



69th AuSable River Canoe Marathon

July 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 2016

Presented By

Grayling to Oscoda · Michigan · USA



Official 2016 Entry Packet

The official entry list is updated on our website at www.ausablecanoemarathon.org. Please visit the site to confirm that your entry has been received and to check your **Time Trial starting time**. Many interesting stories and notices also appear on this site.

PLEASE NOTE: All participants must check-in prior to the below listed deadlines. Check-in begins on Saturday July 23, 2016 at the City Park Pavilion 9 am—1 pm during the Spike’s Challenge Race check-in. Then from Monday July 25, 2016 at the Marathon office in the Grayling Mini-Mall: Monday and Tuesday 10am to 6pm, Wednesday and Thursday 10am to 2pm and Friday 9am to 12 noon.

(A) For participants scheduled to do their Time Trial Wednesday, the check-in deadline is **Wednesday, July 27 at 2:00 p.m.**

(B) For participants scheduled to do their Time Trial Thursday, the check-in deadline is **Thursday, July 28 at 2:00 p.m.**

(C) For all other participants, the check-in deadline is **Friday, July 29 at 12:00 noon.**

(D) Contestants who fail to check in by the deadline will be assessed an additional fee of \$200 for late check-in and may be subject to an additional penalty at the discretion of the committee. **Contestants who fail to check-in by 2pm on Friday will be disqualified. Refer to Rule #2.**

(E) The mandatory race briefing will be held on Friday after the Time Trials, followed by the paddlers dinner.

(Please note that volunteers with the AuSable River Canoe Marathon typically have several assignments during race week. Your cooperation and consideration on the timeliness of your appearance for check-in, time trials, canoe inspection, and the introduction of paddlers will enable our volunteers the greatest opportunity to complete their assigned tasks.)

<u>Entry Fees:</u>	
Received by Friday July 1st	\$220
Received by Friday July 15th	\$320
Received by 12 Noon Monday July 25th	\$420
Payable in US Funds/ per team	

Consumers Energy — Presenting Sponsor

Together, Consumers Energy and the Marathon work to promote and expand the support of canoe racing, generate positive public exposure of the AuSable River Valley and increase public awareness of this unique natural resource while helping to protect it for future generations.

Entry Information

All 2016 Marathon entry applications and fees must be received by July 25th at noon. To meet the deadline, the entry application must be complete including the paddler profile, and signed by at least one contestant. Both participants must sign the entry form by their check-in deadline. Teams are required to race as indicated on their entry form. *A change of team members will require a newly completed and signed entry application and will be subject to the new entry fee, based on the new date received. Each contestant will be credited half of the original entry fee for re-entry. Please refer to Rule #1. There will be **no refund** for entry withdrawal. The Marathon committee reserves the right to reject any entry.*

An official entry application, a paddler profile form, and a copy of the preliminary race rules are enclosed with this information packet. Other information may be mailed to each participant upon receipt of the entry application by the race office. Participants/guardians will be required to sign a release and insurance forms during (mandatory) contestant check-in prior to the event. Participants are encouraged to check-in as early as possible during race week. Pre-race check-in will be available beginning Saturday July 23, 2016 at the City Park Pavilion during the Spike’s Challenge sprints.

During check-in each entrant receives paddler support items including a competitor’s shirt and tickets to Sunday’s Awards Banquet. Every paddler that finishes the course under the 19 hours will qualify for Finisher’s Prizes.

North American Marathon Racing Canoe Specifications

1. Maximum length of the hull shall be 18'6" (eighteen feet, six inches)
2. Minimum heights, measured from the 0" waterline:
15" bow – 10" center – 10" stern
The minimum-height gunwale line shall conform a continuous, smooth arch curve.
3. Minimum width:
33" on the top, at the gunwale line
27" wide at the 3" waterline or 3" draft
4. The points at which the 33" minimum top-width measurement and the 27" minimum waterline-width measurement are taken may be divided up to 14" maximum.
5. The 33" minimum top-width and the 27" minimum waterline width may be measured a maximum of 14" fore or aft of the center of the canoe.
6. The cross-section(s) of the hull at the location(s) of the 33" minimum top-width and the 27" minimum waterline-width shall have no more than 1/4" concavity between the 3" waterline and the gunwale line of the hull.
7. No concave curve(s) are allowed under the 3" waterline. The imperfections from repairs will be tolerated but will have to be very minimal to conform to the regulations.
8. All of the measurements will be verified on the exterior of the hull. Gunwales, sponsors and keels shall not be included in the measurement whether added to the hull or built into the hull.
9. Manual (non electric) foot pump may be used as a bailing device.

Marathon Safety Considerations

Safety of paddlers is a prime concern during the grueling 14-19 hour race along the 120+ mile course of the AuSable River. Beginning at 9 p.m. Saturday in Grayling with a LeMans start, the narrow twisting upper stretches are paddled in darkness. Several hours later are the backwater ponds and six hydro-electric dam portages before reaching the finish line in Oscoda between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

This race is challenging and should be attempted by only those who are conditioned, experienced paddlers. Paddlers will need a knowledge of the river, a light source for night paddling and support team to provide food and fluids. **Please make arrangements for your feeders well in advance!** The race committee is not responsible for providing feeders. **A designated support team captain, two USCG life jackets, two pea-less signaling devices are mandatory. All required equipment must be in the canoe at the official inspection on Friday or Saturday.**

Several cut-off points as outlined in the race rules have been established. (see rules) Paddlers unable to reach a given point within the allotted time will be disqualified and asked to leave the river. Safety protocols include race officials established along the race course with portable communication equipment to alert emergency personnel if necessary.

Sponsored by the Grayling Knights of Columbus MARATHON PADDLERS AND SPECIAL OLYMPIANS IT'S A MARATHON TRADITION

Sign up through the Marathon office

Awards await each Special Olympian participating with a Marathon paddler on a brief, looped river course.

**Be a part of the fun!
Friday, July 29th**



\$1,000 will be donated by the
Marathon Committee to:

Michigan Special Olympics



Let me win,
But if I cannot win
Let me be brave
In my attempt

www.ausablecanoeamarathon.org

Schedule of Events

Grayling

CONTESTANTS CHECK-IN

See "All Contestants are Required to" (on next page)

Wednesday July 27

Marathon Time Trials for Starting Position 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser

Official measuring of canoes is available during time trials

Thursday July 28

Marathon Time Trials for Starting Position 3:00-8:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser

Grayling Area Business Relay Canoe Races—Sponsored by GRA

C-1 Race—Sponsored by Springs Wood Products

Penrod's Canoe Livery

Official measuring of canoes is available during time trials

Friday July 29

Marathon Time Trials for Starting Position 2:00-4:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser

Penrod's Canoe Livery

Official measuring of canoes is available during time trials

24th Annual Special Olympics Challenge

Sponsored by Grayling Knights of Columbus

Penrod's Canoe Livery—approximately 2:45 p.m.

Special Olympic paddlers team with Marathon racers

Official Canoe Inspection and Sequestration

Grayling Middle School Gym between 2:00 and 5:00 PM

Official Marathon Pre-race Briefing

Ramada Inn of Grayling 5:30 PM Sharp

Saturday July 30

Official Canoe Inspection and Sequestration

Grayling Middle School Gym between 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon

Following events are at the Old AuSable Paddle Sports

Pre-Race Program Begins at 6:00 p.m.

Introduction of Paddlers 7:10 p.m.

AuSable River Canoe Marathon 69th Race Start 9:00 p.m.

Oscoda

Tuesday July 26

Marathon contestants and others DASH for CASH for \$5,000 Prizes

3PM check in 5PM race start Finish Line (AuSable Inn)

Friday & Saturday Nights July 29 and 30

Hospitality Tent AuSable Inn at the Marathon Finish Line

Food, Dancing & Refreshments

Sunday July 31

Pre-Finish Program at Mill Street Bridge

10:30 a.m. Entertainment, Food and Booths

AuSable River Canoe Marathon Finish

Mill Street Bridge teams arriving approximately 11:00 a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Awards Banquet—American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m.

Additional tickets available at door.

August 1

Paddler's Breakfast—AuSable Inn Oscoda, Begins at 9:00 a.m. to Noon

*North America's Richest
Marathon Canoe Race!*

Over \$50,000
Cash and Prizes

1st	\$5,000
2nd	\$3,500
3rd	\$2,500
4th	\$2,000
5th	\$1,500
6th	\$1,400
7th	\$1,300
8th	\$1,200
9th	\$1,100
10th	\$1,000
11th	\$950
12th	\$900
13th	\$850
14th	\$800
15th	\$750
16th	\$700
17th	\$650
18th	\$630
19th	\$600
20th	\$580
21st	\$550
22nd	\$530
23rd	\$500
24th	\$480
25th	\$450
26th	\$430
27th	\$400
28th	\$380
29th	\$350
30th	\$330
31st	\$320
32nd	\$310
33rd	\$300
34th	\$290
35th	\$280
36th	\$270
37th	\$260
38th	\$250
39th	\$240
40th	\$230

Finishers from 41st place will receive **Finisher Prizes only; no cash.**

Over \$8,000 in Finisher's prizes to be awarded to AuSable Marathon Finishers.

Camping facilities are available in Grayling and Oscoda areas. Motel facilities are strictly limited; reservations should be made well in advance. Contact the local Visitors Bureau for more information:

Oscoda: 1-877-8-OSCODA
www.oscoda.com

Grayling: 1-800-YES-8837
www.grayling-mi.com

All Contestants are Required to:

- Check-in at either Marathon race headquarters at Grayling Mini Mall **Monday, July 25th thru Friday July 29th at noon.** Or during the Spike's Challenge at the Grayling City Park Pavilion on **Sat. July 23rd 9 am—1 pm.** For participants sprinting on Wednesday, the check-in deadline is July 27th at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, the check-in deadline is July 28th at 2:00 p.m. For Friday Time Trial participants, the check-in deadline is July 29th at 12:00 noon.
- **Be present for the Pre-Race briefing on Friday, July 29th, 2016 at 5:30 PM Sharp at the Ramada Inn of Grayling ** Only Paddlers and their team captains will be allowed into the area.**
- Be present for the Introduction of Marathon Paddlers at 7:10pm Saturday night at the Pre-Race Program.

Teams which do not attend required events listed above are subject to a penalty.

(see Marathon Rules)

Sponsorship

Generally, competing teams are expected to recruit their own sponsors for the Marathon. A limited number of \$100 paddler sponsorships will be made available by the volunteer organizing committee to teams which are unable to solicit their own sponsor. Priority is given to out-of-state teams.

Teams should request sponsorship assistance from the committee only as a last resort and only if they have NO other sponsors. If a team requests and accepts sponsorship support that has been arranged by the organizing committee, that is to be the only sponsor(s) for the team (or the team will forfeit the sponsorship support).

Requests by qualified teams for sponsorship assistance should be made to the organizing committee in writing as soon as possible:

Attention: Racer Sponsorship A.R.I.C.M. P.O. Box 911 Grayling, MI 49738

Finding your own Sponsor

When speaking to a prospective sponsor for your team, inform them they will receive the following:

1. Sponsors listed on early registration forms (up to two) will be published in the 25,000 Spectator Guides.
2. Two sponsors for each team will be announced at the Time Trials.
3. Two sponsors for each team will be announced during the Pre-Race Program.
4. Two sponsors will also be announced at the finish line.
5. If you have secured your sponsorship, there is a vendor in Grayling that can supply you with sponsorship lettering for your canoe.

It is safe to say that tens of thousands of Marathon fans will hear or read your sponsor's name over the course of the event.

BONUS PRIZES

Mixed, Womens, Masters, Seniors, Youth, MI only team, and Newbie(1st Timer) Bonus

Bonus money will be paid to the top 3 Mixed, Womens, Master (both paddlers 40+), Seniors (both paddlers 50+) Newbie (both paddlers 1st Marathon), Youth (both paddlers under 20) teams to finish the 2016 Marathon: 1st \$250, 2nd \$150 & 3rd \$100. *Senior teams do not qualify for the Masters Bonus. **MI only team bonus sponsored by Michael Taggart.**

Leader's Bonus

Leader's bonuses totaling \$1400 have been established. Fastest team point-to-point wins \$50, also the fastest split times wins \$50 at each of the 14 official timing locations. A team is not required to complete the Marathon to be eligible for these bonuses. **Sponsored by Michael Taggart**

Break the Record Bonus

If the winning team in the Marathon breaks the current time of 13:58:08, the team will be awarded a \$1,100 bonus, to be increased annually by \$100 until broken. **Sponsored by the Jansen Insurance Agency**

TIME TRIALS FOR MARATHON STARTING POSITION

Wednesday July 27th 3-6 p.m., Thursday July 28th 3-8 p.m. and Friday July 29th 2-4:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser

At Penrod's Canoe Livery, Grayling

Marathon teams paddle a looped course to determine Marathon starting positions for Saturday night's LeMans start. 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 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons at the Time Trials. **ALL** canoes must still pass the official inspection before being sequestered.

The **Time Trial course will be closed** to ALL competitors for practice during the Time Trials. *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.

2016 AuSable River Canoe Marathon

Time Trials for Position

Additional Rules & Information

PENROD'S CANOE LIVERY

WEDNESDAY JULY 27 - FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2016

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 will be conducted **Wednesday July 27 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, Thursday July 28 from 3:00 to 8:00 PM and Friday July 29 from 2:00 to 4:30 PM.**

The Time Trials are conducted on a predetermined looped course. **Contestants are required to paddle upstream to a set buoy, where they are to execute a counter-clockwise turn around the buoy, and return downstream to the start/finish line.** The canoe and both paddlers must completely turn the buoy on the upstream 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 upstream of the start/finish line, above the State Street Bridge and canoe liveries, are eight (8) orange buoys. Contestants paddling upstream or returning downstream are required to pass all the buoys on the left. Unintentional failure to pass on the left 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 left results in interference with another team, a further sanction may be imposed, and the team interfered with will be afforded the option of re-sprinting at a time to be determined by the committee.

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 3:00 PM and 6:15 PM Wednesday, between 3:00 PM and 8:15 PM Thursday, or between 2:00 PM and 5:00 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 each day for practice runs. Warm-up paddling will be permitted downstream 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 assigned a new time to be determined by the committee.

The Special Olympics race will start at 2:45 PM on Friday.

Official measuring of the canoes will be available at the Time Trials on Wednesday, 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, and whistles) and can be sequestered in the Middle School on Friday, July 29, 2016 between 2:00 and 5:00 PM, or Saturday July 30, 2016, between 9:00 AM and 12:00 noon, or other times announced at the briefing. All canoes must in race ready condition, pass inspection and be sequestered by 12 noon on Saturday, July 30, 2016.**

The Marathon Committee will measure any canoe at random or for cause any time prior to the start of the race or at the finish line even though such canoes may have already been measured at the Time Trials on Wednesday, 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 on Saturday, **by 12 noon.** The Marathon Committee reserves the right to re-measure any canoe as part of the Official Inspection **on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.**

2016 AuSable River Canoe Marathon

Race Rules

ATTENTION MARATHON CONTESTANTS: Be sure that you carefully review the Race Rules. Also please carefully review the Time Trial For Position Rules and Information, and the Competition Committee & Infraction/Penalty Information

1. Teams are required to race as indicated on their entry form. The two contestants must continue together as a team for the duration of the race in the same canoe that they start with.

No contestant substitutions are allowed. Any changes in the team entry, prior to July 25, 2016 at noon, will require a newly completed and signed entry application and will be subject to the new entry fee, based on the date the new entry is received by the Race Committee. There will be no refund of entry fees for entry changes or for withdrawal from the race. If a team withdraws prior to the last July entry deadline (see entry form) and one of the team members enters with a new partner, a credit equal to 50% of the original entry fee will be applied to the new entry. The entry fee credit pertaining to partner changes is limited to one change per person. **No entries will be accepted after 12 noon on July 25, 2016.**

Amateur contestants may paddle in the Marathon and decline their prize money.

Minimum age to participate – 15 years of age. Contestants under 18 years of age must have written parental/guardian consent on their entry form.

2. **All contestants must check in, before their Time Trial, at the Marathon Race headquarters at the Grayling Mini Mall or Sat July 23rd at Grayling City Park Pavilion**

For teams sprinting on Wednesday or Thursday, the check in deadline is 2:00 PM on the day of their time trial. Any team in which one or both contestants fail to check in by the 2:00 PM deadline will be assessed a \$200 penalty, and granted a two hour extension up to 4:00 PM to check in at the Grayling Mini Mall. The \$200 fee must be paid at the time of check in. Such teams will be re-assigned a new Time Trial time. Any team in which one or both contestants fail to check in by the extended deadline of 4:00 PM will be disqualified from the Marathon.

All other Marathon contestants must check in by Noon Friday of race week. Any team in which one or both contestants fail to check in by the noon deadline will be assessed a \$200 penalty, and granted a two hour extension until 2:00 PM to check in at the Grayling Mini Mall. The \$200 fee must be paid at the time of check in. Such teams will be re-assigned a new Time Trial time at the end of Friday's regular Time Trial schedule. Any team in which one of both contestants fail to check in by the extended deadline of 2:00 PM will be disqualified from the Marathon.

3. Competitor canoe specifications are detailed in the entry packet. Participants may utilize either an Expert or Amateur canoe. Recreational canoes are not acceptable. Canoes used by all contestants must be commonly recognized type C-2 racing shells and must meet the official Marathon specifications.

Canoes must be presented for Official Inspection in "race ready" condition. Any canoe that does not pass inspection **by 12 NOON** at the Official Inspection the day of the Marathon will be disqualified. Canoes will also be inspected at the finish.

Official measuring of the canoes will be available at the Time Trials on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. A decal will be placed on the canoe by the Race Committee if the canoe meets all the required specifications outlined in the rules and entry packet. **All canoes must be presented for inspection (life jackets, and whistles) and sequestered in the Middle School on Friday July 29th between 2:00 and 5:00 PM or Saturday July 30th between 9:00 AM and 12 NOON or other times announced by the committee.**

The Race Committee will measure at random any canoe as part of the Official Inspection process even though such canoes may have already been measured at the Time Trials on Wednesday, 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 at the Middle School Gym on Friday or Saturday. The Race Committee reserves the right to re-measure any canoe as part of the Official Inspection on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday immediately after the team finishes the race.

Teams are required to use the canoe numbers supplied by the Race Committee during race week. The numbers will be similar in size, material and design as those used in the Marathon since the 2002 event. Teams must use a two digit number from 00 to 99 provided by the committee. (This rule may be modified if more than 100 teams enter.)

4. A single blade canoe paddle is the only means of propulsion each contestant may use.
5. **Each contestant** shall have at least one U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket and sound signaling device (pea-less type whistle) in the canoe at all times, that are easily accessible. The whistle may be either attached to the life jacket or to the contestant. Life jackets may not be taped in or otherwise permanently secured and will be inspected. Life jackets **shall be the correct size for the paddler**, not have holes in the material or holes covered with tape; properly made repairs to life jackets – stitched up rips or tears – are acceptable.

Contestants should ensure that they have all of the above required safety equipment when they present their canoe at the Official Inspection; this required safety equipment will not be available for purchase at the Official Inspection.

A GPS device will be applied to each canoe prior to the race start. These devices have replaced the Arial Flare requirement and are a mandatory safety requirement. Once the GPS has been activated by the Committee, no contestant shall intentionally turn off the GPS device. If a GPS device is intentionally turned off by a contestant or a member of his or hers team, a penalty will be applied to the contestants finish, and / or next time those persons enter the race.

6. Following the Official Inspection canoes will be sequestered in Middle School until race time. Absolutely no admittance will be permitted. Prior to the race no contestant shall touch another contestant's canoe or equipment without permission.
7. Contestants may receive food, water and extra paddles during the race. Teams must carry the canoe, at least two (2) life jackets two (2) whistles, and at least two (2) paddles through all portages. No one is allowed to help convey or advance a contestant, canoe and/or the specified equipment. Feeders may stabilize a canoe during a feed, however, a "push-off" after feeds or portages and/or aiding the forward motion of the canoe at any time is not allowed.

8. Except for the six (6) dam portages, canoes must remain in the riverbed. Leaving the riverbed to advance the canoe constitutes an illegal portage. To remain in the “riverbed”, contestants must be in the water, shoes wet. There will be race officials at unspecified points along the race course. Canoes may be removed from the river by the contestants for repairs or due to illness or injury, but must reenter the river at the point of exit. All repairs must be performed by the contestants.
9. A competing canoe shall not benefit from a non-competing watercraft by means of a tow or pull, wake riding, pacing, leading or feeding from a non-competing watercraft. In the event a competing canoe capsizes, (or incurs significant damage such a hole or bailer problem which threatens its ability to stay afloat), the contestants may receive assistance from a designated safety patrol boat or other watercraft. This activity is limited to returning the canoe to an upright position, assisting the contestants to get back into their canoe, or bringing the canoe safely to shore. Also, in the event a paddler requires medical attention the contestants may seek such assistance from a designated safety patrol boat or other watercraft. If as the result of one of these procedures the canoe has moved forward, it should be returned to the previous spot before the team continues the race.
10. Contestants are responsible for their own food and water. Each team must designate a Support Crew Captain no later than the mandatory Contestant check-in deadline at the Mini Mall on Friday of race week. It is encouraged that each team’s Support Crew Captain attend the Pre-Race Briefing. The Captain is responsible for the actions for his/her support crew members. The Captain should brief all support team members regarding the race rules.

Per Coast Guard & MI DNR Regulations contestants are not to throw trash such as jugs, cups, plastic bags, etc. into the river. The support team is responsible for all clean-up during all portages and after each feeding. Contestants who litter the river or land or whose support crew does not clean up during a portage or after feeding is subject to a penalty. ****The Marathon Committee will establish a specific list of persons who will act as monitoring group for this issue. They will include but not limited to all Marathon Committee Members, all law enforcement personnel, plus designated volunteer spotters. Enforcement and penalty assessment shall be the responsibility of the Competition Committee. The first violation by a team, (this includes paddlers and their feed team) witnessed by a member of the monitoring committee will result in a penalty of 10 minutes added to the team’s finishing time. The second violation by the same team will result in an additional 20 minutes added to the team’s finishing time. The third violation by the same team will result in disqualification. Any violation not witnessed by a member of the monitoring committee will result in a verbal warning to the team at the next official timing location. Littering includes water as well as surrounding land areas. Anyone wearing a 2016 feeder wristband or possessing a 2016 Marathon parking pass is considered to be part of the feed team.**

Contestants may receive assistance from their support crew to change apparel items, to add or remove flashlights or batteries, to receive spare paddles, to remove or replace food, jugs, cups etc., or to apply lotion-type items such as sunscreen or pain relief cream. However, contestants may not receive assistance in conveying the canoe or any required equipment.

11. Commonly accepted rules of sportsmanship will prevail. Intentional capsizing or damaging an opponent’s canoe, or other flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct, will mean disqualification.
12. It is illegal to use “cuts” (flowing shortcuts) identified as “closed” during the Pre-Race Briefing.
13. **All Marathon participants must report at 5:30 PM, Friday for the Pre-Race Briefing and must remain in attendance in the designated area for the entire Briefing.** The Pre-Race Briefing officially begins with the calling of the first name in the Roll Call of Participants and ends with the dismissal by the Briefing Coordinator. In the event a Participant arrives after the start of the Briefing but before completion of the Roll Call, his/her Team will be assessed a fifty dollar (\$50.00) penalty. In the event a Participant arrives after completion of the roll call, his/her Team will be assessed a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) penalty. In the event a Participant misses the entire Briefing, his/her Team will be assessed a two hundred dollar (\$200.00) penalty plus a ten (10) minute time penalty, added to the Team’s finish time. Dollar penalties assessed under this rule must be paid to a Marathon Committee member by 3 PM (race day). Failure to pay the penalty by this deadline will result in disqualification from the Marathon.
14. Teams (both members, together) which do not participate in the Time Trials For Position and/or are not present when the team’s names are called for the Introduction of the Paddlers at the pre-race program which begins at 7:10 PM Saturday night will be penalized by being moved behind the back row for the race start.
15. Cut-off times have been established at the following timing points along the race course. Teams that require more than the following time to reach any one of the listed locations will be disqualified and must leave the race course at that point.

Timing Locations	Hours	Timing Locations	Hours
Burton’s Landing	None	McKinley Bridge	9:30
Stephan Bridge	2:00	4001 Bridge	None
Wakeley Bridge	None	Alcona Dam	11:30
McMasters Bridge	4:00	Loud Dam	13:45
Parmalee Bridge	None	Five Channels Dam	14:15
Camp Ten Bridge	6:30	Cooke Dam	15:45
Mio Dam	7:00	Foote Dam	17:15

16. The Marathon is officially concluded nineteen (19) hours after the start. The Race Committee ceases all racecourse functions at that time. Teams which do not finish within nineteen (19) hours do not qualify for awards.
17. Teams dropping from the race or their feeder/support Captain must report to the nearest timing location to sign out of the race. Teams must call the Marathon Office (989-348-4425) to report that they are leaving the race; they must still report to a timing location as soon as is possible to officially sign out of the race. Contestant/team members who leave the race and who do not officially sign out of the race are subject to potential disqualification from the following year’s Marathon.
18. Under no circumstances shall any illegal drug be taken. Any contestant who has a physical ailment for which it is necessary to ingest a controlled substance (prescription medication) shall so declare in writing to the Competition Committee no later than before the start of the Pre-Race Briefing.
19. All protests by a contestant must be made to the Competition Committee in writing within ½ hour of the **Protesting team’s race finish or withdrawal from the race**, accompanied by a \$100 non-refundable protest fee.
20. Imposition of any sanction or penalties is the responsibility of the Competition Committee. The Competition Committee reserves the right at all times to modify, amend or abbreviate the rules and to impose, modify or waive any penalty or sanction.
21. The use of Global Positioning System (GPS) or similar devices is permitted in addition to the GPS device supplied by committee.

2016 AuSable River Canoe Marathon

Competition Committee & Infraction/Penalty Information

Following is a brief overview of the function of the Competition Committee and of the rules infraction and penalty guidelines for the 2016 AuSable River Canoe Marathon.

COMPETITION COMMITTEE:

The Competition Committee will be comprised of 5 primary members and 1 or more alternate members designated by the AuSable Marathon Organizing Committee.

- A minimum of three members of the Competition Committee are required in order to meet for consideration of potential infractions, penalties, protests, etc.

- A majority of the competition committee [and/or alternates standing in for primary members] - three votes - shall be required for a decision.

- If three [or four] members meet and there are not 3 votes for a decision [a majority of the 5-member Competition Committee], consideration of the matter will be tabled until other member[s] or alternates can be brought into the process in order to achieve a three-vote decision

Prize money will be withheld from the affected team[s] until the Competition Committee reaches a decision. Marathon results will be identified as "preliminary" until the penalty/protest process is complete. Prize money will be distributed to the other teams, pending outcome of the penalty process. Supplemental prize checks will be distributed if the outcome of the race is changed by the penalty/protest.

Important: Withdrawal Information

If a team withdraws prior to the Marathon, Monday July 25th deadline, and one of the team members enters with a new partner a credit equal to 50% of the original entry fee will be applied to the new entry. If both of the original team members enter with new partners, a credit of 50% of the original entry fee will be applied to each of the new teams. The rule will be followed by the Marathon Committee without regard to which of the original team members paid the original fee. **This rule pertaining to partner changes is limited to one change per person.**

INFRACTIONS AND PENALTIES WILL FALL INTO ONE OF TWO CATEGORIES:

[1] UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT [USLC] - The penalty may be a time penalty or range up to and including disqualification. Consideration is given to whether unintentional or intentional and also to the degree of advantage gained by the infraction. All USLC infractions and penalties will be considered as to how they would potentially affect EVERY team in the race if that team were to receive the same penalty, so that the Competition Committee can attempt to ensure that the assessment of penalties will be consistent and precedent setting whenever they are imposed.

AMONG THE RULE INFRACTIONS/PENALTIES IDENTIFIED BY THE COMPETITION COMMITTEE AS UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT:

6, 8, 10, 13, 14

[2] DISQUALIFICATION [DQ] – **AMONG THE RULES/INFRACTIONS SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION ARE:**

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18

Respect and Share the AuSable River

Respect & Share the AuSable When practicing on the AuSable for the Marathon or any other race please practice common courtesy and respect nature. Let wading fishermen know that you are approaching, pass quietly and disturb the fishing as little as possible. If you ask them they will generally let you know where they'd like you to pass. (usually behind them)

When practicing at night, use a white or red light to let the fisherman know you are coming. Contact one of the local fishing shops to find when fishing traffic will be busiest and try to plan your run around the busy period (this time will change through the season).

Please do not disturb log jams and "sweepers" (the cedars coming out low over the river) are important parts of the AuSable River ecosystem. Trimming of these natural structures is illegal and gives the river unnaturally clean, straight flow that inhibits plant, insect and trout growth.

US Forest Service Recreation Fee Alert!!

A Recreation Pass is required on all vehicles entering the following river access sites: 4001 Bridge and Whirlpool Boat Landings, and Au Sable Loop and Gabions Campgrounds.

Day passes are available at the self-service fee stations at each site where required and at Alcona Canoe Rental during regular business hours.

Passes are also available at all Forest Service Offices including the Mio and Huron Shores Ranger Stations, and Lumberman's Monument from 8:00 am to 4:30 am, Mondays through Fridays.

Passes are \$5.00 (daily), \$15.00 (weekly) and \$30.00 (annually)

Recreation Fee Passes may be purchased at all Forest Service Offices and at self-serve stations located at each site.

2016 AuSable River Canoe Marathon

*****Please Read Carefully*****

*****NEW FOR 2016*****

Time Trial Course Change

Competitors will start and sprint upstream from Penrod's Canoe livery and turn a buoy at the Old AuSable Fly Shop. Please see the rules on Page 4 for further clarification.

Mandatory Official Pre-race Briefing is Changed

The mandatory Official Pre-race Briefing will be held on Friday, July 29th, 2016 at 5:30 PM at the Ramada Inn of Grayling, prior to the paddler dinner.

INSPECTION AND SEQUESTRATION OF CANOES

Inspection and sequestration of canoes will be held on Friday, July 29th, 2016 between 2:00 and 5:00 PM [and possibly right after the paddler dinner as well] for those who completed their time trial and had their canoes already measured. Inspection and sequestration for the remaining canoes will be on Saturday, July 30th, 2016 between 9:00 AM and 12 Noon.

Competitors' Shirts

You will receive your competitor's shirt race week at the Paddler check-in. The shirts will be similar in style and material to the shirts distributed in 2015. To receive a shirt you must enter the desired size on page 1 of the entry form. **You will receive the size you request; no exceptions or trades by the committee.**

Team Sponsors

Each team may list a maximum of two sponsors on their entry form. Sponsors listed on the entry forms that are received by the second cut off date of July 8th, 2016 will be used in the spectator guide and paddler introductions. The deadline for listing or changing sponsors is noon Wednesday July 13th, 2016. Sponsor changes or additions after this time will not be acknowledged by the race committee. Be sure to have your sponsors listed by these dates.

Paddler Profile Information

The paddler profile information on page 2 of the entry form must be filled in **completely** for all participants. This will be strictly enforced in 2016. **Entry forms with incomplete information or notes such as "Same as Last Year" will be rejected.**

Special Olympics Event

The deadline for entering the Special Olympics event is noon Wednesday July 27th, 2016. Please do not plan to participate in the event if your scheduled Official Time Trial is after 2:15 pm Friday July 29th, 2016. Participants are expected to check-in for this event at 2:30 pm and are asked to stay for the awards presentation. If you paddled in this event last year and would like the same Special Olympian partner, please let the committee know as soon as possible.

Littering by Paddlers or Support Crews

Due to an excessive amount of littering by teams and support crews over the past several years, there will be much stricter enforcement and related sanctions by the Competition Committee in 2016. In addition to our "spotters" the paddlers and support crews are encouraged to report any violations to a Committee member.