



Race Packet – September 28, 2024

Hello Rotary Regatta Racers,

Thank you all for joining us for this year's 7th Annual Rotary Regatta. We truly value your contributions and participation in this great event. The weather is looking promising for Sunday! Be sure to read the **entire race packet** and review the park maps.

Start: 1776 Park, 140 Imperial Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546

(Yard Signs will direct you to the start once you enter Imperial Dr.)

Finish: Stevenson Park, 1100 S Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546

Sunrise Service

Pastor Ralph from Hope Lutheran Church will lead a Sunrise Service at 7:30am for those who wish to worship.

Check-In

Opens at 7:45 AM. There will be port-o-cans provided. **Check-In will close at 8:30 AM** in preparation for the Start of the Race at 9:00 AM. A Race Briefing will begin at 8:40 AM at the Launch Area.

1. Check-in by your Last Name
 - a. **Every racer must have signed a waiver before receiving a boat number.**
 - b. Collect Boat Number (adhere to the front of the canoe/kayak, as high from the water as possible, on the **RIGHT** side; dry boat before sticking)
2. Pickup event T-Shirt
3. Proceed to ID Check table for wristband to receive two complimentary beers, food and drink at the finish line (courtesy of the awesome **Karbach Brewing**) Receive Food Tickets
4. Next, please move your boat to Canoe / Kayak Launch Area.

Race Schedule and Put Ins

The race will have staggered start times determined by boat class beginning at 9 AM.

All boats will start on the water.

The Launch area is about a 30 yard portage from registration. The launch is a concrete ramp off the water. But, low tides may create an area of soft mud between the edge of the concrete and the water so be prepared.

Clothing

Wear comfortable clothes (synthetics perform better than cotton when wet). Wear old canvas shoes or sport sandals that you do not mind getting wet and muddy. Bring a wide brimmed hat, long pants and long sleeved shirt if you're sun sensitive. Wear sunscreen even if it's cloudy. Wear gloves to minimize blisters, many other sports offer functional gloves (paddle sports, cyclists, golf, baseball, etc.) avoid inexpensive cloth gloves if you can. Use bug spray if you're highly attractive to mosquitoes; a problem when standing still at the start but diminishes once you get on the water.

Drink and Food

You will get thirsty and there is no substitute for bottled water or athletic drinks (Gatorade, etc.). **Bring your own for the race.**

High energy snacks are recommended during the trip. We recommend placing snacks in Ziploc bags or dry bags and securing the bag to your boat.

Food will be provided to paddlers at the finish line, as well water and 2 complimentary beers.

Safety

Everyone must have a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) on the race course. We will have race marshals looking for people without PFD. If anyone in your boat does not have a PFD, your boat will be disqualified.

There will be water safety personnel on the water and an EMT available.

PLEASE BRING WATER! We recommend at least 1 quart per person per hour.

Parking

1776 Park has ample parking along the roadway. Once you drop off your boat at the registration table, please park your vehicle along the roadway keeping traffic patterns in mind. Then return and portage your boat to the launch area. We encourage family or supporters who to join you at the finish line so please ask them meet you at Stevenson Park. Parking may be more limited at the finish.

Shuttle

Hope Village is graciously providing free shuttle service from the finish line back to the starting line. Shuttles will run between Noon and 3 PM. If you will be using the shuttle, we suggest taking the shuttle early to retrieve your vehicle then returning back to Stevenson Park early to avoid missing a shuttle.

PLEASE NOTE: Boats are not allowed on the shuttle, therefore please stage your boat in the "Boat (waiting) Area" between the creek and parking area until you're able to return and pick it up.

Closing Ceremony/Awards

Lunch and beer will be available at NOON. The closing ceremony will begin around 2:00 or 2:15 PM. (*It may be possible that all racers have not crossed the finish line before the ceremony begins). Food and drink will be served until 2:30PM as available.

Winners of each division will be announced.

Race Course Description

Generally the current on Clear Creek is slow moving mostly influenced by ingoing or outgoing tides or rainfall. Narrow and twisty at the start, this course boasts 20 turns in the first mile before widening and straightening out. For the competitor, this will be a unique course of technique and speed. For the recreation paddler, this will be gentle, lazy course often shaded by trees. For the spectator, the banks are low and graded providing easy access with unique and close up views of the participants for the first mile of the race.

Within the first 3 miles there may be some downed trees spanning the creek but they are all passable without portage. If you are presented with what appears to be a choice of Left or Right during the course, ALWAYS GO LEFT!

Here are some of the landmarks and mileage to watch for during the race: NOTE: The 2018 race will begin down stream from future starts therefore, you may subtract approximately .75 miles from the mileage listed below.

START - 1776 Park from River Right side

- 1.2 mile mark - Confluence with Mary's Creek
- 2.5 mile mark - Old Creek Channel - Stay Left towards Bridge
- 2.9 mile mark - Friendswood Link Road Bridge
- 3 mile mark - Old Home Foundation of Left
- 3.35 mile mark - Confluence with Cowart's Creek
SHORT COURSE TURNS RIGHT UP
COWART'S CREEK TO FINISH LINE
- 3.5 mile mark - Low Water Pipe - May require portage
- 4 mile mark - FM 528 Bridge
- 5.85 mile mark - Overhead Pipeline Crossing - Pass Under Pipeline
- 6 mile mark - Confluence with Chigger Creek
- 7 mile mark - Left Bouy Turn @ Bay Area Blvd. Bridge
LONG COURSE MAKES LEFT HAND BOUY
TURN AND RETURNS TO CONFLUENCE WITH COWART'S
CREEK TO FINISH LINE
- 12 mile mark - FINISH - Stevenson Park and Take Out on River Right past the Finish Line.

Photo and Video Notice

By participating in the Rotary Regatta as a paddler, volunteer, spectator, or by entering the premises of 1776 Park or Stevenson Park and the race route of the Rotary Regatta you grant permission for the Rotary Regatta and its Regatta partners to photograph, record, broadcast, and otherwise use in any media, including web pages, you or your child's participation in this Regatta and to use your name, and voice concerning you in connection therewith.

THANK YOU!!!

We greatly appreciate your participation in this year's Rotary Regatta. This race is meant to raise awareness of Clear Creek as an important drainage and recreational waterway. Thank you for being a part of this event. We are so excited for you to experience Clear Creek!

Don't hesitate to contact Luis Briones at 281-793-0362 if you have any questions. We will see you bright and early Saturday, September 28, 2024.