

Event Guide

TITLE:	2019 Wildwater National Championships
AREA:	Sports Services
RESPONSIBILITY:	Sports Services Coordinator
RELATED POLICIES:	ICF Wildwater Rules Competition Policy
DRAFTED BY:	Sports Services Coordinator
DATE APPROVED:	6 th November 2018
APPROVED BY:	Paddle Australia
NEXT REVIEW:	September 2019

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

1.	<p>The 2019 Wildwater National Championships are organised by Paddle Tasmania in partnership with Paddle Australia (PA).</p> <p>This event could not take place without the support of our sponsors, and volunteers. The event is supported by Hyrdo Tasmania, Tasmanian State Government, Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Services and the Tasmanian Institute of Sport.</p>
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OBJECTIVE

2.	To acknowledge the best performing athletes in individual, pairs and team events in all age categories.
3.	Encourage friendship and fostering competition on a National level.
4.	To promote healthy competition between individual athletes.
5.	Providing an environment where athletes can perform to the best of their abilities, be that at the elite, Masters, Junior or Development level.

PRINCIPLE

6.	PA is responsible for the conduct of the event.
7.	Safety is a priority and the event will be conducted in accordance with the 2019 Wildwater National Championships event risk management plan.
8.	The event will be conducted in the spirit of fun, good sportsmanship and friendship.

EVENT INFORMATION

9.	<p>Event: 2019 Wildwater National Championships Venue: Mersey River, Tasmania Date: 3rd – 6th January 2019 Contact: wildwater@paddle.org.au</p>
10..	<p>Race contacts Race Director – John Borojevic 0423 970 613 john.borojevic@gmail.com Assistant Race Director – Matt Dalziel 0408 984 191 Awards Coordinator – TBA Entries Compiling – John Borojevic Site Organiser – Russell Horton – 0400 255 946 Chief Judge – Matt Dalziel 0408 984 191 Safety/Rescue Coordinator – Brice Cameron – 0497 264 926 Race Co-ordinator - TBA</p>

COMPETITORS AND OFFICIALS BRIEFINGS

11.	The Team Leaders Briefing will provide information specific to the event as well as general information about social events, weather advisories and housekeeping matters.
12.	There will be a Volunteer Briefing each morning at the Slalom Course.
13.	Officials/Volunteers will need to be in place and ready to start 20 minutes before the event is scheduled to start.

RULES

14.	All participants are required to abide by the PA safety regulations for the competition. Competitors must be able to swim and competently paddle grade 3 water.
15.	The event shall be conducted under the International Canoe Federations Wildwater Canoeing 2017 (www.paddle.org.au) unless specifically stated otherwise in this document.
16.	For the Classic Race each competitor and Team will have one run only. For the Rapid Sprint Race each competitor or pair will be allowed two runs with their fastest run to count. For the Rapid Sprint Teams – if held – each Team will have one run only.
17.	A competitor may only compete in one individual class in each of the Classic and Rapid Sprint Races, and in one Class for each of the Classic Teams race or Rapid Sprint Teams Race.
18.	Individual Kayak and Canoe National Champions for both the Classic and Rapid Sprint Races will be determined by the result of each of these races.
19.	The Organisers reserve the right to alter the start order to fastest to slowest, or if reverse seeded (slowest to fastest), to allow greater than one minute between competitor starts to reduce overtaking and make the Event run more smoothly.
20.	No allowances for boat sharing will be made within a class. Boat sharing needs to be organised by the individual or manager to ensure the program is not held up. This will avoid the disappointment of not being able to start. This can be achieved by substituting a paddler in the finish pool to meet the individual paddlers water safety obligations at the finish line Athletes not at the start line at the designated start time will not be permitted to start.

SAFETY

21.	The organising committee has a documented Risk Management Plan.
22.	The organising committee reserves the right to suspend or cancel the event on days where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the fire danger is predicted to be extreme, • high winds make tree/branch falls a significant hazard, • high temperatures pose a serious risk to athlete's or official's wellbeing, • high rainfalls make officiating safely difficult, • flood/high water flow conditions make race conditions unsafe, or • lack of/inadequate water release due to Hydro Tasmania electricity generation requirements. Where possible 24 hours' notice will be given at the preceding Morning Briefing. Each Team Manager is responsible for ensuring this information is disseminated to the athletes.
23.	All athletes must be competent at capsize drill and self-rescue.
24.	Individuals, Clubs and State teams are responsible for safety of their group during training sessions.
25.	Rescue will be on duty at all times during the competition in appropriate positions – but as a 5km long grade 3 wild water river rescue will not be at all significant rapids, hence to requirement at point 16 above. .
26.	Athletes must stay on the water at completion of their run until the next three athletes have finished and must contribute to rescue of fellow athletes and their equipment if required, but without endangering themselves.

27.	First Aid, if required, will be provided by a qualified First Aid volunteer. Competitors and supporters should take responsibility and provide for their own minor/incidental first aid requirements (blisters, minor cuts and bruises, sunburn, etc.)
28.	All Wildwater Racing Boats must have inflated airbags front and rear: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K1: 30 litres front, 50 litres rear • C1: 40 litres front, 50 litres rear • C2: 60 litres front, 60 litres rear In addition, the race organising committee, chief Judge and chief scrutineer reserve the right to make a direction that airbags are placed in other classes of boats (e.g. slalom boats, creek boats) of competitors who are at risk of capsizing. This direction takes into account the risk to water safety personal and the measures required to be undertaken to assist an athlete to the riverbank and retrieval of a capsized boat.

AGE CATEGORIES

29.	The 2019 Wildwater National Championships competition age grouping classification is taken from age at 31 December 2019.	
30.	The recommended minimum age for entry is 13 years of age. Entry for children under 13 years will be considered if accompanied by written documentation from their coach indicating individual's competence on the event course. The final decision will be at the discretion of Paddle Australia, Paddle Tasmania and Nationals Chief Judge.	
31.	Age Categories for National Championships	
	Senior	Born in or before 1995
	Under 23	Born in 1996 to 2000
	Under 18	Born in 2001 or 2002
	Under 16	Born in 2003 or 2004
	Under 14	Born in or after 2005
	35 – 44	Born in 1975 to 1984
	45 – 54	Born in 1965 to 1974
	55 – 64	Born in 1955 to 1964
	65 – 74	Born in 1945 to 1954
75+	Born in or before 1944	

ENTRIES

32.	Entries for this event are as follows: \$75 for all competitors Entries close on 16th December 2018.
33.	Classes Kayak: K1M & K1W Canoe: C1M & C1W Canoe Double: C2M, C2W & C2Mx
34.	Minimum of 3 entries and two starters for individual events will constitute a class.
35.	Entries must be made via the official event website using the on-line entry system. Fees need to accompany the entry.
36.	Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the organising committee and only if there is room in the program. The surcharge for late entries is \$25 per paddler.
37.	Only 50% of a nominated C2 crew may be substituted after entries are lodged.

38.	Team events must be entered via the entry system. If you are unsure on your team please enter into the pool for the event and teams can then be sorted at the competition.
39.	Nominated team entry details (i.e. the names of the Athletes in each team) must be provided, in writing, to Compiling by 6.00pm of the day preceding that teams race.
40.	There will be no refund of entry fees should it be necessary to cancel the event either prior to or during the competition as a result of factors outside the control of the event organizers.
41.	Athletes may enter only one individual or one pair event in each of the Wildwater Classic and Wildwater Rapid Sprint events,

TEAMS

42.	Teams will be traditional format – three boats of one class per team.
43.	Minimum of two entries in any team event will constitute a class.
44.	Team events will be offered in all classes in Senior, U23 and Junior.

INTERNATIONAL ATHLETES

45.	International Athletes will be permitted to enter under the same rules as Australian athletes.
46.	International athletes will receive medals based on their placing in the competition overall. Australian athletes will be presented medals for each of first, second and third place. which may mean up to 2 medals for each placing may be awarded (one National, one International for each placing).
47.	The title of Australia Champion will belong to the best-performed Australian athlete.

BIB DISTRIBUTION

48.	Bibs will be distributed to competitors or team managers/representatives where relevant at the pre-race Briefings and collected at the race completion.
49.	Bibs will not be distributed to any competitors until their entry fees have been fully paid.
50.	A \$50 fine will be applied to every lost bib.

CRAFT AND EQUIPMENT

51.	All craft must comply with the requirements outlines in the relevant ICF Rules (effective January 2017 or later ruling) and may be scrutinized for dimensions, weight, buoyancy, handholds and safety in accordance with these rules.
52.	Athletes 'buoyancy vests and helmets must comply with the relevant ICF Rules (effective January 2017 or later ruling). Competitors not nominating for a National Team may race with helmet and PFDs complying with ICF Regulations 2009. This includes equipment that is not listed on the ICF register but meets or exceeds the ICF standard.
53.	As per ICF Rules, all craft must be fully decked. C2 open or semi-decked craft are not permitted.
54.	To promote participation decked plastic craft will be permitted to complete.
55.	The event organisers reserve the right to scrutineer all craft, a random sample of craft, or only those craft associated with event placing.

56.	Self-scrutineering facilities will be available at the course.
57.	All Wildwater Racing boats are required to have inflated airbags– see Item 21 above for minimum requirements. The race organising committee, Chief Judge, and Chief Scrutineer reserve the right to make a direction that airbags are placed into non-Wildwater Racing boats of competitors who are at risk of capsizing. This direction takes into account the risk to water safety personal and the measures required to be undertaken to assist an athlete to the riverbank and retrieval of a capsized boat. This direction takes into account the measures required to be undertaken by on-water safety personnel assisting athlete to the riverbank and retrieval of a capsized boat.

SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

58.	Results, updated start lists, and news stories will be published on the PA website www.wildwater.paddle.org.au . Final start lists and provisional and then final results are posted at the venue once they have been certified by the Chief Official.
59.	The 2019 Wildwater National Championships will consist of one (1) Classic individual and team race, two (2) Individual Rapid sprints of which the fastest run counts, and One Rapid Sprint Team Race at the discretion of the organisers

TRAINING / WARM UP

60.	Training on the course will be available at set training times as published in the program. These will be posted on the Event website/Facebook page and are to be at the competitor's own risk. Individuals are responsible for on and off water safety and first aid outside of official competition/race time.
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MEDALS/TROPHIES/CLUB POINTS

61.	Medals will be awards as per PA Competition Policy clause 8.
62.	Where there is an equal result, both parties will be given equal award. A count back system will not be implemented thus where equal 1st placing occurs; no silver medal will be awarded.

STATE TEAM

63.	Athletes can only accrue points for the State Team in their nominated class.
64.	Each athlete can only be nominated in one class for the State Team.

ASADA

65.	Drug testing maybe carried out during the regatta by representatives from the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Agency (ASADA). Competitors are required to cooperate fully with their requests. Any competitor unsure of their obligations should seek clarification from the Chief Official. For further information, please check the ASADA website at www.asada.gov.au
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UNSPORTING BEHAVIOUR

66.	PA staff, officials and volunteers use their 'best endeavours' to ensure the fair and professional conduct of PA sanctioned competitions. Behaviour detrimental to the
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	<p>good order and conduct of the competition or which is disrespectful to officials, volunteers, other competitors and spectators is not condoned and may result in athletes and / or team officials being sanctioned, disciplined and / or disqualified. Further, any competitor who acts in a manner unbecoming of a member of PA or brings PA or the sport of canoeing into disrepute may be further subject to PA disciplinary proceedings.</p>
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VOLUNTEERS

67.	<p><u>Please remember that all officials and helpers, both accredited and non-accredited are working as volunteers at the event. Please treat them with respect and courtesy. Should you have a suggestion for improvement of the regatta process, officiating or conduct of the event, please lodge it in writing to the Chief Official at the Secretariat desk.</u></p>
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CAMPING

68.	<p>A commercial campground is available at Mole Creek along with cabin, motel and B&B options. Accommodation options may also be found near Gowrie Park, Roland, Staverton and Sheffield.</p> <p>There are several un-serviced campsites within the Mersey Regional Reserve including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • beside Lake Parangana 5kms north of the race site (note; this can be heavily used by fishers at times), • at the Berlin Wall (1km above the slalom site) and • on the eastern side of the river at the Berlin Wall (access from above Rowallan Bridge). • beside the Mersey River below Parangana Dam (Oliver's Rd, C138, 10km north of Parangana) in the Mole Creek Karst National Park. <p>NOTE: Arm River Camp is reserved for Officials and their families only.</p>
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DOGS AND OTHER DOMESTIC PETS

69.	<p>In accordance with Parks and Wildlife Tasmania regulations, Dogs and other domestic pets are prohibited from the Mersey Forest Regional Reserve. They cannot be in the reserve even on a lease or in a car although may travel in a car on the road through the reserve. Please respect this regulation to assist Paddle Tasmania maintain its strong relationship with Parks Tasmania.</p>
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ABOVE ALL THE EVENT IS THERE FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION. PLEASE ENJOY THE OPPORTUNITY AND EXPERIENCE AND AS OFFICIALS, WE WISH GOOD LUCK AND A GOOD COMPETITION FOR ALL COMPETITORS.