



# 2026 Crater Lake Classic Open Water Swim

Lake Barrine, Crater Lakes National Park, Gillies Range Road  
Atherton Tablelands

**Sunday 20th September, 2026**

MSQ Sanction Q18/26

| Event | Distance       | Stroke    |
|-------|----------------|-----------|
| 1     | 750m (Enticer) | Freestyle |
| 2     | 1.5km          | Freestyle |
| 3     | 3.0km          | Freestyle |



|                                             |                                        |                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Event Limit:</b> One (1) event only      | <b>Event Director:</b> Jo Maher        | <b>Entry fee:</b> \$60/\$65 plus transaction fee           |
| <b>Warm up:</b> 7:15am – 8:00am             | <b>Email:</b> cairnsmudcrabs@gmail.com | <b>Entries Open:</b> Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August, 2026   |
| <b>Compulsory briefing:</b> 8:10am          | <b>Mobile:</b> 0414 798 193            | <b>Entries Close:</b> Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2026 |
| <b>Wave starts:</b> 8:30am, 8:40am & 8:50am | <b>MSQ Sanction Number:</b> Q18/26     | <b>Register:</b> Online via: <a href="#">Swim Central</a>  |

# Event Details

## WELCOME!

On behalf of the Cairns Mudcrabs, welcome to the Crater Lake Classic – a long tradition of swimming in the Crater Lakes on the Atherton Tablelands.

## Eligibility

This event is open to Masters Swimming Queensland (MSQ) registered swimmers, and swimmers registered with other Masters Swimming Australia (MSA) affiliated clubs.

**Non-Members are welcome to enter this event (with the purchase of a single day membership).**

## Age

Age as at 31 December 2026.

Minimum age is 18 years on the day of competition.

## Entries

Entries are to be submitted online via Swim Central.

**Entries Open:** Monday 3rd August, 2026

**Entries close:** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2026.

All entrants must select a **single distance only**.

**\*Note:** Entries capped at 60 swimmers total.

## Instructions for Non-Masters members Entry:

1. Register a Swim Central account (if you do not have one already) and log in with your email address
2. Purchase an event membership of \$5 (plus fees)
  - a. Click on Store in left menu
  - b. Click Memberships link
  - c. Search for "Masters Swimming Queensland" in Find a Club
  - d. Select who you are purchasing for
  - e. Add "**QCN Crater Lake Classic 2026**" membership to your Cart and purchase
  - f. Once purchased, you will be able to enter the meet via your home page or the Events link
3. Enter the event paying the applicable entry fee

## Entry fees

MSQ/MSA Members = \$60 plus transaction fees.

Non-Members = \$65 plus transaction fees.

The entry fee includes a souvenir swim cap, insurance and

fruit post swim.

## Late Entries

No late entries will be accepted. **No entries on the day.**

## Qualifying / Cut-off Times

The 750m Enticer event must be completed within 1 hour.

The 1.5 km event must be completed within 1 hour.

The 3km event must be completed within 1.5 hours.

All swimmers are to have completed their swim and exited the water by 10:00am.

## Course Map

The course will consist of a 750 metre loop, with swimmers completing laps for their total nominated distance.

The course map will be available on the Mudcrabs Facebook page prior to the event.

## Rules

All **MSQ/MSA meet guidelines, by-laws and rules, and World Aquatics swim rules apply**. By nominating to participate in this swim meet, all swimmers thereby authorise the Meet Director/MSQ/QCN to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event of an emergency, and persons involved accept responsibility for all costs arising from such action.

## Water temperature and Swimsuit ruling

The water temperature shall be measured within 30 minutes before the event starts. Historically the lake water temperature is between 20 - 24 in September. Wetsuits are permitted but in wearing, swimmers will be ineligible for age groups awards, but there is a separate wetsuit category. If the water temperature is below 18C, the use of wetsuits is compulsory.

## Entry List and Timeline

The Entry List will be available on the MSQ meet event page by COB Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September (An email will be sent to participants). All competitors must check their entries thoroughly and submit discrepancies to [cairnsmudcrabs@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsmudcrabs@gmail.com) by 6:00pm, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>

# Event Details

September, 2026.

## Event Schedule

|                   |                                          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 7:15 – 8:00am     | Check-in opens & Warm-up available       |
| 8:10am            | Event briefing - Compulsory all swimmers |
| 8:30am            | Start 3.0km event                        |
| 8:40am            | Start 1.5km event                        |
| 8:50am            | Start 750m event                         |
| 10:00am           | Cut-off time - All swimmers exit water   |
| 10:30am (approx.) | Presentations                            |

*^Swimmers must check-in **BEFORE** entering the water. Swimmers are responsible for returning to shore in time to attend the compulsory event briefing. No briefing = No swim!*

## Records

As this is an open water swim no records are available.

## Multi Class events

Multi Class swimmers are always welcome, however there will be no separate Multi Class categories.

## Event Awards

Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the event on the lawn area beside the Teahouse for Female & Males, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> in each age group and each distance. There is a , and overall wetsuit male and female, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Results

Full results will be advised after the event via the Mudcrabs Facebook page and MSQ website.

## Event changes, withdrawals and refund policy

Changes prior to the Saturday 12th September, 2026 (entries close date) are to be made in Swim Central. A refund will only be considered prior to the closing date and requires approval before granted, minus the administration fee(s). **No refund will be granted after the close date.**

## First aid

No Lifeguards will be in attendance however qualified First Aid club members will be available. Any accident or injury should immediately be brought to the attention of the Event Director.

## Water Safety

Sufficient safety will be provided for the number of swimmers including powered craft and kayaks. Both water safety and shore safety personnel will be in communication by two-way radios.

## Tickets and programs

Entry to this meet is free for spectators. No programs will be available other than the start list.

## Emergency Evacuation

By nominating to participate in this swim meet, all swimmers thereby authorise the Event Director and Cairns Mudcrabs Swim Club volunteers to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event of an emergency, and persons involved accept responsibility for all costs arising from such action.

In case of an emergency, swimmers will be directed by water safety to leave the water and go to the appropriate muster point and await instructions. If asked to evacuate, please do so immediately.

## Participant Safety / Other important information

- NO devices aiding speed, endurance or buoyancy (except wetsuits) are permitted.
- Masters Swimming OWS rules apply, including NO jewellery, including watches to be worn.
- Open water swimming has risks and dangers. All swimmers participating do so at their own risk. It is a swimmer's responsibility to ensure they are physically prepared and have appropriate training including open water experience and may need a medical check before participating.
- Based on numbers and combination of entries received, the Event Director reserves the right to make changes where necessary.

# Event Details

- Cairns Mudcrabs note that the information provided is correct at the time of publishing, however, is subject to change.
- Deliberately obstructing or impeding other swimmers is prohibited and will result in disqualification.
- Swimmers should exercise caution when swimming around marker buoys and passing other swimmers.
- Swimmers are expected to display good sportsmanship. Any acts of unsportsmanlike conduct will lead to disqualification, at the discretion of the Event Director.
- Swimmers must comply with the directions and instructions of all event officials and public authorities.

## Photo/video release

All attendees agree they may be photographed or videoed, and the material may be used by QCN and MSQs discretion, or by others to promote activities of the club or branch, or for personal use including social media.

## How to get to Lake Barrine



**From Cairns:** Lake Barrine is about 60km or just over 1 hour's drive from Cairns via the Gillies Highway. Approximately 5 minutes after reaching the top of the Gillies Highway, turn left at the "Lake Barrine National Park" sign.

**From Atherton:** Lake Barrine is about 22km or 20 minutes

from Atherton via the Gordonvale Atherton Road. Approximately 8km past Yungaburra, the turnoff to Lake Barrine National Park is on your right.

## Venue Facilities & Parking

- Use car park as signage directs on the day
- Public toilets are located near the top car park.
- Domestic animals are **not permitted** in Crater Lakes National Park.
- Never feed wildlife. Human food can be harmful to wild animals.
- Camping is **not permitted** within the Crater Lakes National Park.
- Lake Barrine Teahouse is licensed, no BYO alcohol is permitted.
- Swimmers must be completely dry before entering the Teahouse for safety reasons.



## Contacts

Meet Entry: [Swim Central](#)

Event Director: [cairnsmudcrabs@gmail.com](mailto:cairnsmudcrabs@gmail.com)

MSQ Business Manager  
[admin@mastersswimmingqld.org.au](mailto:admin@mastersswimmingqld.org.au)

MSQ website

<https://mastersswimmingqld.org.au>

## Important dates

|                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Entries open         | 3 <sup>rd</sup> August, 2026 |
| Closing date         | 12 September, 2026           |
| Entry list available | 17 September 2026            |
| Entry list finalised | 18 September 2026            |