

## Please read! Race information and logistics.

We have been busy planning Saturday's event. To ensure a safe and fun event for all, please review the below information before joining us on Saturday at Sandy Point State Park.

**Park Address** - 1100 East College Pkwy, Annapolis, MD. Please arrive no later than 45 minutes before your start time, to allow for parking, check-in, and racer briefing.

**Parking** - [Click here for your Parking Pass.](#)

Each participant is entitled to ONE parking pass. Place this pass on your windshield prior to the main gate of the park. Follow signs to EAST BEACH for the paddle event. Cars without parking passes will be charged \$5 *per person* by the park.

**Unloading** - Once you are at East Beach, you will be directed where to unload your SUP/Kayak in our unloading zone. Please do so quickly, then follow our parking attendants as they direct you where to park.

**Weather** - As you know, we can not control the weather. We will make a decision on the race Friday evening, based on forecast and predicted conditions. We will send out an email Friday night and also post on FB if there is a change to the schedule below. The event is rain or shine.

### **Schedule -**

7:15am - check-in begins

7:30am - rental pickup for those reserved ahead of time (no rentals day of)

8:00am - racer briefing

8:30am - 9M course - Kayaks and Surfski start

8:35am - 9M course - SUPs start

8:45am - 5k course - Kayaks and Kayak Double start

8:50am - 5k course - SUPs start

9:00am - 1.5k course - Kayaks start

9:05am - 1.5k course - SUPs start

12:00pm - Awards Ceremony

1:00pm - Live music by Michael Kocher

2:00pm - Event Ends

**Waivers** - Please be sure to have your signed waiver. Participants will not be allowed to participate without a printed copy of the signed waiver. This is an ACA requirement. Waivers can be downloaded [here](#) (download [here](#) for Under 18 waivers).

### **Water Conditions and Temperature -**

Although conditions can be calm, racers must be prepared for open water conditions, especially those participating in the longer courses; as you progress further from shore you may encounter increasing wind, current and wave size. Current water temperatures are in the upper 50's to lower 60's degree range. On Saturday, May 14, forecasts predict sunrise at 5:53 AM, Low tide at 6:39 AM, slack tide at 9:31 AM and High Tide at 12:33 PM. As always, please check the weather as you get closer to the event.

### **Equipment Guidelines -**

**All racers must properly wear a US Coast Guard Approved Flotation Device on their body at all times during the race** and follow Coast Guard regulations for their boat type. Paddlers must meet the American Canoe Association [Essential Eligibility Criteria](#). All competitors should know their capabilities and make an informed decision to paddle based on the conditions and their skill level. Make sure to wear weather appropriate clothing and bring enough hydration and food to complete the race. **All paddlers using a paddleboard or a surfski must wear a leash; this is**

**mandatory.** All kayakers must be able to complete a wet exit, right and re-enter their kayak and drain the vessel. All kayaks should have securely fastened, adequate buoyancy to float the kayak horizontally if filled with water (sufficient to support a 25 pound weight in a boat full of water). Any kayak entered in the 9 mile race should be of sufficient length (suggested 14' or more) and performance to meet the timing cut-offs and the conditions and sit-in kayaks require a spray skirt. Ensure you have an appropriate bailing device for your style of kayak. Kayaks may be subject to a visual inspection and approval on race day, and any vessel that does not meet the safety requirements may be prohibited from use in the race.

#### **Courses and race details -**

All racers will start and finish in the same area of the East Beach at Sandy Point State Park. Kayaks and surfski will start approximately 5 minutes before the paddleboarders in each race, lining up in the water parallel to the finish buoy. Paddleboarders will line up on the beach holding their paddles and boards. Please give your neighbor enough room to safely start the race. All races will receive a notice to assemble for race start, a warning prior to the start and then a horn or siren to start the race.

Kayak and Surfski will finish between the shore and the finisher buoy with the shore on their left side. Paddleboarders will finish on shore by running through the finisher chute with paddle in hand. There will be volunteers present to catch boards and move them to shore as paddlers come into the finish. If you can remember your number and shout it when crossing the finish line, please do so, the timers will appreciate it. Finish times are recorded for Kayaks and surfski when their bow crosses the buoy line and for paddleboarders when they cross the finish line on the beach. Once you cross the finish line, please clear it quickly to allow the other competitors to finish unobstructed and the timers to see finisher numbers.

The *1.5K course* will be closer to shore in shallower waters; paddlers will launch from East Beach and head south toward the Bay Bridge. They will turn at the second buoy and follow the course back to finish at East Beach.

The *5K course* will launch from East Beach and head south along the shoreline toward the Bay Bridge. Paddlers will stay parallel to the shore line and enter the bridge closer to shore than the 9 mile race. They will proceed west to east under the bridge and make a left side buoy turn to exit the bridge and go north to finish at East Beach.

The *9 Mile course* will launch from East Beach and head south toward the Bay Bridge, entering the bridge spans further from shore than the 5K course. They will paddle west to east between the bridge spans across the bay, making a single left side buoy turn at the far end of bridge and returning east to west between the bridge spans. Paddlers will exit the bridge at the same span they entered it, making a right side turn to exit the bridge and go north to finish at East Beach.

There will be mandatory cut-off times for the 9 mile course at 3 Miles (1 Hour), 6 Miles (2 Hours) and 7.5 Miles (2.5 Hours). Racers need to be able to complete the 9 miles course within 3 hours and all race traffic must be clear of the bridge by 12:00. All courses and start times are subject to change based on weather conditions. See [Paddleguru](#) for maps of the course.

#### **Safety Information -**

There will be safety boats all around the perimeter of the race zone. The Coast Guard has granted a permit that will restrict commercial and recreational boating activity from entering the racing area, including the Bay Bridge Span. There will be several different watercraft present around the race area to assist paddlers as needed. If any paddler is in distress, they should indicate so by waving their paddle above their heads. Paddlers who see a distressed paddler should assist in the rescue of this paddler as needed and help to gain the attention of the closest safety personnel. Paddlers in distress will receive immediate assistance from the nearest support vessel.

Any paddler who voluntarily withdraws from the race **MUST** notify the nearest safety boat and provide their race number. The paddler **MUST** also sign out at the race tent on the beach once they are on shore.

Racers may be removed from the course due to safety issues or if they fail to meet the timed cut-offs for the race. Depending on the circumstance, including weather conditions and paddler's location, racers may be turned back to Sandy Point State Park or removed from the water. All racers that are withdrawn from the race will be listed as DNF in race results even if the racer continues to the finish line after receiving assistance. Racers **MUST** sign out at the race tent on the beach once they are on shore.

### **Rules / Starts and Etiquette**

No paddler may interfere with another paddler. All racers must stay within the course, may not enter or exit the Bay Bridge spans outside the race course or round a buoy in the wrong direction in order to gain an advantage.

All paddlers must stay clear of all man-made and natural obstructions including the rock jetties on both sides of East Beach. Stay far enough from shore to avoid any fishing lines in the water. When paddling between the bridge spans, stay clear of the pilings, the current can accelerate you toward them and causes varying unstable water around their base. Racers must not climb onto any part of the bridge structure; this will result in immediate disqualification as well as subject you to potential trespass laws.

**Food** - Breakfast and lunch is included for each racer. In addition, bagels, donuts, and coffee are available for purchase prior to the race. Lunch items are also available for purchase after the race. Beer, wine, and liquor will also be available for purchase. All food/beverage purchases are cash only.

**On the Beach** - We have a TON of great raffle prizes, including SUP boards and kayaks. Raffle tickets will be 3 tickets for \$5 or 15 tickets for \$20. Proceeds from the raffle and the event go to [The Foundation for Community Betterment](#).



# AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM



All participants in ACA-insured activities must be ACA members in one of the following categories (choose one):

I am currently an ACA member. My member number appears below. (Check here if renewing with this form <input type="checkbox"/> ) <input type="checkbox"/>	I would like a one-year ACA Paddle America Club Membership for: (check & circle one) <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$30   Family (2 adults + minors) \$40	I would like a one-year ACA Membership for: (check & circle one) <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$40   Family (2 adults + minors) \$60
I would like a one-year Senior (62+) or Student Membership for \$25 (under 18, or under 23 with copy of student ID) <input type="checkbox"/>	I would like an ACA Introductory Membership for \$15 (Six month membership with benefits, including a <i>Rapid Media</i> magazine) <input type="checkbox"/>	I would like an ACA Event Membership for \$5 (one activity membership, no member benefits) <input type="checkbox"/>
As a new or renewing ACA member, my <i>Rapid Media</i> magazine choice is:		Print <input type="checkbox"/> Digital <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Canoeroots</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Rapid</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Kayak Angler</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Adventure Kayak</i> <input type="checkbox"/>

## AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION ADULT WAIVER & RELEASE OF LIABILITY READ BEFORE SIGNING

IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to participate in any way in the American Canoe Association, Inc. sports and recreation program and related activities ("Activities") I, for myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of paddlesports and related activities and that I am qualified, in good health, in proper physical condition to participate in such activity and willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions of participation. I further agree and warrant that if at any time I believe conditions to be unsafe, I will immediately discontinue further participation in the Activity. If I decide to leave early and not complete the trip as planned, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to leave.

2. FULLY UNDERSTAND that: (a) Paddlesports and related ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISKS AND DANGERS OF DAMAGE TO PERSONAL PROPERTY AND SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, INCLUDING PERMANENT DISABILITY, PARALYSIS, AND DEATH ("RISKS"); (b) these Risks and dangers may be caused by my own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Activity, the condition in which the Activity takes place, or THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" NAMED BELOW; (c) there may be OTHER RISKS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LOSSES either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES I incur as a result of my participation or that of the minor in the Activity.

3. HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the American Canoe Association, Inc., its Paddle America Clubs, affiliated clubs and organizational affiliates, their respective ACA certified instructors, certified instructor trainers, and certified instructor trainer educators, administrators, directors, agents, officers, members, volunteers, and employees, other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the Activity takes place, (each considered one of the "RELEASEES" herein) FROM ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, INJURIES, DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, OR OTHER DAMAGES ON MY ACCOUNT CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS; AND I FURTHER AGREE that if, despite this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim against any of the Releasees, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH OF THE RELEASEES from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim.

I HAVE READ THIS AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT OR ASSURANCE OF ANY NATURE AND INTEND IT TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW AND AGREE THAT IF ANY PORTION OF THIS AGREEMENT IS HELD TO BE INVALID THE BALANCE, NOTWITHSTANDING, SHALL CONTINUE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ ACA # (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Adult Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name / Description of Activity or Event \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Club / Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Activity Date \_\_\_\_\_