



Des Plaines River Association

2316 Prospect Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201

Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon 1958-2009

Scouts: Take Part in a National Championship Canoe Race on the *Des Plaines!*

Attention: All Scout Leaders

Would your scouts like to take part in a **NATIONAL CANOE CHAMPIONSHIP and then** in the **LARGEST SINGLE DAY CANOE & KAYAK RACE IN THE COUNTRY**

in northeastern IL on the *Des Plaines River*?

The *USCA Aluminum Nationals* and the *Des Plaines Canoe Marathon* are great ways for any **Venture Crew** member or **Scout** that already has passed their *swimming* and *canoe merit badge* to test his or her skills and have a day full of fun.

On **Saturday, May 16, 2009** – *USCA's* 41st *Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championships* will, for the first time, feature within it an ***Aluminum Canoe Marathon Junior Challenge***, open to all teams where both paddlers are Juniors (under 18 on December 31, 2008), with special trophies for the winning team and prizes for all Junior & Scout entrants.

The required membership in the *United States Canoe Association* will be paid for by the *Des Plaines River Association*.

On **Sunday, May 17, 2009** – pre-registered participants in the *Aluminum Nationals* will get **FREE** entry into the 52nd ***Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon***.

A serious athletic event

Leaders, please note. These are serious athletic events, suitable for athletically able youth who have prior canoeing experience and are comfortable in their ability to control the boat over a long course — a rewarding experience, but not to be undertaken lightly, and not for the unprepared.

The 14.2 mile *National Championship* course includes 1.9 miles of upstream paddling and one short portage, where the team will carry their canoe. It will probably take 2:30 to 3:20 hrs.

The *Des Plaines River Marathon* course is 18.5 miles, and while it has no upstream paddling, it includes two short portages around small dams. This course will probably take 3:00 to 4:00 hrs.

Canoe specifications

For the *Aluminum Nationals*, standard manufacturer's stock canoe with a maximum length of 17'4" is the key requirement. For the *Des Plaines* race, aluminum canoes may be up to 18'6" long — and there are many other canoe and kayak classes allowed. Check www.canoemarathon.com for full specification and class details.

Canoe & equipment rentals, race brochure, entry fee details & forms: www.canoemarathon.com.

Get in touch with Jim Peterson akpcpa@yahoo.com, Al Pilgrim apilgrim@comcast.net, or Gareth Stevens nawal@ticon.net with questions and for further information.

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