

# Yukon 1000 Canoe and Kayak Race

## Do you really want to do this?

**WARNING!**

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**THIS IS A DANGEROUS EVENT**

### No Liability or Responsibility

All people, companies, and agents associated in any way with any Yukon 1000 Canoe and Kayak Race or event do not accept any liability or responsibility whatsoever for your safety and well being. Your safety and well being are your responsibility.

### Consider the following:

The Yukon 1000 Canoe and Kayak Race is a long, grueling race that is extremely demanding, both physically and mentally. Entrants are encouraged to consult a physician to ensure that they are in good health and can withstand the rigors that participation entails. The physical demands of the race, combined with sleep deprivation, heat, cold, water, dehydration, and exhaustion, often cause participants to become disoriented. Amnesia, hallucinations, hypothermia, and other debilitating conditions are not unlikely. Such effects can impair judgment, a condition especially dangerous for the solo paddler.

All participants are required to comply with all local and national regulations regarding safety equipment and operation of their boat. Required equipment includes, but is not limited to, a U.S. Coast Guard or Canadian Department of Transport approved Personal Floatation Device equipped with signalling equipment, a whistle, fire-starting kit in a waterproof container, an emergency space bivvy sack, a knife, food (a power bar or equivalent), \$20US, \$20CD, Credit card and ID. The ID may be useful if you are rescued and return to civilization. It might also be useful to identify any corpses found after the event. Although the event rules require this compliance, the event organizers and associates will not take responsibility for your compliance. Your compliance is your responsibility.

A PFD is required and it must be worn all times. Weak swimmers or non-swimmers should not be in this race.

Water, even under normal conditions, involves certain inherent dangers. A person in a boat may be struck by overhead branches or other objects. A person may be struck by lightning. A boat may strike a stationary or floating object, causing injury. A boat may collide with another boat. A person in the water may be pulled under. He/she might be pinned against the boat or another object. Even slow-moving water or small waves have tremendous force, and this river is fast moving and can have significant waves. All participants are expected to be experts in their sport, their watercraft, and their equipment. Participants are expected to use watercraft that are seaworthy and suitable for the course. Participants are expected to be able to control their watercraft in any and all conditions. Participants are expected to become familiar with the course. All potential hazards of this race cannot be listed in this warning. If you are not an expert paddler, do not enter this race. Even if you are a well prepared expert, you may die.

Participants are cautioned against travelling after nightfall. All participants must checkin using their SPOT™ (tm) devices every evening by 23:15 (11:15pm) and at least six hours later *from the same location*. Any participant on the water between these hours will be penalised. All people, companies, and agents associated in any way with the Yukon 1000 Canoe and Kayak Race are not responsible for you during this time, or at any other time during the race. You are on your own. Additionally, the race committee, the race sponsor(s) and other contributors (that is, sponsors and contributors to the race and the Race Committee, as distinguished from the sponsors of individuals or teams) are to be held harmless from any claim or demand based on any alleged action or inaction by any team member, their agents, employees and volunteers resulting in injury to the team member or his/her property

The effects of heat can be extremely debilitating and lead to injury or death. As an expert you are expected to know how to prevent and treat heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

The effects of cold water and weather can lead to hypothermia which can result in injury or death. As an expert you are expected to know how to prevent and treat hypothermia.

As an expert it is expected that you know how to protect yourself from the sun.

Lack of proper hydration (drinking fluids) and nutrition (eating) can exacerbate all dangerous aspects of the race and can result in injury or death. As an expert you are expected to know how to eat and drink properly before, during, and after the race.

Fresh, drinkable water may not be available anywhere along the race except at Carmacks, Dawson, Eagle, Circle and Fort Yukon. Animals may break into your boats and rip open plastic jugs to get at your water. After they take all your water, they will take your food. An expert would not let this happen. All participants must have an adequate supply of water purification drops, tablets, or pumps. All people, companies, and agents associated in any way with the Yukon 1000 Canoe and Kayak Race are in no way responsible for your water supply. You are on your own.

Animal hazards are common. Among these risks are bears, moose, wolves, wolverines, beavers, bees, hornets, wasps, ants, ticks, mosquitoes and black fly. Other dangerous or annoying critters, too numerous to mention, are also in abundance. As an expert you are expected to know how to counter these attacks and it is expected that you have an adequate first aid kit and that you know how to use it.

Mosquitoes will be present. Mosquitoes can carry diseases including but not limited to West Nile Virus. And there have been documented cases of large animals dying from mosquito bites alone due to loss of blood. As an expert you are expected to be able to deal with hordes of mosquitoes approaching the size of small raptors and avoid or cope with other animals.

All vegetation should be treated with caution. As an expert, you are expected not to eat unfamiliar or dangerous plants or berries.

As an expert it is expected that you would not be in these races without any special medications required for allergic reactions or for any other reason.

As an expert it is expected that you will carry a GPS and a SPOT™(tm). No expert would allow these items to fail due to water intrusion or lack of batteries.

As an expert it is expected that you will know how to predict and deal with the weather around you. Remember that the race will not be put on hold for weather delays, but as an expert you should be able to determine if weather conditions are not safe for you and your craft.

Weather of less severity can still present dangerous conditions. As an expert it is expected that you can recognize dangerous weather conditions and take appropriate action.

Even though you consider yourself to be an expert, you may be injured or die in this event. There are no chase boats. There are no life guards. There are no paramedics or doctors. You are on your own. If you get in trouble, you should either press the help button on your SPOT™(tm) device or the 911 button. In the first case, Race Officials will then endeavour to notify the team's emergency contact. In the second case, it is out of our hands completely. If

required checkins are not received, Race Officials will endeavour to notify the team's emergency contact. That will be the limit of the Race Official's response to a signal for help.

If you drop out of the race, there may be delays lasting several days before you can be picked up. You will be transported to wherever the emergency services deem appropriate. An expert would make it to the finish line if at all possible.

If you drop out of the race anywhere, even if you activate the help button on your SPOT™(tm) device, you are on your own and no effort will be made to rescue you for three days after a missed checkin unless the team's emergency contact initiates a rescue. You will be on your own. An expert would have sufficient supplies and wilderness experience to survive the wait.

This warning cannot list all hazards, dangers, or other safety considerations. Assume this is a very dangerous event that can cause your injury, death, or mental anguish. By entering this event, you are asserting that you are an expert and you take full responsibility for your own actions.

You are also responsible for carrying the necessary documentation to cross the border into the USA. Failure to clear immigration carries severe penalties. Failure to carry adequate documentation may end your race if you are refused admittance.

Let me try to explain this one more time. By entering the Yukon 1000 Canoe and Kayak Race, you are agreeing that all the people, companies, and agents associated with the event owe you nothing nor do we owe you duty of care or any other duty. We promise you nothing. We do not and will not even try to make this event safe for anyone. This event is not safe for anyone. This is no joke. We won't even try to warn you about every known danger or hazardous condition, whether we know about it or not. If we do decide to warn you about something, that doesn't mean we will try to warn you about everything. If we do make an effort to make some aspect of the event safer, we may not correct other aspects, and we may even make matters worse! We and our agents may do things that are unwise and dangerous. Sorry, we are not responsible. We may give you bad advice. Don't listen to us. In short, ENTER AND PARTICIPATE IN THESE EVENTS AT YOUR OWN RISK. And have fun!

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read, understand, and agree to all contained herein. Further I release ANY AND ALL PARTIES associated in any way with this event from liability or responsibility. I am an expert paddler, and I can take care of myself. My physical condition, mental acuity, and health are good and more than sufficient to meet any and all challenges before, during, and after this event. In the event of my death, incapacity, or disappearance, I direct my heirs, family, friends, attorneys, agents, and all other associates and representatives to hold ANY AND ALL PARTIES associated with this event harmless and free from liability or responsibility.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Notary: \_\_\_\_\_

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