



## Race Packet – October 20, 2019

Hello Rotary Regatta Racers,

Thank you all for joining us for this year's inaugural 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:** Lynn Gripon park at Countryside, 100 Alderwood, League City, TX 77573

### 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 8:30 AM. There will be port-o-cans provided. **Check-In will close at 9:30 AM** in preparation for the Start of the Race at 10AM. A Race Briefing will begin at 9:40AM at the Launch Area.

1. Check-in by your Last Name
  - a. Sign waiver **Every racer must sign 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 tickets to receive two complimentary beers at the finish line (courtesy of the awesome **Karbach Brewing**) Receive Food Tickets
4. Next, either proceed to the boat rental area (Southwest PaddleSports) or please move your boat to Launch Area to select your preferred "Put In".

**Kayak Rental Pickup** If you rented a kayak through SouthWest PaddleSports, please pickup your boat at the "Rental Pickup Area".

**Rental reservations must be made in advance** (SouthWest PaddleSports, 281-292-5600)

## Race Schedule and Put Ins

The race will have staggered start times about every 10 minutes determined by boat class beginning at 9AM.

All boats will start on the water.

The Launch area is about a 150 yard portage. The "Put In" is on graded dirt about 18" off the water depending on the water level. Previous day rains may make the area soft to muddy 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. We recommend dressing in layers and for the weather. We also recommend bringing a towel for the finish line.

## 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 as water and 2 complimentary beers.

## Safety

Everyone must wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) on the race course. We will have race marshals looking for people without PFD. If anyone in your boat is not wearing 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. If you have family or supporters who want to join you or finish line festivities (which they are welcome to!), please ask them meet you at the Lynn Gripon Countryside Park. Parking may be more limited at the finish.

## Shuttle

PRIMROSE SCHOOL is graciously providing free shuttle service from the finish line back to the starting line.

Shuttles will run between 11AM and 1PM. If you will be using the shuttle, we suggest taking the shuttle early to retrieve your vehicle then returning to Lynn Gripon Countryside 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 the roundabout until you're able to return and pick it up.

## Closing Ceremony/Awards

Lunch and beer will be available at 11:00 AM. The closing ceremony will begin around 1:00/1:15 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 1:30PM as available.

Trophies will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner of each division.

## 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
- 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 - Pass under Bay Area Blvd. Bridge - Paddle to Bouy

FINISH - Countryside Park and Take Out on River Right

## Photo and Video Notice

By participating in the Rotary Regatta as a paddler, volunteer, spectator, or by entering the premises of 1776 Park or Lynn Gripon Countryside 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 inaugural 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 Sunday, October 21, 2018.**