



VAIL WHITEWATER RULES

REQUIREMENTS

In an effort to standardize the competition, kayak length may not exceed 9'6". Only whitewater-specific plastic and heavy-duty composite boats are allowed. Sit-on-top kayaks are allowed, but only if they are robust whitewater models worthy of the conditions. If in doubt about your boat, contact race directors at least 24 hours in advance of competition.

- PFD, helmet, and protective footwear are required.
- Equipment will be reviewed at start. The organizer has the right to refuse any non-conforming equipment (i.e. bicycle helmets, nylon spray-skirts, etc.).
- Hand paddlers are allowed; sea kayaks or foot rudders are not allowed.
- Athletes must wear competitor bibs outside their PFDs at all times.
- Athletes must be checked in and registered by 5:15 p.m.
- Athletes are required to attend the safety/rules/course review meeting at 5:20 p.m. sharp.

The top nine racers in each category will move to the championship bracket. All other racers move to the consolation bracket.

COMPETITION

If a participant false starts during the time trial, 15 seconds will be added to their time.

If a participant false starts during the brackets, the participant will be disqualified.

If a paddler is being overtaken by a faster paddler from behind, they must yield to the faster/overtaking paddler in a safe and respectful manner. This will not incur a penalty or DQ unless the paddler being overtaken used blocking or any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct.

If a participant does not proceed through a gate in the designated way, 15 seconds will be added to the participant's time.

Participant must be on vessel while ringing bells, crossing obstacles and finishing.

A PARTICIPANT WILL BE DEEMED DNF (DID NOT FINISH) IF:

- The participant's body passes through the vertical plane of the east end of the International Bridge before the last obstacle is completed.
- In bracket competition, the participant misses any of the gates.

A PARTICIPANT WILL BE DEEMED DQ (DISQUALIFIED) IF:

- In the time trial, the slower paddler does not yield to the faster paddler.
- Any action by a competitor during or in between races is deemed unsportsmanlike.
- Participant races without their race bib or the bib is unreadable.
- Raft participants don't bring raft back to start in a timely manner after completing course.

If disqualification occurs after the participant's last race, the racer will be disqualified for the following week's race.

A protest of a judge's call can be grounds for disqualification.