

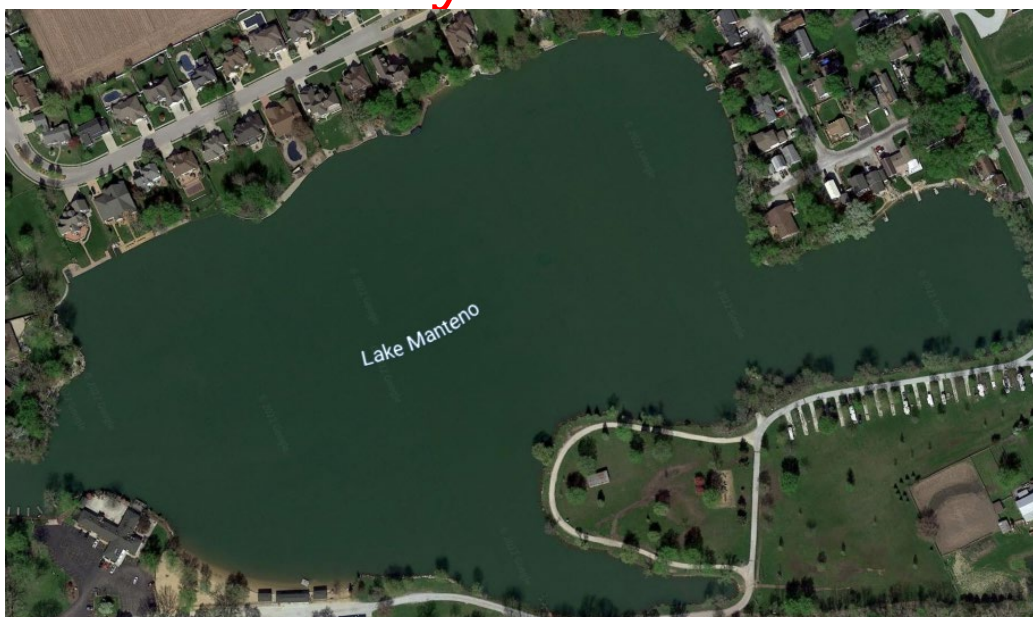


# Illinois Open Water State Meet



Venue: Manteno Sportsmen's Club  
Hosted by Illinois Swimming Inc.  
August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Event Safety Information



### 1. Safety Authority

Emergency Services will be provided by Manteno Fire Department and Manteno Sportsman's Club lifeguards.

Manteno Sportsman's Club Lifeguards will be located throughout the course and docking station where swimmers will enter and exit the lake. AED's, First AID kits, and Basic Life Support gear will be available on-site. A Manteno Fire Department EMS/Paramedic unit as well as Manteno Fire Department boat will be located at the site.

### 2. Communications Plan

Primary - There will be two separate radio networks using two different frequency plans. The radios are not inter-changeable.

Communication across radio networks will be coordinated through Race Operations. Personnel using Illinois Swimming VHF radios include the Race Director, Race Operations, Race Referees, Safety Officer, Course Officer, Administrative Referee, Turn Judges, and event announcers.

Staff will utilize their own radios, and will be in contact with Police/Fire Rescue, Race Operations, Lifeguard Supervisors, and On-Water Lifeguards.

Secondary communications between all parties will be via cellular telephones. The following positions will be issued a phone number listing:

- Race Director
- Meet Referee
- Safety Officer
- Race Referees
- Course Officer

### **3. Swimmers in Distress**

- Manteno Sportsman's Club Lifeguards will activate their water rescue protocols.
- Any swimmer withdrawing from the race must report to the Officials Station/Tent for identification. Lifeguard will radio race-control with the competitor number and direct the swimmer to return to the start area.
- A First Aid tent will be maintained near the Start/Finish area.
- Swimmers needing emergency medical care will be administered to the Manteno Fire Department EMT.
- Swimmers requiring evacuation via ambulance will be transported to AMITA Health St. Mary's Hospital Kankakee, 500 W. Court St., Kankakee, IL 60901 approximately 11.4 miles away from Lake Manteno.

### **4. Missing Swimmer**

- All swimmers will be issued a "Race Ticket" with their competitor number during the registration process. This "Ticket" will be collected as the swimmers enter the water.
- All swimmers will be required to provide a personal cell phone contact, parental cell phone contact, and a coach/handler cell phone contact at registration.
- All swimmers will be videotaped during the final inspection/accounting prior to the start.
- If a swimmer is reported missing and last seen in the water: Manteno Sportsman's Club Lifeguards will activate their under-water search and recovery protocol. Concurrently, meet operations will attempt contact with the coach/handler and swimmer via cell phone. Meet Operations will also review the start list, withdrawal list, site race tickets, and view the pre-race video tape to confirm the swimmer actually started the race. All swimmers are reminded before the race start that they must report to the nearest lifeguard if they withdraw from the race. All swimmers who depart from the water will be identified by their race number.

### **5. Support Vessels**

The following vessels will be used:

- 8 – 10 Kayaks
  - 3 Pontoon boats
  - 2 Waverunners
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- All vessel Captains will attend a briefing by the Safety Officer.
  - Spare vessels will remain clear of vessel exclusion zone unless summoned on to the racecourse by race control.
  - Once the course has been set, the Course Officer vessel will remain clear of the vessel exclusion zones
  - Unless summoned to the course by the Referee or race control
  - All official's vessels will be equipped with the VHF radios on the race control network.

## 6. Parameters for Abandoning the Race

Any one of the following individuals are empowered to independently order the race abandoned due to unsafe course or other conditions.

- Meet Referee
- Safety Officer
- Illinois Swimming Events Director

If the race is to be abandoned, Race Control will relay via radio to all vessels to signal abandonment. Simultaneously, the Manteno Sportsman's Club Lifeguard Supervisor will signal via their radio net to signal abandonment. The abandonment signals will be:

- From Officials Vessels – 5 short blasts followed by one long blast.
- From the Lifeguards – 5 short blasts of the whistle followed by one long blast.
- Swimmer actions are to:
  - Discontinue swimming
  - Look for directions from the Officials or water safety personnel
  - Once safe on the beach, proceed to the start/fish area and check-in.

## 7. Contingency Plan

- Due to the venue restrictions, it is unlikely any change to the shape of the course will be possible.
- If the race is abandoned, it will be postponed until later the same day. If the race must be abandoned for the entire day, there will be an attempt for a make-up on Tuesday August 16<sup>th</sup>. If both days are abandoned then the event is cancelled and refunds will be processed.