

MBSA Commitment to its Swimmers and Marathon Swimming Communities.

Sanctioning organizations should not create a barrier to swimming. Instead, we exist to serve the swimming community by sharing local knowledge and advice and providing un-biased independent observers who volunteer to help document your swim and ensure that your achievement is accurately recorded for the history books.

Unfortunately, history has proven that without sanctioning organizations, the sport (and each swimmer's individual accomplishment) would be tarnished and diluted by lack of transparency, lack of standards to measure and compare successes, and outright fraudulent claims.

Cost:

Marathon swimming can get expensive. The majority expenses come from boat charters and travel. The fee that MBSA charges goes entirely to keeping the non-profit organization in good standing and general operating expenses. Any proceeds go back into the swimming community via the awards banquet, swim events, and educational programs. We are entirely a volunteer organization.

Each swim supported by MBSA includes approximately 60 hours of our volunteer time. This includes planning and communication, on-the water observation and documentation, land support and logistics, post-swim documentation, social media, and awards.

The MBSA provides the following services to swimmers:

- **Published rules and swim/support safety protocol**
- **A published set of rule/standards**
- **Trained and unbiased observation and detailed documentation of each swim**
- **No Conflicts of Interest – we do not dictate who you use as your pilot or crew**
- **Investment in safety** – equipment and training
- **Local Knowledge and Relationships**
Local Coast Guard Auxiliary, Harbor Management, local fisherman, and interested pilots. Local knowledge and direct experience with Monterey Bay waters, including (but not limited to) currents, tides, weather patterns, and wildlife. We will leverage logistical best practices for the Monterey Bay (on and off the water)
- **Community** - Annual events to bring together the open water swimming community.