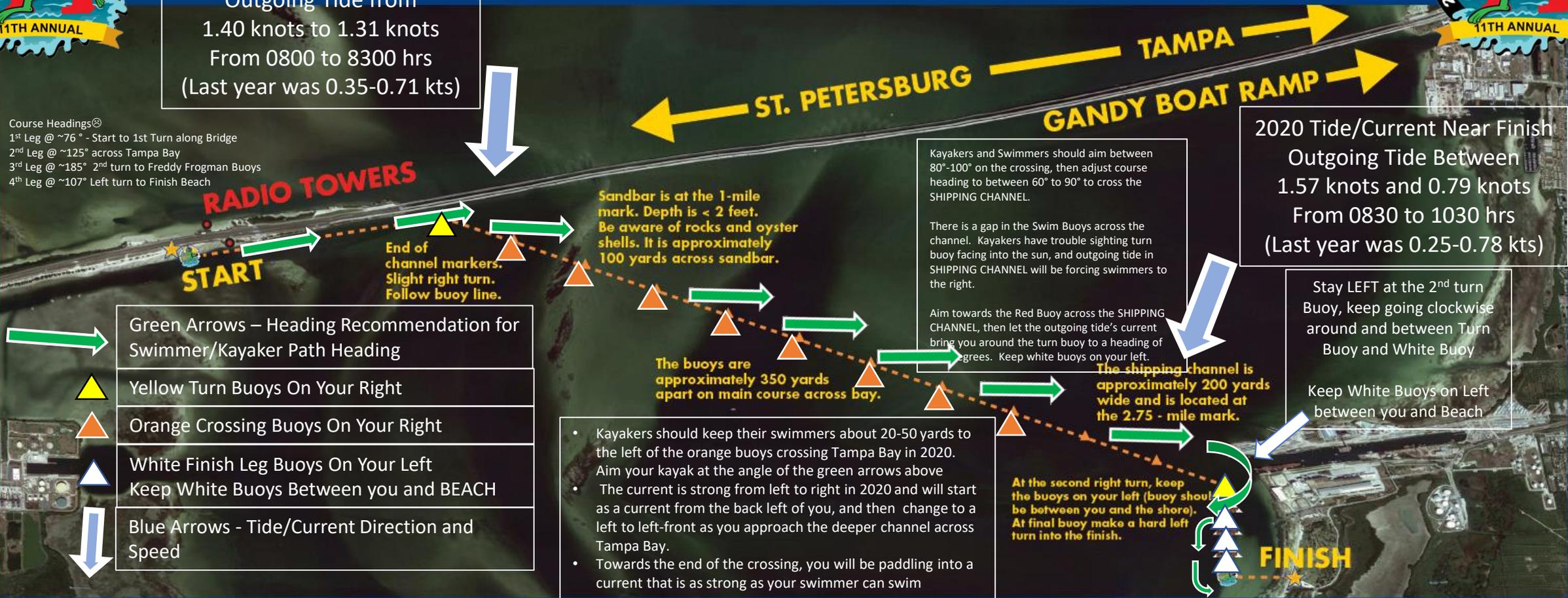




COURSE MAP

2020 Tide/Current Near Start
 Outgoing Tide from
 1.40 knots to 1.31 knots
 From 0800 to 8300 hrs
 (Last year was 0.35-0.71 kts)

Course Headings©
 1st Leg @ ~76° - Start to 1st Turn along Bridge
 2nd Leg @ ~125° across Tampa Bay
 3rd Leg @ ~185° 2nd turn to Freddy Frogman Buoys
 4th Leg @ ~107° Left turn to Finish Beach



2020 Tide/Current Near Finish
 Outgoing Tide Between
 1.57 knots and 0.79 knots
 From 0830 to 1030 hrs
 (Last year was 0.25-0.78 kts)

- Green Arrows – Heading Recommendation for Swimmer/Kayaker Path Heading
- Yellow Turn Buoys On Your Right
- Orange Crossing Buoys On Your Right
- White Finish Leg Buoys On Your Left
- Keep White Buoys Between you and BEACH
- Blue Arrows - Tide/Current Direction and Speed

Sandbar is at the 1-mile mark. Depth is < 2 feet. Be aware of rocks and oyster shells. It is approximately 100 yards across sandbar.

Kayakers and Swimmers should aim between 80°-100° on the crossing, then adjust course heading to between 60° to 90° to cross the SHIPPING CHANNEL.

There is a gap in the Swim Buoys across the channel. Kayakers have trouble sighting turn buoy facing into the sun, and outgoing tide in SHIPPING CHANNEL will be forcing swimmers to the right.

Aim towards the Red Buoy across the SHIPPING CHANNEL, then let the outgoing tide's current bring you around the turn buoy to a heading of 90 degrees. Keep white buoys on your left.

The shipping channel is approximately 200 yards wide and is located at the 2.75 - mile mark.

- Kayakers should keep their swimmers about 20-50 yards to the left of the orange buoys crossing Tampa Bay in 2020. Aim your kayak at the angle of the green arrows above
- The current is strong from left to right in 2020 and will start as a current from the back left of you, and then change to a left to left-front as you approach the deeper channel across Tampa Bay.
- Towards the end of the crossing, you will be paddling into a current that is as strong as your swimmer can swim

Stay LEFT at the 2nd turn Buoy, keep going clockwise around and between Turn Buoy and White Buoy

Keep White Buoys on Left between you and Beach

At the second right turn, keep the buoys on your left (buoy should be between you and the shore). At final buoy make a hard left turn into the finish.



“Never leave a man behind”





COURSE MAP

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 Outgoing Tide from
 1.40 knots to 1.31 knots
 From 0800 to 0830 hrs
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 1st Leg @ ~76° - Start to 1st Turn along Bridge
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2020 Tide/Current Near Finish
 Outgoing Tide Between
 1.57 knots and 0.79 knots
 From 0830 to 1030 hrs
 (Last year was 0.25-0.78 kts)

Stay LEFT at the 2nd turn
 Buoy, keep going clockwise
 around and between Turn
 Buoy and White Buoy

Keep White Buoys on Left
 between you and Beach



“Never leave a man behind”



How to Navigate the Crossing Leg to Stay On-Course When You Arrive at the Shipping Channel during the 2020 TBFS :

1. The Jan 12, 2020 Tampa Bay Frogman Swim occurs during a 3+ foot falling tide through the constriction of Gandy Bridge.
 1. You will experience a strong outgoing tide from back left as you make the first turn with a current that may be faster than your current will swim
 1. Aim left and the current will push you down the course and to the right
 2. Crossing the sandbar early in the middle of crossing you may experience low water depths over the sand bar this year.
 1. Your swimmer may have to walk across the sand bar due to low water
 3. End of crossing you will be paddling into a falling tide as strong or stronger than your swimmer's pace.
 1. You may have to aim North from 0° to 60° pointing upstream but with the tide pushing you to to right to make the 2nd turn buoy
2. Stay to the left of the Orange Buoys marking the Crossing Leg
3. Point your kayak "upstream" TO THE LEFT and into the outgoing 2020 falling tide of more than 3' of water level that will be dropping during the event.
 1. Stay left of the orange buoys on the crossing.
 2. Stay 20-50 yards to the left of the orange buoys in 2020
 3. Suggested Vessel Heading of 80° to 100° for the first half of the crossing
 1. Versus the Course Crossing Leg Heading of about 125°
 2. Tide will push you from the back left as you start the crossing
 3. Middle of crossing you will experience low depths over the sand bar this year. Your swimmer may have to walk across the sand bar due to low water
 4. End of crossing you will be paddling into a falling tide as strong or stronger than your swimmer's pace. You may have to aim North from 10° to 40° to make the 2nd turn buoy
 4. Point towards the tallest structure on the Horizon as shown here at the tip of the Green Arrow.
 1. The outgoing tide will pull you back to the right towards the 2nd Turn Buoy
4. Crossing Leg Navigation is important to prevent your swimmer having to swim directly against the outgoing tide in the Shipping Channel to make the 2nd turn buoy.
5. Staying on-course while crossing the shipping channel can be difficult because there are no marker buoys along this section while the outgoing tide pushes to the right.
6. Stay to far left on your crossing leg with a compass heading of about 80° to 100° until you see the Red Buoy as seen here, then fall of to the right with the outgoing tide. If you did not stay far enough left, your swimmer will not make any progress into the strong 2020 outgoing tide to make this turn.

