

The swim run race season started in San Diego 3-6-2016

It was nearly six months ago that Andy Hewitt and Sean Durkin competed in the 2015 ÖTILLÖ Swim Run World Championship in Sweden. Just a week after ÖTILLÖ, California Swim Run held the first swim run race in the USA. On March 6th, 2016, California Swim Run hosted the first swim run race of the 2016 season.

The famously beautiful sunny San Diego weather turned windy and rainy, the conditions were challenging but, we had fifteen teams show up to the start ready to race. The course had been lengthened to 12k through the addition of one more swim and a longer running portion. There were several teams of Navy Seals as well as teams of personal trainers, triathletes and first time swim run competitors.



The competitors started off and immediately encountered a steep hill before heading over a bridge to enter the water for the first swim.



The first team out of the swim was female team Chaffing the Dream, composed of Jennifer Huffman and Kristin Langston. Right behind the ladies was the triathlete duo of Mike Lyle and Karl Borine. After a short run, they were back in the water again and before the next swim, the men had taken the first position.



Team Eiger just behind Chaffing the Dream



Team Eiger pouring on the speed

Through the middle of the race, the rain started to pour down and the wind picked up. The change in weather created a challenge in the fifth swim where the waves and wind currents made it difficult for the teams to maintain straight courses.

After the fifth swim, the athletes had a longer run through rain and wind before the short sixth swim. It was still team Eiger in the lead but, the ladies from Chaffing the Dream were not about to give up and were still within striking distance. The final swim featured a rocky entry and exit which tested the athlete's balance and footwork.



Mixed team winners Team Jellyfish



Female Team Attempters

The athletes charged toward the finish during the last run and the rain responded by intensifying and bringing a final challenge to the competitors. Team Eiger finished first in the men's division with Chaffing the Dream in first for the female division and Team Jellyfish first in the mixed division.



Team Eiger crossing the finish



Chaffing the Dream victorious



John Feher congratulating Team Back for More



Matt Slakoff with the Navy Seals



Team Attempters smiling after finishing



The ladies from team Not Shore sprint in

All of the team finished the race and there were high fives all around. Many of the competitors were eager to know when the next swim run race would be held in San Diego. California Swim Run is currently looking at some dates in the late summer. Andy Hewitt and Sean Durkin will be competing in the Casco Bay Islands Swim Run Race on August 14th.



COURSE LEG DESCRIPTIONS	RUN	SWIM
Start - Sunset Point to Ventura Cove	850m	
Ventura Cove (swim #1)		250m
Ventura Cove to Bahia Point	650m	
Santa Barbara Cove (swim #2)		250m
Santa Barbara Cove to El Carmel Point	1,100m	
San Juan Cove (swim #3)		150m
Santa Clara Point to Santa Clara Cove	600m	
Santa Clara Cove (swim #4)		100m
North Bay to Fannuel Park	1,400m	
Sail Bay Arc Swim – six bouys (swim #5)		250m
Graham Street to North Cove (Vacation Isle)	2,300m	
North Cove (swim #6)		150m
Clockwise on East Shore of Vacation Isle to South Cove	1,400m	
South Cove (swim #7)		200m
South Cove to Dana Landing to Sunset Point – Finish	2,300m	
Run & Swim Totals:	10,600m	1,350m
RACE TOTAL:	11,950	Meters