



YUKON RIVER QUEST



YRQ February Racer Newsletter

Hello racers! Here is your February newsletter complete with updates which are posted on our website under News, on our FB page and in the Racer Forum Group.

Updates and information

Please review the [January newsletter](#) for:

Booking travel and accommodation

Buying maps

What the race is all about – a video

Assessing Risks – traffic light system

Explanation of splitting the fleet at the start line

More on travel:

Condor Air is returning! Beginning May 24, ending September 13 once a week: Frankfurt to Whitehorse direct.

Air North – Direct flights from Ottawa or Toronto to Whitehorse

Pre-Race Briefing

Before making payment, all racers **are required** to watch the [Pre-race Briefing](#) slideshow. It is now posted on our website for viewing.

Carmacks Checkpoints – who goes where

There are two checkpoints for Carmacks due to the increased number of racers and support crews – Coalmine Campground and the Bridge Site (just under the bridge on river left). The



decision of team selection is based on the ease or challenge of removing boats from the water. Take out at the Bridge Site is flat and wider, making it easier to lift canoes and kayaks out of the water. Since voyageurs and C4s are tied up along the shore, they can go to Coalmine Campground. SUPs can easily be lifted out of the water anywhere but to even the numbers, they are going to Coalmine Campground.

Coalmine Campground: All voyageurs, C4s and SUPs

Bridge Site: All C2s, K2s, C1s, K1s

Details about these locations is outlined in the Racer Briefing which will be posted in the spring.

Minto Resort

Minto Resort is a rustic location with limited services. It offers 40 RV sites (\$20/night, no hook up) and plenty of tent space for racers at \$15/night. There are no reservations. When support crews arrive, they can select a site and pay CASH only. Look for further updates about available services in the March newsletter.

Assessing Risks: Traffic light system—based on our current assessments, we are still **GREEN** for the 2022 YRQ.

What we need from you

Make Payment

On March 1 at 14:00 Yukon time (Pacific Time Zone), we begin accepting racers fees (at least 50% must be paid to secure your spot in the race). Racers will receive an invite email, allowing them to make payment.

Full payment is due March 21. Please refer to our website for the Refund Schedule in Section 7 of the [Race Rules](#).

Secure your boat rental (if applicable). Boat rental fees are also due by March 21 (beginning March 1), less the deposit you have already paid.

Tracking: As part of our risk management plan, all racers are required to have a two way messaging device for the race (Spot X, inReach or a Spot and Zoleo combined). If you do not own one of these, you may wish to start looking now.

In spring, Peter Coates, our Senior Timer will need you to set up your tracking by setting up a data feed. Instructions are provided in the Racer Guide under [Racer Information](#).

If you have not provided us with your **estimated finish time**, please include this and/or your time of either under 56 hours or over 56 hours (These times do not include the mandatory layover time).

Once you have made full payment and are committed to the race, we will need the following from each racer (but please feel free to do this sooner if you like!)

To complete online – go to [Racer Actions](#)

1. Complete bios- name, email, phone #, country, gender, age (optional), shirt size
2. Support Crews – all information must be entered about your support crew.

Emailed to: director@yukonriverquest.ca

1. **Waivers** – we have a **NEW** [waiver](#) that must be signed by ALL racers, support crews and volunteers. Please print, sign, scan, and email to the address above. The waiver found at this hyperlink is the new and currently valid version; the old version is no longer valid. Thank you for your patience as we work on removing references to the old waiver from the website.

If a racer, support crew person, or volunteer is under-aged (less than 18 years of age), their parent or legal guardian must fill out and sign the [Assumption of Risk Form](#) instead of the waiver.

Note: Support crews, volunteers and racers are required to sign a waiver twice; once when they register and/or make payment and a second time when they are in Whitehorse at check in (a hard copy will be provided).

2. **Sleep strategy** for Carmacks and Minto – you must rest a total of 10 hours. You have the option to do a ‘touch and go’ in Carmacks and continue on to Minto or visa versa.

Other

MOMENTUM  **ANALYTICS**

New to the Yukon River Quest? Experienced racer who aims to finish faster? Momentum Analytics can help you achieve your race goals.

Momentum Analytics combines local knowledge, Yukon River Quest racing experience in multiple categories, and a love of ultra marathon paddle racing with data analytics to finish faster without paddling faster.

The Yukon River Quest First Timer 2-hour session is perfect for the first-time racer. Book custom team or individual sessions to fill the gaps in your race preparation and knowledge. Take advantage of the “Ask an experienced local racer anything” option.

Visit www.momentumanalytics.ca or email info@momentumanalytics.ca for more information.

Tributes

Remembering Linda Rapp

2001 – The first year of Paddlers Abreast, we were a team of 11 women, all breast cancer survivors, on the cusp of facing our first River Quest race.

“How would you characterize your behaviour under stress?” we were asked. Linda felt sure of her ability to remain calm and take charge. And indeed, that proved to be completely true of who and how she was. On and off the water she was a natural leader, promoting and inspiring the team with confidence and loyalty. Over the course of her 12 paddling years, with strength, humour and grace, she captained the stern, guiding 41 other women, mostly breast cancer survivors, through the amazing experience that is the race. She was also one of two team members who’ve had the honour of paddling the race with a daughter, something I know she was very proud of.



As 2001 set the stage for what would become the epic and far-reaching inspiration that Paddlers Abreast is today, Linda’s role was significant in helping to make that happen. With her love and dedication to the team, the race, the whole experience, she held the door open for all the women that followed.

While so much more can be said, I’ll end by acknowledging how grateful I am to have been able to share the adventure with her. Grit, tenacity, integrity. She had all those things.

I will miss her for a long time to come, and the film River Of Life will continue to make me cry.

Cindy Gilday

Remembering Bob Daffe

At 19 years of age, Bob moved to the Yukon in search of adventure and that’s exactly what he got. With years of exploring through paddling, skidooning, hunting, winter camping and more, Bob embraced a life full of adventure, family, great friendships, and rich experiences.

Bob’s vast knowledge and expertise of paddling, river reading and wilderness travel was shared through his company Tatenshini Expediting in addition to mentoring many local school groups. He also organized river trips worldwide with clientele from around the world, bringing people together on shared adventures.



Bob's involvement in the paddling community extended to the Yukon River Quest, providing valuable rescue training to boat operators over the years. We are grateful for his contribution in keeping everyone safe.

Bob's passion for adventure, his expressive face, his smile wide and large as life, and that twinkle in his eye will never be forgotten. Paddle on Bob.

Thanks everyone. Happy training!

Mia and the Yukon River Marathon Paddling Association team

Mia Lee

Race Director

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