

Macclesfield Adelphi Hasler race briefing Sunday 3rd October 2021.

Welcome to Macclesfield and District Canoe Club (MADCC). Thank you for supporting Today's race.

COVID-19

This event will operate under UK Government and British Canoeing Covid guidelines. Everybody is required to comply with the procedures and policies in place by Macclesfield and District Canoe Club. Please DO NOT attend if you, your household or any contacts have symptoms of Covid-19, have been asked to isolate, or have tested positive within the last 10 days. We strongly encourage all attendees to make use of the free NHS lateral flow tests before attending, which can be found on the NHS and PHE websites.

SITE INFORMATION

The race check in area will be set up at the south end of the Adelphi Mill, Bollington from 0930 on the day of the race.

- Race check in (0930-1030) is for TEAM LEADERS ONLY and will be at the table erected under the metal canopy at the south end of the mill building. **Everyone is requested to maintain social distancing with others, particularly in this area.**
- Toilets are provided in 2 single Porta-Loo Toilet tents within the car park area within sight of the check in area. Hand sanitiser is provided outside the tents for all after using these facilities.
- There are no changing facilities available. Participants are requested to change next to or within their vehicles.
- Car Parking – Extensive car parking is available next to the check in area within the Adelphi Mill land. Please fill up the car park from the area nearest the check in first and obey all Adelphi Mill management parking sign instructions.

A Bottle of water and a snack bar are available for each participant after the race next to the check in area only. No other food/drinks or catering are provided.

Hot drinks and food are available at a Café a short 10 minutes walk away North (left) along the canal tow path at Clarence Mill. Please remember to sanitise you hands before eating.

RACE INFORMATION

- This race is run under British Canoeing Marathon Racing Rules.
- Competitors ranked in divisions 7/8/9 and U14s MUST wear a buoyancy aid.
- Your boat must be fitted with its full complement of buoyancy. Airbags must be fitted to boats without built in buoyancy e.g. Lightnings.
- Your race number must be clearly displayed on your boat.
- **Stay Right**, specially when canal traffic or other competitors are travelling towards you. Overtake on the left of other competitors or traffic. Keep your distance from fishing persons.
- Please follow all instructions given by Marshals on the course.
- If you see someone in need of help please assist unless they actively decline your offer. Where appropriate inform a marshal. There will be time allowances if you do stop to help.
- If you retire from your race you must inform the marshals at the finish line.

ENTRY TO CANAL

Please only get on the canal 20 minute before your start times. The canal entry point will be from the towpath via a single person gate in the towpath wall next to the Check in desk.

Warm ups should be conducted to the north of (left/beyond) the Bollington Narrow Boat Marina opposite the mill. (As per attached maps).

The pre-start marshal will call you forward to the start holding area in race order before Bridge 28. Only the starting race should proceed beyond Bridge 28 when called forwards to line up on the start line.

HAZARDS

There are no known downed trees, branches or other natural hazards along any course routes.

Any emergent hazards will be publicised at race check in and on the race course boards in the car park on race day.

As a narrow gauge canal there are several pinch points at bridges along the courses. There are a total of 17 bridges along the 12 mile course. One of these (bridge 47) is a low swing bridge that the Div 1,2,3 paddlers should consider portaging. There are no mandatory portages for any races but you are likely to get delayed at bridges. This is all part of racing on a narrow gauge canal.

For further course marker details see the 'MADCC Hasler race courses' map document attached.

Be aware of and courteous to other canal users – Narrow boats, anglers and general public (on the tow path).

Please respect all other water users, particularly barge owners.

Avoid ever getting into an argument; **stay happy, say sorry, say thank you and keep smiling even if it's not your fault!**

It is recommended that all competitors should wear suitable footwear, some areas are stony and others may have thorny plants.

If you capsize then the canal is about waist to shoulder height in most places but a layer of mud covers the bottom so swim/stand up making your way towards the towpath bank side. Remember to wash your hands and face with fresh water afterwards/at the end of your race.

Apply sun cream, be suitably dressed to race and keep hydrated throughout the day.

First aid provision is available at race check in, with assistance available from all marshals.

There is a risk of catching Weil's disease from the canal water. This makes it all the more important to wash hands before eating or drinking, particularly after your race. You should also cover any cuts. Avoid ingesting any canal water.

A copy of the race event safety plan is available upon request from race check in.

COURSE

As per map attached (as on sign boards in the car park near race check in). All races start just south of (beyond) bridge 28 and finish at the marshal adjacent to the race check in area on the towpath, just north of (past/after) bridge 28.

- Div 1-3 (12 miles) – start, pass through 17 bridges inc. recommended portage at low swing bridge (no. 47), anti-clockwise turn immediately after the marshal located just north of the Fools Nook barge mooring point and bridge 49.
- Div 4-6 (8 miles) – start, pass through 12 bridges, anti-clockwise turn immediately after the marshal located by the Sutton Hall sign opposite the towpath before bridge 44.
- Div 7-9 (4 miles) – start, pass through 4 bridges, anti-clockwise turn immediately after the marshal located before bridge 35.
- Geoff Sanders (U14s –Divs A, B, C) (2 miles) – start, pass through 2 bridges, anti-clockwise turn before first narrows point after bridge 30 immediately after turn marshal under large tree – finish at Adelphi Mill.

STARTING ORDER

At one minute intervals continuously from 1100, as per British Canoeing Marathon rules order (highest divisions first). Exact start list and race numbers will be published on the day next to check in based on entries received. Split starts are possible for some divisions and others may merge. A roving marshal will follow all GS paddlers along the canal tow path.

A bottle of water and snack bar will be available to competitors following their race next to the check in area in the car park.

Prize giving will follow ASAP after the last finisher and all results are agreed. This will take place in the car park area near check in. Paper copies of results will not be available on race day and all results will be published online after the race at: <https://entries.gbcanoemarathon.co.uk/results>

Have fun and respect each other and all other canal users.

Have a safe journey to and from the event and please take any rubbish home with you.

Enquiries to Oli Fairbairn / Adrian Fisher – email: haslerrace@macclesfieldcanoe.club

A paper copy of this briefing note can be collected by team leaders from the check in desk on race day.