

Wildflower Triathlons Festival Communications Information Packet

Your Packet Should Contain the Following Information:

- Communications Information Bulletin
- Assignment Description
- Frequently Asked Questions List
- Event Timeline
- First Aid Information
- Map to Lake San Antonio
- Bike Long Course Map
- Run Long Course Map
- Olympic Bike Course Map
- Olympic Run Course Map
- Mountain Bike Course Map
- Frequency Listing
- Vehicle Identification Signs (2)
- T-Shirt Request Forms (3)

Please familiarize yourself with all of the material in this packet before arriving at Lake San Antonio. If you have any questions, please contact Kirk Smith (KD6RCT) via email at kjsmith@callamer.com.

Do not forget to bring this packet with you to the event. No additional packets will be available!

Wildflower Triathlons Festival Communications Team Information Bulletin

Welcome to the Wildflower Triathlon! In this information packet, you will find maps of the park, directions on how to get there, as well as course maps which outline the locations of aid stations and course officials. These should be kept with you at all times during the event, should you need to reference them as questions arise. The two signs should be affixed to your vehicle (front and rear) so that they are plainly visible, to assist others in locating you, and to enable you to enter restricted areas.

You will also find a list of commonly asked questions, so that you can better provide information to those who request it. If there's a question that isn't covered in the list, and it seems important, feel free to ask communications via radio for clarification.

Radio Equipment: Primary communications will occur on the 146.730 Williams Hill repeater this year. Some 70cm communications will take place for tactical use, so if you've got dual band radios, or separate 2m/440 rigs, bring them. Speaker mic's and headsets are useful for some positions, and if you're a chase vehicle or rover, AVL would be good. Bring spare batteries for HTs, mag mount antennas, connectors, and other radio gear. Don't forget a charger for your HT batteries! If you want to listen to the race channels, or local public safety, a scanner would be helpful.

Camping: All communications volunteers are free to camp at the Visitors Center. The island in the middle of the parking lot as well as the grassy areas next to the Visitors Center are available for pitching tents. Motor homes may park in the Visitors Center parking lot (no hookups available, but we might be able to get you AC power. If you must run a generator, please be considerate of other campers with respect to noise and exhaust). This year we would like to make a concerted effort to segregate campers based on approximate noise level. If those planning on partying/talking late in the night could camp on the lawn next to the Visitors Center, and the family/quieter types could camp on the island in the parking lot, we're figuring all parties will be much happier. The BBQ equipment and eating area will be set up on the island, at the extreme North end (closest to the Visitors Center).

Clothing: Weather at Lake San Antonio can be highly variable. We've had everything from 100°F heat to rain. Dress in layers, or bring multiple changes of clothes for various climates. A hat to keep the sun off and sunscreen are a must. Hot showers (free!) are available in the park.

Food: The triathlon folks provide lunch on Saturday, but in the opinion of most who have attended, it's inedible. Bring your own food for the entire event. A community BBQ pit (with fuel) will be provided at camp for dinner, but you're responsible for your own food, utensils, etc. Don't count on access to the BBQ

during the day, as you'll be in the field, and should have a sack lunch and ice chest with beverages. The grocery store in the park has limited inventory and high prices, so plan ahead.

Alcohol: The work we do requires us to be at our best. If you must bring alcohol, please be responsible. We won't allow our volunteers to drive if they've been drinking, and if you're out of control, you'll be asked to leave. The communications team is extended great privileges well beyond those of the typical Cal Poly volunteer, please don't abuse them.

Searches: Communications personnel following the "Access to the Park" directions below will not be searched when entering the park. We are given great latitude in this regard, and must be careful not to abuse it. All other volunteers will be searched, and all glass bottles and hard alcohol will be confiscated. If you must bring glass or hard alcohol to the event, it must stay at our camping area at the Visitors Center.

Beach City: Please note that should you choose to go to Beach City at night to enjoy the festivities, you will be searched before entering that area. Communications personnel are not exempt from any regulations in Beach City. No hard alcohol, glass, kegs, animals or boats are allowed at Beach City. In order to gain access to Beach City, you must have an ID badge, and must be able to show valid Cal Poly ID or be with someone with valid Cal Poly ID. If you plan on bringing a boat to Wildflower, prearrange it with John Rogers to avoid paying a \$50 camping fee. If you do launch a boat, stay away from Beach City. Any boat caught by rangers within the restricted area around Beach City will be impounded by the rangers. If you choose to violate any these policies, you may be removed from the park (or worse...arrested). Please follow the rules.

Access to the Park: When entering the park, use gate #4 (the far left hand gate). Do NOT identify yourself as having any affiliation with Cal Poly. You are "with communications." No other clarification is necessary. It might help to have the communications signs on your dash. They will ask for your name, as they will have a list of Communications Team members allowed access. Unlike previous years, only people who have pre-registered and have their name on the list will be allowed into the park, even if you are "with communications." If you go through the Cal Poly lines, expect to get restricted access, a total vehicle search, and confiscation of anything that they deem contraband. After entering the park, go directly to the Visitor's Center, where we will have dispatch set up and will be camping in that area. Wrist-Bands, ID badges, T-shirts, etc. will be distributed by John (KK6DJ) at the Visitor's Center.

Law Enforcement: Monterey County Park Rangers are sworn peace officers, and as such, can issue citations and make arrests. Additionally, the California Highway Patrol and Monterey County Sheriff's Office will be well represented. Please obey traffic laws, and don't do anything you wouldn't do elsewhere. Rangers will be

actively looking for DUI drivers, open containers, speeding, and other infractions, misdemeanors and felonies. Be careful.

Your Assignment: We'll have a briefing Friday night after dinner (about 8pm), to bring you up to speed on any last-minute changes. As such, you're on your own to get to your assignment Saturday and Sunday morning on time. Your assignment description sheet lists the time at which you are expected to be in position. Go enroute on the air to Control, and let Control know when you're in position. Please be on time. If you feel like you're not needed at your position, let Control know via the radio, but do not leave unless directed by Control. It may seem like you're not doing anything, but we may still need you there.

Dispatch: Dispatch (a.k.a. "Control") is a very busy place. As such, it's imperative that people stay clear of the area whenever possible. In years past, dispatch has become a depository for gear, and a place to hang out. We simply can't do this anymore. Keep your tools and gear in your vehicle, and if you need AC plugs for battery chargers and the like, use the kitchen area. If you show up at dispatch and you're not supposed to be there, expect to be asked to leave the room. It's nothing personal. We would encourage folks interested in doing dispatch to pre-arrange some time there, or if you find yourself without an assignment, request to come observe via radio. We'll take one person at a time as space permits.

Event Communications: Primary amateur communications will occur on the 146.730- (PL 100.0) repeater located on Williams Hill. Use this as a talk-in as you approach the front gate. This repeater has excellent coverage over most of the park and bike course. In the event that you are unable to get into the repeater, Control will be operating a discrete 2m simplex channel on 147.390 (PL of 127.3 will be required). Please try the repeater first, and use the 147.390 only if you have to. Please be sure to monitor your radio closely during the event. Keep it loud, and use a speaker mic or headset if you're walking around. You're useless to us if we can't contact you when we need you. If you have emergency traffic, please tell us when you make the call to dispatch (e.g. "Control, Chase 2, Emergency Traffic"). If you call with routine traffic and don't get a response immediately, wait at least a full minute before calling again. Dispatch is a very busy place, and while we probably heard you, we might be on the phone or talking on another radio, preventing us from getting back to you right away. Please be patient. Chase vehicles and Rover/Sag vehicles will also have a tactical simplex channel assigned (446.025, PL 127.3) so they can communicate amongst themselves for safety purposes. Additionally, Start-Finish/Marine units will use a tactical simplex channel of 446.075 (PL 127.3) to facilitate their operations.

Crossband Repeaters: If you're at an aid station, and want to use your crossband repeater in your vehicle to extend the ability of your handheld to get into the 146.730 repeater (which is an excellent idea), please let Control know ahead of time and tell them your crossband frequency. It gets to be a huge mess when different

groups inadvertently use the same crossband frequency, and Control will coordinate this to prevent it.

AVL: This year represents the biggest use of AVL to date at Wildflower, and we're hoping for huge success. All Chase and Rover vehicles will be equipped with AVL transmitters, so dispatch can track their location at all times. Hopefully this will reduce radio traffic, but even if you're running AVL, be prepared to verbally give Control your position when it's requested.

Rover Vehicles: New for this year, all Rover vehicles will also act as Sag vehicles. In other words, Rovers will be expected to pick up downed cyclists and runners, and transport bicycles back to the Visitors Center. We hope this will reduce the excessive wait times from previous years, where a single non-radio equipped Parks vehicle was used for Sag.

Vehicle Signage: Color signs will be distributed at the Visitors Center Friday night at the briefing. All Communications Vehicles should have the "Official Race Vehicle" signs affixed to the front and rear of the vehicle for easy identification. Tape will be provided at the Visitors Center. Chase and Rover vehicles should have additional signs (again, provided Friday night) affixed to the front and rear bumpers, as well as the left and right sides of the vehicle.

Frequently Asked Questions

- How long is the Long Course? *56 mile bike, 13.1 mile run, 1.2 mile swim.*
- How long is the Olympic Course? *40k bike, 10k run, 1.5k swim.*
- How long is the Mountain Bike Course? *10 mile bike, 2 mile run, 0.5 mile swim.*
- I'm a volunteer, but forgot my Poly ID. Can I get in? *No.*
- I'm a volunteer, where do I get my lunch or dinner? *Beach City*
- Where can I change? *Anywhere you want/can, but no public nudity*
- Can you send me my T-shirt in the mail? *No.*
- Can I change my T-shirt size? *No.*
- Are there showers in Beach City? *Yes (but no restrooms, outhouses only)*
- How long does it take to walk to the Festival Area from Beach City? *10-15 minutes (1 mile)*
- Are the race results mailed to the athletes? *Yes.*
- Where are the race results posted? *Registration*
- Is the course well marked? *Yes.*
- Where can I get a map of the course? *In your program*
- Where does the swim start? *Lynch ramp*
- Do I have the right color swim cap? *Check with registration*
- Should I wear a wetsuit? *Not a bad idea (water temp ~65° F)*
- Where can I check my bike in? *Registration*
- Where is registration? *Festival Area (Lynch Area)*
- Can I pick up a friend's race packet? *No.*
- Can I check my bike in first before I register? *No.*
- Where is lost and found? *Info booth at headquarters.*
- Are there any cattle guards? *No.*
- Is traffic stopped on the bridge? *Yes.*
- Can my friends help me in the Transition Area? *No.*
- Is there food at the aid stations? *Some (see program)*
- Can I put my boat in the water? *Only at North Shore*
- Where can I get a poster? *At the Wildflower Booth (\$10)*
- What happens if you are pulled out of the event? *Notify Control via radio.*
- Can I bring my shoes to the water? *Yes.*
- Is there a Carbo-feed? *Yes.*
- Can I join USA-Triathlon at the race? *Yes, membership necessary to race (\$5 for one race).*
- Where do volunteers check-in? *With your team leader.*
- Where is the Medical Tent? *Near the ice-house at the transition area.*
- Where is the nearest hospital? *Twin Cities Community, in Templeton (US 101 South to Las Tables Exit, follow the signs)*
- Where is the Massage Tent? *Festival Area near the stage.*
- Is the food at headquarters for the general public? *No.*
- What other races does Tri-California host? *Scott Tinley's Dirty Adventures, Pacific Grove Triathlon*