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**AT Feature:
The Seventh Annual RCP Tiburon Mile Open
Water Swim -Part 1**

By Gordon Johnson, Photos by Gordon, Holly and Jonathan Johnson



The small town of Tiburon, host to the Seventh Annual "Tiburon Mile", Where Many Swimmers from Contra Costa County Participate

It was a cool overcast day, but still warmer than the chilly waters of "Racoon Straights" running between Angel Island and the small town of Tiburon in Marin County. Over 800 swimmers, ranging in ages from 9 to 70+, took the challenge and made the swim -- many in wet suits (281 swimmers) to protect against the cold and even more in bathing suits (using vaseline for insulation and an anti-chaffing agent). There were Olympians and world class swimmers from

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around the world and many great swimmers from the San Francisco Bay Area and Contra Costa County, including swimmers from the University of California, Stanford University, Terrapins, Crow Canyon Sharks, Walnut Creek Aquabears, Orinda Aquatics and Orinda Masters, the Walnut Creek Masters, and more. Among our local swimmers, we saw were Crow Canyon coach, **Ethan Hall** with his swimmers **Madison** and **Forest White** (youngest in this event at nine-years-old), **Shaila Yoder**, **Kara Kohler**, **Taylor Munk**, **Alexa Cavallo**, **Olivia Alva** and **Taylor Nanfri**; **Kyle Tully** (Terrapins)' **Maxwell Tiuseco** (Vallejo Aquatics); Aquabears coach **Mike Heaney**; Aquabear swimmers, **Alexa Powers** and **Toni, Isabella** and **Cesar Diaz** (Cesar took 2nd in 12 & UN division); Cal's **Dash Rothberg** (Dash hails from Aquabears and Bentley (Private) Upper School) Walnut Creek Masters coach & Master's world record holder, **Kerrie O'Brien**; Orinda Aquatics coach & Campolindo High School head coach, **Dave Shurhoff**; Orinda Masters, **Meg Honey** (Northgate High School Women's swim team head coach) and **Karen Humphreys** (you might remember her as Karen Moe, 1972 Olympic Gold Medalist- 200 butterfly & former Cal Women's swim team head coach)

The Tiburon Mile bills itself as one of the premiere open water events, sporting a \$10,000 prize each for the winning male and female swimmers, coverage by national television, and sports celebrities in the crowd, it certainly was an exciting event, not only for the swimmers, but for the spectators, with play-by-play coverage of the battle for first place. It was the closest finish ever, with an unbelievable three-way race for first that eventually came down to a couple of seconds between first and second place, with the Russian Vladimir Dyatchine touching out the German, Thomas Lurz by two seconds and the American Erik Vendt by 6 seconds. On the women's side, it was a surprising victory by a young rookie, 14-year-old from the Sacramento area (Capitol Aquatics), Chloe Sutton. She powered to a first place finish a full minute ahead of second and third place finishers, Sara McLarty and Erica Rose who finished only 1 second apart.

In team scoring, the University of California, Berkeley took the team title. The Pleasanton Sea Hawks took fourth place and the Crow Canyon Sharks took sixth place.

[Click here for Official Results.](#)

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The starting point was Ayala Cove on Angel Island.



Even though it was an overcast day, the views were great for the spectators.

Kelly McCabe-Diablo Valley College
Katy Erhardt-Diablo Valley College
Blake Henderson
Sean Peneyra-Vista Diablo
Sam Craven-Vista Diablo
Jocelyn Chang
Ryan Wall
Dewing Park 8&un Girls
Jimmy Bailey-Diablo Valley College
Blake Henderson
Chelsea Allard
Suzanne Heim-Bowen
Dave Boatwright
Lauren Rogers



The "Elite" group left first and featured some world class swimmers and Olympians



Even though there was lots of room to swim and the shortest distance, swimmers continued to jockey for position, sometimes even knocking into each other.



Swimmers catch their breath after finishing the race. They then got back into the water and swam a warm down swim to the dock.



*Coach **Dave Shurhoff** after his swim (Orinda Aquatics and Campolindo High School)*



*San Ramon swimmers **Forest** (9) and **Madison** (11) **White** swam the race with their Crow Canyon Shark coach, **Ethan Hall**. Forest was the youngest swimmer at this event.*



*Aquabears **Toni**, **Bella**, and **Cesar Diaz** pose with their parents **Tony** and **Martha** after having some of the delectable food on site and getting warmed up. Toni is a veteran open water swimmer, but this was Bella and Cesar's first open water swim in the bay, and Cesar took second place in his age division!*



*Terrapin **Kyle Tully** (15) poses with his parents, **John** and **Sherrie**, and sister **Elizabeth** (13) who plans to swim this event next year. It was Kyle's first open water bay swim and little sister will join her brother in the longer (1.5 miles) Treasure Island/YMCA open water swim later this month.*

Is your team not being covered in AT??? Do you have a swimmer(s)/coach that you would like to be featured in AT? Then give us a call at 60 WATER.

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