



## YUKON RIVER MARATHON PADDLING ASSOCIATION

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## Yukon River Quest – 2015 Rules (adopted 09/30/14)

### Official Race Rules for the 17th Annual Yukon River Quest Canoe and Kayak Race

#### PREAMBLE

The Yukon River Quest is a wilderness paddling race. Teams should anticipate that they may spend many hours at a time out of sight of any other boat or living person. The Yukon River has very few road access points, and very few people live along its banks. Teams should be aware that however good they are at paddling, things can and do go wrong: damaged shoulders, wrists, hands, exhaustion, hypothermia, or just getting cold and tired. **Teams should be equipped so they are self-sufficient for a couple of days if necessary.**

**Teams should also be capable of immediate self-preservation.** If you are alone on the river with no boats an hour either way, and for whatever reason you find yourself in the water, it will be up to you and no one else to recover the situation. Anticipate the worst. If you have a sore shoulder or wrist and need to rest, you will need to keep warm. That means a sleeping bag and shelter, preferably some hot soup. It may seem like a lot of extra weight that won't be used, but it can make the difference between being able to continue the race and becoming a rescue-off-the-river scratch. Do not let overconfidence lead you to skimp on emergency gear.

Hypothermia is by far the main reason that teams scratch and have to be rescued off the river. You may need two sets of spare clothes if it rains continuously. Put on warm clothes before you feel cold, especially a woolly hat. If you get shivery cold and can't paddle through it, stop, get out of the wind and rain, put on dry clothes, get into your sleeping bag and make yourself a hot drink. If that is not enough to get you warm, fill a water bottle with hot water and put it inside your clothes. Warm up your core before worrying about cold hands and feet. A small backpacking stove weighs little and can save your race. Losing even a few hours getting warmed up will not disqualify you. Do not be an off the river rescue statistic. We want you to finish.

# General Race Procedure

## 1. Race Start

The official starting date of the 2015 Yukon River Quest race will be Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at 12:00 noon. The official starting line will be by the gazebo in Rotary Peace Park in Whitehorse, Yukon, unless otherwise designated by Yukon River Marathon Paddling Association (herein after referred to as YRMPA). The Race Marshal may make changes to this rule with approval from the YRMPA Board of Directors.

## 2. Entry Dates, Limits & Waiting Lists - Fees & Evacuation Deposit

**2015 Yukon River Quest entry opens Nov. 1, 2014.** Receipt of the official entry form, waivers and completed team member biographies will constitute the team's intent to enter the race and further acknowledges that each team member understands and agrees to comply with each and every rule as stated in this document. *Solo paddlers who have not completed the YRQ must race tandem or voyageur or must convince the YRQ Board that they have sufficient marathon racing or wilderness paddling experience. Solo racers must be able to self-rescue. Solo Racers must provide a paddling resume. YRMPA reserves the right to reject any entry. Entries must be registered online and will close at 11:59 p.m. local time, May 15, 2015.*

**Team Registration** - The team captain must complete the online application form for his/her team, declare a boat class and number of paddlers, provide boat information, sign a waiver, and pay the entry fee. The captain is then responsible for making sure each member of the team completes their registration online and signs the waiver. *All participants must pay upon initial entry.* To insure proper registration, all information must be submitted as soon as possible after the team captain registration. *A successful SPOT track transmission must be registered by May 1, 2015 at the very latest. Incomplete registrations will not be entered in the race.* Substitution of team members will be done at no extra cost. **NOTE:** Any substitution of team members after June 1, 2015 will not be guaranteed their correct shirt size and their name may not appear on the official Leaderboard. Any **addition of team members** must be done and paid for by 11:59 p.m. of May 15, 2015. **Team numbers will be assigned shortly after May 15, 2015.** Waivers are able to be downloaded from **Information for Racers** on the website under **Racers**.

*Each entrant shall sign any and all documents or promotional material requested by YRMPA prior to, or at, the pre-race competitors meeting. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.*

### Limited Entries / Waiting List

The maximum number of teams allowed to start the 2015 race is 100. There is also a limit of 30 solo slots (including both C1 & K1 teams) for the 2015 race. Once the solo limit is met, a solo waiting list will also be established by the secretary-treasurer. To qualify for the waiting list, the racer must contact the office at 867-333-5628 with their information and a \$50 non-refundable fee must be paid by May 1, 2015. If a K1 or C1 participant drops out or if the field is not at the 30-team solo limit, then the race will pick the team from the solo waiting list with the earliest entry date. If a K2, C2 or Voyageur team drops, and the race is at the solo limit, then the next K2, C2 or Voyageur team on the non-solo waiting list with the earliest entry date will be selected. If the total limit of 100 is not reached by May 1, 2015, then up to 5 more solo slots may be opened up from the waiting list for a maximum of 35 solo teams. Any open slot will be held for no more than seven (7) days after notification, upon full payment of entry fees. Teams on the waiting list can be registered through to May 15, 2015.

**Entry fees** – The Yukon River Quest entry fee *must be paid online by credit card.*

The entry fees for the 2015 race are (prices include online registration fees):

- **\$850.00 Canadian Dollars per tandem canoe or tandem kayak team**
- **\$475.00 Canadian Dollars per solo kayak or solo canoe team**
- **\$250.00 Canadian Dollars per person per Voyageur Canoe (6 or more per team).**

**Evacuation/Bib Deposit Collected at Final Registration** - An additional refundable deposit of \$500 per solo and tandem team and of \$1,000 per voyageur team *will be collected from the team captain at final registration in Whitehorse.* This deposit will be held in the event a team and its gear have to be evacuated by safety boat. *This payment must be made by cash, cheque, or credit card imprint.* The deposit will be held by the race secretary-treasurer until the completion of the event. **If a team or its gear is not evacuated, then the deposit will be returned to the team captain.** The deposit also will be held if a team fails to return a SPOT device assigned to them by YRQ race officials for tracking.

### **3. Definition of Teams and Entry Classes/ Divisions.**

*Each team must be registered in one of the following boat classes and may not change classes. Any change in class will result in a withdrawal and a new entry will need to be registered.*

**A tandem canoe or tandem kayak team entry** consists of two members who will travel together down the river in the same craft. This class is divided into men $\text{\AA}$ , women $\text{\AA}$  and mixed divisions.

**A solo canoe or solo kayak team entry** is a single person who will travel down the river in the same craft. The solo kayak class is divided into men $\text{\AA}$  and women $\text{\AA}$  divisions. The solo canoe class is an open division.

**A voyageur canoe team entry** consists of 6 or more people who travel together downriver in the same craft. A voyageur team may declare one alternate paddler who may start the race if another registered team member is unable to race. This substitution should be confirmed no later than five days before the race. The voyageur class is divided into open (predominantly men $\text{\AA}$ ), women $\text{\AA}$  and mixed divisions. One-third of the members of a mixed team must be women, or the boat will be entered in the open division. For example, to qualify to be a mixed voyageur team, a 6-person team would need at least 2 women; a 7- or 8-person team would need at least 3 women; a 9- or 10-person team would need 4 women; and an 11- or 12-person team would need 5 women.

The paddlers on each team who start the race in a boat must finish in that boat for that team to be eligible for prize money. Voyageur teams that drop paddlers, for whatever reason, or tandem teams that drop a paddler and continue on with a paddler from another team, may receive unofficial times and finisher pins. Each team described above is to be entirely self-sufficient with the exception of Carmacks checkpoint. Refer to Rule 13 for boat specs/class divisions and Rule 10 for prize money.

### **4. Age Limits**

There shall be a minimum age limit of 15 years old for entrants. The minimum age limit for a solo entry is 19 years old, and at least half the members of a tandem or voyageur entry must be 19 years or older. Persons under the age of 18 must present a waiver of liability signed by a parent, or guardian, in addition to the waiver of liability signed by the entrant.

## 5. Substitution of Team Members

Each team member may be substituted, after entry has been accepted, up until five days before the start of the race. Final date for 2015 race substitutions: Friday, June 19, 2015. Late changes may not be reflected on the website and the leaderboard after June 17, 2015.

## 6. Cancellations / Withdrawal before the Race

Teams withdrawing on or before May 15, 2015 will be refunded 75% of their entry fee. ***Withdrawal after May 15, 2015 for any reason will constitute forfeiture of the entry fee.*** Rights of the team number are non-transferable, unless reassigned by YRMPA.

## 7. Course, Checkpoints and Mandatory Layovers

The Yukon River Quest covers approximately 715 km (444 miles) of the Yukon River through remote Northern wilderness areas from Whitehorse to Dawson City, Yukon. Teams are required to have a river map and should be prepared for travel through this type of area. Bear and moose encounters are possible, necessary precautions should be taken. There are 9 official race checkpoints (see Rule 24 for checkpoint procedures):

- CP1 - Policeman's Point Checkpoint - verbal
- CP2 - Lower Laberge Checkpoint - verbal
- CP3 - Little Salmon Checkpoint - verbal
- CP4 - Carmacks Checkpoint - **7 hour mandatory layover**
- CP5 - Ft. Selkirk Checkpoint - verbal
- CP6 - Kirkman Creek Checkpoint - **3 hour mandatory layover**
- MP7 - Sixty Mile Checkpoint - verbal
- FINISH LINE - Dawson City (see rule 26 for finish line procedures)

## 8. Race Officials (Race Marshal and Race Judges Committee)

The intent of the rules will guide the Race Marshal and Race Judges in their decisions. The Race Marshal is in charge of all aspects of the race from the pre-race competitors meeting to the awards presentation. A 3-person committee of Race Judges will include the Race Marshal as chair, one non-racer canoe expert, and one non-racer kayak expert. This committee may meet at the beginning or end of the race to settle any disputes. The Race Marshal may impose time penalties.

## 9. Pre-Race Inspections and Meetings

***It is mandatory for team members to attend the final registration, bib pick-up, pre-race boat inspections and competitors meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 in Whitehorse.*** ALL participants must bring documentation to prove they have adequate medical insurance for a medical evacuation. This includes local racers who must bring their Health Care Cards. Following final registration, bib pick-up and boat inspections, there is a meeting for support crews, followed by meetings of competitors. Failure to attend will result in a two-hour penalty applied at the discretion of the Race Marshal. **A Race Schedule will be posted on the website.**

## 10. Awards & Prize Money

The intent of the YRQ prize structure is to reward the top paddlers of each class in each division fairly. There are prizes for the overall winners in each class, and division winners.

### 2015 PRIZE BREAKDOWN: Total Possible Purse: \$36,500 (Canadian funds).

*The above purse figure and the prize breakdown in the charts below are based on a full roster of 100 teams. If the YRQ does not register 100 teams, then the board will adjust the prize money accordingly on a percentage basis, based on the final number of teams registered.*

Tandem Canoe	OVERALL C2	Menø C2	Womenø C2	Mixed C2
1st	\$1100	\$1100	\$1100	\$1100
2nd	\$525	\$525	\$525	\$525
3rd	\$325	\$325	\$325	\$325
Tandem Kayak	OVERALL K2	Menø K2	Womenø K2	Mixed K2
1st	\$1100	\$1100	\$1100	\$1100
2nd	\$525	\$525	\$525	\$525
3rd	\$325	\$325	\$325	\$325
Solo Classes	OVERALL Solo	Menø K1	Womenø K1	Open C1
1st	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
2nd	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
3rd	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Voyageur Canoe	OVERALL VC	Open VC	Womenø VC	Mixed VC
1st	\$2100	\$2100	\$2100	\$2100
2nd	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800
3rd	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450

Top Yukon Canoe*	Top Yukon Kayak*	Top First Nation Team**
\$500	\$500	\$500

\* All team members must be Yukon residents. \*\* All team members must be First Nation.

**PRIZE MONEY ELIGIBILITY** – To be eligible for prize money, a team must finish in Dawson City within 55 hours [elapsed time] of the start, or by 05:00 hours [5:00 a.m.] on Saturday, June 27, 2015. *To be eligible for prize money, you must also beat someone in your class, or finish within 20 percent of the overall time of the fastest vessel in the race. For example, if the overall winning time is 40 hours, and there are just two teams in a class, then the second team must finish within 48 hours to receive prize money.*

**SPECIAL AWARDS** – The fastest team overall in the 2015 race will receive free entry in the 2016 race (captain should keep team intact from 2015 race ó if there must be a partner change, the new partner must pay his/her portion of 2015 entry fee). Their names also will be added to the permanent YRQ trophy. There also may be Sponsor Awards for **Top 3 Solo Male and Female Kayaks, Top 3 Open Solo Canoes, Fastest Male and Female Yukoners, Fastest Women’s team, Fastest Senior (55+) team, Spirit of the Yukon, Most Improved Team, and the “Red Stove” award to the next to last team to finish before the cut-off time.** Others may be added by YRMPA.

**FINISHER PINS** – Each team member who finishes the race receives an official Finisher Pin at the Awards Banquet.

## 11. Canoe and Kayak Specifications

The specifications below allow canoes, sea kayaks and voyageur canoes capable of carrying the safety gear necessary for this wilderness race. Boats not meeting the specifications below will be disqualified. All tandem /solo canoes/kayaks must be equipped with a full coverage spray deck/skirt with snaps or tie downs. All boats must be powered and steered solely by human muscle power. Use of an illegal steering or propulsion device, including sails, will result in disqualification. No boat may be equipped with oarlocks, row-lock, tholepin, or outriggers. Vessel types and measurements must be recorded on your application. All vessels will be measured prior to the pre-race meeting, and inspected again on the morning of the start. **Please do not bring a vessel to this race unless you are ABSOLUTELY sure it fits within the YRQ specifications listed below. Refer to the “How to Measure” section on the FAQ page. Email us at [info@yukonriverquest.com](mailto:info@yukonriverquest.com) if you have questions.**

All boats below must have their measurements listed on the application, and will be measured at the pre-race inspection to ensure they meet their respective specifications.

### a. TANDEM CANOE SPECIFICATIONS

The tandem canoe (C2) class allows a range of vessels from stock recreational touring and wilderness tripping canoes to longer standard class canoes, including some models with concave lines. USCA cruisers are not allowed. Each canoe must start the race with an approved, full coverage spray skirt/deck. Canoes must be paddled with the use of single blade paddles only. No rudders or skegs.

Tandem Canoe Max. Length - 18 feet, 6 inches, stem to stern

Tandem Canoe Min. Width (stock) - 32 inches, widest point midship at the 4-inch water line\*

Tandem Canoe Min. Width (concave) ó 33.5 inches, widest point midship at the 4-inch water line\*

Tandem Canoe Center Gunnel Min. height: 12 in.

Tandem Canoe Min. Height at Bow: 16ö

Tandem Canoe Min. Height at Stern: 16ö

\* C2s whose gunnels are concave outwards at any point along the boat must be 33.5 inches wide at the 4-inch water line at the widest point. Other C2s must be at least 32 inches wide at the 4-inch water line at the widest point. This rule allows: östockö canoes such as the Clipper and Wenonah Jensen 18 models; östandardö canoes such as the Clipper Whitewater II and Wenonah Minnesota II models; and öconcaveö canoes such as the Wenonah SCR, and the Savage River Susquehanna and Blackhawk models.

**b. SOLO CANOE SPECIFICATIONS**

The solo canoe (C1) class allows a range of vessels from half-decked Kruger-style touring and wilderness tripping canoes to performance touring canoes. Each canoe must start the race with an approved, full coverage spray skirt/deck. Canoes in the solo class *may* have a rudder. Solo Canoes must be paddled with the use of single blade paddles only.

Solo Canoe Maximum 4ö waterline length-width ratio: 9.7  
The canoe must flare to the 6ö waterline for at least 2 meters (6ö6ö) in length.

**c. SEA KAYAK SPECIFICATIONS**

This race is for recreation or expedition-style sea kayaks only, with closed cockpits. Sit-on-top kayaks are not allowed. Sea kayaks must have adequate internal storage compartment(s) for all the gear required for this race. Kayaks must have fore and aft water tight storage compartments or floatation chambers. Kayaks must be paddled with the use of double-blade paddles only.

The Yukon River Quest has adopted its own length-width ratio for determining the suitability of sea kayaks for this race. The simple length to width ratio is determined by dividing the total length of the kayak at the 4-inch waterline (not including rudder) by the midship width at the 4-inch waterline. Do not rely on other published ratios. In addition, there is a minimum overall width. **Measure according to directions in the “How to Measure” section of the FAQs.**

**Solo Sea Kayak**

Maximum 4ö waterline length-width ratio: 10.8  
Minimum overall width at **4” waterline**: 20ö

**Tandem Sea Kayak**

Maximum 4ö waterline length-width ratio: 10.2  
Minimum overall width at the widest point: 26ö

**d. VOAGEUR CANOE SPECIFICATIONS**

The voyageur class celebrates Canadian heritage. Teams of 6 or more are allowed. Voyageur canoes must be paddled with the use of single bladed canoe paddles only.

Overall length allowed: 24 ö 42 feet

Minimum widths measured at the 6 inch waterline (for boats of lengths below):

- Boat length: 24-28 feet 6ö waterline width: 36.25ö
- Boat length: 28-34 feet 6ö waterline width: 44ö
- Boat length: 34-42 feet 6ö waterline width: 48ö

Minimum depth at gunnels: 18 inches

**BOAT SUBSTITUTION**

Substitution with an illegal vessel at any point along the route will result in disqualification. On prior approval of the Race Marshal, a damaged vessel may be replaced with another of the same class, with a time penalty of two (2) hours.

## 12. Claims

Each team member agrees to hold YRMPA, the race sponsor(s) and other contributors (that is, sponsors and contributors to the race and YRMPA, as distinguished from the sponsors of individuals or teams) harmless from any claim or demand based on any alleged action or inaction by the team member, their agents, employees and volunteers from any claim or demand resulting from injury to the team member or his/her property. Further, YRMPA has the unqualified and unrestricted authority to permit the race sponsor(s) to photograph and otherwise collect information for advertising, public relations, or other publicity purposes.

## 13. Team Report

It is the duty of each team member to report all violations of these Rules to the Race Marshal or Race Judges. The forms for reporting violations will be available from race officials and at checkpoints.

## 14. Protest Form

A participant who wishes to lodge a protest shall submit the protest in writing accompanied by \$50.00 protest fee to a race official, no later than one (1) hour after the official end of the race.

## 15. Failure to Comply

All decisions by the Race Marshal and/or Race Judges shall be final. Failure of a team member to comply with the Rules of General Race and River Procedure will result in disqualification or time penalty as decided by the Race Marshal.

# River Procedures

## 16. Common Start/Late Start

Teams will leave the starting line en masse in a 'LeMans' style start at Rotary Park and run/walk approximately 300 meters to their canoes and kayaks on the riverbank. All teams will have a common start time of 1200 on June 25, 2014. Starts later than 30 minutes or 1230 will be considered a no show and the team will be disqualified.

## 17. Mandatory Equipment

The following items constitute the mandatory equipment for each team starting the race. ***Mandatory equipment must be carried the entire length of the race course.*** Not carrying this equipment will result in disqualification. If any of these items are used up or lost due to unforeseen events, they may be replaced by support crews at the Carmacks checkpoint. This list will be checked again at Carmacks and Dawson, and missing items may result in a time penalty imposed by the Race Marshal.

- a.
  - i) Each canoe must start the race with a single-bladed canoe paddle for each person in the vessel and a spare single-bladed canoe paddle.
  - ii) Each kayak must start with a double-bladed kayak paddle per person and a spare double-bladed kayak paddle in the vessel.
  - iii) Voyageur canoes must have one single-bladed canoe paddle per person and two extra single-bladed paddles in the vessel.



- b. Each vessel must have a towline attached to the vessel and accessible to hand.  
All voyageur canoes are to have a 40 foot towline at bow and stern. All other boats are to have a 20 foot line at one end and a 40 foot towline at the other end.
- c. **Approved PFD:** Each team member must carry a U.S. Coast Guard or Canadian Department of Transport Class III Personal Floatation Device [PFD]. This must be worn at all times when on the river or water [ie: swimming]. **Self-inflatable PFDs are not allowed.** A PFD that appears to be more than five years old or which has been subjected to heavy use may not offer the user the protection envisaged when new and is likely to be rejected at inspection. PFDs that have been tampered with or modified in any way that affects its fundamental integrity, such as being cut, slit, or torn will be rejected. PFDs passed for use must display conformance to the USCG or Transport Canada standards via a label attached at the time of manufacture by its maker. The PFD presented for and passed at inspection at Whitehorse is the only one that may be worn throughout the duration of the race. Any competitor found either not wearing it or who has replaced it with an inferior or non-compliant version at any point will be disqualified. Racers from other than the USA or Canada may use PFDs that provide a minimum of 50 Newtons of inherent buoyancy and should conform to one of the following European or international standards: EN393, EN395, ISO12402-5, or ISO12402-6.
- d. The following items must be attached or in a pocket of each PFD: whistle, emergency space bivy sack, fire starter (waterproof matches/lighter and fire starter material).
- e. Orange garbage bag for signalling (**provided by YRMPA**).
- f. Full coverage spray skirt/deck with snaps or tie downs while traveling on the river from **Whitehorse to Lower Laberge** and **Carmacks to Rink Rapids**. Non-compliance will result in disqualification.
- g. Voyageur canoes without a spray skirt / deck will be required to have an internal floatation device.
- h. A buoyant heaving line of > 15 m (50ø) in length and > 6 mm at least (1/4ø) diameter, accessible to hand. **This may be used as your tow line.**
- i. Food and fluids to sustain each team member throughout the course of the race.
- j. One Bailer (bucket or pump).
- k. River Map (available for purchase in Whitehorse or from yukonbooks.com).
- l. Race Bibs to be issued by YRMPA and signed by racers.
- m. Basic First Aid Kit ([www.yukonriverquest.com/firstaidkit.htm](http://www.yukonriverquest.com/firstaidkit.htm)).
- n. One sleeping bag per person rated to -5C.
- o. Free-standing tent(s) to shelter all members of a team.
- p. Watertight flashlight or navigation light for night travel and signalling (required by Transport Canada) ó Petzel-type LED either mounted on front of boat or in use as a headlamp on a solo kayaker or bow paddler of a tandem or voyageur team. **Teams are required to turn on the light between dusk and dawn (midnight to 4 a.m.) and have adequate battery power for eight or more hours.**
- q. 2 extra layers of warm clothing contained in a dry bag.
- r. Backpack stove and fuel with a pot capable of boiling 16 oz. of water.
- s. Sun screen
- t. Rain gear (tops and bottoms) for each team member.
- u. SPOT device activated for tracking and properly mounted on boat deck face up.

*A team may be assigned a SPOT device by race officials during the race if something happens to their device. If a team captain is provided a YRQ-owned SPOT device, then he/she must attach the device to his/her boat deck face up and leave it on at all times. **At the end of the race, the SPOT device must be returned to race officials or the evacuation deposit will not be returned.***

**Where appropriate, the above mandatory items should be carried in a dry bag.**

***In addition, it is strongly suggested that each team carry the following: sun glasses, insect repellent, knife, money.***

### **17. Teams in Distress**

Any team witnessing another team in obvious distress is compelled to render all assistance possible until a safety boat arrives. ***Time adjustments will not be given, but teams that assist will be recognized at the awards ceremony. If you are unable to assist, send a HELP message on your SPOT device for 30 minutes.*** Failure to offer assistance in an emergency situation will result in a lifetime disqualification from Yukon River Quest for all team members.

### **18. Team Support**

No planned help is allowed throughout the race, with the exception of Carmacks. Pace boats (i.e. crafts paddled or powered that follow or lead a team for the purpose of keeping speed up, offering support, sustenance, conveying water or feeder boats) are prohibited. Teams should carry enough food and water to sustain them throughout this wilderness race. Breaches of this rule will result in disqualification. Except at Carmacks, no team may accept help that is not equally available to all teams. Unplanned assistance from other competitors (‘Good Samaritan’ actions) are allowed. If there is a suspicion that help is planned, then teams may be penalized.

### **19. No Alcohol Consumption / No Illegal Drugs**

Under no circumstances shall a participant consume alcohol during the course of the race or use an illegal or performance-enhancing drug that has been defined by the Canadian Canoe Association as such. If there is cause to believe a racer has taken such a drug, it will be the right of the YRMPA to have a laboratory test done that will prove or disprove the presence on any illegal drug in the racer’s body. Any participant in the race who has a physical ailment for which it is necessary to ingest or inhale a stimulant type of medication to control said ailment must bring this fact to the attention of the Race Marshal before the race start.

### **20. Interference**

Intentional interference with another team's progress, whether on or off the water, will result in disqualification.

### **21. No Littering – No Removal of Artefacts**

Litter of any kind along the river and its banks will not be tolerated. This includes the dropping of extra food at any point along the river. Teams must practice 'no-trace' camping at all points along the river. Teams proven to have littered at any point along the route will be disqualified. The Yukon River has been termed 'the world's longest museum.' It is the site of many historical artefacts and properties. Removal of, or interference with, any artefacts will result in disqualification.

## 22. Statutory Compliance

In addition to these rules, the rules and laws applying to any historic sites or properties along the race route govern competitors. Any team member who violates a territorial, national or international law while in the race may be disqualified if convicted. Teams may not carry firearms while competing in the race.

## 23. Checkpoint Procedures

At each checkpoint, a time will be entered when a team passes an imaginary line on the river as they pass a race marker (cone/buoy). Team times will be posted on the results board and website. Failure to check in will result in time penalty or disqualification. Please respect our volunteers who work at these checkpoints; they receive information from other checkpoints as it is called in. Please pay attention to the procedures below for each checkpoint. They also will be reviewed at the pre-race meeting:

CP= Checkpoint           MP= Monitor Point

**CP 1. Policeman's Point** is a verbal checkpoint on the left side of the river just before the pilings in the river.

**MP 1. Early Lake Laberge [buoy]** is a verbal monitor point on the right side of the lake about 8 km (5 miles) from its beginning. *Teams must pass within another buoy and the shore and call out their number to the race official on shore/boat.* Teams must continue to stay on the right side of the lake. This will line teams up with the mouth of the river at lake's end.

**MP 2. Cathers Post** is a verbal checkpoint on the right side of the lake about 17 km [10 miles] from its beginning. *Teams must pass within a buoy and the shore and call out their number to the race official on shore/boat.* Failure to do this will result in a two-hour penalty. Teams must stay on the right side of the lake, paddling from point to point, within about 200 meters of the shore.

**CP 2: Lower Lake Laberge** is a verbal checkpoint with the observer on the right side of the river at the entrance to the Yukon River.

**END OF LAKE CUT-OFF TIME: Teams must reach CP 2 within 14 hours of starting (0200 Thursday June 25, 2015) to remain in the race.** A team failing to meet this requirement will be withdrawn by race officials. The team may continue on as a withdrawn team with the Race Marshal's consent (see Rule 25), or be evacuated to the Lake Laberge Campground at Deep Creek off the N. Klondike Highway.

**MP 3. Lower 30 Mile** is a verbal monitor point about 38.5 km (about 24 miles) from the end of the lake on river left. Teams must call out their number to the race official on shore. Look for the fire in the camping area if you need to stop and warm up.

**MP 4. Big Salmon** is a monitor point located on river right about 2 km before the confluence with the Big Salmon River. Look for Safety Boat and fire on the top of the bank.

**CP 3. Little Salmon** is a verbal checkpoint at the Little Salmon Village boat launch on river right, about 60 kilometers (40 miles) from Carmacks. Teams must pass by this checkpoint close enough to be able to call out their number to the race official on the bank.

**CP 4. Carmacks** is a mandatory seven (7) hour layover on river right at the Coal Mine Campground, about 2 km upriver from the bridge and the main part of town. The time line is upriver at the beginning of the campground. Teams will then paddle about 50 meters to a dock where volunteers and support crews will assist them in getting out and getting their boats ashore. At Carmacks, teams may be given full assistance by their support crews or may pay for support from the campground staff. There is a \$5.00 per person per night camping fee at Carmacks checkpoint which is included in the race registration. Support teams must pay their own camping fees separately. **If teams are not planning on camping at the campground, they need to notify YRMPA at registration.** Showers, rest rooms, laundry, food and phones are available.

**CARMACKS CUTOFF TIMES: Teams must reach Carmacks within 35 hours of starting (2300 Thursday June 25, 2015).** A team failing to meet this requirement will be withdrawn by race officials. After signing in, teams will be given a time when they are allowed to leave the checkpoint. **Any team that has not left Carmacks checkpoint within 42 hours of start (0600 Friday June 26, 2015), will be deemed to have abandoned the race.** In the event that adverse weather conditions on the lake or river cause a stoppage or delay in the race, these required times may be altered at the discretion of the Race Marshal.

**MP 5. Five Finger Rapids** is monitored by a safety boat working in the river just beyond the rapid. It is there to assist team and boat to shore in the event of a capsized.

**MP 6. Minto Landing** is a monitor point at the last road access point before Dawson City.

**CP 5. Fort Selkirk is a verbal checkpoint** on river left at the campground for the historic site. Teams must pass by this checkpoint close enough to be able to call out their number to the race official on the top of the riverbank.

**CP 6. Kirkman Creek is a mandatory three (3) hour layover** on river right, and teams have to depart no later than one (1) hour after their designated time. Wall tents are set up for the benefit of racers to lay out their sleeping bags and get some sleep. There also is a warming hut. Race officials will give teams wake-up calls. A sandwich and hot soup are available for racers from the Kirkman Creek Bakery as part of the race registration, and other food may be purchased. If requiring special food (vegan, gluten-free, etc.) bring your own as a vast variety of foods are not available at this remote checkpoint. There is no team support, no road access and there are limited facilities at this old homestead.

**MP 7. Sixty Mile is a verbal checkpoint on an island river left just past the Sixty Mile River confluence.** It is about 70 kilometers (47 Miles) from Dawson. Teams must pass by close enough to be able to call out their number to the race official on the riverbank or in a boat.

## 25. Withdrawal from the Race

A team that withdraws or must be evacuated from the race must do so by filling out and signing an official withdrawal form at the main checkpoints in Whitehorse, Carmacks or Dawson City as soon as possible after leaving the river. ***Don't forget to do this if you are not planning to go on after Carmacks!*** A team that is withdrawn from the race but feels it is at no immediate risk, and therefore adequately equipped and provisioned to continue paddling on the river, must, with the Race Marshal's consent, fill out a form acknowledging downgrading the team to "Withdrawn" status. On the form paddlers must agree to indemnify YRMPA from any liability for their well-being and notify race officials of its intended destination and arrival time. If a "Withdrawn" team does not arrive at its destination by the time stated, then YRMPA may contact the RCMP to decide whether to initiate a Search and Rescue, and the team will be responsible for the cost of said exercise. ***Teams deemed by the YRQ Race Marshal to be at risk, impeding Safety Boats, or timed out, will be withdrawn and transported to the next Checkpoint with road access.***

A team that is recovered off the river by a safety boat and taken with its boat to the nearest road access point is considered withdrawn and must fill out a form acknowledging that withdrawal and forfeiture of its evacuation deposit.

Teams are responsible for making their own arrangements for retrieving personal equipment. Items remaining after the race will be considered abandoned and become the property of the YRMPA.

## 26. Finish Line Procedures – Dawson City

A team finishes the race when it crosses the finish line at Dawson City, marked by a cone and flag on the bank on river right, about 1 km. after passing the Klondike River. A horn will sound as each team passes this line and the finishing time will be recorded. Teams then will be directed to the docking area on river right for final inspection. A team's official time will be its elapsed time on the river, not including mandatory layovers, plus any penalty or adjustment by the Race Marshal. The team's official time will not be recorded until all mandatory gear is checked, bibs are signed and turned in, and racers sign in.

Teams are responsible for arranging their own support and accommodations in Dawson, and transporting their canoes, equipment and themselves home after the event. See the FAQ page on the website for options.

**The event officially ends at 23:59 Saturday June 27, 2015.** Up until this point, a secure area will be available for team equipment. Race officials will not be responsible for monitoring the progress of teams on the river after this time. Teams that finish after this time will be provided a sign-in location in Dawson City and will be recognized as official finishers.

In the event that adverse weather conditions on the lake or river cause a stoppage or delay in the race, the required finish time may be altered at the discretion of the Race Marshal.

The Finish Barbecue and Awards Presentation will be held at a location to be announced in Dawson City on Sunday, June 28, 2015 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Read the FAQs and watch the Racer Info section of the website for updates, a preview of the racer and support briefings, race schedule, special events, and other race information.