



Dear Athlete,

Thank you again for registering for the **Annual DAM Sprint Tri & Duathlon** presented by **CRAVE Bistro** scheduled for this upcoming Sunday, July 9th at Lake Gardner in Amesbury, MA. We are psyched to see all of you!! We have officially SOLD OUT for the second year in a row! Thank YOU!

As usual we have a ton of veteran DAM triathletes, some brand new to the sport, and a handful of youth triathletes competing.

**\*\*With an earlier than usual sell out, we are willing to extend the deferral window for those of you that can no longer participate for whatever reason to accommodate a waitlist! Please email [info@high5em.com](mailto:info@high5em.com)**

Please take a few minutes to read this packet in its entirety. We included every detail possible, to limit any unanswered questions.

#### **Event Snapshot**

**Date: 7/9/2023**

**Race Site: 80 High Street, Amesbury MA (Lake Gardner Beach)**

**Race Start Time: 8AM**

As we've communicated, Lake Gardner just re-opened last week after a ton of much needed improvements. Please keep off all sectioned off areas. We like to leave this venue cleaner than when we arrive so please don't leave anything behind.

**Pre-Race Packet Pick Up:** To be held on Saturday from **11-3pm at Crave Bistro** located at 10 Water Street just down the street from race site at Amesbury, MA. If it's raining, we'll be setup inside the back room, if it's dry and sunny we'll be setup on their back deck. **Athletes are strongly recommended to pick up their packets in advance, especially if this is your first triathlon.**



**Race Day Packet Pick Up will begin at 6AM-and close at 7:30AM at Lake Gardner.**

#### **What is REQUIRED at Packet Pick Up?**

A Valid ID or USAT card (if you are a USAT member)

**Can you pick up for your friends?**

No – As part of USAT guidelines, everyone must check-in. If you are on a relay team, all members of the relay team must be present to get your team's packet.

**What you'll get at Packet Pick Up:** Race shirt, swim cap & a race packet which will contain your timing chip, bib #, bike/helmet #. Your bike/helmet numbers are adhesive stickers. Your bib # is required during the run ONLY, worn on the front part of your person (waist, shirt or shorts)

**Parking: There will be NO PARKING race morning at Lake Gardner. See options below in order of convenience.**

–21 Friend Street, Amesbury MA (Public Parking) – 1/4 mile away from race site

–49 Friend Street in Amesbury, MA (Town Hall Parking Lot) – 1/4 mile away from race site

–24 Water Street, Amesbury MA (Public Parking) – Less than 1/2 mile away from race site

–9 School Street, Amesbury MA (Back of the Public Library) – Less than 1/2 Mile away from race site

Please park only in designated areas. Vehicles parked in neighborhoods/side streets with "No Parking" signs will be towed. **There is no parking along High Street. The entire road will be shut down by 7am that morning; cars will be towed that are parked on High Street.**

**Race Morning:** If you do pick up your race packet on Saturday, the first thing you need to do when you arrive on Sunday morning, is get body marked by the entrance to transition (closest to the porta potties), unless you'd like to do this on your own.

**RIGHT CALF – YOUR AGE as of 12/31/23**

**RIGHT ARM – YOUR ASSIGNED RACE NUMBER**

**Transition Area:** The transition area will open at 6:00AM. All athletes will need to be body marked prior to entering the transition area. At 7:40AM transition will close, and everyone will need to be down on the beach by 7:45AM. The Race Director will begin reviewing important safety and venue logistics at 7:50AM. **Athletes will not be allowed to remove bikes/equipment prior to 10AM.** Please be courteous to your fellow racers and respect this request as this is a smaller venue.

**Bike Mechanical Support:** If you have any issues with your bike come race morning, please visit the Riverside Cycle Tent. A mechanic will be on site at Lake Gardner providing minimal mechanical support pre-race starting at 6AM. On course bike support is limited, so you should be prepared to carry your own spare tubes, cartridges, etc. If you happen to run into an issue, that prevents you from getting back to Lake Gardner, please call Bike Coordinator, Will Lai at 978-219-4135 or 978-594-7050 and we'll do our best to send support.

**2023 Wave Plan**

**8:00AM Duathlon Start**

**8:03AM Male 44 and Under / Clydesdale**

**8:06AM Male 45+**

**8:09AM Female 44 & Under**

**8:12AM Female 45+ / Athena / Relays**

**8:15AM Rec+Novice / Aquabike / Para**

**Novice/Rec Category:** The DAM is the perfect triathlon for first timers. You'll be surrounded by seasoned triathletes and there are plenty of volunteers around and in transition (LOOK FOR THEM IN High5EM SHIRTS or ORANGE VOLUNTEER SHIRTS), feel free to ask them if you are unsure of anything.

**Swim Course:** 1/3 mile counter-clockwise swim! All waves will start in the water. NO wave will have more than 50 people. Buoys WILL always be on your left shoulder at all times!! Position yourself accordingly. If you are a strong swimmer, get in the front. Otherwise, seat yourself where you will feel most comfortable. **Think about this prior to race morning.**

If you are at all nervous about the swim, you have the right to ask registration volunteers for a NEON PINK SWIM CAP. This will help all safety volunteers distinguish you. At any time during the swim ANY athlete is permitted to grab onto a safety boat to rest, just as long as that safety boat/sup/kayak isn't moving forward. We will have a bunch of safety personnel on the water, including the Merrimac Fire Rescue boat. If you need a hand, put your hands up as best as possible and one of our guides will be there to help. It's okay if you need a minute or two, there is no rush. If you decide this isn't your day, then we can surely get you back to land.

PLEASE take notice of your fellow friends in the water, we are all out there, doing our best and working towards that finish line, but safety comes first. If you notice someone struggling or coughing A LOT, please take a second and make sure they are okay, you will want someone to do the same for you.

**Wetsuits:** The temperature will be taken on Thursday and announced and then again on race morning as this is a USAT-sanctioned event and will follow USAT guidelines.

**\*\* Wetsuits:** Each age group participant shall be permitted to wear a wetsuit without penalty in any event sanctioned by USA Triathlon up to and including a water temperature of 78 degrees Fahrenheit. When the water temperature is greater than 78 degrees but less than 84 degrees Fahrenheit, age group participants may wear a wetsuit at their own discretion, provided, however that participants who wears a wetsuit within such temperature range shall not be eligible for prizes or awards. Above 84 degrees, wetsuits are prohibited.

**Bike Course:** On this 12.3 mile scenic, rolling course, you'll travel on quiet roads through a picturesque New England farm country into Southern New Hampshire. The course has a few sharp turns that will be clearly marked. The entire course will be heavily marked with signage & large mile markers displayed. There will be a large police presence and volunteers will be stationed throughout the course. You'll be turning left out of Lake Gardner to start and left to re-enter Lake Gardner through the main entrance, hanging left of the pennants to rack your bike in transition. From there you will head out onto the run.

Visit our webpage for course maps: <http://www.high5em.com/dam/>

**Tips:**

*Drafting--keep at least three bike lengths of clear space between you and the cyclist in front. If you move into the zone, you must pass within 15 seconds.*

*Position--keep to the right-hand side of the lane of travel unless passing.*

*Illegal Pass-- cyclists must pass on the left, not on the right.*

*Blocking--riding on the left side of the lane without passing anyone and impeding other cyclists attempting to pass.*

*Overtaken--once passed, you must immediately exit the draft zone from the rear, before attempting to pass again. (Penalty: Time penalty)*

**Run:** The 3 mile run is a mix of trail and road offering portions of rollers, flats and a few hills. Your first  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile will take you through a well packed, maintained trail, staged parallel to the lake. This entire single track section will be staked with small red ground flags, with a few volunteers staggered throughout. Beyond the single track trail, sits Battis Farm, a beautiful open field, following a nature trail that will lead you to the Fuel Station with water/Gatorade, then out on South Hampton Road that should be very quiet on a Sunday morning. You'll turn Right onto Rowell St. hit your second opportunity for fuel, which will lead you up one "DAM" BIG Hill. Once you reach the top of that hill you'll weave your way back to Lake Gardner to the Finish.

**Visit our webpage for course maps:** <http://www.high5em.com/dam/>

**Course Details:** The roads are open to traffic so please be cautious and follow the rules of the road. There are a few sharp turns, which will be heavily marked with caution signs leading up to the turn. 85% of the roads have been newly paved and/or patched up in the last few weeks. We will do our very best to mark up the road, but please be safe.

**\*\*Trash:** Amesbury, South Hampton & Newton NH have been very kind to us for so many years, so please don't dispose of any of your trash on any part of the course where there isn't a trash receptacle.

**\*\*Headphones, headsets, walkmans, ipods, mp3 players, or personal audio devices, etc. are not to be carried or worn at any time during the race. (Penalty: Time penalty)**

#### **Duathlon Details:**

This year marks the 4th Annual Duathlon as part of the DAM which consists of a 2-mile trail run, 12.3-mile bike ride and a 3 mile run.

**Run Leg #1 :** Your first run leg will consist of a 2-mile run that will weave you through the Amesbury Trail System that sits just parallel to Lake Gardner. The trail is a well maintained, that is rated as easy terrain. You'll start at 8:00AM on the paved trail by the "check in area." The course will have small red ground flags set throughout the single-track trail portion (Stagecoach Trail), and then directional course signage once your off the single track. You'll be following the Stagecoach trail into Battis Farm, a beautiful open field, where you'll meet your first volunteer. You'll turn around once you reach the Battis Farm parking lot and you will head back the same exact way back to transition, via the Stagecoach Trail.

**Bike:** This is the same bike course as the triathlon.

On this 12.3 mile scenic, rolling course, you'll travel on quiet roads through a picturesque New England farm country into Southern New Hampshire. The course has a few sharp turns that will be clearly marked. The entire course will be heavily marked with signage. There will be a large police presence and volunteers will be stationed throughout the course. You'll be turning left out of the lake to start and

left to re-enter Lake Gardner through the main entrance, stay left of the pennants and rack your bike in transition. From there you will head out onto the run.

**Run Leg #2:** Your second run leg will be the 3-mile run, the same as the triathlon run leg.

**Visit our webpage for course maps:** <http://www.high5em.com/dam/>

#### **Aquabike Details:**

All aqua bikers will start in the last swim wave at 8:15AM. You will follow guidelines for the 1/3 mile swim course and 12.3 mile bike course. **You will PROCEED to DISMOUNT YOUR BIKE where directed and run your bike through the finish line.** A bike rack will be placed by the finish line for your bikes until it is clear / safe for you to proceed back into transition to rack your bike.

**Team Relays:** All team relays will need to check in together, as ID's and USAT cards will need to be checked.

You will have one swim cap, one race bib, one bike #, and one timing chip (you will get this race morning like everyone else). The timing chip will be passed to one another in transition and should be placed on your left ankle. The runner must place the bib on the front of their shirt/shorts. Please make sure you know approx. how fast your teammate is racing so you are ready to go in transition.

#### **Triathlon Award Categories:**

Top 3 M/F Overall

Top 3 M/F Age Groups: 15 – 19 M/F, 20-24 – M/F, 25-29 – M/F, 30-34 – M/F, 35-39 – M/F, 40-44 – M/F, 45-49 – M/F, 50-54 – M/F, 55-59 – M/F, 60-64 – M/F, 65-69 – M/F, 70-74 – M/F, 75+ M/F

Top 3 Clydesdale – Male weight class (Clydesdale) 220 pounds

Top 3 Athena – Female weight class (Athena) 165 pounds

Top 3 M/F Para

Top 3 Tri Relay Teams

Top 3 M/F Novice/Rec

**Aquabike Awards :** Top M/F in Age Groups: 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+

**Duathlon Award:** Top M/F in Age Groups: 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+

Top 3 Du Relay Teams

All athletes will receive a finisher medal after crossing the finish line. **The Award Ceremony is scheduled to start at 10:30am on the beach.** Awards will not be mailed out, so if you want yours, please plan to stick around or have a friend claim yours.

**Results:** These will be readily available and posted on the Concession Stand shortly after you finish. The results can also be accessed on this website: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Amesbury/DAM>

**Post-Race Festivities:** Athletes will pick from a variety of packaged goods, not limited to Kate's Real Bars, snacks, fruit and more. Cold Brew Coffee on tap from Boston Common Coffee. You'll use your WAB (Wicked Awesome Brownie) tear off on your bib to claim this tasty brownie post-race and you can use your beer ticket also on your race bib (21+) for a refreshing beverage from the Spicket River Beer Truck. Additional beers can be purchased as well. (Cash/credit/venmo/paypal/Apple pay etc.)

Viv of Viv's Vegan Kitchen will be on site next to the beer truck serving up an array of plant-based goods.

**Professional Photos:** Our photographer of Vander Photography will be available by the Thursday following the event. We will email a link and post the google drive link for you to download any/all photos to re-share!! If you're on social, please be sure to tag #high5em #duorthedam

**Volunteers:** Please thank all course volunteers throughout your event experience, many of them are local residents, Amesbury students and friends of High5EM that are all there to help enrich your racing experience. We are still looking for a few more volunteers for the bike course and the swim. If you know someone or coming with a family member or friend that may want to help volunteer while you race please reach out to us at [info@high5em.com](mailto:info@high5em.com)

**Please be sure to like our Facebook Event Page to keep updated on all event announcements from now until race morning. Any pictures you take, please feel free to share on this page with hashtags: #DUorTritheDAM #High5EM**

If you do have any additional questions that were not covered in this packet please email the Race Director, Ashley Steeves, at [info@high5em.com](mailto:info@high5em.com)

**Thank you,**

**High5EM TEAM**

