

***** Captains forward newsletters to all team members *****



Newsletter # 2(Final)

Hello Odyssey One Day Competitors,

We are excited to be just days away from the Odyssey One Day Adventure Race. We hope everyone's training and final preparations have gone well.

We have had to make changes to the race course due to rare ground nesting birds that the US Forest Service found last week in the areas we were using for our race. With the changes the biking will be 50-60 miles, trekking 15-20, and paddling 15-19 miles with over 30,000 ft of elevation gain and loss. We still feel that we have a beautiful and challenging race course laid out for you. Be prepared to race 24-28 hours non stop!

Stated earlier in the first newsletter, teams/soloist would be able to go back to their vehicles during the race to resupply. That is NOT the case with the changes to the race course. You will have to carry all your gear and be responsible for your food and water for the entire race.

Teams/soloist will paddle a canoe with your bikes in the boat. Be sure to bring something to strap down your bikes in case you go for an unexpected swim.

This year we are going to more of a Rogaine style ranking system. All teams/soloists that cross the finish line before the official race finish will be ranked officially by how many checkpoints (mandatory then optional) they acquire. There will be different cut-off times built into the race, which teams/soloists will need to make to stay on the Full course. I will discuss this more at the race brief.

Here are some questions that have been asked that may help everyone's planning:

Q. Will the race be starting before midnight between Friday/Saturday nights?

A. The race will not be starting before midnight, but all team members will need to be at the race brief Friday night. The race is scheduled to start between 4-6 am.

Q. What kind of lodging is suggested for Friday night (camping, cabins, hotels, etc.)?

A. There is camping available but you will need to call [Wilderness Adventure at Eagle Landing](#) to reserve a spot. The closest hotels are 30 mins away.

Q. Is the official race finish a hard cutoff (sometime between 6-10am), or is there a chance that the course might go long and we could finish after noon on Sunday?

A. There will be cutoff times during the race to allow teams/soloist to make the finish before 10 am. 10 am is not the official finishing time but the race will be over by then. Official race finish will be given at race brief.

Q. In the checklist for the boating section it says we must have a 2-3 foot runner with a carabiner. Is the runner just a rope with holes at each end or something more specific?

A. What we are asking for is something to be able to tie your gear or pack into the canoe in case of an unexpected swim. Be sure to bring straps or rope to tie your bikes in the canoes.

Q. Do most teams have a dry bag large enough to just toss their whole pack in for the canoeing section?

A. Some teams use this approach. That is up to the team/soloist. Teams/soloist will have to carry the dry bag the entire race.

Q. It says Iodine tablets are required but can we just use chlorine instead?

A. Some means of water purification is required. Each team/soloist will be responsible for their water out on the course.

Q. I know you do not want to give the race start away but should we go ahead and make reservations to camp Friday night or at least be prepared to pop a tent up and pay for a site? Is this place large where they will not run out of spots or is that highly likely they could?

A. The race brief will be finished by 9:00pm and the race could start at 4:00 am. I would call ahead to see if they have room available for camping.

Q. Did I read correctly by understanding that if we come back through the starting area and we need something out of our car we are able to go grab it during the race?

A. This will NOT be the case with the changes to the race course.

Q. I understand that bikes and bike gear will be staged during the event. Will we need to provide bags or something to put helmets, shoes, etc. in so that team gear stays together?

Also, can you stage socks and bike gloves with the bike equipment?

A. You will not have to put your gear in a bag when you are not on your bike. I will talk more about this during the race brief, if there are any questions about this after reading the Rules of Travel.

Q. Will the paddling section be staged as well, or will we need to carry the dry bag, runner with biner, and throw bag throughout the entire event? If they will be staged, same question as above – do we need to provide bags to keep team gear together?

A. Team/soloist will have to carry all of the gear on the gear list the entire race. PFD, canoes and single bladed paddles will be provided at the river put in. If teams/soloist choose to use their personal paddles, they will have to carry them the entire race.

Q. Is the required synthetic top the one you wear during the race, or in addition to the one you wear during the race?

A. The one you will be wearing is fine.

Q. If you have new batteries that will meet the minimum requirements for headlamps and bike lights, do you still need to carry extra batteries for each light? And for each team member?

A. Yes, you will have to carry extra batteries for each light.

Save trees! There are still some teams that need all members to complete the online forms at <http://www.oarevents.com/events/2009/OneDayAR.shtml>. Teams will be able to fill out forms until 3:00am EST, Wednesday, July 22. We will have the forms at the race. If you complete them ALL online it will significantly speed up check in for your team, you will get your maps sooner. Two forms will need to be completed at check in that are not available online.

If you are a USARA member, be sure to bring your up to date card or some proof of your membership and ID. Current members without tangible proof in hand must purchase single event coverage. If you are not a member, you will be able to complete a membership form at the race for \$8 for a single event or \$35 for a year. We will accept cash OR checks (made out to USARA) only. Sorry, no credit cards.

There will be an outdoor expo and open house to all of Wilderness Adventure activities the whole weekend. So bring your family and friends along. The weekend event schedule will be posted on our website.

Camping is also available for \$15 per person and will include the use of the bathhouse and Wi-Fi. Contact Wilderness Adventure at Eagle Landing for lodging: 800-782-0779

The schedule is as listed:

July 24 – Friday

5:00pm - 7:30pm Registration (follow event signs) at the pavilion at Eagle Landing

8:00pm Race Brief at the pavilion at Eagle Landing

July 25- Saturday

4-6 AM Official Race Start

July 26 – Sunday

6-10 AM Official Race Finish

The gear list on the website is the required gear list. It has been updated.

<http://www.oarevents.com/events/2009/OneDayAR.shtml>. Teams must have everything that is specifically on the list to be able to race. The closest outdoor gear store is a half an hour away. There will be gear checks on the race course.

You can go to the website to look at all the prizes we have to offer at the Odyssey One Day <http://www.oarevents.com/events/2009/OneDayAR.shtml>. We are excited to be part of the Checkpoint Tracker AR Point Series. The premier division will earn valuable points toward the CT Series. All teams/soloists that finish will get prize. There will be a breakfast race meal on Sunday morning at the finish line.

We can never have too many volunteers. If you've have any friends, family or unwitting neighbors that might like to come out and cheer you on firsthand, bring them along! Volunteers may help for ANY length of time. They may gift their volunteer credit to you OR earn credit towards an event of their own. The current "exchange rate" is 4 days of volunteering for a free day of racing contact Susanna volunteer@OAREvents.com.

We will be leaving for the event on Thursday, July 23. If you have any questions or need to contact us, please do so before this time.

On behalf of my extremely hard working staff and myself, I want to wish everyone safe travels to the event and the best of luck on the race course. We look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones.

Ronny Angell
Race Director/President/Owner
Odyssey Adventure Racing