.

Please only take your wetsuit, goggles, hat and timing chip to the start area.



Bike Course – 37km

Please make sure that you understand the bike course instructions below.

Your bike must be safe and road worthy. Bikes will be checked when they go into transition and if they are not road worthy will be directed to be repaired. You will not be allowed to start until the bike is repaired.

YOU MUST WEAR AN ANSI/SNELL/BSI APPROVED HELMET; this must be fastened before removing the bike from it's racked location and not taken off until the bike is re- racked. In addition the use of IPod's or any musical devices are strictly prohibited throughout the bike stage.

Bikes must be racked correctly or a time penalty will be imposed. Numbers should be clearly visible. Bikes cannot be ridden until out of the park gate. When returning you must dismount before entering the park.

The cycle is **37km** for the **Olympic Distance**. The route takes you from the park turning **LEFT** into Pound Lane. Pass one roundabout and then stay on this road until you meet the main T-junction with the Henley Road. You must slow down and listen to the marshal(s) that will let you know if the road is clear. Failing to do as the marshal instructs will impose an automatic 2 minute penalty, plus a potential accident with a car, so please take due care.

Olympic Distance (37km) – THIS IS AN OUT AND BACK COURSE – This means you head out on the bike course and retrace exactly the same route on the return to Marlow Higginson Park. Turn **LEFT** onto the Henley/ Marlow Road and follow the road 11.5km where you will reach the outskirts of Henley and a roundabout. Turn **RIGHT** at this roundabout then proceed along the Oxford/ Henley Road for a further 7.5km, where you **turn 180 degrees** and re trace your route back into Henley. Turn **LEFT** at this roundabout and head 11.5km back a long the Henley/ Marlow road back the point at the bottom of hill, where you turn **RIGHT** back into Pound Lane before turning **RIGHT** into the park.

You must dismount before entering the park at the gates. Re-rack your bike back at its original position (**before removing your helmet**) and proceed to the run exit at the far end of transition.

Drafting and side-by-side riding are not permitted. A distance of 10m must be maintained behind the front wheel of the rider in front except when overtaking. When overtaking, the manoeuvre must be completed within 30 seconds. If overtaken you should drop back. BTF rules will be on display at the information desk and mobile marshals will be around the course.



Finish and Results

There will be water just beyond the finish, where you can also get an instant read out of your results from the large screen available, and print them off for your journey home.

All timing will be done by Stuwweb timing systems. Results can be found at www.f3events.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you at the event and hope your training goes well.

We always welcome any constructive feedback in order to continually improve our races. If after the event you wish to communicate your thoughts to us please do so via enquiries@f3events.co.uk.