

TIME TRIALS FOR MARATHON STARTING POSITION

Thursday July 23rd 4-9 p.m. and Friday July 24th 2-5:45 p.m.

Sponsored by Kirtland Community College

At Penrod's Canoe Livery, Grayling

Marathon teams paddle a looped course to determine Marathon starting positions for Saturday nights LeMans start and order for Saturday's canoe inspection (Fastest = best line up and first inspected) One canoe will be released onto the course at designated intervals. Be sure to select your preferred Time Trial start time on the entry form. **Note:** You do not have to use your Marathon canoe in the time trials; however all canoes must meet specifications and may be measured prior to the time trial. An official measuring of your Marathon canoe is available Thursday and Friday afternoon at the time trials. **ALL** canoes must still pass the official inspection on Saturday.

The time trial course will be closed to ALL competitors during the Time Trials except those paddling their designated time. *Teams which fail to participate in the Time Trials will be penalized for their Marathon starting position.*

Violations will be subject to a 2 minute Time Trial penalty. Time trial course buoys will be set at least two hours before the event each day. Competitors wishing to look over the course are encouraged to do so at that time.

2009 Weyerhaeuser AuSable River Canoe Marathon

Time Trials for Position

Additional Rules & Information

PENROD'S CANOE LIVERY

THURSDAY, JULY 23 AND FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2009

The Time Trials determine the starting positions for the LeMans style run to the river on Saturday night. The lineup on Saturday night will be in rows of five (5) teams in order of the Time Trial results-fastest first. The Time Trials also determine the order of canoe inspection-fastest first, immediately following the Pre-Race Briefing at noon on Saturday at Citizens Bank. The Time Trials will be conducted Thursday, July 23 from 4:00 to 9:00 PM and Friday July 24 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM.

The Time Trials for Position are conducted on a predetermined looped course. Contestants are required to paddle downstream to a set buoy, where they are to execute a counter-clockwise turn around the buoy, and return upstream to the start/finish line. The canoe and both paddlers must completely turn the buoy on the downstream side. Neither the canoe, the contestants, nor any part of their body or their paddles may pass in front of or over the buoy. A representative from the Marathon Committee will observe the buoy turn for each team. Unintentional failure to successfully complete the buoy turn will result in the assessment of a thirty (30) second penalty which will be added to the team's Time Trial time. Intentional failure to successfully complete the buoy turn will result in disqualification from the Time Trials, and the team will be placed at the back of the pack for the start of the Marathon Saturday night.

Immediately downstream of the start/finish line, in front of Penrod's cabins, are four (4) orange buoys. Contestants paddling downstream or returning upstream are required to pass all the buoys on the right. Unintentional failure to pass on the right will result in a thirty (30) second penalty added to Time Trial time for each buoy missed. Intentional failure to pass the buoys will result in disqualification from the Time Trials, and the team will be placed at the back of the pack for the start of the Marathon. If failure to stay to the right results in interference with another team, a further sanction may be imposed, and the team interfered with will be afforded the option of starting over.

Running in the river with the canoe is permitted, provided the canoe and both contestants stay in the riverbed (shoes wet) at all times. No ropes or other towing devices may be used at any time. Both contestants must be in the canoe for the last ten (10) yards of the Time Trial course to the finish line.

No contestants will be allowed on the Time Trial course between 4:00 PM and 9:00 PM Thursday, or between 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM Friday except at their designated Time Trial start time. Any team violating this rule will be subject to a two (2) minute penalty, added to their Time Trial time. The turnaround buoy will be in place at least two (2) hours prior to the start of the Time Trials both days for practice runs. Warm-up paddling will be permitted upstream of the start/finish line as long as it does not interfere with any other special events such as the Business Relays on Thursday or the Special Olympics race on Friday. Breaks have been set up during the Time Trial schedule to allow livery canoes to pass through. **No Marathon contestants are allowed on the Time Trial course during these breaks.**

Any team which is not ready to paddle at its designated time will be assessed a two (2) minute penalty, added to Time Trial time, and will be moved to the end of the day's Time Trial schedule.

The Special Olympics race will start at 4:30 PM on Friday. The Paddlers' Dinner will be held at the Ramada Inn at 6:30 PM.

Official measuring of the canoes will be available at the Time Trials on Thursday and Friday. A decal will be placed on the canoe by the Marathon Committee if the canoe meets all the required specifications outlined in the rules and entry packet. All canoes must be presented for inspection (lifejackets, flares and whistles) following the Pre-Race Briefing at noon on Saturday. The canoes will be presented Saturday in the order of Time Trial results-fastest first.

The Marathon Committee will measure the canoes of the five (5) fastest Time Trial teams (first row for the Marathon) as part of the Official Inspection process following the Pre-Race Briefing even though such canoes may have already been measured at the Time Trials on Thursday or Friday. Any team which chooses not to have their canoe measured during the Time Trials, or their canoe failed to meet all required specifications when measured at the Time Trials, must present their canoe for measuring at the Official Inspection following the Pre-Race Briefing on Saturday. The Marathon Committee reserves the right to re-measure any canoe as part of the Official Inspection on Saturday.