

To be read in conjunction with the:

2015 Victorian Schools and Junior Whitewater Championships Program

2015 Victorian Schools and Junior Whitewater Entry Form

The program for the Victorian Schools and Junior Whitewater Championships is subject to change at the organiser's discretion. Any changes made will be announced at the briefings. All competitors and officials should attend the scheduled briefings and consult the program posted in the marshalling area (Saturday) and compiling area (Sunday).

KEY DATES AND TIMES

Friday 28 August	Entries close	
Friday 4 September		Athlete age census date – your age today is your age group for the championships
	12pm	Start lists for wildwater/downriver and slalom races issued*
Saturday 5 September	Wildwater/Downriver race	
	9am	Safety briefing at Jumping Creek Reserve
	9.30am	Race start
	12pm	Construction of slalom course (at Warrandyte)
	1pm	Presentation
	1.30pm	Slalom demonstration runs
	2.15pm	Course open to junior competitors for one continuous practice run
	3pm	Slalom course closed to competitors
Sunday 6 September	Slalom race	
	8.30am	Safety and volunteer officials briefing
	9am	Race start
	2.30pm	Teams runs
	3pm	Course dismantling
	4pm	Presentation

*The start lists will be issued at 12 noon, Friday 4 September 2015. The start lists will be correct and final. Changes to an athlete's entry after 12 noon, Friday 2015 may result in that athlete not being eligible for points in consideration of either individual or school awards.

LOCATION

The races will be held on the Yarra River at Warrandyte.

- Downriver: Jumping Creek Melways 24A10
- Slalom: Warrandyte Bridge: Melways 23F11

Guidelines and information

GENERAL

1. The event will be conducted with regard to the International Canoe Federation (ICF) *Wildwater Canoeing Competition Rules 2015* and ICF *Canoe Slalom Competition Rules 2015*. A copy of the ICF rules will be available at compiling
2. Athletes competing in 14 years and younger may have one non-stop practice run on the course at the advertised time. These athletes constitute the junior age class.
3. Athletes in all classes must make a reasonable attempt to negotiate 50 per cent of the gates in the set course in order to have a time recorded.

ENTRIES

4. Paddlers may enter in two slalom classes and one down river class.
5. Each paddler must complete an entry form.
6. Fees:
 - a. Members of Australian Canoeing/Canoeing Victoria: · \$12.50 per class, or \$30 for the championships (limit of 2 slalom classes and 1 downriver class).
 - b. Non-members: as above plus \$5 per non-member for the whole event.
7. No entry will be accepted unless the correct fees have been paid.
8. Entries close Friday 28 August 2015 at 5:00pm. This will allow start lists for the various events to be compiled. The events start lists will be issued at 12 noon, Friday 4 September 2015. The start lists will be correct and final.
9. Changes to an entry after 12 noon, Friday 2015 may result in that athlete not being eligible for points in consideration of either individual or school awards.
10. Entry for this event can be either email or post.
 - c. Information and entry forms will be available via the Canoeing Victoria web site.
 - d. Payment will be accepted via direct funds transfer or by cheque posted to the Treasurer.
 - e. Entries are to be on the 2015 Victorian Schools Whitewater Championships Entry Form and sent to:
Chris Wharton
Treasurer – Victorian Slalom Technical Committee
66 Rathmullen Qdt, Doncaster, Vic, 3108
or optimal@mira.net
11. Entries post-marked/time-stamped such that they would be expected to have arrived by the closing time will be considered.
12. Direct fund transfer details:
Commonwealth Bank BSB 063142
Account 10107801
Victorian Slalom Account
Please ensure you include on your notes accompanying the BSB transfer your name and AC number to allow us to match the deposit to the entry.
13. Age classification will be taken on 4 September 2015.
14. Entry fees will be refunded for withdrawals before 28 August 2015. After 28 August 2015 - there will be no refunds.
15. Nomination of Event.

Guidelines and information

- a. All competitors will be eligible for consideration of overall individual championship points (pending Section 15d).
 - b. The age group a competitor is based on their age as recorded in the Australian Canoeing (AC) database. Should a competitor wish to compete in a different age group (other than as per the AC record) then provided the competitor satisfies the age criteria for the class or is younger the change will be made by compiling.
 - c. The competitor may indicate on their entry any request to change age groups and, unless otherwise specified by the paddler, this change will be assumed to apply to ANY and ALL entries made for this competition.
 - d. Should the competitor wish to amend any nominated events (including age) post closing of the entry period that athlete may not be eligible for points in consideration of either individual or school awards.
16. Paddlers must nominate their intention to enter a team event at the time of entry. Nominative team entry details (i.e., the names of the Athletes in each team) must be provided, in writing, to compiling by 9am Sunday 6 September 2015.
17. Constitution of a Class
- a. For a class to be contested there must be a minimum of three entries (by 12 noon 4 September 2015) and two starters (on race day).
 - b. The only exception to this will be in Open Class, where less than three entries still constitutes a class.
 - c. If there is not a constituted class, athletes will be moved up to the next available age group.
 - d. Competitors 14 years and under will not be 'rolled up' in to senior age groups (15 years and over).
18. Championship Medals
- a. Medals will be awarded for First, Second and Third Place based on the best result of the two runs.
 - b. Medals are only awarded for constituted classes.
19. Club membership or competitor declaration
- a. Entries must be accompanied by evidence of club membership for all athletes otherwise the Competitor Declaration Form (Form 3 of 3) in the 2015 Victorian Schools Whitewater Championships Entry Form must be submitted with the entry.
 - b. The point of truth for assessing current membership of an athlete to Australian Canoeing will be either the most recent competitor list provided by Canoeing Victoria to the Event Organiser prior to the closing date for entries or confirmation from Club Secretaries.
 - c. Competitors from other States or Countries need to be able to provide current (valid) Membership Cards for AC or their relevant National body.

LATE ENTRIES AND ALTERATIONS TO ENTRIES

20. Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the organiser and only if there is room in the program.
21. A surcharge for late entries of \$10 per paddler for EACH event for which a late entry is lodged.

Guidelines and information

22. Lodgement of an entry or changes to an athlete's entry after 12 noon, Friday 2015 will attract the surcharge noted above. It may also result in that athlete not being eligible for points in consideration of either individual or school awards
23. Paddlers may enter in two slalom classes and one down river class

AGE GROUPS AND CLASSES

24. For individual events, in both downriver and slalom disciplines competitors are offered the following age groups and classes:
 - a. Boys and girls K1 in each year from 10 years (and under) to 18 years (and over).
 - b. Boys and girls C1 and C2, and mixed C2: 12 years and under; 14 years and under; 16 years and under; 17 years and over.
25. Where there are insufficient entries in a class, paddlers will be placed in the next highest age class. Juniors will not be moved into the senior age group.
26. Team events
 - a. Teams will comprise three boats from any class.
 - b. Boys and girls teams will be junior teams (14 years and under) or senior teams (15 years and over). Mixed gender teams will be treated as a boys team.
 - c. A school may enter one senior team (15 years and over) and one junior team (14 years and below).
 - d. Paddlers may only participate in one team event

BOAT AND GEAR CONTROL (SCRUTINEERING)

27. Competitors are expected to undertake self-scrutineering at all events.
28. All craft must comply with the requirements outlined in the relevant ICF Rules and may be scrutinized for dimensions, and weight.
 - a. Down river competitors must ensure that their boat, paddles and accessories meet either ICF Slalom Competition Rules 2015 – Section 7 or ICF Wildwater Competition Rules 2015 – Section 7 (or as directed by the organisers). Boats will be checked at the start of the downriver race.
 - b. Slalom competitors must ensure that their boat, paddles and accessories meet the ICF Slalom Competition Rules 2015 – Section 7 (or as directed by the Organisers). Competitors may be randomly selected for scrutineering following a run.
29. Athletes' boats, buoyancy vests (personal flotation devices), helmets must meet the appropriate safety measures.
 - a. Competitors must ensure that their down river boats comply with the ICF Wildwater Competition Rules 2015 – Section 18. Competitors will not be able to start if handholds are inadequate or there is insufficient buoyancy.
 - b. Competitors must also ensure that their slalom boats comply with the ICF Slalom Competition Rules 2015 – Section 19. Competitors will not be able to start if handholds are inadequate or there is insufficient buoyancy.
 - c. Personal flotation devices (PFDs) and helmets must be worn by all competitors. At a minimum competitors' PFDs must meet Victorian legal requirements - equivalent to PFD Type 2 and helmets should comply with the CE 1385 standard. Compliance with ICF Slalom Competition Rules 2015 – Section 19 is preferred.

Guidelines and information

- d. Victorian legal requirements – PFD Type 2. That is, Australian Standard (AS) 1499—1996 “Personal flotation devices—Type 2”; or AS 4758.1—2008 “Personal flotation devices—Part 1: General requirements” relating to Level 50 PFDs; or International Standard ISO 12402-5:2006(E) “Personal flotation devices—Part 5: Buoyancy aids (level 50)—Safety requirements”.
30. All craft must be fully decked. C2 open or semi decked craft are not permitted.
31. Team managers must ensure that boat sharing does not hold up the program. This will avoid the disappointment of not being able to start. Athletes not at the start line in bib order number/per the start list may not be permitted to start.

RACE INSTRUCTIONS

32. Paddlers must wear correct body numbers. The C2 front paddler wears the number.
33. At the start please enter the water upstream of the start bay.
34. Start intervals will be 60 seconds for both downriver and slalom
35. Paddlers’ time will begin at the official start time. Late downriver competitors can be started but will have the time penalty added. Late slalom paddlers will only be allowed to start at the discretion of the starter.
36. Any competitor being overtaken by another competitor shall allow the overtaking craft free passage. Judges may order a paddler to the side to allow passing. Downriver paddlers must give assistance to any paddlers in difficulties.
37. The slalom will be run with a 2 second penalty for a touch and 50 second penalty for a missed or incorrectly negotiated gate.
38. For the individual slalom, the better of two runs will count. The team event will consist of one run only
39. There is no modified course for C2’s in slalom.
40. Paddlers in slalom must attempt 50% of all gates to register a score.
41. Upon finishing EXIT THE RIVER DOWNSTREAM OF THE FINISH LINE. DO NOT RE-CROSS THE FINISH LINE. Please take boats out well below the finish at all times.
42. For judging and timing matters a school team manager may make an enquiry of the chief judge. The chief judge will review all the available information for the processing of the enquiry. Following the investigation of the enquiry the decision of the Chief Judge becomes a matter of fact and therefore cannot be protested further. An enquiry is considered only when submitted within 10 minutes after the official results are posted.
43. All protests must be made to the chief judge by the team manager, or in the case of an individual competitor, the appropriate coach - not directly by the paddler. Protests must be in writing.
44. Information and scores will be posted as soon as possible. Please do not wait for results outside the compiling area.
45. Competitors entering the compiling area or discussing competition issues with officials risk disqualification.
46. At the end of all your runs, bibs MUST be returned to the collection area. Any bibs not returned at the end of the competition will be deemed “lost” and will incur a \$100 fee.

GENERAL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

47. All boats must meet the requirements noted above.
48. All participants must:
 - a. · be able to capsize and exit a boat effectively in cold water.
 - b. · be able to swim 50 metres.
 - c. · wear suitable personal flotation devices and helmets.
 - d. · attend the briefing session on the day of competition.
 - e. · wear suitable footwear
49. Although it may be cloudy, prolonged exposure to the sun is not healthy especially when you are close to the water. Where possible wear long sleeve clothing when paddling and apply sun screen. Use shade from trees, umbrellas or tents when off the water.
50. In the event of a capsize, exit craft, swim to the upstream end of the craft, keep feet up and swim to the most suitable bank. Please observe instructions given by rescue boats.
51. At the end of the course, competitors must remain on the water ready to rescue, until the next two competitors finish.

DOWNRIVER RACE INFORMATION

52. The downriver race will be held as noted on the program.
53. Downriver racing is timed over a fixed length of river with several rapids (of a low level of difficulty) to be negotiated.
54. Canoeists with little expertise can undertake the race (such as those who have undertaken canoeing at school camps or scout/guide groups).
55. The racecourse is approximately 3km of flowing grade 1-2 standard rapids from Jumping Creek to Warrandyte Bridge.
56. For safety there will be paddlers stationed at major points along the course.
57. A competitor overtaken by another competitor shall allow the overtaking boat free passage. The overtaking competitor should shout "FREE" (per ICF Wildwater Canoeing Competition Rules 2015 Section 26).
58. It is required that any competitor finding another in difficulty, must ensure that the competitor is ok and must immediately render rescue assistance if required. Failing to stop may result in disqualification.
59. Course practice
 - a. It is strongly recommended that all schools participating in the downriver event practice the race course ahead of time.
 - b. Please remember river hazards are ever changing.
 - c. It is a good plan to run the course with your group at least a week before the race.

SLALOM RACING INFORMATION

60. The slalom race will be held as noted in the program at Warrandyte Bridge on easy flowing grade 1-2 standard rapids.

Guidelines and information

61. Slalom racing is a timed run from start to finish while negotiating 18-20 gates over an approximately 250m long course.
62. The gates are set in both downstream and upstream directions and time is added for gate touches (2 seconds) and missed gates (50 seconds).
63. There will be two runs for each competitor in their individual class.
64. Each team will have one run in the team events.

COURSE CONSTRUCTION AND JUNIOR PRACTICE

65. The course will be erected on Saturday directly after the downriver event.
66. Schools will be allocated responsibility for erecting specific parts of the course.
67. Following completion of the course setting, all junior slalom paddlers (14 years and under) will be allowed one full practice run down the course. The course will be closed as noted in the program.
68. Teams/schools will be required to provide their own on-river safety during the practice period.

TROPHIES

69. Medals will be awarded to the first three place getters in each constituted class for the downriver and slalom events.
70. Individual points are awarded to the top 10 places in each class as follows: 1st – 20; 2nd – 15, 3rd – 11, 4th – 8, 5th – 6, 6th – 4 7th – 2, and one point for position 8-10
71. Individual Awards:
 - a. At the conclusion of a class, all competitors are ranked either Junior or Senior. Points are awarded based on this ranking to identify the outstanding overall junior and senior competitors.
 - b. Senior is 15 years and over. Juniors are 14 years and under
 - c. Five awards are presented to individual paddlers on the basis of points scored for the school and individual results in both downriver and slalom events.
 - d. These are:
 - Award for the most Outstanding Overall Senior Male Competitor
 - Award for the Most Outstanding Overall Senior Female competitor
 - Award for the Most Outstanding Overall Junior Male competitor
 - Award for the Most Outstanding Overall Junior Female competitor
 - Jackie Handley Memorial Award - Best C1W competitor
72. Perpetual School Trophies
 - a. Six perpetual trophies will be awarded to schools.
 - b. The trophies are:
 - Awarded to the boys' team with the most points
 - Awarded to the girls' team with the most points
 - Awarded to the school with the most points with 31+ paddlers
 - Danielle Woodward Trophy awarded to the school with the most points with 10 to 30 paddlers
 - Boldiston Trophy awarded to the highest scoring school with less than 10 paddlers
 - Canoes Plus Schools Elite Slalom Trophy awarded to the school with the highest average points per slalom paddler