

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



Competitor Newsletter

Hello Odyssey Sprint Adventure Race Competitors,

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

The course we have laid out will be fun and challenging. I'm sure for some of you this is your very first adventure race and you don't know what to expect. No need to worry, you are in good hands. The course is challenging, but doable. The challenging part will be the terrain not the skill set. The course is in the mountains so there will be some up and down throughout the race and the paddling should be very non technical and flat.

The first part of the race begins with making sure all of your forms are filled out (Fill your forms out online and it will help speed up the process – links below). Then you will check in at the registration table. After that you will get your race numbers, t-shirts, your maps, Rules of Travel and Passport. The Rules of Travel is a document that describes what you are doing and which way you are going. The Passport is a piece of paper that will need to be signed or punched at each Checkpoint (CP) throughout the race course.

There will be a master map that will have the checkpoints already plotted. Teams will copy the points onto their maps. The time in between completing check-in and the race brief will give you the opportunity to study the maps for distances and estimate times for your food and water planning purposes. There will be a transition area for you to leave gear, food and water before or after the race brief.

The race brief will be a time to gather any last minute information about the course. After the Race Brief the next thing is... **GET READY TO RACE!!!!**

We are using to more of a [Rogaine](#) style ranking system. Teams/soloist will have to get all the mandatory checkpoints in sequence order, unless specified differently. All teams/soloists that cross the finish line before the official race finish, which is 6:00 pm on Saturday, 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.

There will be an outdoor expo and open house to experience 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.

Save trees! There are still some teams that need all members to complete the online forms at <http://www.oarevents.com/events/2009/OdysseySprint.shtml>. You 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.

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 25 — Saturday

8:30am - 10:30am Registration (follow event signs) at the pavilion at Eagle Landing

11:00am Race Brief at the pavilion at Eagle Landing (Come ready to race)

12:00pm Official Race Start

6:00pm Official Race Finish

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

You can go to the website to look at the prizes we have to offer at the Odyssey Sprint <http://www.oarevents.com/events/2009/OdysseySprint.shtml>. All teams/soloists that finish will get a prize. There will be a BBQ post race meal from 5:30pm – 8:30pm on Saturday at the finish line. There may even be a band.

We can never have too many volunteers. If you've have friends, family or unwitting neighbors that might like to come out and cheer you on firsthand, bring them along! ...or you may feel free to stick around after racing (and a shower and nap of course!) to help. 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