

Start Swimming-- Castle Swim November 26

By Gerry DeBenedetti

As soon as you finish reading this article, the Swimming Committee recommends that you hit the water and start practicing your ocean distance swimming. We especially are getting the word out to Junior Riggers who are hesitant about ocean swimming (no pool lane lines out there), inviting them to a Junior Castle.

Every year, long-time swimmers and newer members who don't "know", complain that they would have swum the Castle swim if they'd started training earlier or they could have swum the Castle Swim if only they'd gotten enough notice. Here it is--your notice to start training. You have 85 days to shape up.

This year the Swimming Committee is offering a Junior Castle swim in order to get our young people into the ocean. Too many of our young surfers are used to having a leash, so they never have to swim for their life. With the emphasis of swim clubs and intermediate school swimming programs, many have never swum a distance in the ocean before. We encourage you to discover salt water.

Acknowledging the inexperience and youth of our Juniors, the Junior Castle will be an out and back swim, while the Masters are swimming the usual course from the Outrigger Hotel to the OCC Beach. Next issue we will feature a map and explain more about the history of the swim.

Remember, everybody may have a personal escort, and both of you enjoy the complimentary OCC Sunday brunch. There is no entry fee. So, making it as free and easy as possible, you do your part and save the date, and start practicing.

This is the 27th anniversary of the revived and reversed Castle Swim.

