

Yukon River Quest – History

Background

The Klondike Gold Rush of 1897/98 was a race to the gold fields and gold rush stampeders, along with the help of local First Nations guides who knew and understood the land and water of Alaska and the Yukon, blazed a trail to Dawson City from Dyea, Alaska.

The route that was followed to the Klondike gold fields, the wilderness challenge and the thrill of adventure from all those years ago sparked the idea for a marathon paddling race. One hundred years later, the Dyea to Dawson Centennial Race to the Klondike took place, following the same trail forged by the stampeders, offering an exciting and challenging adventure for racers.

Time, distance and logistical challenges made the Dyea to Dawson race difficult to host every year so race organizers and other interested parties developed a shorter race now known as the Yukon River Quest (YRQ). The new race focused solely on paddling, still followed the same route – for the most part – to get to the Klondike...once on the Yukon River; and still promised a challenging race which satisfied the adventurous spirit of the racers.

The Yukon River Quest operated alongside the Yukon Quest Sled Dog Race from 1999 to 2002 when the Yukon River Marathon Paddling Association (YRMPA) was formed and took over the organization of the YRQ. The Yukon (then and now) has an inherent remoteness – a small number of people in a vast landscape. Because of this wilderness reality, Yukoners knew they had to support and rely on each other; they watched out for one another and were friendly to anyone new from “outside”. They developed an unspoken level of trust, a sense of community and a sense of home among people who weren’t necessarily family.

Now, over a century after the first rush to the Klondike, and over 20+ years of hosting an ever-evolving YRQ, the same sense of community that the stampeders experienced on their way to the Klondike is still aspired to and displayed each year among YRQ race organizers, volunteers, racers, sponsors and the entire Yukon community

Safe, Supportive and Respectful

The YRQ is fully committed to providing a safe, supportive, and respectful environment for all our registered participants, volunteers and officials, regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics, or disability. We believe in the values of fair play which includes the fostering of respect for all people by all participants.

YRQ recognizes that discrimination, prejudice and victimization on the basis of personal attributes, including gender identity and expression, is a violation of human rights and will not be tolerated.

Our board is actively working on a gender inclusion policy to ensure that everyone—regardless of gender identity or expression—feels respected and valued. We recognize the importance of inclusivity, and we are continuously learning and growing to make the race an event where everyone can participate fully.

The YRMPA now has an Open category which is respectful of gender expression and gender diversity and, in doing so, now welcomes transwomen, transmen, non-binary or gender-queer persons to indicate their gender in which they identify or to select 'non-binary'. Those indicating non-binary may be entered in the Open or Mixed categories, depending on the genders of the other paddlers on their team.

Safety

We cannot emphasize enough that this is a wilderness race in Northern Canada. The temperature of the water is around 13 C, and air temps range from 8 C to 29 C in June. We encourage you to make use of the resources we have provided on our website to research and fully prepare. Teams should be aware that however good they are at paddling, things can and do go wrong: damaged shoulders, overused wrists, blistered hands, exhaustion, cooler temperatures, rain-induced hypothermia, heat-promoted hyperthermia, or simply fatigue.

Race Length

The Yukon River Quest is a 715 km race starting in Whitehorse and ending in Dawson City, Yukon.

The YRQ 300 or 'Half' is a 300 km race that begins in Whitehorse and ends in Carmacks. The same start time and rules apply, unless otherwise noted.

Yukon River Quest

Race Procedures *(subject to change)*

Race Officials

The Race Marshal

- Is responsible for all aspects of the race from pre-race competitors meeting to awards presentation;
- Has the authority to make decisions about race procedures and rules;
- May penalize teams, including disqualification;
- May be advised by Race Judges.

All decisions by the Race Marshal are final. Penalties may be awarded and may include disqualification or a penalty.

A decision of the Race Marshal may only be contested by filing a Protest statement.

The Race Judge:

- May be a non-competing YRMPA Board Member, former racer or another person identified by the Race Marshal, and
- Provides advice to the Race Marshal and assists in making decisions.

The Race Committee:

- Is comprised of two Race Judges and the Race Marshal,
- Meets to settle disputes and make decisions on Protests.

Appeal of a Decision by the Race Marshal

A Team wishing to contest a decision or action of the Race Marshal, a race process, or make a complaint about the conduct of another team, must provide a written Protest Statement within an hour of the official end of the race.

Step 1: The Race Marshal will share the Protest statement with the Race Committee, which may:

- Dismiss it and inform the team captain who submitted the Protest statement or,
- Consider the Protest further.

Step 2: If the protest includes an allegation against another team:

- If the Race Committee does not dismiss an allegation against another team, that team captain is provided with a copy of the Protest statement.
- The team captain may submit a written response statement to the Race Marshal within 2 hours of being provided the statement or 1 hour after the official end of the race, whichever is earlier.

Step 3: The Race Committee may then:

- Review the Protest and Response statements;
- Interview witnesses;
- Review photos or videos; and,

- Consider any other available information.

Step 4: After considering, the Committee may:

- Dismiss the Protest;
- Determine there was a rule infraction;
- Issue penalties to a team or team member;
- Disqualify a team or team member;
- Ban a team or team member from competing in future races;
- Make a statement on behalf of the race; or,
- Take any other action necessary to address the matter.

The decision of the Race Committee is final.

Mandatory stops

The 2025 race includes a mandatory 10-hour stop at the Coal Mine Campground in Carmacks.

Calculation of Times

The times for full and half races are based on the elapsed time from the start horn to the moment the teams cross the finish line, less any layover time.

Yukon River Quest

Race Rules 2025 (subject to change)

Registration

Race Entry Fee

The entry fee for the YRQ715 is a flat rate of \$650.00 CD per person.

The race entry fee for the YRQ300 is \$450.00 CD per person.

Teams' Intent

Completion of the official online entry form, waivers and completed team member biographies constitute the team's intent to enter the race and further acknowledges that each team member understands and agrees to comply with YRQ Rules.

Race Language

The race language is English and at least one paddler per boat is required to be proficient in the English Language.

Wait Lists

Racers will be registered chronologically from opening day until the registration is full.

For full categories, paddlers may be waitlisted chronologically for a \$50.00 non-refundable fee. If the waitlisted team declines the invitation or does not pay in full within 5 days, the next team on the list is invited.

Minimum Age

There shall be a minimum age limit of 15 years (as of the day of the race) for entrants. The minimum age limit for a solo entry is 19 years, and at least half the members of a tandem, C4, or voyageur entry must be 19 years or older.

Parents of a minor must complete an Assumption of Risk form.

Paddling Resume for new solo or tandem teams

Paddlers in solo or tandem teams who have not previously raced in the YRQ must provide a paddling resume prior to registration for review by the Race Committee.

The Committee reviews the paddling resumes to attempt to gauge whether the applicant has appropriate levels of fitness and survival training/experience, however, the acceptance of the application into the Race is not an endorsement of the abilities of the applicant nor an indication that the Committee believes the applicant will successfully complete the Race. YRMPA reserves the right to reject any entry.

Support Crews

Support Crew members must be over the age of 18 and teams must have at least one and can have a maximum of two. Voyageur teams are permitted to have up to three Support Crew members. Support crew's contact info must be indicated on the registration, and they must all attend the Support Crew briefing.

For teams who cannot provide their own support, YRQ provides a Support Crew for a set fee. See Appendix 1 for details.

Maximum Numbers of Teams

The maximum number of teams permitted to register is 125. The number of voyageur teams is limited to 20 and maximum number of solo teams to 75.

Refunds of Registration Fees

Teams or individual paddlers withdrawing from the race who are not replaced with another paddler prior to March 1 may be eligible for a 50% refund on their entry fee. Teams withdrawing after March 2 are not eligible for any refunds.

Deadline for full payment

The team captain is responsible for ensuring all paddlers are registered and race fees paid before June 1.

Insurance

Each paddler must purchase fully comprehensive travel insurance. YRMPA and YRQ shall have no liability to the paddler or any third party for any losses suffered, or costs incurred, by the paddler or any third party due to the failure of the paddler to purchase or otherwise put in place fully comprehensive travel insurance appropriate to the risks involved in travelling to and from, and participating in, the Yukon River Quest.

Each paddler must purchase medical insurance, which shall, as a minimum, cover the paddler from the point of medical treatment back to the home country, and cover the costs of the transport of any mortal remains back to the home country.

Waiver of Liability, Photo Release, etc.

Each entrant, support crew member and volunteer shall sign the waiver of liability.

Each entrant shall sign all photo release documents or promotional material requested by YRMPA prior to, or at the mandatory pre-race briefing.

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.

Boat Classes

Eligible Boat Classes are:

- SUPs (paddled with single blade paddles),
- solo and tandem kayaks (paddled with double bladed kayak paddles),
- solo and tandem canoes,

- four person canoes, and
- voyageur canoes, paddled with canoe paddles.

Each type of boat entered in the race must meet the Boat Specifications. (See Appendix 3 Boat Specifications)

Boat Classes and Divisions

Solo canoe, Solo kayak or Stand-Up Paddleboard (SUP)

- A solo canoe or solo kayak or SUP (Stand-Up Paddleboard) team entry is a paddler who travels down the river in or on the same craft.
- **Divisions:** Open and Womens

Tandem canoe or tandem kayak

- A tandem canoe or tandem kayak team entry consists of two members who travel together down the river in the same craft.
- **Divisions:** Open, Womens, and Mixed

C4 Canoe

- A C4 canoe team entry consists of 4 people who travel together down the river in the same craft.
- **Divisions:** Open, Womens, and Mixed.

Voyageur Canoe

- A voyageur canoe team entry consists of 6 or more people who travel together downriver in the same craft.
- **Divisions:** Open, Womens, and Mixed.

Mixed Team Configuration

At least one-third of the members of a mixed team must identify as women. If there is less than one third, the boat may be entered into the open division.

Pre-Race Activity

Use of GPS

Each team must have and be familiar with the functions of a GPS device. This device is used for tracking and communication. The device must be affixed in a way that it is operable for the duration of the race. The device to be used for tracking must be registered one month before the race

Mandatory Final Check-in

Prior to race day, all racers must attend Final Check-In. Race Officials will verify waivers, complete pre-race boat and mandatory gear inspections (See Appendix 2) , and boat decals, bibs and racer packages will be distributed.

Teams will be invited to sign up for their Check-in time slot closer to race time. Dates and times for Final Check-in will be communicated.

Mandatory Pre-Race Briefing

The Pre-Race Briefing is specific to Racers and Support Crews and provides an overview of checkpoints and monitor points, race route, introduce officials, discuss racer/support crew expectations, and update any changes to the rules or procedures, safety and communications procedures.

Failure to attend will result in disqualification at the discretion of the Race Marshal.

Mandatory Equipment

It is mandatory that paddlers carry basic survival gear and warm, dry clothes. Mandatory equipment must be carried the entire length of the racecourse. Failure to do so may result in disqualification. Refer to Appendix 2 for the list of Mandatory Equipment

If any of these items are used up or lost, they must be replaced by support crews at the Carmacks checkpoint.

Random gear checks are conducted at the Carmacks checkpoint. Any missing items may result in a penalty imposed by the Race Marshal. (See Appendix 2 Mandatory Equipment List)

Teams must be able to be self-sufficient for several days if necessary and must know how to assemble/use the gear when you are cold or injured.

Food

Teams must carry enough food to sustain them throughout the race. Unplanned assistance from other competitors or checkpoint/monitor point volunteers ("Good Samaritan" actions) is allowed.

Suspicion of planned help may result in penalties.

Race Start

The race begins Wednesday morning at 0900 (and possibly 1200, depending on registration) Whitehorse Time (Yukon Standard Time, UTC-7).

Teams leave the start line at their assigned departure time in a 'Le Mans' style start at Rotary Peace Park. Once racers arrive at their boat, one support person may assist in pushing off the boat from that location. Premature movement of the boat will result in a one-hour penalty.

Any team that is not on the water within 30 min of the start horn is considered a no-show and will be disqualified.

Position of boats

Paddlers run from the starting line to their boats positioned in a designated spot on the riverbank. Positions are provided in the final paddler briefings held the day prior to the race. All teams must enter the water from their designated positions.

On the River

Reporting Violations

All racers are required to report all suspected violations of the rules to the Race Marshal at the earliest possible opportunity. Rules Violation Forms are available at all checkpoints and monitor points and must be submitted to the Race Marshal via a race volunteer.

Aiding other paddlers in distress

Any team witnessing another team in obvious distress is required to assist until the situation is resolved, a volunteer boat arrives, or the team assisting is relieved by another team.

Time adjustments may be given at the discretion of the Race Marshal based on the time spent providing aid. If a team is unable to assist, a message must be sent immediately to Communications Room.

Registered support crew members are the only people who may provide help to the teams at the start line, in Carmacks and at the finish line.

Any other team-related boats (motorized or un-motorized) on the water (i.e. for filming or research) must apply to the race officials at least two months before the race.

Illegal or Performance-enhancing substances

Under no circumstances shall a racer consume alcohol or marijuana during the race or use an illegal or performance-enhancing drug that has been defined by the Canadian Canoe Association as such.

Any participant in the race who has a physical ailment for which it is necessary to ingest or inhale any of such drugs must bring this fact to the attention of the Race Marshal before the race start.

Interference and Unsportsmanlike Behaviour

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

Any unsportsmanlike behaviour should be reported to the Race Marshal and may result in a penalty.

Drafting and Pace Boats

Drafting (wake-riding) is permitted so long as it is respectful and courteous. If there are any issues, they must be brought to the attention of the Race Marshal as soon as possible.

Pace boats are prohibited.

Littering

Littering, of any kind, along the river and its banks is not 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.

Removal of Artifacts

The Yukon River has been termed "the world's longest museum" and is the site of many historical artifacts and properties. Removal of, or interference with, any artifacts will result in disqualification.

Substitution of Boast

Substitution with an illegal boat at any point along the route will result in disqualification.

A damaged boat may be replaced with another of the same class upon prior approval of the Race Marshal, with a time penalty of two (2) hours.

Carrying Firearms

Teams may not carry firearms while competing.

Violating any law

Any team member who violates territorial, national, or international law while in the race may be disqualified if convicted.

Checkpoints

Checkpoints are spaced out along the race to offer emergency-related stopping points and to monitor progress of the paddlers.

Failure to check in may result in a time penalty or disqualification.

Cut off Times

Timing Checkpoints monitor times for the teams and any required cut-off time for passing the checkpoint.

Teams must meet maximum time limits for key checkpoints. Teams must pass:

- Policeman's point by 5 hours from start,
- Lower Lake Laberge by 15 hours,
- Arrive in Carmacks by 36 hours and
- Cross the finish line at Dawson City in 81 hours.

Monitoring Points

Monitoring points are additional locations along the race route from which volunteers monitor race progress. Teams must call out their number as they pass to ensure they are accounted for in the race. No official time is recorded, though volunteers at these locations may record times as part of their monitoring procedures.

Checkpoints and monitor points will be confirmed and procedures reviewed at the pre-race briefing.

Mandatory Layover

Carmacks is the mandatory, 10-hour layover point.

Arrival:

All teams must arrive at the Carmacks checkpoint within 36 hours of the start. A team failing to meet this requirement will be disqualified or asked to withdraw by race officials. After signing in, teams are given a time when they are allowed to leave the checkpoint.

Departure:

All teams must depart before the checkpoint closes, 46 hours after the start. Any team that has not left by that time is considered to have abandoned the race.

If a team has withdrawn and has not notified the Checkpoint Coordinator by the time the checkpoint closes, a penalty of \$100.00 will be levied.

Withdrawal from the Race

A team must complete a YRQ withdrawal form at the next checkpoint or monitoring point when:

- A team has pressed their SOS button and engaged emergency measures or called their support crew to request YRQ assistance. Doing so results in a forfeiture of the evacuation deposit.
- A team has not arrived by the cutoff time for the Checkpoint
- A team has decided they can no longer continue in to race. If the team feels it is at no immediate risk, and therefore adequately equipped and provisioned to continue paddling on the river, they inform the Race Marshal that they will continue to paddle as 'tourists'. The team will notify their Support Crew and will agree to indemnify YRMPA from any liability for their well-being. They are required to notify race officials of their intended destination and arrival time and how any borrowed equipment will be returned.
- Failure to complete a withdrawal form results in disqualification.

Teams are responsible for making their own arrangements to retrieve personal equipment. Abandoned items become property of the YRMPA.

Finishing in Dawson

The finish line in Dawson City is marked by a cone on river-right. A horn will sound when the team crosses this timing line. The race is officially closed 3 days and 9 hours (81 hours) from the start time.

Teams then will be directed further downstream to the docking area on river right (just past the boat dock) for any 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 racers sign in.

Teams must move their boat out of the way of other boats and unload all gear before they leave the finish zone.

Substituting Team Members

Teams may substitute members after entry has been accepted, up until the day before the start of the race. No team may replace all its members. That is effectively a withdrawal, requiring a new entry, and will be treated as such.

Replacing Paddlers

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 or C4 teams that drop paddlers, or tandem teams that drop a paddler and continue with another paddler, may receive unofficial times and finisher pins.

Prize Money

The prize money listed below is based on 125 teams registered. It is adjusted up or down by a percentage point if fewer or more than 125 teams are counted on the June 1 paid registration deadline.

Total Potential Prize Money: \$64,245

Tandem Classes	Open C2	Womens C2	Mixed C2	Open K2	Womens K2	Mixed K2
1st	\$1500	\$1500	\$1500	\$1500	\$1500	\$1500
2nd	\$705	\$705	\$705	\$705	\$705	\$705
3rd	\$360	\$360	\$360	\$360	\$360	\$360
Solo Classes	Open C1	Womens C1	Open K1	Womens K1	Open SUP	Womens SUP
1st	\$788	\$788	\$788	\$788	\$788	\$788
2nd	\$390	\$390	\$390	\$390	\$390	\$390
3rd	\$195	\$195	\$195	\$195	\$195	\$195
Big Boat Classes	Open Voyageur	Womens Voyageur	Mixed Voyageur	Open C4	Womens C4	Mixed C4
1st	\$2700	\$2700	\$2700	\$1800	\$1800	\$1800
2nd	\$1350	\$1350	\$1350	\$900	\$900	\$900
3rd	\$675	\$675	\$675	\$450	\$450	\$450

Terms: 'Class' is boat type (ie C1), 'Division' is the grouping within the Class (ie C1 womens)

Prize Money Eligibility

Teams must beat another in its class (C2, K2, C1, K1, SUP, VC, C4) to receive prize money.

If there is only one in the division, the team may be eligible if it beats a boat of the same class [but a different division (i.e. C1 open)].

To be eligible for prize money, a team must come first in its class or finish in a time no greater than 25% longer than the class winner's time.

For instance, if the 1st place womens K2 took 46:32:24, then to be eligible for a prize 2nd and 3rd women's K2s must finish within a time of 46:32:24 + 11:38:05 =

58:10:30. Or, if the overall fastest voyageur finished in 39:30:23, other voyageurs must finish in less than $39:30:23 + 9:52:35 = 49:22:58$.

YRQ300 Cash prizes

For the YRQ300 follow the same structure as for YRQ. To calculate the prize for any given category: divide the number found in the table above by 2 (reflecting that the entry fee for the YRQ300 is half that of the YRQ), and multiply by T/125, where T is the number of teams in the YRQ300.

Bonus Prize

Bonus prize money of \$400 is added if a team breaks a record in its class.

Top 10 Overall Bonus Prize Money			
1st	\$3000 wins free entry next year*	6th	\$983
2nd	\$2400	7th	\$788
3rd	\$1920	8th	\$630
4th	\$1538	9th	\$503
5th	\$1230	10th	\$405

Fastest Team Overall

*The fastest team overall receives free entry in the following year's race. The captain should keep the team intact for the following year's race - if there must be a partner change, the new partner must pay his/her portion of the following year's entry fee.

Their names are also added to the permanent YRQ trophy.

Special Awards

Sponsors may award Top Solo Paddlers, Top Yukoners, Spirit of the Yukon, and the "Red Lantern" award to the next to last team to finish before the cut-off time. The YRQ recognizes Great River Club members who have paddled 5000 kms and 10000 kms in YRQ races.

Other awards may be added by YRMPA.

Finisher Pins

Each team member who finishes the YRQ 300 or YRQ 715 receives an official Finisher Pin at the Awards Presentation.

Appendix 1 - Paid Support Crew Services

The YRQ offers paid support service to teams who do not have their own support crew.

Fees are: \$75 per person, \$150 for tandems, \$300 for C4's, and \$450 to \$900 for voyageur boats.

Teams must register and pay for YRQ provided support by June 1, 2025, through the registration page.

Services provided

- Transportation of 2 gear bags per Racer from the Start Line in Whitehorse to Carmacks and the Finish Line in Dawson.
- A gear bag drop zone at the Start line in Whitehorse. Bags must be identified with the provided Team number and Team name tags
- Assistance in Carmacks to help remove racers from their boats onto the docks and lift the team's boat out of the water and carry it to its resting place during the 10-hour layover. All C4, and voyageur boats are secured at the shoreline.
- Set-up of tent(s) in Carmacks that must be provided by the Team. The tent(s) set up in Carmacks must be different from the mandatory tent(s) required to be carried in the boat by the team during the race.
- The gear bags will be placed inside the tent.
- Orientation to the amenities at the Coal Mine Campground and Carmacks services related to the layover.
- Assistance to get the boat back into the water in Carmacks before the set departure time.
- Packing up the tent and placing that inside one of the gear bags provided. Sleeping bags, sleeping pads, and other gear must have been packed by the Racers.
- Transportation of the gear bags to the finish line in Dawson, (or sent back to the paddler if withdrawn and not proceeding to Dawson City.)

Paid Support Crew services NOT provided:

- Support in Whitehorse, before the start of the race.
- Driving of team vehicles to Carmacks and Dawson, unless mutually agreed upon between both parties.
- The cleaning of boats in Carmacks.
- The restocking of mandatory gear in Carmacks.
- Cleaning of any race gear in Carmacks

Appendix 2: Mandatory Equipment List

Paddles:

- Each canoe, C4, and SUP must start the race with a single-bladed paddle for each person in the boat and a spare single-bladed paddle.
- Each kayak must start with a double-bladed kayak paddle per person and a spare double-bladed kayak paddle in the boat.
- Voyageur canoes must have one single-bladed canoe paddle per person and two extra single-bladed paddles in the boat.

Towline

- Each boat must have a buoyant heaving line of > 15 m (45') in length and > 6 mm at least (1/4") in diameter attached to the boat (not spray deck), accessible to hand and throwable. This may be used as a tow line
- All voyageur canoes have one 40-foot buoyant towline at both bow and stern.
- All other boats have a 20-foot buoyant line at one end and a 40-foot buoyant towline at the other end. The latter may be the buoyant heaving line if it is within reach and throwable (e.g. has a throw bag or monkey-fist at the free end). See e)
- SUPs have a 20-foot buoyant line attached to the bow.

Personal Flotation Device

PFDs approved by the Canadian Department of Transport, Canadian Coast Guard, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, or U.S. Coast Guard must be worn by all Team Members when in a boat, swimming, or on a dock.

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 and be appropriately labelled.

PFDs in poor condition may be rejected.

The approved PFD is the only PFD that may be worn for the duration of the race.

Attached to the PFD

Each paddler must have the following attached to or in the pocket of the PFD pocket:

- Whistle
- Emergency space bivy sack (eg Coghlan's Emergency Bag, <https://www.coghlan.com/products/emergency-bag-9815>)
- Firestarter
- Waterproof matches/lighter.

Spray skirt/deck:

- Canoes and kayaks: Full coverage spray skirt/deck with snaps, tie downs, or strong Velcro are required for solo and tandem canoes and kayaks while traveling on the river from Whitehorse to Lower Laberge and Carmacks to Rink Rapids.
- C4 canoes, at a minimum, are required to have a spray skirt/deck around the bow paddler, but full coverage is strongly recommended.

- Voyageur canoes: it is recommended to have a full coverage spray deck, but it is not required. However, those voyageurs without a spray deck are required to have an internal flotation device.

Mandatory Items

- Food and fluids to sustain each team member throughout the race and an additional 24 hours.
- One Bailer (bucket or pump) with the exception of SUPs.
- River Map (Rourke's are available for purchase in Whitehorse or from yukonbooks.com). It is strongly recommended that these be copied onto waterproof paper or laminated.
- Race bibs to be issued by YRMPA. Bibs should be pinned to the back of the PFD.
- Race decals showing team numbers applied to either side of the bow, except where the shape of the boat necessitates a more visible placement on the stern or top of the boat. Other numbered stickers should be covered/taped over to avoid confusion.
- 1 Basic First Aid Kit which includes:
 - 10 waterproof adhesive Band-aid strips
 - 4 antiseptic wipes
 - 2 sterile gauze dressings
 - 2 non-stick burn pads
 - 2 blister bandages
 - 1 roll 1" (2.5 cm) adhesive tape waterproof
 - 1 roll 2" (5cm) non-adhesive crepe bandage
 - Needle or safety pin (should be sterile)
 - Anti-chafing cream/ointment (eg. Nothing Butt, Body Glide, Sports Balm, Chamois Balm)
 - Scissors
 - Sunscreen
 - Any competitor specific medication This must also be recorded in your entry form so race medical staff are aware of any potential conditions or issues.
- Recommended additional medications to consider: Painkiller – eg Tylenol, ASA (Aspirin); anti-inflammatory – Naproxen, Ibuprofen; Anti-diarrheal medication eg loperamide (Imodium), Antacid (eg Gaviscon, Tums), Anti-gastroesophageal reflux heartburn (eg. Pepcid).
- A watertight flashlight or navigation light for night travel and signaling (required by Transport Canada) to be attached either mounted on the front of the boat or used as a headlamp on a solo kayaker or bow paddler of a tandem, C4, or voyageur team
- One sleeping bag per person rated to -5C.
- Free-standing tent(s) to shelter all members of a team.
- Rain gear (tops and bottoms) for each team member.
- Additional two (2) extra layers of warm clothing (long sleeves + pants) contained in a dry bag
- Backpack stove and fuel with a pot capable of boiling 16 oz. of water.
- A robust zip-seal bag per person to transport used toilet paper to Carmacks/Dawson for disposal.

- Tracking/messaging GPS device that paddlers know how to operate. The tracking device and the messaging device may be two different devices. Cellular phones are not adequate.
- Recommended that each team carry: an insulated container (thermos) with a hot drink or soup, sunglasses, insect repellent, knife, money, bear spray, spare prescription glasses.

Appendix 3: Boat Specifications

The specifications below allow canoes, kayaks, stand up paddleboards (SUP), C4 canoes, and voyageur canoes capable of carrying the safety gear necessary for this wilderness race. Boats not meeting the specifications below will be disqualified.

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, rowlock, tholepin, or outriggers.

Boat types must be recorded when registering. All boats are measured at registration and inspected again on the morning of the start. Do not bring a boat to this race unless you are ABSOLUTELY sure it fits within the YRQ specifications listed below.

Tandem Canoe Specifications

The tandem canoe (C2) class allows a range of boats 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 deck. Canoes must be paddled with the use of single blade paddles only. No rudders or skegs.

- Tandem Canoe Max. Length - 18' 6". stem to stern
- Tandem Canoe Min. Width (stock) 32" widest point midship at the 4" waterline*
- Tandem Canoe Min. Width (concave) 33.5" widest point midship at the 4" water line*
- Tandem Canoe Centre Gunnel Min. height: 12"
- Tandem Canoe Min. Height at Bow: 16"
- Tandem Canoe Min. Height at Stern: 16"

* C2s whose gunnels are concave outwards at any point along the boat must be 33.5" wide at the 4". water line at the widest point.

Other C2s must be at least 32" wide at the 4" water line at the widest point.

This rule allows "stock" canoes such as the Clipper and Wenonah Jensen 18 models; "standard" canoes such as the Clipper Whitewater II and Wenonah Minnesota II models; and "concave" canoes such as the Wenonah SCR, and the Savage River Susquehanna and Blackhawk models.

Solo Canoe Specifications

The solo canoe (C1) class allows a range of boats 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 and again in Carmacks. 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 4" waterline length-width ratio: 9.7
- The canoe must flare to the 6" waterline for at least 6' 6" in cumulative length over all sections of the hull.

Kayak Specifications

This race is for recreation or expedition-style kayaks only. *Sit-on-top kayaks are not allowed.* Kayaks must have adequate internal storage compartment(s) for all the gear required for this race. Kayaks must have fore and aft watertight storage compartments or flotation chambers.

The Yukon River Quest has adopted its own length-width ratio for determining the suitability of kayaks for this race. The simple length to width ratio is determined by dividing the total length of the kayak at the 4" waterline (not including rudder) by the mid-ship width at the 4" waterline. Do not rely on other published ratios. In addition, there is a minimum overall width.

Kayaks must be paddled with the use of double-blade paddles only.

Solo Kayak

- Maximum 4" waterline length-width ratio: 10.8
- Minimum overall width at the widest point: 20"

Tandem Kayak

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

SUP Specifications

- Maximum board length: 14" (4.27 m).
- Minimum board width: 24" (60.96 cm)
- Fins or daggers are allowed. Foils are not allowed.
- Quick release tether on waist belt to be worn at all times.
- Must use 20' rope for Tow Line.
- Single blade paddles only.
- All equipment to be fastened securely to board.

C4 Class Specifications

All canoes in this class must be paddled with the use of single bladed canoe paddles only.

Specific hull measurements:

- Maximum length of 23'1". Minimum weight 55 pounds from the manufacturer.
- The boat must be specifically built by the manufacturer to accommodate 4 paddlers.
- Minimum width at the centre line, at the 4" waterline, is 33", at both the gunwales and 4" waterline.
- Minimum width at the 4" waterline – 4' in from the bow is 16", 4' from the stern is 17"
- There is no concavity in the longitudinal axis of the hull and no concave lines in the cross section (side to side)
- Minimum depths from the manufacturer: Bow= 20", Centre= 13.5", Stern= 17"
- No hardline transitions in the hull of the boat. Curve of chine must be equal to at least the radius of a softball.
- Maximum tumblehome of 2" per side.

Voyageur Class Specifications (6 or more paddlers)

The voyageur canoe class celebrates First Nations and Canadian heritage. Teams of 6 or more are allowed based on the following specifications.

All canoes in this class must be paddled with the use of single bladed canoe paddles only.

- Overall length allowed: 24 – 42'
- Minimum widths measured at the 6" waterline (for boats of lengths below):
- Boat length: 24-28' 6" waterline width: 36.25"
- Boat length: 28-34' 6" waterline width: 44"
- Boat length: 34-42' 6" waterline width: 48"
- Minimum depth at gunnels: 18"