




Course Details for Participants 2009

Key points for all racers to understand:

- All paddlers must obey the rules of the road and be aware of and avoid commercial boat traffic.
- All paddlers must finish the race in 6 hours or will be removed from the water.
- Any paddler in distress should wave their arms over their head for rescue assistance.
- The rescue team has been instructed to allow paddlers to first attempt a self rescue in order to finish the race.
- The rescue team has the authority to pull racers off the course for safety reasons.
- The rescue team has the authority to pull racers off the course or disqualify racers due to unsafe maritime conduct.
- Course Marshalls will be at locations around the course to monitor progress and assist with egress. They will be designated by  on the course maps.

The Course: *There will be 2 or 3 lead boats to alert oncoming traffic of the race and to monitor the lead racers.*

Race start and finish will be inside North Cove Marina.

The race will travel north on the Hudson River to the Harlem River down the East river around the battery finishing at the North Cove marina.

On the Hudson participants need to stay at least 50 yards away from the end of the piers but no further than 100 yards as to avoid being in the shipping channel.

In Spuyten Duyvil Creek participants need to stay 15 yards from the Manhattan coastline.

Into the Harlem River participants need to stay 15 yards from the western coastline of Manhattan.

MID WAY CHECK POINT

At approximately mile 13 and approximately 1 mile along the Harlem River is The Peter J Sharp boathouse. The boathouse is located on your RIGHT.

Hell Gate - is located approximately 5 miles from mid way check point. You will pass under the blue bridge attached to Ward's Island look for CG Aux boats and find the safest route possible. The water here can be very choppy and confused. There is a small passage around the chop and confused water up against the break wall stay RIVER RIGHT. Stay RIVER RIGHT all the way down the East River. Be mindful of the channel and boat traffic.

At the end of Roosevelt Island participants will need to paddle south and around the coastline of Manhattan staying 25 yards from the ends of the piers. You are now entering the Battery.

For the next few miles there will be very heavy commercial traffic consisting of passenger ferries, Historic Sailboats, Dinner Cruise ships and recreational power boaters.

First is the South Street Seaport (Pier 17), then Pier 11 ferry terminal being very mindful of the Staten Island Ferry. Then Gangway 4 and 5 where the Statue Cruise depart. Then continuing up the Hudson to North Cove Marina.

Key hot spots on the course: *These will be the key positions along the course and safety boat stations. Safety boats will be communicating with commercial traffic to assist with safe transit.*

- **Start buoy** - you will have building northerly current. Take a subtle sweeping turn around this buoy.
- **World Financial Ferry terminal** - near the Start
- **Pier 68 to Pier 97** - NY Waterway ferry dock and all piers north to the City Sanitation pier Pier 97- area for very high commercial boat traffic and must stay at least 50 yards away from this designated security zone.
- **Spuyten Duyval rotary swivel bridge**
- **Hell's Gate** - it has a reputation for a reason.
- **East 23rd street marina** - good take out before the Battery! Also, if paddlers are not going to make the 6 hour window they will be pulled out here.
- **South Street Seaport** - busy commercial traffic
- **Staten Island Ferry Terminal** - busy commercial traffic
- **Gangway 4 and 5** - busy commercial traffic
- **Seawall on Hudson Side** - look out for fishing lines and big rolling swell.

Course Marshal Stations and Egress points along the way: course marshals and egress points are new for 2009. We want safe places for racers to come off the water in case of emergency. We also want people there to handle questions and concerns.

1. World Financial Ferry terminal -Vessey Street (*No egress*)
2. Battery Park - northern tip, bike/walk path (*No egress*)
3. Pier 40 - south western corner
4. Chelsea Piers - Pier 59 south western tip(Surfside 3 Marina), Pier 62 south western tip
5. Pier 66 Boathouse - New York Riversports
6. NY Waterways terminal - Pier 79 (*No egress*)
7. Downtown Boathouse - Pier 96
8. 79th Street Boat Basin - 79th street and bike path
9. Riverbank State Park - North western corner.
10. Little Red Lighthouse – on bike path below GWB.
11. Columbia Boat launch – rowers docks
12. Peter J. Sharp Boathouse - on dock at Swindler Cove
13. Wards Island – cove between Randall’s Island and Wards Island
14. East 23rd street marina – On the docks
15. South Street Sea Port – Pier 17 on pier head. (*No egress*)
16. Heliport seawall - seawall between Heliport landing and Battery Maritime Building. (*No egress*)
17. Battery Park - tip of park just north of CG station. (*No egress*)
18. Pier A - just past gangway 4 and 5 (*No egress*)
19. Seawall - stations along seawall - South Cove and Albany Street (*No egress*)

Please contact event director Ray Fusco with any questions.

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